

GRANT AWARDING POLICY

1. Introduction

- 1.1 Firle Parish Council welcomes and values the work of local voluntary groups and organisations. The council has a policy for making grants for capital expenditure to groups and organisations which contribute to the welfare of the community by improving or supporting facilities and/or activities. Applicants must be able to demonstrate a clear need for financial support.

2. Guidelines

- 2.1 An annual limit for the provision of grant aid will be determined as part of the budget setting process, and applications will be assessed against the criteria determined in this policy and the limitations of the agreed budget. Applications will be discussed in Parish Council meetings which are open to members of the public to attend.
- 2.2 Applicants must fully complete a grant application and return it, together with the required financial information, for the application to be considered.
- 2.3 Applicants will be required to provide details of the project or activity seeking funding, and the number of residents of Firle Parish expected to benefit.
- 2.4 The council will not normally consider applications for:
- Commercial organisations
 - Major charities
 - Political groups
 - Bodies considered to be self-funded or provided for by other authorities
 - Capital projects which have already been completed, i.e., a retrospective application
- 2.5 The council reserves the right to refuse any grant application or offer an alternate amount to that originally requested. Refusal of a grant will not prevent an organisation applying again in the future.
- 2.6 As a condition of receiving a grant, organisations will be required to acknowledge the council's support in publicity material. A report must be provided to the council on how the money was spent.
- 2.7 The council may monitor the use of any grant awarded. The grant must be spent only on the project specified in the application. If the grant is not spent on the specific project, or any amount is unspent six months after being awarded, the council may request the balance be returned.
- 2.8 In accordance with the requirements of the Local Government Transparency Code, the council will publish an annual list containing details of grants awarded.