

Grants and Donations Policy

The aim of this Policy is to encourage and support projects or initiatives which benefit residents. *Unless a grant is awarded through a specific duty or power of the Council*, the Parish Council will award grants through section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972. Section 137 grants must be in the interests of or will directly benefit the area or its inhabitants.

Budget

The Council budgets an annual amount for grants and donations to organisations and activities which will contribute to the wellbeing of residents. There is no limit to the amount that can be requested per application, but the Council will only exceed the annual budget for grants in exceptional circumstances.

Eligibility

The Council will only consider applications for grants and donations from organisations and groups which are either:

- based within the Parish, OR
- who can demonstrate that the donations will substantially benefit residents of the Parish area.

The Council cannot fund:

- Private individuals for individual ventures
- Political parties
- Religious organisations unless there is a partnership initiative, where there is a clear benefit to the wider community.
- National organisations except where it can be demonstrated that the grant/donation will substantially benefit residents of the Parish
- Purposes for which there is a statutory duty upon other local or central government departments to fund or provide.

Criteria

The Council will only consider applications for grants and donations that:

- Meet one or more of the Council's aims and objectives
- Improve the wellbeing of parish residents
- Provide good use of taxpayers' money (in the opinion of the Council)
- Provide a service to members of the Parish area.
- Improve the local environment.
- Promote the Parish area in a positive way.

Applications

The application form can be requested direct from the Clerk or can found on our website at: www.kimblesworthandplawsworthparishcouncil.co.uk

All applications for grants or donations shall be made by email to the Clerk to the Council. A postal application can be arranged on request. Applications must be sent seven days prior to a Council meeting if it is to be considered at that meeting.

Applications should include:

- Details of the group/organisation applying, together with appropriate contact information
- An explanation of how the funding will benefit residents of the Parish area (estimated numbers should be given where possible)
- The purpose of the grant request
- The amount requested
- If the total cost of the project is not being applied for, details of other funding.

The application must be accompanied by a copy of the following, if the application is submitted by a registered organisation*:

- the Organisation's constitution,
- the latest set of annual accounts,
- accompanying bank statements (last two months or last annual),

** Many community groups may not have a constitution or accounts but can still apply.*

All requests for a grant award must be accompanied by:

- A copy of KPPC's Terms and Conditions, signed by the requestor

All terms and conditions must be adhered to during the application process and after, for as long as the period stated in the relevant condition.

Grant awards

All grants are awarded at the discretion of the Parish Council.

Once a decision has been made by the Council at the next available meeting, the Clerk will contact the organisation making the application within three days, to inform whether the application has been approved or declined.

If the application is approved, bank details will be confirmed, and the grant award can be made by bank transfer, in line with KPPC's Standing Orders. A cheque can also be made available on prior request.