

Martlesham Parish Council Grant Policy

Essential requirements

Legal and financial matters

1. That the proposal to be supported lies within the legal duties or discretionary powers of the council.
2. That the financial support requested is proportionate to the funds the council has earmarked to support all such proposals. Under normal circumstances the parish council will earmark a maximum of 10% of the funds available to it under section 137 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1972 to support all such proposals.
3. Any support must not set a precedent committing future parish councils to supporting the project.
4. That there is not an alternative adequate source of income from group's activities.
5. That all other sources of funding are being utilised
6. The grant of support from the council may be the key to unlocking further support from other organisations
7. That the support does not directly or indirectly support or subsidise activities which could be carried out on a commercial basis.
8. If facilities provided are shared with neighbouring parishes MPC will pay no more than its pro-rata share of any costs

The group requesting support

1. That the group promoting the project is properly constituted and managed with transparent activities and accounts.
2. That the group is capable of managing the project without putting an administrative burden on the parish council
3. That the group requesting the support is contributing to the project according to its means, financially and in terms of voluntary labour.

Criteria to be addressed

Please note that not all of the following points have to be present when applying for financial support but the Parish Council will bear them in mind when responding to requests:

Primary considerations

1. There is wide support for the project which is seen to have significant community benefit.
2. That the project maintains or provides facilities for Martlesham groups which are generally lacking local facilities.
3. That the project provides facilities to be enjoyed by the widest group of Martlesham residents. The PC will need to bear in mind who are the eventual beneficiaries.

Further considerations

1. That without the project the proposed work would otherwise have to be done by council.
2. That the project is in line with the mission, aims and objectives of the council or its committees and working groups.
3. That the project supports the long-term strategy of the council or its committees and working groups.
4. That the project is in line with the aspirations of the parish plan.

Support available

There are a number of ways in which the council may be able to offer help, which include:

1. Purchase items and make these available to interested groups
2. Purchase and donate items to particular groups
3. Advance interest free loans to organisations
4. Make a grant towards the purchase of items
5. Incorporate the works into the programme of a working party or an existing scheme of maintenance

The most cost effective way of providing support will be offered.