

Sway Parish Council Section 137 Grant Policy

Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972 empowers the Parish Council to spend some of its money, subject to limits, on purposes that it considers to be "in the interests of, and will bring direct benefit to, their area, or any part of it, or all or some of its inhabitants." The maximum allowed to be spent in the 2015-16 financial year is calculated at £7.36 per elector. Grants under Section 137 are only available to Groups or Organisations (personal applications cannot be considered)

The Council recognises the importance of supporting groups, organisations and charities that benefit the local community, and that making grants is a valuable method of support.

The purpose of this document is to ensure that Parish Council has an open, consistent and easily understood approach to awarding grants.

The Parish Council has statutory powers which enable it to make funds available to local organisations for the overall benefit of the parish. The Council will consider an application for grant aid from any local voluntary or charitable organisation where the group's activities can be seen to be of benefit to the parish. The total figure available for grant aid will be agreed by the Council as part of its budget each financial year.

The Council will only make grants that satisfy the following conditions:

- A grant will only be made to local non-political, non-profit making groups, organisations, educational establishments or charities
- Applications must be for the benefit of residents of the parish.
- Only one grant will be given to a group in any one financial year, but groups may submit an application for grant aid each year.
- Applicants must have a bank account and a copy of their last bank statement(s) must be supplied.
- Applications must state the purpose of the amount sought and the amount sought.
- If the applicant is a registered charity, the registration number. For any other applicant, a signed declaration that the applicant is non-profit making.
- Grants will not be made to local groups whose fund raising is sent to their central headquarters for redistribution.
- Applicants must not change the use of their grant award without the written permission of the Council.
- Applicants must acknowledge the Council in any publicity relating to the grant and agree to the Council publicising details of any grants it makes.