

CHESTERTON PARISH COUNCIL

S137 Grant Policy

Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972 allows Chesterton Parish Council to spend a limited amount on activities for which it has no specific power, but which Chesterton Parish Council considers will bring direct benefit to the area, or any part of it, or all of some of its inhabitants. Chesterton Parish Council will consider financial assistance to local organisations and groups if it believes that such a grant would benefit the parish and / or its electorates.

The Parish Council awards grants, at its discretion, to organisations which can demonstrate a clear need for financial support to achieve an objective which will benefit the Parish by: -

- Providing a service,
- Enhancing the quality of life,
- Improving the environment and promoting the Parish of Chesterton in a positive way.

Applications must be made in writing by using the s137 Grant Application Form in place at the time of application. Any Community / Voluntary / Charitable organisation may apply to the Parish Council for a grant. The organisation must have a bank account as disbursement cannot be made payable to individuals. Any payments made are subject to the normal annual budgetary constraints of Chesterton Parish Council. A resolution for financial assistance to an organisation will be made by the Parish Council and recorded in the minutes.

The Finance Committee will deal with any requests for financial assistance in the first instance, and applications will be considered at the next Parish Council meeting when a resolution will be passed to either;

1. Approve or Refuse the request
2. Reduce the amount requested and approve the reduction
3. Request additional information.

The Clerk and/or RFO will action this resolution as soon as possible after the meeting.

The Council will not fund activities outside its powers and functions and shall review this policy annually to ensure that it meets legal requirements and reflects best practice.

CONDITIONS

- Grants will not be awarded to individuals, commercial organisations or political parties. Donations to Registered Charities in response to a general fundraising appeal via a central HQ will not normally be considered.
- Additional applications within a 12-month period will not normally be considered.
- The Council will not fund activities where it considers there to be a statutory duty upon local or central government departments to fund or provide.

Date agreed at Council Meeting: 8th July 2025

- Applications from schools for an activity that takes place within the school day will not be considered.
- The award must be used for the purpose for which the application was made.
- If the group is unable to use the award for the stated purpose, all monies must be returned to the Council.
- All awards must be properly accounted for and evidence of expenditure should be supplied as requested. If the Council is not satisfied with the arrangements, it reserves the right to request a refund of monies awarded.
- Groups operating outside the parish boundary will normally be limited to an upper limit of £100.00.

Review Date – July 2025