

Cowley & Birdlip Parish Council

POLICY FOR AWARDING GRANTS AND DONATIONS

The Council follows guidance issued by the National Association of Local Councils on spending under section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972.

'A local authority shall not incur any expenditure unless the benefit accruing to their area or any part of it or to all or some of the inhabitants of their area will be commensurate with the expenditure to be incurred'. Thus the council cannot use the power to benefit a single individual and must not spend a disproportionately large amount on a very limited object or purpose. The aim of the Parish Council is that donations and grant are allocated primarily for the benefit of the Cowley Parish Council electorate.

Requests for grants and donations are invited in the third quarter of each financial year, prior to agreement of the Parish Council budget for the subsequent financial year.

Payment of any agreed donations will be made during the subsequent financial year, at a time agreed by the Parish Council and subject to agreement of the Annual Precept by the relevant Authority.

- Donations will only made following specific written request demonstrating a clear need for the donation. The Council requires the recipient to account for the sums awarded.
- Grants and donations will be made only to voluntary not-for-profit organisations that are undertaking work which directly benefits residents of Cowley & Birdlip Parish Council.
- Donations will only be granted to organisations or organised communal events, not to named individuals.
- Recipients must be based within the Parish or provide services within the Parish.
- Recipients must be primarily or exclusively for the benefit of residents.
- Requests must be from groups/organisations that are properly managed – applicants are expected to have and comply with, a constitution, rules or other governing instruments, and have an elected committee or a representative steering group along with a bank account in the name of the organisation with cheques etc authorised by 2 signatories
- The sum to be donated is at the discretion of the council, and must be explicitly resolved at a council meeting
- Successful applications may receive a follow up request to ascertain that the donation was spent and has been of benefit to the community.

AGREED AT PC MEETING HELD ON 18th OCTOBER 2017