

31. Grant Requests

Power & Scope

A parish council has the power to give grants under the Local Government Act 1972 s.137.

There are two key stipulations:

1. It must be spent on purposes for the direct benefit of its area, or part of its area, or all or some of its inhabitants.
2. The council must secondly ensure that the direct benefit accruing to its area or residents is commensurate with the expenditure incurred. This means that a council should not spend a disproportionately large amount on something which has no or very little direct benefit.

Exclusions

Certain exclusions apply to who is eligible for a grant.

- Grants cannot be made to individuals
- Grants cannot be made to educational establishments where they are also funded by the Primary Authority.
- Grants cannot be made towards a church's buildings or religious activities.

Budget

Ennerdale and Kinniside Parish Council sets a draft budget in November which is confirmed in January. In setting the budget the Council considers what grants have been requested, or what it expects to be requested.

In November the grant budget was set at £900 and noted that "This currently supports St Mary's churchyard maintenance, Lamplugh/Ennerdale Sports and sometimes The School through FOEKS". That figure was confirmed in January and is the limit that the Council has available in this budget.

In May grants were made to Lamplugh & District Sports Committee for £300 and St Mary's Churchyard Maintenance for £550, leaving £50 in the budget. It is anticipated that £20-£30 of this will be required for a poppy wreath in November. In May the Council agreed to see if money could be found from other budgets and to consider a grant request from the Low Gillerthwaite Field Centre at this meeting. A new grant application has been received since May

from Diana Stewart on behalf of St Mary's Community Centre to cover the cost of event insurance for "The Big Picnic" fundraiser.

Grant Applications

There are two current applications for grants.

1. Low Gillerthwaite Field Centre. £1000 requested towards new equipment and furniture.
2. St Mary's Community Centre. £130 requested towards event insurance.