

Radcliffe on Trent Parish Council

Grants Policy

Policy Statement

Radcliffe on Trent Parish Council (hereinafter referred to as ROTPC) is committed to supporting the wellbeing of the community through grants and subsidies. A grant or subsidy is defined as any payment made by ROTPC to an organisation for a specific purpose that furthers community wellbeing, whether generally or for a specific initiative, and which is not directly controlled or administered by ROTPC. The purpose of these grants are to support local initiatives and create opportunities for residents of Radcliffe on Trent that are not typically funded by the Council.

Relevant Legislation

This policy is guided by the following relevant UK legislation:

- **The Local Government Act 1972:** Authorises parish councils to provide grants to local organisations and charities in the interest of the community.
 - **The Equality Act 2010:** Ensures that all grant applications are considered without discrimination on the grounds of protected characteristics.
 - **The Charities Act 2011:** Provides guidance on the use of grants to charitable organisations.
-

Guidelines for Grant Applications

1. **Community Benefit:** All grant applications must demonstrate a direct benefit to the residents of Radcliffe on Trent.
2. **Application Process:** Grant application forms are available from the Proper Officer or the Parish Council website. Completed forms must be submitted with the latest set of the group's accounts. All questions must be fully answered, and any supporting information should be included. Incomplete

applications or those submitted without the latest set of accounts will not be considered.

3. **Retrospective Applications:** Grant applications cannot be made retrospectively.
4. **Types of Grants:** The scheme supports both startup awards for new organisations and grants for existing ones. Applications may be made for day-to-day running expenses or specific projects.
5. **Exclusions**
Applications will not be considered from:
 - Organisations supporting or opposing any political party or discriminating against a protected characteristic under the Equalities Act 2010.
 - Private or commercial businesses aiming to make a profit.
 - Local groups whose fundraising is sent to central headquarters for redistribution.
 - National charities.
 - Private individuals or appeals supporting an individual.
6. **National Organisations:** Applications from national organisations or local groups with access to national funds will generally not be considered unless local funds are insufficient.
7. **Religious Groups:** Applications from religious organisations will be considered if they demonstrate clear benefits to the wider community, irrespective of religious beliefs.
8. **Church Grants:** ROTPC will grant aid to churches for parish clocks and environmental purposes. Church halls may receive aid if used by the community.
9. **School Grants:** Schools will only be funded for environmental projects or if their application benefits the wider community.
10. **Partnerships:** Applications from health, education, or social service organisations will be considered if they demonstrate partnership with other groups and community benefits.
11. **Use of Grants:** Grants must only be used for their intended purpose unless prior written approval from ROTPC is obtained for any changes. Any unspent funds must be returned to ROTPC by the end of the financial year in which they were awarded.
12. **Administration Responsibility:** The recipient is responsible for the administration and accounting of any grant or subsidy received.

13. **Information Requests:** ROTPC reserves the right to request any further information necessary for decision-making, considering the frequency of previous awards and efforts to secure funding from other sources.
14. **Annual Applications:** Ongoing commitments to grant awards will not be made. A new application is required each year. The Council will only consider one application per organisation within a single financial year (April – March).
15. **Grant Size:** The size of any grant awarded is at the sole discretion of ROTPC.
16. **Additional Conditions:** ROTPC may attach additional conditions to the grant as deemed appropriate.
17. **Discretionary Refusal:** ROTPC reserves the right to refuse any grant application deemed inappropriate or contrary to its objectives.
18. **Tendering for Large Grants:** For grant requests over £2,500 for specific projects, organisations must provide at least three tenders with their application.
19. **Recognition:** Successful grant recipients are required to recognise ROTPC by promoting the Council in their newsletters or press releases. ROTPC will also acknowledge successful groups in its reports to parishioners.

Conclusion

This Grants Policy aims to ensure that the distribution of funds is fair, transparent, and aligned with the needs of the Radcliffe on Trent community. The policy will be reviewed regularly to remain effective and compliant with any legislative changes.

Date	Item	Next Review
2015	Document created	2019
22.10.2024	Document revised and updated	05.11.2024
05.11.2024	HR consideration and adoption	19.11.2024
19.11.2024	Full Council noting	2028