

HOTON PARISH COUNCIL

GRANT AWARDING POLICY

This policy is for all money given in grants, including those using Local Government Act 1972 section 137.

1) Any group, organisation, society or charity may be eligible to apply for a Grant and shall hereafter be referred to as an “Applicant”. All Grant applications must be made using a Parish Council application form, available from the Clerk. The Parish Council will be notified of all applications which will be considered on their own merit at the next available Parish Council meeting. Applicants will then be notified of the decision made.

2) Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972 (hereinafter referred to as “Section 137”) enables a parish council, inter alia, to incur expenditure (subject to the statutory limit) (hereinafter referred to as a “Grant” or “Grants”) which, in its opinion, is in the interests of, and will bring direct benefit to, its area or any part thereof or all or some of its inhabitants for a purpose for which the Parish Council deems appropriate subject to any condition which it may, in its discretion, impose or which may be provided by any other enactment.

3) In exercising the powers vested in it by Section 137 the Parish Council shall have regard to the following factor: That the first principle to be borne in mind is that the Parish Council is responsible to all of the Council Tax payers within the parish for disbursements charged against the Council Tax and consequently should endeavour to ensure, so far as is possible, that Grants made are for the benefit of parishioners in all parts of the parish.

4) The Parish Council may also award Grants using other powers, such as the Local Government (Miscellaneous provisions) Act 1976 section 19; the power to provide and equip buildings for use of clubs having athletic, social or recreational objectives.

4) That when considering any application the Parish Council shall:

- a. Satisfy itself that any such Grant would be supported by a majority of the Council Tax payers within the parish as being an organisation worthy of a Grant.
- b. Give consideration to the nature of the Applicant, its objectives and declared activities.
- c. Investigate the financial standing of the Applicant who or which must produce any relevant information requested by the Parish Council.
- d. Satisfy itself generally and particularly having regard to paragraph 4a. and 4b. hereof that the Grant is needed and will be wisely used by the Applicant.
- e. Make it a condition of any Grant that such Grant is made on the basis that a statement of how the funding has been used will be given to the Clerk at the earliest opportunity and within twelve months of the date of the grant in order to allow the Parish Council to satisfy itself that the Grant has been expended wisely and in the proper interests of the Applicant. This report will be available for inspection by members of the public as it forms part of the council records.

5) A resolution of the Parish Council is final and cannot be disputed.

The above policy was adopted by Hoton Parish Council on 3rd April 2023.