

Boyton Parish Council

Grant Awarding Policy

1. Introduction

Boyton Parish Council recognises the value that voluntary groups, charities and community organisations bring to the parish. The Council may award grants to support activities that benefit residents and contribute to the wellbeing, vibrancy and resilience of the community.

This policy sets out the criteria, process and conditions for awarding grants.

2. Legal Power

The Council may award grants under its statutory powers or, where no specific power exists, under Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972, provided the expenditure is in the interests of the parish and provides commensurate benefit to residents.

3. Purpose of Grants

Grants are intended to:

- Support local organisations delivering services or activities that benefit Boyton residents
- Enable community projects, events or improvements
- Promote social inclusion, wellbeing and community cohesion
- Support the development of new initiatives that meet local needs

The Council does not normally fund ongoing running costs unless a clear community benefit is demonstrated.

4. Who Can Apply

Applications are welcomed from:

- Local voluntary and community groups
- Registered local charities
- Not-for-profit local organisations
- Clubs and societies operating within Boyton
- Organisations based outside the parish only where a clear benefit to Boyton residents is demonstrated

Individuals and commercial businesses are not eligible.

5. Application Process

Applicants must:

1. Complete the Council's Grant Application Form
2. Provide supporting information (e.g., project details, budget, latest accounts)
3. Submit the application to the Clerk by the published deadline or at least 10 working days before the relevant Council meeting

The Council may request additional information if required.

6. Assessment Criteria

Applications will be assessed against the following:

1. Clear benefit to Boyton residents
2. Alignment with parish priorities and community needs
3. Evidence of good governance and financial management
4. Value for money and sustainability

5. Whether other funding sources have been explored
6. Whether the organisation has received previous grants from the Council

Priority may be given to projects that support vulnerable groups, promote inclusion, or enhance community facilities.

7. Decision-Making

All grant decisions are made by the full Parish Council at a public meeting. Decisions are minuted and published for transparency. The Council's decision is final and not subject to appeal

8. Conditions of Funding

Successful applicants must:

1. Use the grant only for the purpose stated
2. Spend the grant within 12 months unless otherwise agreed
3. Acknowledge Boyton Parish Council's support in publicity or materials
4. Provide a short report or feedback on the outcomes achieved
5. Return any unspent funds

The Council reserves the right to withhold or reclaim grants if conditions are not met.

9. Budget

The Council sets an annual grants budget as part of the precept process. Once the budget is exhausted, no further grants will be awarded in that financial year.

10. Review of Policy

This policy will be reviewed every three years, or sooner if legislation or local needs change.