

Berryfields Parish Council

Grant awarding policy

Grant Awarding Policy

Berryfields Parish Council has a small budget for the award of grants. The Parish Council can only award grants using certain legal Powers. Where there is no statutory Power the Parish Council may use Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972 to give grants to community organisations. This power may only be used if its use will benefit **some or all of its residents or some or all of the area and where the benefit obtained is commensurate with expenditure incurred.**

This means that grants cannot be given to individuals. Grants will be considered by the full Parish Council. Grant applications must meet the grant criteria listed below:

- 1 Applications must be made on the attached form together with appropriate accounts, supporting financial information or evidenced projected costings.
- 2 All applications will be considered on their merits but in general, grants will be awarded for specific projects or events. The Council will not give grants towards running costs or salaries.
- 3 The purpose for which the grant is made must be in the interest of the Berryfields Parish area.
- 4 Groups from outside the Parish can apply for a grant but must be able to demonstrate direct benefit to the area and the residents of Berryfields.
- 5 The Parish Council will take into account any previous grant made to an organisation or group when considering a new application.
- 6 The amount of the grant will be at the discretion of the Parish Council.
- 7 Retrospective applications will not be funded where the expenditure has been made, the project has been carried out or the event has taken place.
- 8 Payments for grants will not be made to individuals.
- 9 All grant payments will be conditional upon submission of audited accounts, supporting documentation or invoices/receipts detailing costs of expenditure for projects or events for which the funding is being sought. These must be addressed to the Parish Clerk and dated after the date of approval. *Cheques/payments will not be made to an individual.*
- 10 All grant recipients are required to provide the Parish Council with a brief report, including photographs (if applicable) of how the grant has been utilised, how it has assisted the organisation and what it has achieved. This will appear in the Berryfields News and on our website.
- 11 Recognition of the grant from Berryfields Parish Council must be made in any publicity material.

- 12 If the grant is put to purposes other than those for which it was awarded without the prior approval of the Parish Council, the recipient organisation will be required to repay the grant to the Parish Council.
- 13 **All invoices to be settled directly with suppliers by the Parish Council must be sent within 28 days of the event. This will ensure that any unspent funds can be re-distributed to other applicants.**

How will the application be assessed?

- 1 How well the grant will meet the needs of the community, providing positive benefit to the inhabitants.
- 2 How effectively the group will use the grant.
- 3 Whether the costs are appropriate and realistic.
- 4 What level of contributions has been, or will be, raised in addition to the grant.

General

- 1 The deadlines for receipt of applications are 10th April and 10th October.
- 2 Grant applications will be considered by the full Parish Council where the decision on whether or not to grant funding will be taken.
- 3 Each application will be assessed on its own merits and will be considered along with other applications at the meeting. To ensure as fair a distribution as possible, the Parish Council will take into account the amount and frequency of previous awards.

Conditions of Funding

- 1 The Parish Council will only give to projects specifically designed to benefit Berryfields and its residents.
- 2 Applications will not be considered from any organisation intending to support any party political or to discriminate on the grounds of race or religion.
- 3 Only one grant will be considered for an organisation during the year unless there are exceptional circumstances.
- 4 The Parish Council reserves the right to refuse any grant application which they consider to be inappropriate or against the objectives of the Parish Council.