

WEST SWINDON PARISH COUNCIL

Full Council

Community Grants

1. Background:

1.1 West Swindon Parish Council currently has 2 pots of money for community funding.

£27,000 is ringfenced to community assets, and £15,000 is for other community grant activity.

An example of previously received grants are:

Community Assets (£25,000)	Community Grants (£15,000)
Age UK - £15,000	Toothill Tinies - £1,500
Toothill Junior Youth Club (New Door) £1,645 (New Windows) £5,035	Peatmoor Community Woodland (Insurance) £1,850
Roughmoor & Freshbrook Community Centre (Air Conditioning) £20,000	Youth Provision in Toothill £7,837.50
	Neighbourhood Watch Signs £90
	Safe Drive Stay Alive Campaign £2000
	Toothill Junior Youth Club Summer Activity £300

1.2 Currently there are no restrictions around when applicants can apply, or how many times.

2. Detail:

2.1 It is proposed that the structure of how and when grants are awarded is amended slightly.

2.2 Currently grant applications can be received and awarded any time throughout the year, this means that the Parish Council can potentially spend it's full pot on a first come first served basis rather than with an overview of applications to consider as a group.

2.3 It is proposed to have 2 cut off points to allow grant applications to be gathered, looked at in more detail and scored appropriately. To allow for future budget setting time frames, the months of September and February appear to be the most appropriate.

- 2.4 Currently there isn't a limit on how much each applicant can apply for. To ensure that grants can be awarded across the year fairly, it is suggested that each round of applications has a cap and or each application received has a cap.

For example, Community Assets Grants can be awarded in February up to the value of £12,500 and in September up to the value of £12,500, or, you may decide to only award each grant application up to the value of £5,000.

Community Grants available amounts could be split £7,500 in September and £7,500 in February, you may decide to only award each grant application up to the value of £2,000.

3. Recommendations

- 3.1 To consider having allocated grant application deadline and decision dates twice a year.
- 3.2 To consider putting a cap on either the application, the collective round total or both.

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Assistant Clerk