FOULDEN PARISH COUNCIL

GRANTS & DONATIONS POLICY

Introduction

The term 'grants and donations' cover payment(s) made by FouldenParish Council (the Parish Council) to another organisation for specific purposes agreed between the Parish Council and that organisation. Foulden Parish Council strives to allocate grants and donations in a fair and open manner, judging each application on its own merits.

When allocating grants and donations, the Parish Council must show regard to the statutory powers granted to the council through various Local Government Acts and Audit regulations.

The Parish Council can only award grants using certain legal powers. Where there is no statutory power, the Parish Council may use Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972 to give grants to community organisations. This power may only be used if its use will benefit some or all its residents or some or all the area and where the benefit obtained is commensurate with expenditure incurred.

Policy

Grants and donations will be decided by Foulden Parish Council as agenda items at Parish Council meetings. Each councillor will have a free vote during the decision-making process.

Applicants should be aware that meeting the criteria set out below does not guarantee that the application will be successful.

There will be no appeals process if a grant application is unsuccessful.

All grants and donations are made on a strictly one-off basis – receiving funding in one financial year does not mean funding will be automatically provided in future years.

When seeking funding from The Parish Council, all applications will be considered on their own merits, but the organisation should: -

- Be able to provide a clear explanation of what the funding is for, including time scales.
- Be able to provide examples of other funding sources including fundraising events.
- Be able to show who will benefit from this funding, which should be in the interests of some or all the parishioners of Foulden.
- Be able to explain what impact not receiving this funding will have on your organisation.
- Understand that grants will be awarded for specific projects or events. The Council will not give grants towards running costs or salaries.
- Understand that any previous grant made to an organisation or group will be taken into account when considering a new application.
- Understand that the amount of grant awarded will be at the discretion of the Parish Council.

- Understand that only one grant will be considered for an organisation during the year unless there are exceptional circumstances.

Groups must meet the following criteria: -

- Have an organisation bank account (not personal).
- Be able to provide copies of the organisation's accounts
- All grants and donations given must be for the benefit of some or all the parishioners of Foulden.

Sutton Parish Council will not generally be able to support: -

- Individuals
- Political organisations
- National Bodies or Charities
- Religious organisations unless for a purpose which demonstrates no discrimination to others because of different beliefs

Note: This list is not exhaustive, and the Parish Council may add to the list at its discretion.

Application Procedure

The Clerk to the Parish Council will receive all applications and ensure that all information requested has been provided by the applicant on behalf of the organisation.

When deciding allocation of grants and donations Foulden Parish Council will consider the following criteria: -

- The benefit to the parishioners of Foulden in providing this funding.
- The financial circumstances of the organisation.
- How previous funding has been spent by that organisation.
- The financial position of the parish council itself.
- The proportion that the Parish Council funding requested will be towards the total target identified by the applicant organisation.

It should be noted that all parish councillors are governed by the Code of Conduct and have an obligation to declare personal and/or prejudicial interest where relevant when considering the allocation of all grants or donations.

To be considered for funding by Foulden Parish Council you can apply in writing.

Date Approved November 2026