

BONINGALE PARISH COUNCIL

Grants Awarding Policy

Boningale Parish Council will consider applications for grants from voluntary groups, charitable and other organisations carrying out community activities at their Parish Council Meetings. Dates can be found on the Parish Council Website.

Grants awarded by local councils to organisations are usually made using the Local Government Act 1972 s137 which gives the “Power of local authorities to incur expenditure for certain purposes not otherwise authorised”.

However, it is limited in a number of ways in that it is

- subject to a financial limit
- cannot be used to benefit an individual
- must be “in the interests of or will directly benefit the area or its inhabitants...”

Applications for small amounts are unlikely to exceed £100 per organisation per annum. The Parish Council reserves the right to increase this for a grant if the Parish Council has resolved at its meeting that the grant will benefit a substantial number of parishioners and/or requires further funds to deliver the project proposals as set out in the grant application form.

Applications will be considered for the following purposes: -

1. Purchasing equipment either in part or in full
2. Funding of transport that will enable group members to partake in a group trip or outing regardless of their incomes
3. Activities that raise the profile of the area
4. Supporting a viable group that is experiencing a period of hardship
5. Hosting special events or celebrations
6. Small start-up grants for new groups
7. Improving the environment

Conditions: -

1. Grants will not be awarded to individuals
2. Grants will not be awarded for similar items on a regular basis.
3. Additional applications within a 12 month period will not normally be considered.
4. The award must be used for the purpose for which the application was made.
5. If the group is unable to use the award for the stated purpose within 12 months of the date awarded, all monies must be returned to Boningale Parish Council.

The Parish Council reserves the right to reclaim the grant in full if:

- I. The contract is breached, and monies are not being used for the purpose specified on the application
- II. The organisation has submitted any dishonest or misleading information on the grant application
- III. The organisation ceases to exist, becomes insolvent or goes into administration

6. Will only be considered to organisations that have provided the council with a recent Bank Statement **and** a Balance sheet or Income and Expenditure sheet

Exemptions: -

1. Private individuals
2. Commercial organisations
3. Purposes for which there is a statutory duty upon other local or central government departments to fund or provide
4. local groups where fundraising is sent to a central headquarters for redistribution
5. political parties
6. religious organisations, unless for a purpose that does not discriminate on grounds of belief

Applications can be downloaded from its website or requested from the Clerk to the Parish Council. These will need to be completed and returned to the Clerk one full week before each Full Council meeting. Should this deadline be missed, then the request will be held on file until the next meeting. In exceptional circumstances the Parish Council reserves the right to consider a request between Full Council meetings.

Applicants making grant requests will be subsequently advised of the Council's decision by the Parish Clerk.