

Great Denham Parish Council – Grant Awarding Policy

1. A grant is a payment made by the Council to be used by an organisation for a specific purpose that will benefit the Parish or residents of the Parish, and which is not directly jointly controlled or administered by the Council. GDPC will consider applications which demonstrate a clear need for financial support to benefit the Parish by:
 - Providing a service
 - Enhancing the quality of life
 - Improving recreation, entertainment and/or sports
2. GDPC will not consider applications which are outside its powers or which are to be used for a purpose which is contrary to any current legislation and awards will not be made for any purpose which is normally funded by a statutory authority.

Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972 empowers local councils to make such grants to voluntary bodies and charities, where no specific grant making power exists in other legislation and where, in the council's opinion, the grant will benefit any part of its area or any of its inhabitants. Any award made under s 137 LGA 1972 must be commensurate with the benefit received by residents.

3. GDPC will review the grant aid available annually in its budget and will review this policy annually.

4. Who can apply

Applications will be considered from any properly constituted, voluntary, not for profit organisations: voluntary bodies, charities, societies and clubs.

Grants will not be made to the following:

- An individual
- For projects that discriminate on any grounds

5. Conditions of application and award

The following conditions will apply for all applications and awards:

- All applications must be made in writing to the Clerk; this can be done via email or post. All applicants must complete an application form; if handwritten then please use black ink and block capitals. All requested information must be supplied for an application to be considered.
- Applicants must demonstrate how the award will bring direct benefit to all or part of the community of Great Denham.

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- The award must be used for the purpose for which the application is made. If not, or the applicant is for any reason unable to use the grant for the stated purpose, then all monies must be returned to community funds.
- The organisation must have a bank account in its own name into which payment can be made.
- For all grants awarded the applicant must provide a written report to GDPC on how the money has been used within 12 months of receiving the award.
- A public acknowledgement of any grant awarded should be made by the recipient.

6. Application and Awarding process

Grant applications will be considered at the Parish Council meeting following receipt of the application (at which members of the public are always welcome).

The Council decision on the application will be communicated to the applicant within 2 weeks of the Council meeting at which it is discussed. GDPC reserves the right to request any further information which it deems necessary in order to complete the decision making process.

Grant applications will not be considered retrospectively.

Applications for more than one award in a twelve month period will not normally be considered from the same applicant, and a fresh application will be required each year, unless agreed by the Council.

GDPC will publicise the availability of grant awards on its notice board and website and any newsletter which may be produced.

Application forms are available from the Clerk who can be contacted at gdclerk@hotmail.co.uk and can also be downloaded from the parish website www.greatdenham.bedsparishes.gov.uk