

KINGTON LANGLEY PARISH COUNCIL

GRANTS AND DONATIONS POLICY

2024-25

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KINGTON LANGLEY PARISH COUNCIL GRANTS AND DONATIONS POLICY

Introduction

The purpose of this policy is to ensure that Kington Langley Parish Council has a consistent approach to awarding grants and donations to support groups, organizations and charities that benefit the local community.

Some definitions:

A DONATION is effectively a gift, freely given, to a charity or local organisation to enhance its ability to provide its service to the community.

A GRANT is usually awarded for a particular defined activity or piece of work, e.g., a small village project, and means that the money should be used for that specific purpose and nothing else.

SECTION 137 EXPENDITURE. Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972 is a statutory power which allows councils to incur a limited amount of expenditure every year on something they consider is in the interest of or will directly benefit the parish that is not covered by any other specific category of expenditure the council is authorised by Act of Parliament to fund (e.g., grass-cutting, etc.). The annual S137 is set by the government – for 2024/25 it is £10.81 per person.

Eligible Applicants

Both Grants and Donations to organisations based **either in or within two miles of the Parish** may be considered at the Parish Council meeting which covers the 6-month budget review (usually October of each financial year) and the final meeting of the financial year (March) provided the Clerk has received it in time to be included on the Agenda and the requests meet the criteria given in this policy.

Requests from organisations **operating outside the Parish** will be considered once each year at the final (March) meeting of the Parish Council. Requestors will need to demonstrate that the request will particularly benefit the parishioners of Kington Langley.

Required Input for Consideration of a Donation

It is expected that a donation will be unlikely to have a specifically defined purpose other than to add to the charity's ability to carry out its objective. Information required includes:

- An explanation of how the charity particularly benefits some or all of the residents of the parish of Kington Langley.
- The charity commission registration number or the Industrial and Provident Society number, or a declaration that the organisation is a not-for-profit organisation.

Required Input for Consideration of a Grant

Information required before a grant request may be considered:

- How much is requested.
- The purpose of the grant, outlining how and when it is going to be used. Grants may be made for specific village projects in which case the project's scope and expected overall expenditure will need to be detailed and the amount requested must be spent within the same financial year.
- An explanation of how the grant would particularly benefit some or all of the residents of the parish of Kington Langley.

Criteria for making Grants and Donations

All applications for grants or donations should be made in writing to the Clerk to the Council.

- Grants may only be made to organisations that can show they provide a benefit to some or all the residents of the Parish of Kington Langley.
- Any grants made must be within the powers granted to the Parish Council by the Local Government Act 1972 consistent with Section 137 and any other relevant legislation.
- Donations may only be made to registered charities or other non-political, non-profit making bodies.
- Any grants or donations will be made with due consideration to the financial affairs of the Parish Council.
- The Council reserves the right to decline any application without giving reasons for its decision.

Where a Member of the Council is a member of a group / organisation applying for funding, that Member must declare an interest in the matter and refrain from voting.