

## **HIGHAM FERRERS TOWN COUNCIL**

### **GRANT AID TO LOCAL ORGANISATIONS**

Funds are allocated annually to provide grants to cultural, sporting and community groups serving Higham Ferrers Town Council

### **COUNCIL AIMS**

- To enable local people to participate in voluntary groups and activities.
- To help voluntary groups in the town to improve effectiveness.
- To ensure the provision of services, needed by town residents, via the voluntary sector.
- To support organisations which meet the needs of people experiencing social and economic difficulties.
- To ensure that there is equality of access and opportunity for all town residents to the services it provides and funds.
- (The Town Council defines a voluntary group as a non-profit making organisation, set up and run by a voluntary, unpaid management committee.)

### **CAPITAL PROJECTS (SPECIAL PROJECTS)**

As a general rule the Council will apply a scale of up to one third of costs for projects.

1. projects for the provision of facilities where none currently exists.
2. projects for the correction of health & safety failures.
3. projects for the replacement of provision which has come to the end of its natural life.
4. projects for the improvement or replacement of existing facilities.

### **REVENUE GRANTS (GENERAL GRANTS)**

Small grants available to assist with purchase of equipment or the provision of services and, in exceptional cases can be made available to help with operating costs.

Applicants must:

- be not for profit organisations, (commercial undertakings cannot apply)
- be undertaking work within Higham Ferrers and must demonstrate a need for the service within the community that it operates
- be properly managed and able to demonstrate that they are able to achieve the objectives for which the grant is applied for
- normally be seeking funding for a one-off project or event
- be prepared to provide detailed financial information

## **TOWN COUNCIL CRITERIA**

- Grants are made only to organisations or clubs meeting the needs of residents of Higham Ferrers.
- Grants are made only to non-profit making organisations or projects.
- Applicants should apply to all other relevant statutory bodies and show evidence of their own fund-raising.
- All applicants must provide annual accounts and a copy of the group's constitution to support their application. Balances held by the organisation will be taken into consideration when deciding levels of grant aid.
- Grant aid money will only be released against proof of expenditure for the project approved.
- Grants will not be made to cover money already spent.
- Organizations will be required to return grant-aid if they close, or if a project or services funded by the Council, is not satisfactorily provided.
- Groups will be required to report back on their activities
- Groups will be required to acknowledge the Town Council's support in annual reports.

### **What cannot be funded:**

- Activities promoting religious or political beliefs.
- Improvements to places of worship unless other community facilities are provided.
- Capital projects within schools or hospitals.
- Projects involving other authorities e.g. Highways.
- Projects outside Higham Ferrers.
- Organisations which aim to distribute a profit.

Projects cannot be funded retrospectively

## **TIMETABLE FOR APPLICATIONS**

31 October  
Closing date for applications

November

The Council consider the applications when setting their budgets for the following financial year.

Following the meeting applicants will be informed of decisions.

April

Grants will be available for successful applicants (subject to any special conditions).

Approved grants will then be valid until the end of the financial year following the approval. If not taken up by 31<sup>st</sup> March following approval, the grant will be lost and reapplication necessary.

Adopted 28<sup>th</sup> August 2012

Revised 25<sup>th</sup> April 2017