

Wheatley Parish Council Grants Policy

Adopted 14.05.2018 reviewed 20.02.2023, 16.10.2024, 16.06.2025

1. Introduction

Wheatley Parish Council (WPC) is committed to financially supporting local charities, organisations, and projects, so Wheatley becomes a vibrant, sustainable and safe place to live. WPC budgets a sum of money each year for this purpose.

2. Scope

WPC can only award funds, where there is a specific power to do so, the applicable legal reference will be identified on the award documentation.

In the event that there is no specific legislation applicable to the proposed awarding of a grant and members believe there is benefit to the village and community, the General Power of Competency¹ may be used.

3. What we will consider funding

To ensure that the council's money is spent fairly and equitably throughout the parish the council will only consider awarding grants to:

- local charities, voluntary and/or <u>not-for profit</u> making organisations
- projects that demonstrate a positive impact to the village and its residents.
- projects delivered within the village of Wheatley, on land owned by WPC.
- projects that align to <u>WPC's Strategic Plan</u>
- capital expenditure (non-current assets such as land, buildings, and plant and equipment)

4. What we will not fund

We are unable to support projects where funds:

- will be allocated to an individual.
- are paid into a personal bank account.
- are allocated towards revenue costs (repairs, general maintenance, training).
- will support national or international charities/appeals.

5. Small Grants (less than £3,000)

Applications can be submitted throughout the year and will be reviewed by the Finance Committee. The committee meets on the third Monday of February, April, June, October and December and applications must be submitted to the Clerk at least two weeks in advance of the meeting.

Where applications are referred to full council, they will be presented at the next meeting.

Applicants will be notified of the committee's decision. Successful applicants will receive payment via BACS unless alternative methods of payment are requested.

¹ Localism Act 2011. The General Power of Competency can only be used if the council has agreed that it meets the set criteria, at the first council meeting following elections.

6. Large Grants (greater than £3,000)

Applications for large grant requests will normally be considered by the Finance Committee in October/November as part of the council's budget setting process for the following year. Applications must be submitted to the Clerk at least two weeks in advance of this meeting.

Applicants will be notified of the committee's decision. Successful applicants will receive payment via BACS unless alternative methods of payment are requested.

For any organisation in receipt of a 'large' grant, WPC will expect to receive regular updates (minimum of two within a 12-month period).

7. Application process

Applications must include, as a minimum:

- i. Completed application form including demonstration of how it meets WPC's strategic aims.
- ii. Annual set of accounts showing income and expenditure for current or previous year.
- iii. Copy of your written constitution or organisational aims and purpose.

We welcome any relevant supporting information/documentation relating to the organisation or project.

Application forms are available from:

- WPC website www.wheatleyparishcouncil.gov.uk.
- Parish Office, 89a High St, Wheatley, OX33 1XP
- Contacting 01865 875615
- Emailing clerk@wheatleyparishcouncil.gov.uk

8. Successful applications:

It is expected that successful grants must:

- be spent for the purpose, project or activity given if the expenditure/project/activity does not proceed, the awarded grant must be returned to WPC.
- return any unspent funds to WPC.
- provide a summary or update on the project.
- reference WPC and use WPC logo/branding on any promotional material, relating to the supported project.

9. Publicity

WPC requires acknowledgement of its contribution in any publicity material. If you would like members to visit your project/activity, please contact the Parish Office, 01865 875615, clerk@wheatleyparishcouncil.gov.uk.

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