

EASTFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

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GRANTS POLICY

At its meeting on 28 June 2010, the Parish Council reviewed and adopted the following policy on grants to outside organisations:

1. The council will abide by the need to have a clear legal power to use for any grants made, including Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972 (the 'free resource') where no specific power exists which the council could use.
2. In subject areas on which the council is unclear about its spending power to a proposed grant, the advice of the Yorkshire Local Council Association will be sought before a final decision is taken on a grant.
3. The council will only grant to such organisations which it considers works in the interests of the parish and its residents.
4. The council will reserve the right to attach any conditions it sees fit to grants and have them agreed by the outside organisation before payment(s) of grant; this will include the reporting to the council of how the grant is used once the project is completed.
5. Grant payments may be recommended by the Finance Committee but must be approved by Full Parish Council and will only be made where a minute of the council's decision exists authorising expenditure, and after two councillors have signed the relevant cheque or other payment order.
6. A ceiling of £5000 (Five Thousand Pounds) is set aside annually for the provision of grants and will be divided as follows:

Small Grants. Requests up to a maximum of £500 may be considered, and if appropriate, recommended by the Finance Committee. These grants will be considered at each Finance Committee meeting and the recommendation considered by the Full Parish Council at their next meeting.

Large Grants. Requests for grants £501 upwards may be considered, and if appropriate, recommended by the Finance Committee. Requests for such grants will only be considered at the first and last Finance Committee meeting of each financial year (usually May and February respectively). An under spend from other budgets may also be used to increase the available funding for large grants at the last Finance Committee meeting of each year. Any recommendations will be considered at the next Full Parish Council meeting.

7. No application to be considered for personal applicants.
8. Before any grant is considered an application must be received on an application form which will be available on line, from the Parish Clerk or Parish Councillors.
9. Before considering a grant the council need to consider what efforts have already been made towards fund raising.
10. All applications are considered on their merit and where more than one application is received from any one organisation within a 12 month period, the granting of the second and subsequent applications shall be at the discretion of the Full parish Council.
11. Advice and guidance in submitting the application may be obtained from the Parish Clerk.