



## **Loughton & Great Holm Parish Council Grants Policy**

### **Relevant Legislation**

Local Government Act 1972 section 111 and section 137

The Parish Council can lawfully issue grants under its statutory powers. Where the Parish Council does not have specific powers and duties, section 137 funding can be considered. This fund is capped each financial year by the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG).

### **Objectives**

- a) To ensure that the council tax payers of Loughton and Great Holm parish get value for money from the Parish Council.
- b) To assist, develop and promote local voluntary and charitable organisations and campaigns, schools and other organisations affording services or benefit to residents of the parish
- c) To strengthen and enrich the local community and provide opportunities for residents to benefit from education, sports, recreation, enjoyment of the environment, culture, art or history
- d) To benefit all sections of the community

### **Policy**

1. This policy and the way it is operated will be reviewed from time to time as appropriate.
2. The Parish Clerk is to inform the Council of the Section 137 expenditure limit.
3. Only organisations can apply for funding, not individuals. Monies shall be paid to the organisation only.
4. All funding must be demonstrably for the benefit of the inhabitants of the Loughton & Great Holm Parish.
5. All grant applications must be made on a fully completed application form.
6. A copy of this policy will be available on the Parish Council website.



7. A grant application can be made at any time. Any grant application will be determined at the next available full Parish Council meeting. Grant applicants will be informed when their application will be discussed. The Parish Council may decide to defer any application for consideration, request further information or may choose to consider it together with other applications.
8. All grant recipients will be required to provide evidence of how the grant was spent. Recipients of grants more than £250 will need to provide a written report of how the grant money has been used within 12 months of receipt of the grant and will be invited to attend the next Annual Parish Meeting to discuss how the grant was used. The grant is part of the public record of the minutes and accounts of the Parish Council and is open to public inspection. (Local Government Act section 228)
9. Recipients of grants may be asked to acknowledge Council support on stationary and promotional material.
10. Grants will not be considered for projects that have already been completed.
11. Extended grants i.e. grant applications that run over a period of more than one year will not normally be considered. However, in exceptional circumstances the Council may consider such an application which should be supported by a business plan or a service plan in respect of the period for which the grant is being sought.
12. Grants over a value of £1000 may be made in scheduled payments during the financial year.
13. Grants will be limited to one per organisation per year unless there is exceptional justification for a second grant.