

WEELEY PARISH COUNCIL

GRANT MAKING POLICY

POLICY AGREED BY WEELEY PARISH COUNCIL ON 19TH JUNE 2023.
REVIEWED and UPDATED DATE: MAY 2024

Introduction

Section 137 of the Local Government Finance Act 1972 provides parish councils with the power to allocate a part of their budget to local charities and voluntary bodies by way of a grant, where no specific grant making power exists in other legislation and where, in the Council's opinion, the grant will benefit any part of its area or any of its inhabitants.

The budget for grants is set at the Council's Annual General Meeting in May of each year. The amount for the 2024/25 financial year is £750.

Policy

Weeley Parish Council awards grants, at its discretion and any non-profit making organisation which is based in the parish or provides services in the parish may apply. Organisations must be able to demonstrate a clear need for financial support in order to benefit the Parish by:

- Promoting the Parish of Weeley in a positive way
- Providing a service
- Enhancing the quality of life
- Improving recreation and/or sports facilities
- Improving the environment

Weeley Parish Council will not award a grant to where the applicant is one of the following:

- School
- Church (except for the upkeep of a churchyard)
- Private individual
- Funding salary costs
- Commercial organisation
- Political party

How to apply

Application forms can be found on the Weeley Parish Council website
<https://weeleyparishcouncil.gov.uk/>

Applications will be considered twice each year, at the October and March meetings of the parish council. **Applications should be made to the Parish Clerk by the last day of September or February.**

How the Council will decide on each application

An application form MUST be completed. The Parish Clerk will check that all questions have been answered and that the organisation meets the Council's requirements.

Each application will be assessed on its own merits however, the Parish Council reserves the right to refuse any application, or to approve an application with a grant amount that is different from what was requested.

Applications should be for funding to cover one-off items such as new equipment, new projects, repairs and renovations. An application to cover maintenance costs will only be considered when it enhances or maintains the appearance of the village.

An application to the parish council to provide match funding to support an application to another grant making organisation will be considered.

The organisation must have a bank account in its own name in order for any grant made to be paid into.

Weeley Parish Council reserves the right in exceptional circumstances to consider grant applications that do not meet fully the criteria set out in this policy

Successful applicants will be encouraged to provide a report on how the money was spent to the Annual Parish Meeting which usually takes place in the Spring.