

# SNETTISHAM PARISH COUNCIL – POLICIES

## **Grant and Donation Policy**

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## **I Introduction**

Under section 137 of the Local Government Act, Parish Councils may make donations to local organisations or charities which are “in the interests of, and will bring direct benefit to” all or some of their residents, and which are not allowed under any other expenditure. Note this forbids donations to individuals, and makes general charitable donations to national groups unlikely to qualify, unless there is a local link or specific scheme – e.g. local hospice or “drop in” centre.

Section 137 donations have to be listed separately in Parish accounts so one can see a running total of what is covered under this section. Lists of recent donations are available on request. There is a current legal maximum of £8.41 (updated 2021/22) per elector, which would be just under £19,000p.a<sup>1</sup>. for Snettisham. No Parish would ever give such an amount for general donations, but this might be needed to fund a parish-wide scheme or facility of some sort.

We have to take account of our own Equal Opportunities Policy, which in particular states: *Any grants or donations made by the Council will take account of the equality of opportunity and access to their services provided by the recipients.* Political donations are forbidden.

It is, finally, important to stress that simply because a project or organisation is “worthy” it does not necessarily follow that a donation should or can be made. Grants are more likely to be awarded to specific projects, rather than general funding. Local groups should apply on the attached form, and applicants may be asked to provide accounts before the application is considered. Council would expect that a brief report outlining the benefits of any donations to the Group will be provided once the project is completed.

## **II Level of Grants**

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<sup>1</sup> Again updated Mar 21.

Council has agreed guidelines to ensure consistency and fairness when making any donation. The following ranges cover each type of donation.

Suggested ranges, local groups:

- Supports the whole Village: £100-£250
- Supports many in the Village: £50-£100
- Supports a few in the Village: £25-£50

Local Charities:

- Same ranges as above

Regional/National Charities:

- Where many Villagers may potentially benefit: £50-£100
- Where a few Villagers may potentially benefit: £25-£50

### **III Additional**

Unless otherwise determined the s.137 budget for the year should be 1.5% of the Annual Operating Budget – i.e. before ring-fencing of funds etc.

Council will also consider a “returnable donation”, where a guarantee is required to allow a project or event to go ahead, and where the Group does not currently have sufficient funding.

Date of original adoption – 2/7/14, amended 1/2/17

Date this version adopted – 7/4/21

Date(s) of Review - May 2022

Document checked as accessible – April 2021

## Grant Application Form – see attached Policy

Name of Group:

Number involved in your Group (membership, regular attendees etc.):

Contact details – name/role, address and email:

Purpose of Grant (i.e. what are you wanting to do?):

Total cost of project and amount requested from Council:

Are you seeking funding from any other organisations? If so, who?

If you are unsuccessful in your application, is it likely that the project will still go ahead?

When do you anticipate your project being completed?

Please provide bank details (name on account/sort code/account number) to help with direct payment:

*Please note that a brief report (a couple of paragraphs), with photos, will be expected on completion of your project, which may be published if appropriate. This should outline the difference the project has made to your group. You may wish to include comments from those who have benefited.*