

Beckingham Parish Council

Lincolnshire

Chairman: Lawrence Tatton

www.beckinghamvillage.co.uk

GRANTS POLICY

The Parish Council's aim is to ensure that all our award-making activity is:

- open
- transparent
- fair
- competitive
- supports local organisations

Our yearly budgeting process is completed in November/December and offers for the following financial year cannot be made until Council approves the budget estimates. Our awards are open to established voluntary or community groups, as well as new or informal groups of parishioners who are or intend by the date of application to become formally constituted.

PARISH COUNCIL POWERS and SECTION 137

The Parish Council has a number of powers granted under various Acts of Parliament which enable it to spend money (see attached table). If the Parish Council lacks a particular power it may consider the use of the statutory power of Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972, which permits it to spend up to a certain limit on anything which in the opinion of the Council is in the interests of the parish, or any part of it, or is in the interest or all or some of its inhabitants.

This amount is limited to a figure per head of the electorate on the electoral role on 1st January before the commencement of the financial year. The figure is index-linked and for 2019/20 is £8.12 per elector.

To be eligible for the award of a grant under Section 137 an organisation must:

- be established for charitable, benevolent, social, cultural, recreational or philanthropic purposes
- have a constitution, or set of rules, which define its aims, objectives and operational procedures
- be able to provide a copy of its latest annual accounts and/or most recent bank statement.
Accounts are to be checked and signed by a person independent of the group
- have a bank account operated by a minimum of at least two joint signatories

WHAT CAN BE FUNDED?

- the project should be something that makes the local community a better place in which to live, work or visit
- it should benefit people who live in the parish
- there must be clear evidence that local people support the project and are involved in carrying it out
- applications do not have to be from groups that already exist.
- each group may only make one application per financial year
- applications will be considered for day-to-day running costs and individual projects

THE FOLLOWING ARE NOT ELIGIBLE

- support for individuals or private business projects
- projects that are the prime statutory responsibility of other government bodies
- projects that improve or benefit privately owned land or property
- projects that have already been completed or will have been by the time the grant is made

CONDITIONS OF SUPPORT

The Council may make the award of any grant subject to all or some of the following conditions. Required conditions will be at the discretion of the Council and take into account your organisation's individual circumstances.

- Funding must only be used for the purpose agreed with the Parish Council and if the monies are not spent on the items agreed, they must be returned.
- Funding must be spent within the financial year awarded and cannot be added wholly or partly to your reserves.
- Any unused funds at the end of the financial year in which the grant is paid out must be returned to the Parish Council.
- You must acknowledge the Parish Council's support in all publications, publicity and annual reports.
- A representative of your organisation should give a report at the Annual Parish Meeting on how you spent the money and if appropriate how your project went.

WHEN TO APPLY

The Parish Council prepares its annual budget in November and organisations should therefore apply by the end of October in time to be considered. Any award granted would become available for payment after April the following year.

This is a competitive process against other bids and the quality of each bid is important. All groups will be treated equally. If an organisation has had a grant previously, they are not guaranteed to receive financial support again but are not excluded from applying again. A fresh application will be required each time.

HOW WILL DECISIONS BE MADE?

All bids will be judged after the closing date. The Council's decision is final. We may not be able to fund all projects as there may be more applications than there is money available but all applications will be considered carefully. Due account will be taken of the extent to which funding has been sought or secured from other sources or own fund-raising activities.

HOW TO APPLY

Applications should be made in writing to the Parish Clerk using the application form to be found on the website at <http://beckinghamvillage.co.uk/optGov.php>

This Grants policy was adopted by Beckingham Parish Council at a meeting of the Council held on 9th January 2019

Function	Powers & Duties	Statutory Provisions
Allotments	Duty to provide allotments. Power to improve and adapt land for allotments, and to let grazing rights	Small Holding & Allotments Act 1908, ss. 23, 26, and 42
Baths and washhouses	Power to provide public baths and washhouses	Public Health Act 1936, ss. 221, 222, 223 and 227
Burial grounds, cemeteries and crematoria	Power to acquire and maintain Power to provide Power to agree to maintain monuments and memorials Power to contribute towards expenses of cemeteries	Open Spaces Act 1906, Ss 9 and 10; Local Government Act 1972, s. 214; Parish Councils and Burial Authorities (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1970, s. 1 Local Government Act 1972, s. 214(6)
Bus shelters	Power to provide and maintain shelters	Local Government (Miscellaneous Provision) Act 1953, s. 4
Bye-laws	Power to make bye-laws in regard to pleasure grounds Cycle parks Baths and washhouses Open spaces and burial grounds Mortuaries and post-mortem rooms	Public Health Act 1875, s. 164 Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, s.57(7) Public Health Act 1936, s.223 Open Spaces Act 1906, s.15 Public Health Act 1936, s.198
Clocks	Power to provide public clocks	Parish Councils Act 1957, s.2
Closed churchyards	Powers as to maintenance	Local Government Act 1972, s.215
Common pastures	Powers in relation to providing common pasture	Smallholdings and Allotments Act 1908, s.34
Conference facilities	Power to provide and encourage the use of facilities	Local Government Act 1972, s.144
Community centres	Power to provide and equip buildings for use of clubs having athletic, social or recreational objectives	Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 s.19
Conduct	Duty to promote and maintain high standards of conduct	Localism Act 2011, s.27
Crime prevention	Powers to install and maintain equipment and establish and maintain a scheme for detection or prevention of crime	Local Government and Rating Act 1997, s.31
	Power to contribute to police services e.g. PCSOs	Police Act 1996, s.92
	Duty on Parish Councils to consider crime reduction in every policy and action	s17 Crime and Disorder Act 1998 (as amended)
Drainage	Power to deal with ponds and ditches	Public Health Act 1936, s.260
Dogs	Power to make a Dog Control Order Power to take enforcement action against those who commit an offence against a Dog Control Order	Cleaner Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005
Entertainment and the arts	Provision of entertainment and support of the arts	Local Government Act 1972, s.145
Flyposting and Graffiti	Power to take enforcement action against those that flypost or graffiti	Cleaner Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005

General Power of Competence	Power to do anything that an individual may do (eligible Councils only)	Localism Act 2011, s.1
Gifts	Power to accept	Local Government Act 1972, s.139
Highways	Power to maintain footpaths and bridle-ways Power to light roads and public places Provision of litter bins Powers to provide parking places for bicycles and motor-cycles, and other vehicles Power to enter into agreement as to dedication and widening Power to provide roadside seats and shelters Consent of parish council required for ending maintenance of highway at public expense, or for stopping up or diversion of highway Power to complain to highway authority as to unlawful stopping up or obstruction of highway or unlawful encroachment on roadside wastes Power to provide traffic signs and other objects or devices warning of danger Power to plant trees and lay out grass verges etc. and to maintain them	Highways Act 1980, ss.43,50 Parish Councils Act 1957, s.3; Highways Act 1980, s.301 Litter Act 1983, ss.5,6 Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, ss.57,63 Highways Act 1980, ss.30,72 Parish Councils Act 1957, s.1 Highways Act 1980, ss.47,116 Highways Act 1980, s.130 Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, s.72 Highways Act 1980, s.96
Investments	Power to participate in schemes of collective investment	Trustee Investments Act 1961, s.11
Land	Power to acquire by agreement, to appropriate, to dispose of Power to accept gifts of land	Local Government Act 1972, ss.124, 126, 127 Local Government Act 1972, s.139
Litter	Provision of receptacles Power to take enforcement action against those that litter	Litter Act 1983, ss.5,6 Cleaner Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005
Lotteries	Powers to promote	Lotteries and Amusements Act 1976, s.7
Mortuaries and post mortem rooms	Powers to provide mortuaries and post mortem rooms	Public Health Act 1936, s.198
Neighbourhood Planning	Power to create a Neighbourhood Plan and other development mechanisms	Localism Act, s.116
Open spaces	Power to acquire land and maintain	Public Health Act 1875, s.164 Open Spaces Act 1906, ss.9 and 10
Parish documents	Powers to direct as to their custody	Local Government Act 1972, s.226

Public buildings and village hall	Power to provide buildings for public meetings and assemblies	Local Government Act 1972, s.133
Public conveniences	Power to provide	Public Health Act 1936, s.87
Sustainable communities	Able to be represented on a panel of representatives to be consulted on proposals that would contribute to sustainable communities	Sustainable Communities Act 2007
Town and country planning	Right to be notified of planning applications	Town and Country Planning Act 1990, Sched.1, para. 8
Tourism	Power to encourage visitors and provide conference and other facilities	Local Government Act 1972, s.144
Traffic calming	Powers to contribute financially to traffic calming schemes	Highways Act 1980, s.274A
Transport	Powers in relation to car-sharing schemes, taxi fare concessions and information about transport Powers to make grants for bus services	Local Government and Rating Act 1997, s.26, 28 and 29 Transport Act 1985, s.106A
War memorials	Power to maintain, repair, protect and alter war memorials	War Memorials (Local Authorities' Powers) Act 1923, s.1; as extended by Local Government Act 1948, s.133
Water supply	Power to utilise well, spring or stream and to provide facilities for obtaining water from them	