



## **STURMINSTER NEWTON TOWN COUNCIL**

### **Grants Policy July 2019**

**Adopted on:** 5th September 2019

**Review date:** 2023

#### **1. General**

Each year the Town Council reserves a sum of money for the provision of grants to voluntary organisations and community groups that provide services that benefits the residents of Sturminster Newton. The amount of grants available is limited and therefore priority will be given to applications that:

- Support the viability of new and small Sturminster Newton based groups
- Improve the quality of life for residents of Sturminster Newton

#### **2. Application Assessment**

- 2.1 Applications will only be considered from voluntary organisations, registered charities or community groups.
- 2.2 Applicants must be based in Sturminster Newton or specifically able to identify the benefit to the residents of Sturminster Newton.
- 2.3 Organisations will need to demonstrate that they are applying for funds to support a specific project rather than funding day to day running costs.
- 2.4 Grant applications will be considered by the Finance & Personnel Committee, which then makes a recommendation to a Town Council meeting for approval.

#### **3. Further Information**

- 3.1 Applications for grants will **only** be considered if they are submitted on the appropriate form and accompanied by the most recent set of accounts. If you are a new organisation and do not have a set of accounts please submit the latest bank statement for your organisation.
- 3.1 Grants applications will not be accepted retrospectively, except in exceptional circumstances.
- 3.2 The giving of a grant in one year does not set a precedent for another year.
- 3.3 At the end of the financial year the Town Council may monitor any organisation receiving a grant in order to be assured that the grant has been spent in the way that it was intended i.e. by inspecting audited accounts, invoices, receipts etc.

#### **4. Sturminster Newton Town Council Commitment**

- 4.1 The Town Council acknowledges that new community organisations have difficulty gaining funding from other sources and so will give special consideration to applications from such groups.

- 4.2 The Town Council will publicise the availability of grants on noticeboards, the Council website and social media.
- 4.3 The Town Council will review the grant budget annually as part of the overall budget process.