



BRAUNTON PARISH COUNCIL

Grants Policy

General Principles

Braunton Parish Council has a responsibility to manage public money in an open and transparent fashion. Any grants considered under this policy will be available for public scrutiny and will be considered within the public part of the Committee agenda.

This policy and its associated governance will apply to applications made under the Council's grants scheme and will also apply to any disbursement by the Parish Council of grant funding obtained by the Council from an external funding source.

The Council's Finance and Administration Committee will make recommendations to Full Council on grant applications in accordance with the Council's Grants Policy. Each application will be considered on its merits.

The Parish Council is committed to supporting and strengthening the community groups which help to make a positive difference to Braunton as a place to live and work.

At the discretion of the Parish Council grants are awarded to appropriate community groups who demonstrate a clear need for financial support and contribute towards the vision and aims for Braunton.

The Parish Council will support community groups based in the village who seek to develop joint community based links with surrounding communities.

Grants will not be awarded to individuals.

Grant payments will not be made to personal bank accounts.

Our Aims

To Serve

the local community by efficient management of our existing assets and services and a proactive response to future needs

To Promote	the economic growth, cultural and social requirements of Braunton through sustainable policies
To Represent	the views and opinions of the local community to other authorities and agencies and thus influence and improve their service provision.
To Consult	with the local community on existing and new services and to act as a focus for local issues.
To Protect	preserve and enhance Braunton's history, traditions and heritage for present and future generations.

Our Vision

Braunton Parish Council is a modern organisation which strives to be open to all, transparent and responsive. We pride ourselves in working with and for people to help create a place where everyone feels part of a strong, prosperous and vibrant community. We want Braunton to be a safe, clean and green environment where everyone is proud to live and work.

Requirements for Applications

- a) Grants to National Organisations should only be made to autonomous local committees responsible for their own fund-raising and where the grant will be seen to benefit Braunton residents.
- b) Organisations from outside the village should also apply to their own parish for a grant before receiving a grant from the Parish Council.
- c) Organisations based in Braunton, which serve a wider area, should also apply to other parishes.
- d) No grant will be made unless accounts are produced.
- e) No grant will be made to organisations that raise money to give away as grants.
- f) No grant will be made to commercial undertakings.
- g) All applications for grants are to be reported to the Finance and Administration Committee whether or not they conform to the above guidelines.

- h) Nothing in these guidelines will prevent a grant being made to a new community activity or organisation within the village.
- i) Bodies receiving grants must show in their accounts that the grant was received from the Parish Council.
- j) For audit purposes the Council may request how the grant has been spent.
- k) Applications will not be considered if retrospective.
- l) Where possible, the Parish Council would expect any application to demonstrate how financial sustainability can be achieved.
- m) The Parish Council must be credited in any publicity arising from the award of a grant.

Process

- a) The grants budget is set annually as part of the general budget setting process.
- b) Subject to funds being available, applications may be made through out the year.
- c) The Council or the Finance and Administration Committee will consider applications at the next available meeting, subject to funds being available.
- d) The Council may award less than the requested grant amount.
- e) The scheme and relevant deadlines will be publicised through the Parish Council's website, social media and newsletter.
- f) Applicants must complete the applications form.
- g) Any decision made is final.
- h) Successful applicants are required to complete a grants feedback questionnaire.
- i) Failure to provide evidence that the grant has been spent will necessitate repayment of the grant.

This Policy will be reviewed annually.

Date of Approval: 13 February 2024

Date of Review: January 2024.