

Agenda Item 12

Motion Registration Form

Proposer – Cllr Potts

Date Submitted – 21st June 2026

Title - Community Grants Policy

Background Information –

At its meeting in June, discussions took place around the amount of grant available, the deadlines for applications and the exceptional circumstances available. The Parish Clerk agreed to take on board comments and bring a revised version of the policy to a future Parish Council meeting. These proposals offer another methodology around the process.

Under these proposals, the grant-making criteria and amounts would be more realistic. However, some grants (emergency funding and capacity building funds, for example) needn't be used but could rollover if not used. Unspent funds could be saved and the reserve built over several years. The funds would remain available but the funding criteria and choices would not be compromised.

I would further suggest that we ensure bodies funded are legally registered, have insurance and that staff DBS checks (where required) or best practice as set by the relevant associations. I believe the Council should ensure that those receiving grants are legal and have the required insurance and protections in place.

Proposed Resolution(s)

1. * A small fund should be established for emergency situations for relevant bodies. This fund would be available at any time rather than annually. It would not need to be spent but would be available if required, for example in the event of an imminent closure.
2. * The existing grant funding should adhere to the current criteria with a larger limit as discussed during the meeting. However, the 'exceptional circumstances' aspect should be more stringent.
3. * Funding exceeding the set upper limit should not occur for more than two years. Any exceptional limits for more than one year would only be approved after a more rigorous review of the exceptional circumstances. These funded groups should demonstrate that they have been making efforts to find alternative funding sources.
4. * Exceptional funding limits should not become a yearly funding mechanism.
5. * A separate funding stream should be established to provide regular funding for bodies. This would be distinct from the usual grant process. The Council may, if permitted by policy, provide a regular funding stream for those receiving Council grants. This grant would be separate from the usual grants. I believe that mixing yearly funding of this nature would complicate the current grants.
6. * A local capacity building funding scheme could be developed. This would formalise grant-making criteria for funding new, startup groups that directly benefit the community. The aim would be to facilitate innovation and support for the community.