



RAUNDS TOWN COUNCIL

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POLICY ON AWARDING GRANTS.

Raunds Town Council has discretion to award grants to community organisations and individuals which can evidence a clear need for financial support and demonstrate it contributes towards the vision and aims of the Town Council.

The Town Council will consider a request for free use of council resources as a “contribution in kind” and this policy will be followed. Organisations may wish to note that contributions in kind are considered as match-funding by most grant awarding bodies.

1.0 Policy

1.1 Every application shall be considered on its own merit.

1.2 The applicant must clearly demonstrate how the application will be of benefit to the community.

1.3 The organisation must be non-profit making and/or hold charitable status.

1.4 Applicants must clearly demonstrate why they need funding.

1.5 Organisations will be required to supply two years of accounts to demonstrate that they have suitable governance procedures in place to manage use of public resources and that they do not hold excessive reserves. Organisations with less than two years accounts will be considered at the Council's discretion.

1.6 A grant will not normally exceed 50% of the applicant's costs.

1.7 Grants will not be made for retrospective applications.

1.8 Only one application will be considered from an organisation in a financial year.

1.9 Individuals may apply for a grant, where they can demonstrate benefit to the community. Any individual applying for a grant must live in Raunds.

1.10 Grants will not be made to fund:

Activities promoting religious or political beliefs.

Improvements to places of worship unless other community facilities are provided. Capital projects within schools or hospitals.

Projects involving other authorities e.g. Highways.

Organisations which aim to distribute a profit.

1.11 For budgeting purposes, applications for grants in excess of £500 should be made to the Council by September of the previous year.

1.12 Where an organisation requests funding over a period of years, they will be required to submit annual applications.

1.13 The Town Council must be credited in any publicity arising from the award of a grant.

1.14 Preference will be given to organisations using town facilities and/or having sought (and been refused) external funding prior to apply to the Council.

1.15 Once the grants budget has been spent in any year the Council will not entertain further applications unless the Council considers the application is of special merit.

2.0 Procedure

2.1 A grants budget will be set annually, during the budget setting process.

2.2 Subject to funds being available, applications will be considered by the Finance Committee throughout the financial year, subject to 1.12 above.

2.3 The scheme will be publicised as appropriate.

2.4 Applications must be made on the Council's application form

2.5 Organisations given grants will be asked to report to the Town Assembly, showing how the money has been spent and the benefits the grant has provided.

3.0 Notification of grant

3.1 Applicants will be informed of the council's decision after the meeting.

3.2 The decision making process could take 10 weeks from receipt of a valid application.

Adopted 1st August 2008.

Revised June 2012

Re-Affirmed October 2014

Revised January 2016

Revised May 2017

Amended March 2020