

Pilling Parish Council Donation Policy

Background

Pilling Parish Council budgets each year for donations; funded directly from the Parish Precept.

Pilling Parish Council holds the General Power of Competence, which enables it to do anything that an individual may do provided it is not prohibited by other legislation, this includes making donations.

The Parish Council receives no other significant monies from any source (with the exception of grant monies for particular projects and ring fenced for that purpose).

Policy

Donations made by the Parish Council must be commensurate to the Parish and its Parishioners. The Parish Council cannot make donations to individuals unless the purpose of the request from an individual will directly benefit residents of Pilling.

The organisation requesting a donation request must be a non-profit making local voluntary organisation where membership is open to all residents.

The Parish Council will consider a request for a donation from a Lancashire wide organisation as long as there is a clear benefit to a significant number of Pilling residents.

The Parish Council may also make a donation to one national organisation each year without the organisation making a request.

The Parish Council will not make a donation for events or activities which can be funded by the relevant participants or which can or will be self-supporting by means of donations, or grants from other organisations etc. Donations cannot be made to fund political activities.

Criteria

The Parish Council will consider applications for donations in situations:

- where there is no other way of obtaining the relevant funds;
- The funds will enable the relevant local group or local organisation to access or “unlock” funds or assistance from third parties; and
- Monies have been donated or raised but these are insufficient and funds are needed to bridge the resulting gap.

All proposed expenditure must be detailed against the Parish Council's budget for donations, resolved when calculating the Council's precept.

All donations will be at the discretion of the Parish Council

If the Council considers that there are exceptional circumstances then it can decide to exceed these limits.

Only one grant will be given to any group or organisation, or for any particular purpose, in any financial year (1st April to 31st March). Rather than two grants to the same organisation.

Donations cannot be awarded after the relevant event or the project has been completed.

Applications

All applications for donations shall be made in writing to the Clerk to the Council who shall arrange for those applications which meet the Council's criteria to be considered at the next meeting of the Council. Successful applicants will be notified in writing and asked to provide details to whom payment should be made. Successful applicants will be required to acknowledge receipt of the payment in writing and asked to provide a short written report on their activities to the parish council in cases where there is no parish council representation on the group or organisation.

Notes

The Council's decision on any application is final and there is no right of appeal.

The Council reserves the right to decline any application without giving reasons for its decision.

The Council will not commit to any continuing expenditure.

Nothing in this Policy prevents the Council from providing a donation to a local group, organisation or project without application where the Council considers that the giving of such a donation will bring benefits to residents of the Parish.

Where a Parish Councillor is a member of a group/organisation applying for funding, that Member must declare, in accordance with its Code of Conduct, an interest in the matter and refrain from voting. Advice may be sought from the Monitoring Officer.

Version	Changes	Author	Date	Minute
1.0	Created	G. Benson, clerk	9th September, 2020	4928
1.1	Review	G. Benson, clerk		