



Alvechurch Parish Council

Working with the Community

Grants Policy Guidance Sheet

The Council is committed to supporting and strengthening the many networks and community groups that help to make a positive difference to Alvechurch. We know that the Council can make a difference through our grants process, but it is also important that we seek a relationship with many of these groups to explore other ways in which they can develop and grow as they need to.

Alvechurch Parish Council's grant policy aims to:-

- Support projects and initiatives which will directly benefit the residents of Alvechurch the surrounding areas.
- Enable local people to participate in voluntary groups and organisations and activities
- Help the parish's voluntary groups and organisations to improve effectiveness.
- To support organisations which meet the needs of the people experiencing social and economic difficulties.
- To ensure that there is equality of access for Alvechurch residents to the services it provides and funds.
- To enable the local community to be involved with and participate in local sports clubs/organisations.

At the discretion of the Council, grants are awarded to community organisations which demonstrate a clear need for financial support and contribute towards the Council's vision and aims for Alvechurch.

Process

All applicants should consider the following guidelines carefully when deciding whether to submit an application. Failure to fulfil the criteria or to omit information requested may result in your application being unsuccessful.

1. The membership or service provided by organisations/groups benefit the people of Alvechurch.
2. All organisations/groups must forward a copy of their constitution which outlines their aims and the way it is organised, controlled and administered. Groups are also expected to have relevant insurance cover appropriate to their activity.
3. Organisations must provide a copy of their previous years certified/audited accounts.

4. Organisations must have a Safeguarding Children Policy specific to their Club where children and young people are involved.
5. Organisations/groups must be non-profit making.
6. An indication of match-funding towards the costs of schemes is encouraged. Ideally, organisations/groups should be planning not to be reliant on this grant aid in future.
7. Applications will be considered for projects at all levels of ability. Projects should ideally be run by a cross-section of abilities and cultural backgrounds.
8. The organisation/group shall provide Alvechurch Parish Council with evidence that the grant has provided benefit for the funding awarded.
9. Grant Applications are considered twice a year; all applications should be therefore by submitted either by the 1st June or the 1st February each year.
10. It should be noted that even if you meet all the criteria shown, there can be no guarantee that your application will be successful.
11. After an application has been submitted, the Parish Clerk will check that the application form is complete and the requested documents are enclosed. You may be contacted for additional information.

[Note: Incomplete forms or failure to produce additional information will result in your application not being considered for grant allocation].

Grants will be assessed using the following criteria:

- A complete application form and enclosed additional information.
- If you have received a grant before.
- How your group is set up and managed.
- Your finances, governance and the financial need for funding.
- What need/demand there is for your project.
- Support and involvement for the wider community.
- Efforts to secure other sources of funding.
- If your project provides value for money for the residents on Alvechurch and surrounding area.

Applications may be submitted at any time, however they will only be considered twice a year by the Finance & Scrutiny Committee.

All applicants will be contacted within two weeks of the Finance & Scrutiny Committee's decision. A published list of successful applicants will be available on the Parish Council website.



Alvechurch Parish Council

Working with the Community

GRANT APPLICATION FORM

Applications must be submitted to:

Alvechurch Parish Council, 1a George Road, Alvechurch, B48 7PB

Name of Organisation:

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Name of Applicant:

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Address:.....

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Tel. No. (daytime):

Position held in the Organisation:

.....

Aims and Purpose of the Organisation:

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.....

[Please enclose a copy of your constitution]

What project or activity would the money be used for and how would it benefit Alvechurch Parish?

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How many people or what proportion of the people who would benefit live in the Alvechurch Parish?

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What is the total cost of the project or activity?

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Specifically, how much money are you requesting from Alvechurch Parish Council towards the project or activity? *(The maximum allowed is £500 unless prior approval has been given in accordance with the Parish Council's Grants Policy).*

Amount requested £.....

Is the Organisation: (a) not for profit? Yes No (b) a charitable organisation? Yes No

Please give Charity Number

Has a grant application for this project or activity been made to any other local authority or organisation? Yes No

If Yes, please give details and the result of the application if known:

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Have you received a Alvechurch Parish Council grant within the previous two years?

Amount £..... Year.....

Please confirm the number of cheque signatories required to authorise all payments/orders issued by your organisation

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[Please note: In order to qualify you must be able to demonstrate financial governance]

If your grant application is successful please name to whom the cheque should be made payable or the BACS Remittance information (*Bank, Branch, Sort Code and Account Number*):

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This application must be supported by a Financial Statement showing Income and Expenditure and Balance Sheet for the previous accounting year.

For new initiatives or activities a budget forecast will be acceptable. All questions on this form must be completed but you may attach supporting information.

Press and Publicity - By receiving and accepting your grant you have made a commitment to using the Parish Council's logo when publicising the award. The Parish Council may also publicise the grant and organisation which has benefitted.

Signed Date