

# Stockbridge Parish Council



## Small Grant Applications

Stockbridge Parish Council has a small budget for the award of grants. The Parish Council can only award grants using certain legal powers. Where there is no statutory power specific to the activity for which the grant is sought, such as grants to a sports club or for a band, the Parish Council may use section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972 to give grants to community organisations. This power may only be used if its use will benefit some or all of the residents or some or all of the area and the benefit obtained is commensurate with the expenditure incurred.

This means that grants to individuals are not feasible. Grants where the activity would not obviously benefit the Stockbridge parish area are equally problematic - however worthy the Councillors may feel the project to be.

Grants must meet the Council's grant criteria which are set out below and applications must be made on the Parish Council's application form. Applications will be considered at a full Parish Council meeting. All applications must be accompanied by any supporting financial information, including relevant insurance policies, requested by the Clerk and confirmation of consent obtained where applicable.

### TERMS AND CONDITIONS:

1. The amount of the award will be at the discretion of the Parish Council.
2. All applications will be considered on their merits, but in general grants will only be awarded for capital projects, such as the purchase of equipment, works to buildings, improvements to premises. In addition the Parish Council may support a community event, festival or other special event. The Parish Council does not normally give grants towards running costs, salaries or consumables, however exceptional circumstances may be considered.
3. Grants will be awarded to voluntary groups and societies, clubs, not-for-profit organisations, charities operating in the Stockbridge parish area.
4. Grants will not be awarded to individuals or to regional or national charities unless it is for a specific project in the Stockbridge parish area or where there will be obvious benefit to the community.
5. The purpose for which the grant is made must be in the interest of the Stockbridge parish area or any part of it or all or some of the inhabitants of the Stockbridge parish area which is defined by the boundaries of the Parish Council. The benefit to the area or inhabitants must be commensurate with the expenditure.
6. Groups from outside the Parish who can demonstrate direct benefit to the area are eligible to apply.
7. The Parish Council will take into account any previous grant made to an organisation or group when considering a new application. No grant will be awarded to or for any commercial venture for private gain.
8. Retrospective applications will not be funded where the expenditure has been made, the project carried out or the event taken place except in exceptional circumstances.

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9. The Parish Council may request submission of audited accounts and supporting documentation detailing costs of capital expenditure, project or events for which the funding is being sought.
10. The Parish Council would be grateful if within 2 months of the project being completed all grant recipients were able to provide the Parish Council with a brief report, including photographs, of how the grant had been utilised, how it had assisted the organisation or group and what it had achieved.
11. If the grant is put to purposes other than those for which it was awarded without the prior approval of the Parish Council, then the recipient organisation or group will be required to repay the grant to the Parish Council.
12. The organisation or group should supply any information as the Parish Council may request regarding the impact of the project on the Parish Council's area.
13. Recognition of the grant from Stockbridge Parish Council must be made in any publicity.
14. Stockbridge Parish Council will not accept responsibility for ascertaining the necessary consent and insurance on behalf of the applicant. It is the applicant's responsibility to ensure they comply with relevant laws and regulations.

## **How will the application be assessed?**

1. How well the grant will meet the needs of the community, providing positive benefit to the inhabitants.
2. How effectively the group will use the grant.
3. Whether the costs are appropriate and realistic.
4. What level of contributions has been, or will be, raised locally.
5. Whether the organisation or group could reasonably have been expected to obtain sufficient funding from another, perhaps more appropriate source.
6. How the organisation or group is managed, as indicated by the constitution.