



Prestbury Parish Council

GRANT AWARDING POLICY

INTRODUCTION

This policy has been drawn up to demonstrate a fair and transparent process for grants awarded by Prestbury Parish Council.

A grant is any payment or gift made by the Parish Council to an organisation for a specific purpose that will benefit the Parish, or residents of the Parish, and which is not directly controlled or administered by the Parish Council. The law requires that Section 137 grants must be “in the interest of or will directly benefit the area or its inhabitants, or of part of it, or some of it” and “the direct benefit should be commensurate with expenditure”.

AIMS

Prestbury Parish Council provides grant funding to support the following aims.

- 1) To enable local people to participate in voluntary groups and activities.
- 2) To help the parish’s voluntary groups to improve their effectiveness.
- 3) To ensure the provision of services needed by residents.
- 4) To support organisations which meet the needs of people experiencing social and economic difficulties.
- 5) To ensure that there is equality of access and opportunity for all parishioners of Prestbury to the services it provides and funds.

POLICY

Prestbury Parish Council awards grants, at its absolute discretion, to organisations which can demonstrate a clear need for financial support to achieve an objective which will benefit the Parish by providing a service, enhancing the quality of life, improving the environment, and promote the Parish of Prestbury in a positive way.

The Parish Council will operate an open call for grant applications, that can be submitted at any time of the year by organisations that operate within or deliver services to the Parish.

All grants must be for projects that will be of benefit to residents of Prestbury. Grant applications for individuals will not be considered.

In normal circumstances, applications should be made for ‘one-off’ grants, that will not result in any recurring expenditure for the Parish Council. Ongoing commitments to award grants in future years will not be made and a fresh application will be required each year. Only one application for a grant will be considered from any organisation in any one financial year.

Grants cannot be applied for retrospectively and projects that have commenced prior to the application will not be considered.

The Parish Council will not award grants to Political Parties, religious groups (unless for a purpose which does not discriminate on grounds of belief), commercial organisations or for purposes to which there is a statutory duty upon other local authority or central government to fund or provide.

All organisations must confirm that they agree with the Parish Council's Equal Opportunities Policy.

Each grant application will be considered on its own merits. If the total of the project is more than the grant, the applicant must show evidence of how the rest will be financed.

When considering a grant application, the Parish Council will take into account;

- 1) Whether the Parish Council has the power to make the grant
- 2) Whether the applicant has shown a degree of prior fundraising
- 3) Whether the applicant has fully researched and demonstrated the need for the grant

Applications will be considered by full Council and applicants are required to attend the meeting to answer any questions councillors may have.

Once a grant has been awarded, the funds must be spent within the timeframe specified on the Conditional Grant Offer letter, adhering to any other conditions. A grant award must only be used for the purpose stated on the application. Grant awards will be made in a single payment or released in stages upon authorised request as work proceeds depending on the nature and size of the project. If the organisation is subsequently unable to use the money, or any part of it, for the purpose stated, then all monies, or unexpended part of such monies must be returned to the Parish Council.

A full project report, along with receipts, must be submitted to the Parish Council within six months of the grant being spent.

Organisations receiving grants are required to advise their users/members that the grant or equipment has been received from Prestbury Parish Council, where appropriate including the Parish Council's logo on any promotional materials and digital platforms.

Any organisation wishing to apply for grant funding must fill in a grant application form and submit it to the Parish Clerk using the below contact details. Or in the absence of the Clerk, to the Chairman of the Parish Council.

Clerk to Prestbury Parish Council, Prestbury Village Hall, Macclesfield Road, Prestbury, SK10 4BW. Alternatively, use the contact form on the website - www.prestburyparishcouncil.gov.uk

ADOPTED ON 8 MAY 2019

SIGNED: