# Drayton Parish Council
# Grant Application Policy

Approved by full council: 09 November 2026

## 1. Introduction
A grant is a financial contribution made by Drayton Parish Council to an organisation or project. Small grants will, in general, only be made for a purpose that benefits the village of Drayton and its residents and that support local initiatives not directly administered by the Council.

## 2. Legal Powers
Drayton Parish Council does not currently hold the General Power of Competence1 (GPC) and therefore, it may only awards grants under the specific legal powers of Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972. This allows councils to spend limited funds on activities that benefit the community. The limits are set out in S137 in terms of an amount per member of the electorate. For 2026/27 that amount is £11.60 per elector.

## 3. Grant Funding Principles
The Council is committed to awarding small grants:
• Supporting initiatives that improve the quality of life and the living environment in Drayton.
• Ensuring fair and transparent distribution of grants.
• Funding projects that align with the Drayton Neighbourhood Development Plan.
Funding decisions are made on a case-by-case basis by the full Council based on available budget and considering the factors in sections 4, 5 & 6 of this document.

## 4. What We Will Fund
We will consider applications from:
• Local charities, voluntary and not-for-profit organisations.
• Projects with a clear and measurable benefit to the community.
• Initiatives delivered within the parish of Drayton.
• Projects aligned with the Drayton Neighbourhood Development Plan.
This list is not exhaustive. The Council reserves the right to consider any application at its discretion.

## 5. What We Will Not Fund
Grants will not be awarded for:
• Individuals or personal bank accounts.
• National or international charities or appeals.
• Commercial or profit-making organisations.
• Projects that are the responsibility of other statutory bodies.
*Localism Act 2011. The General Power of Competency allows a council to act as any individual could act, including making grants. In order to have GPC, a parish council must have at least two thirds of its maximum number of councillors elected at the last election. Drayton does not currently meet these criteria.*
• Political or religious activities (unless for non-discriminatory, community-based purposes)
• Applications that have been declined previously within a 12-month period.
• “Upward funders” (groups passing funds to a central HQ for redistribution).
This list is not exhaustive. The Council reserves the right to decline any application at its discretion.

## 6. Grant Criteria and Assessment
When assessing applications, the Council may consider:
• Whether the Council has sufficient funds available.
• The direct benefit to residents or the wider Parish.
• Whether the benefits justify the cost.

• Evidence of how the grant will be used.
• Availability of other funding sources.
• Whether similar funding is already the responsibility of another authority.
• The organisation's financial position (e.g., latest accounts).
• Only one grant request will be considered in one year.
• Compliance with statutory limits on Council spending.

**7. Application Process**
Grants are considered as part of the Council's annual budget planning (October/November) and as such:
• Applications must be submitted at least two weeks prior to the October Council meeting.
• Application should be made on a completed Grant Application Form (available at www.draytonparish.gov.uk or via email from: Clerk@DraytonParish.gov.uk).
• Where applicable, organisations should submit a copy of the organisation's latest approved accounts, a constitution or statement of purpose, and details on how the project aligns with the Council's Grant Funding Principles set out in section 3.
• Applicants are encouraged to provide additional supporting information and are welcome to provide a short explanation to the Council at one of its meetings.
• Applications will be considered at the next Finance Committee meeting with recommendations being forwarded by the Finance Committee to Full Council in time to be included in the budget.

**8. Obligations of the Applicant**
In the event of being awarded a grant, applicants must:
• Use the grant solely for the purpose stated in the application.
• Return unspent funds or funds no longer required.
• Acknowledge Drayton Parish Council in publicity related to the funded project.
• Use Council branding where appropriate.
• Provide at least two updates within 12 months of receiving funds.
Failure to comply may result in the Council requesting repayment of the grant.

**10. Return of Funds**
The Council reserves the right to reclaim the grant if:
• The funds are not used within 12 months. This includes organisations with cash reserves amounting to greater than 12 months of planned or expected expenditure.
• The project does not proceed.
• Funds are misused or misleading information was provided.
• The recipient organisation becomes insolvent or ceases to exist.

**11. Policy Management**
• Adopted: 9th November 2026
• Policy Review Date: November 2027 or earlier if required by legislative change.
• Approving Committee: Finance Committee recommendation for Full Council to Approve