

# EASTWOOD TOWN COUNCIL



## Grants Policy

The Town Council can only award Grants using certain legal powers. Where there is no statutory power the Town Council may use Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972 to give grants to community organisations. This power may only be used if its use will benefit some or all of its residents or some or all of the area where the benefit obtained is commensurate with expenditure incurred.

This means that grants cannot be given to individuals. Grants will be considered by the Grants Committee who will make recommendations to the Town Council. Grant applications must meet the grant criteria below.

1. Applications must be made on the attached form together with appropriate set of accounts and any supporting financial information (Appendix A).
2. All applications will be considered on their merits but in general, grants will be awarded for specific projects or events.
3. The purpose for which the grant is made must be in the interest of Eastwood.
4. Groups from outside of the Eastwood area can apply for a grant, but must be able to demonstrate a direct benefit to the area and residents of Eastwood.
5. The Town Council will take into account any previous grant made to an organisation or group when considering a new application.
6. The amount of the grant will be at the discretion of the Town Council.
7. Retrospective applications will not be funded where the expenditure has been made, the project has been carried out or the event has taken place.
8. Payments for grants will not be made to an individuals.
9. All grant payments will be conditional upon submission of audited accounts, supporting documentation or invoices/receipts detailing costs of expenditure for projects or events for which the funding is being sought. These must be addressed to the Town Clerk and dated after the date of approval. *Cheques/payments will not be made out to an individual.*
10. All grant recipients are required to provide the Town Council with a brief report, including photographs (if applicable) of how the grant has been utilised, how it has assisted the organisation and what it has achieved. This will appear in the local paper, social media and or

on the website.

11. Recognition of the grant from Eastwood Town Council must be made in any publicity material.

12. If the grant is put to purposes other than those for which it was awarded without the prior approval of the Town Council, the recipient organisation will be required to repay the grant to the Town Council.

### **How will the application be assessed?**

1. How well the grant will meet the needs of the community, providing positive benefit to the inhabitants.
2. How effectively the group will use the grant.
3. Whether the costs are appropriate and realistic.
4. What level of contributions has been, or will be raised in addition to the grant.

### **General**

1. The deadlines for receipt of applications are 31<sup>st</sup> December 2024.
2. Grant applications will be considered by the Grants Committee who will make recommendations to the Full Town Council.
3. Each application will be assessed on its own merits and will be considered along with other applications at the meeting. To ensure as fair a distribution as possible, the Grants Committee will take into account the amount and frequency of previous awards.

### **Conditions of Funding**

1. The Town Council will only give to projects specifically designed to benefit Eastwood and its residents.
2. Applications will not be considered from any organisation intending to support any party political or to discriminate on the grounds of race or religion.
3. Only one grant will be considered for an organisation during the year unless there are exceptional circumstances.
4. The Town Council reserves the right to refuse any grant application which they consider to be inappropriate or against the objectives of the Town Council.
5. Grants cheques will only be issued upon presentation of a Group's current accounts.