



Grant Award POLICY **Adopted 13th May 2024** **Reviewed annually**

The Local Government Act 1972 s111, empowers a Parish Council 'to do anything... which is calculated to facilitate or is conducive or incidental to the discharge of its function'. Therefore, Hullbridge Parish Council has the power to give grants to organisations for the direct benefit to all or part of its community.

Each year under The Local Government Act 1972 s137 the Secretary of State sets an amount per elector which in total must not be exceeded.

For each financial year the Parish Council, mindful of their responsibility in the spending and management of public money, allocate a specific amount of money to be made available as grants to local organisations.

Grants will be awarded to benefit and be of good value to the community of Hullbridge by supporting organisations and projects which help to improve safety, recreation, education, community pride, sports, art & culture or improving the long- term wellbeing of residents.

Grant applications are determined by the Finance & Policy and Appointments Committee and the Full Council and have a total budget of **£1850.00**, with a maximum individual application of 20% of the total available budget, which equates to **£350.00 in 2025-2026**.

Grant applications can be made at any time during the financial year.

The following grant criteria must be followed:

- Grant applications will only be considered if submitted on a Grant Application Form with all supporting financial documentation. A copy of the latest set of approved accounts must be attached.
- Grants will only be considered for:
 - Capital cost of new or improved facilities or equipment
 - Providing a public service
 - Initial funding for new activities
- Applications from schools and religious groups will be considered where a clear benefit to the wider community can be demonstrated and the project is in addition to statutory services.
- Applications from health, education or social services will be considered where there are benefits to the wider community and the project is in addition to statutory services.
- Only one grant may be made in each financial year to each organisation.
- Grants to county or country wide organisations must demonstrate how Hullbridge residents will benefit.
- Grants will only be awarded for forthcoming or ongoing projects – not retrospectively.
- Organisations seeking funds for buildings must demonstrate a reasonable security of tenure in the relevant property.

Grants will NOT be awarded for:

- Commercial enterprises set up to generate profit
- Health, education or welfare organisations whose services should be provided by statutory funding.
- Those supporting party political issues or supporting or opposing a political party
- Individuals

Conditions

1. Applications will not be considered from individuals.
2. Applications will not be considered from organisations intending to support or oppose any particular political party, or to discriminate on the grounds of race or religion.
3. Applications will not be considered from private organisations operated as a business to make profit or surplus.
4. Applications will not normally be considered from national organisations or local groups with access to funds from national 'umbrella' or 'parent' organisations, unless funds are not available from their national bodies, or the funds available are inadequate for a specified project.
5. The organisation must have clearly stated aims and objectives.
6. The organisation must provide or propose to provide an activity or service that is believed to be clearly needed by the local community or by a particular group of residents.
7. The organisation must provide a written constitution that has been formally adopted by the membership, or in the event of a less formal organisation, a similar written document.
8. Hullbridge Parish Council reserves the right to reclaim the grant in the event of it not being used for the purpose specified on the application form.
9. Grants will not be awarded on a retrospective basis but only on future funding requirements.
10. Organisations that receive a grant are required to acknowledge the contribution from Hullbridge Parish Council on publicity and printed material.

Grant application forms may be downloaded from the website or a copy picked up from the Parish Council Office.