Bathampton Parish Council – Grant awarding Policy

Introduction:

Bathampton Parish Council is committed to supporting local community causes and amenities that will benefit the Parish or residents of the parish and which is not directly controlled or administered by the council. This is permissible under section 137 of the Local Government Act, 1972.

Bathampton Parish Council aims to:

- Enhance the quality of life for Bathampton residents.
- Promote community well-being and development.
- Support initiatives that improve the environment and sustainability of Bathampton Parish.
- Improves recreational facilities and services.
- Promotes the Bathampton Parish positively and fosters an inclusive community spirit.

Grant Awarding Priorities:

The council awards grants, at its discretion to organisations which can demonstrate a clear need for financial support to achieve an objective which will benefit the parish by:

- Demonstrates a clear and positive impact on the lives of Bathampton residents.
- Improves the environment and contributes to the well-being of the Parish.
- Encourages community participation.
- Promotes social inclusion and accessibility.

Eligibility Criteria:

Funding support will be considered to voluntary and community sector organisations operating within Bathampton and of benefit to the local community. This includes voluntary groups and societies, clubs, not-for-profit organisations, and registered charities. Organisations from outside of the Parish who can demonstrate direct benefit to the Bathampton community will also be considered.

The Parish council will not award grants to private individuals, commercial organisations, political parties, purposes for which there is a statutory duty upon other local or central government departments to fund or provide or to religious organisations, unless for a purport which does not discriminate on grounds of belief.

Availability of Funds:

The availability of funds to support voluntary activity is dependent on the councils overall financial position and the choices it makes when allocating its resources. Individual grant awards typically range from £50 to £1000.

Application Process:

Organisations requesting financial assistance will need to submit a letter of application, along with the grant application form and supporting documentation (previous year's accounts and information detailing reserves held or assets that the organisation can call upon) to the Parish Clerk for review.

Organisations will be expected to detail the amount of grant sought, the reasons for the grant along with the benefits to the Bathampton community.

The deadline for applications can be found on the application form (available on the Bathampton Parish Council website). The Clerk will supply an application form on request. Requests are usually considered by the Parish Council at the December Parish Council meeting of each year.

Each application is assessed on its own merits. To ensure a fair distribution of available funds, the Parish Council will consider the amounts and frequency of any previous awards.

Once the Council decide on which grants to award, all applicants will be contacted.

Reporting Requirements:

If the application for a grant or donation is successful, the organisation/group is expected to provide the council with a report showing how the money was spent. This might include a progress update or evaluation upon project competition.

Grant / donation application form:

If you consider your organisation/group to be eligible for a grant or donation, please apply in writing as defined under the application process. The application form can be found at the following link:

<u>Grant Application Form – Bathampton Parish Council</u> or by contacting the Clerk on 07980627391 or email <u>bathamptonparishclerk@gmail.com</u>. If you require any assistance with completing the form, please contact the Clerk.

Please Note:

This policy is subject to review by the council at any time. Meeting the eligibility criteria does not guarantee a grant award.

Agreed at a full council meeting on 21st November 2024 Date of next review: October 2025.