



South Hinksey Parish Council
Grants and Donations Policy
Agreed 7th May 2025

Purpose

1. The parish council regularly receives requests for grants and donations from a variety of organisations and the aim of this policy is to encourage and support activities and projects which benefit residents.

Definition

2. A grant is any payment made by the council to be used by an organisation for a specific purpose that will benefit the parish, and /or residents of the parish, and which is not directly controlled or administered by the council.

3. The council will award grants and donations, at its discretion, to community organisations and activities which contribute constructively to the life and wellbeing of some or all of the residents of the parish. For example, by

- Providing a service
- Enhancing the quality of life
- Improving recreation and /or sports
- Improving the environment
- Promoting the parish in a positive way

Policy

4. The parish council will consider applications for grants from not-for-profit community organisations/groups or charitable organisations based in the parish, or who can demonstrate that the funding will substantially benefit residents of the parish.

5. Each year the parish council will agree an annual budget for the award of grants as part of its annual budget setting process.

6. All applications for grant funding must be submitted direct to the parish clerk using the grant application form available on the South Hinksey Parish Council Website. Applications which meet the Council's criteria will be considered at the next meeting of the Council

7. To qualify for an award the applicant must be able to demonstrate:

- That there is a need for the activity or project to be funded
- That funding will benefit the parish or residents of the parish
- That it does not discriminate on grounds of any of the protected characteristics given in the Equality Act 2010 (except for obvious reasons, such as a youth club or a lunch club for older people)

8. The council cannot fund:

- Private Individuals
- Political Purposes
- Religious organisation unless a clear benefit to the community can be demonstrated irrespective of religious beliefs.

- National organisations except where it can be demonstrated that the funding 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.
- Retrospective applications

9. Only one grant will be given to any group or organisation, or for any particular purpose, in any financial year (1st April to 31st March).

10. The grant or donations shall be used only for the stated purpose otherwise the monies shall be returned to the Council, except where the Council's prior written consent has been given for the funds to be used for another purpose.

11. Successful applicants should provide written feedback explaining how the grant/donation has benefited their group/organisation.

12. The Council's decision on any application is final and there is no right of appeal.

13. The Council reserves the right to decline any application without giving reasons for its decision.

14. The Council will not commit to any continuing expenditure.

15. Where a Member of the Council is a member of a group/organisation applying for funding, that Member must declare, in accordance with its Code of Conduct, an interest in the matter and refrain from voting. Advice may be sought from the Monitoring Officer.