

ASTON-CUM-AUGHTON PARISH COUNCIL

SMALL GRANTS SCHEME – POLICY

- 1 Groups/Organisations within the Parish, with the exception of education establishments and any group(s) directly involved with such, operating on a ‘not for profit’ basis who demonstrate direct benefit to the community can apply to the fund. Those outside the Parish who can demonstrate direct benefit to the inhabitants will also be eligible to apply.
- 2 Grants will be awarded by the Parish Council’s General Purposes Committee to either established groups or new groups (to assist with start-up costs).
- 3 Applications
 - (i) Local groups will apply to the fund using the appropriate application form.
 - (ii) Organisations from outside the Parish/National organisations will provide written applications containing sufficient detail so as to demonstrate direct benefit to local parishioners.
- 4 The amount of grant awarded to be up to £200 maximum although this may be varied up to £300 in exceptional circumstances agreed by the General Purposes Committee.
- 5 Applications from organisations which have several groups under the same ‘umbrella’ be considered only from the main body and the maximum grant to such organisations be fixed at £600.
- 6 Groups will be expected to supply the following accompanying documentation as appropriate:-
 - (i) a copy of the most recent audited accounts, including an up-to-date balance sheet/bank statement;
 - (ii) a copy of the constitution or rules of the group (for first time applicants);
 - (iii) details of the group’s bank account with two signatories. (Grants cannot be paid into personal accounts).
- 7 The main deadline for applications from established groups will be 31 August. If funds remain after first round applications have been determined, a second round deadline will be 31 January following.
- 8 Applications from new groups will be determined by the General Purposes Committee as soon as is practicable without waiting for a deadline
- 9 Groups can only apply once per financial year except in extra ordinary circumstances as agreed by the General Purposes Committee.
- 10 All applications will be considered with regard to financial stability of the groups and judged on their own merits; particular attention will be given to the group clearly demonstrating the need for the funds.
- 11 Where partnership funding is being sourced outside the parish, the Council would wish to see evidence that such funding has been secured prior to awarding a grant.
- 12 Any previous grant made to a group/organisation will be taken into account when considering a new application.
- 13 Applicants must set out any other funding they have been awarded or have applied for.
- 14 Only those groups that make a contribution to the improvement in quality of life for parishioners will be supported.