

# ASHTON PARISH COUNCIL

## GRANTS POLICY AND GRANT APPLICATION FORM

The principal function of the Parish Council is to provide and maintain services and facilities for the community. The funds required to carry out this function are raised from the Ashton community through the Council Tax; this contains an element – the precept – that is determined by the Parish Council annually and collected by South Northants Council who then pay the funds, in two half-yearly instalments to the Parish Council. The Council's activities are regulated by law, principally the Localism Act 2011 and the Local Government Act 1972, (LGA) the Acts that set down the legal duties - the things the Council *must* do - and the powers, the things the Council *may* do.

Ashton Parish Council receives further income in the form of occasional 'windfall' grants from SNC's New Homes Bonus (NHB) Fund and an annual grant of approx. £4,500 from the Community Fund, established by the operator of the Roade Wind Farm Ltd. Payments to the Council are not made as of right, there are terms and conditions contained within both these schemes that restrict how the money may be used. To date, in response to feedback from the community, money from the NHB fund has been used to finance improvements to the Hut Land and the village gateways and play equipment for the Recreation Field has been purchased using money from the latter fund.

It is anticipated that payments will be made for up to 25 years, the expected life of the wind farm. The Council considers the current amount of grant income to be proportionate to and sufficient for the community's needs and thus no further grant funding is currently being raised via the precept.

Each year, normally in May the Council is required to submit a costed plan or programme to the wind farm operator. The proposal can contain more than one element and can also be a multi-year project covering up to 3 years. The Council is always pleased to receive suggestions from any resident as to how the money from either source might be spent within the community and / or bids from community groups or organisations to support projects. Payment is made to the Council by the wind farm operator to fund or assist with specific costed projects; the Council (and therefore the ultimate recipient) cannot receive a simple cash payment that is not linked to a project and the donor reserves the right to demand verification that the funds have been used for the purpose requested. Please note that in determining grant applications, the Council will apply the same criteria as those used by South Northants Council and consequently will not fund applications related to;

- activities promoting religious or political beliefs
- capital improvements to places of worship unless other community facilities are provided
- capital projects within schools
- projects outside the parish
- organisations that aim to distribute a profit (eg lotteries)
- retrospective funding of started or completed projects
- charitable donations and fundraising activities

Please note that the Council is not legally obliged to make any grant payments and that the Council's decision is final. Please make your application on the form below.

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1. Applications must be made on the prescribed form, and must be signed by an office holder of the applicant organisation or group. All questions must be answered.
2. All valid grant applications will be considered. However, the Parish Council is not duty bound to make grants and the awarding of any grant is at the sole discretion of the Parish Council.
3. Successful applicants must:
  - a) only use the grant for the purposes stated in the application
  - b) use the funds within 6 months of receiving the grant
  - c) provide confirmation, within 9 months of the grant being awarded that the grant has been used in accordance with the application.

The Parish Council has a legal duty to safeguard the public money entrusted to it. Accordingly, failure to comply with these conditions may result in the applicant being required to repay some or all of the grant to the Parish Council.

### Notes

1. Please ensure that all sections of the application form are fully completed; attach separate documents where applicable.
2. Completed forms should be submitted to the Clerk, who will be pleased to answer any questions and assist with applications where necessary. The Clerk may be contacted either by 'phone on 07505 139832 or by e-mail at [clerk@ashtonpc.org.uk](mailto:clerk@ashtonpc.org.uk)

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\* delete as appropriate

<b>SECTION A: DETAILS OF APPLICANT ORGANISATION</b>	
1. Name of Organisation:	
2. Name of Contact Person:	
3. Telephone Number (indicate day and / or evening):	
4. e-mail:	
5. What is the status of your organisation? Voluntary or Community Organisation Yes* / No*  Sports or other type of club Yes* / No*  Other (please provide details) Yes* / No*	
6. What is the total <u>annual</u> income and expenditure of your organisation?  Income and source (eg membership fees, bar and social events etc): £  Expenditure: £	
<b>SECTION B: APPLICATION FOR FUNDS</b>	
1. For what purpose will the funds be used? Please give as much detail as possible and continue on a separate sheet if necessary:	
2. How much are you applying for? £  How much cash do you currently have available (at the bank etc) £	
3. What percentage of the total expenditure does the sum applied for represent?	
4. Are you seeking to match this request for funding in any way? Yes* / No* If 'Yes' please specify a) source  b) amount	
5. Do you or will you receive funding from any other source? Yes* / No* If 'Yes' please specify a) source  b) amount	
6. Are the majority of your regular participants drawn from the Ashton community area? Yes* / No*	
<b>SECTION C: DECLARATION</b>	
I declare that I am authorised to make this application on behalf of the organisation detailed above and that the information that I have provided is correct to the best of my knowledge.	
Signed:	Name and position:
Date:	

Adopted by the Council on 13 January 2016