

MIDDLEZOY PARISH COUNCIL

GRANTS POLICY for 2020/21

Date Adopted: 21st January 2020

Minute Ref: 14/20/MPC

Date of Review: January 2021

Middlezoy Parish Council is able to make monetary grants to organisations that work for the benefit of the local community within the Parish of Middlezoy. Any organisation can only make one application for a grant within a financial year (April to March) but the bids will mainly be considered in October. The Council regrets that it cannot make grants to individuals.

Terms and Conditions of funding

- 1 Applications will be considered from charitable or non profit making organisations and applications will be considered for individual projects only.
- 2 Applications must include a cost/benefit analysis and demonstrate a strong benefit to the community.
- 3 Applications will not normally be considered from National organisations or local groups who may have access to national funding streams from a parent organisation.
- 4 Applications from a religious group may be considered where a clear benefit to the local community can be established irrespective of individual religious beliefs. Compliance with the requirement will need to be demonstrated throughout the project.
- 5 Applications from education, health or social service establishments will only be considered where the organisation can clearly demonstrate the benefits to the wider community in the Parish.
- 6 The organisation will normally be expected to have clearly written aims and objectives, a written constitution, membership rules – copies of which should be available for scrutiny. The organisation must show that it is properly managed and runs its affairs responsibly.
- 7 All applications must demonstrate clearly how a grant will benefit the widest community within the Parish.
- 8 An organisation is required to submit audited accounts for 1 year or those that have been examined by a suitably qualified person. In the case of a new organisation a detailed budget and business plan.
- 9 An organisation is expected to have a bank account in its own name with at least two authorised signatories.
- 10 Ongoing commitment to funding cannot be made (revenue funding) but only project (capital funds).
- 11 Each application will be assessed on its own merits and will be considered along with other bids at a Parish Council meeting. To be fair on distribution the Parish Council will take previous settlements into consideration.
- 12 Due account will be taken of all efforts to secure external funding and the extent to which the organisation has fund raised or contributed from its own resources.

- 13 If approved, the recipient will receive their grant by way of a cheque which must be acknowledged promptly by the organisation.
- 14 Any grant must only be used for the purpose for which it is intended unless changed by written agreement and approval from the Parish Council. The grant must be spent within the financial year in which it was granted (or started with the Council aware of an end date). If the monies are not spent or under spent then the amount (or balance) has to be returned to the Parish Council before the end of the following financial year.
- 15 The Parish Council reserves the right to request feedback or receipts to demonstrate how the money has been spent and/or to inspect the outcomes of the project.
- 16 The Parish Council would expect acknowledgement of its contributions in any press releases, media appearances or honours/acknowledgement plaque associated with the project.

Applications that will not be considered:

- a) From organisations intending to support or oppose any particular political party or to discriminate on grounds of race, religion, gender, sexual orientation, age or disability.
- b) From private organisations operated as a business to make a profit.
- c) From upward funders ie: a local group that fund raises to send to a national and regional organisation for re-distribution.
- d) For projects that benefit individuals
- e) For day to day running costs
- f) For expenditure that has already occurred.

Section 137 Payments

Under the Local Government Act 1972 Parish Council's are able, under Section 137 of the Act, to contribute up to £8.12 per elector (2019/20), by way of grant aid, to projects that benefit people in their area on activities or projects not specifically authorised by other powers.

NB: £8.32 per elector 20/2021