

DUNSTER PARISH COUNCIL

Grant Policy

Introduction

Dunster Parish Council sets aside an amount in its budget each year for disbursement on grants to organisations contributing to the life of the village by enhancing the area and its facilities or providing opportunities for local people.

Precept grants are limited to those organisations which demonstrate a need for assistance, which provide equality of access and opportunity, and which provide adequate information to enable the Parish Council to make an informed decision.

Grants aims

The grants are given to:

1. Help voluntary groups to improve their effectiveness and outreach.
2. Support the provision of services essential to the village.
3. Support organisations which meet the needs of local people experiencing social and economic difficulties.

To ensure that fair and proper consideration can be given to all requests, all applications must be made on the correct Dunster Parish Council grant application form with all additional information requested on the form and submitted to the Clerk. Forms can be found on our website.

Process

Applications for precept grants must be submitted by the end of January each year to be discussed by the Finance Committee at the beginning of February and will be finalised by The Parish Council at the February meeting which is held on the second Monday in February.

All applications must be submitted on the correct form with all supporting documents requested on the form and can be found on our website.

Other grant applications received during the year will be discussed at a Full Council meeting rather than going through the finance committee.

Criteria

The Council will consider all applications that are submitted but reserves the right to indicate priority areas for funding on any given grant-giving round.

Organisations applying to the Parish Council must be located within the Parish of Dunster

Organisations applying to the Parish Council must offer equality and opportunity for all residents to the services it provides.

Grants will not be made retrospectively, and only one successful application will be considered from an organisation in any one financial year. The history of previous applications will be considered, although the provision of a grant one year does not set a precedent for another year, nor does it preclude further grants.

The Parish Council reserves the right to request copy of invoices and/or other documentation as evidence that the associated expenditure has been incurred or is planned. As a Statutory Authority the Parish Council has to account for the funds it spends; therefore any organisations receiving a grant is required to provide monitoring information on how grant monies are being spent.

On receiving a grant organisations will be required to clearly acknowledge the Parish Council's support in their publicity or event.

Dunster Parish Council reserves the right to recover the grant and/or moveable equipment purchased with grant monies if the organisation ceases to exist, if the grant is not used for the purposes specified or if the conditions are not complied with.