Grants Policy

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| **Who can apply?** | Voluntary and community groups and organisations within the Parish of Farington and/or who benefit the residents of Farington. |
| **What can funding be used for?** | * To benefit the Parish as a whole or a significant number of residents * To enable Farington residents to participate in voluntary groups and activities * To help voluntary and community groups benefit community life * To ensure the provision of services, needed by Farington residents, via the voluntary sector * To support organisations which meet the needs of Farington residents experiencing social and economic difficulties * To ensure that there is equality of access for all residents to the services the applicant provides * To improve or enhance the local environment |
| **What/who is excluded from applying to the grant scheme?** | * Commercial activities * Organisations that do not provide a service to the community of Farington * General national appeals or charities * Statutory organisations * Political groups or activities promoting political beliefs * Religious groups or the promotion of religious beliefs unless for the purposes of maintaining buildings or items which are part of the local heritage. * Arts & sports projects with no community or charitable element. * Retrospective applications * Reserves |
| **How often can the same organisation apply?** | * Not more than once for the same project or activity in the same year |
| **Financial information** | * Payments can only be made to organisations or partnerships and not to individuals * A copy of the current year’s accounts must be provided * Supplementary information to support the application may be required * Unspent monies must be returned to the Council * Full income and expenditure for the project must be detailed on the application, giving evidence where available * A statement of reserves must be provided, explaining the amounts and their use (if relevant) * The Council reserves the right to withhold 25% of the grant, payable on receipt of a final project report |
| **General principles** | * Assistance will be given on the basis of need, merit, contribution to the local community and availability of funds * Applicants must clearly show how any assistance given will benefit the people or the environment in the Parish * There can be no presumption that funding will continue on an annual basis, nor that making an application means any grant will be made |
| **General points** | * Upon completion of the project the Council requires a written statement of how the grant was used; mandatory for all grants above £2k * Applications demonstrating support from other funders and organisations will be more likely to succeed * The Council should be credited for supporting the project * The Council may choose to highlight the grant award with a feature in print, website and social media |
| **Process** | * All applications must be made on the Grant Application Form * All applications will be considered by the Parish Council at the next relevant Parish Council meeting following the application for the grant * The Clerk will advise on the outcome of the application within 4 weeks of the decision being made by the Parish Council |