

Grants and Donations Policy



Brixton Parish Council has set aside a sum of money to donate to good causes in the parish as either a grant or a donation.

The Parish Council is governed by rules set out in the Local Government Act 1972 (section 137) which states the money must be spent on purposes for the direct benefit of the parish and be commensurate with the expenditure incurred, for example, spending a large amount for the benefit of only one or two people is not acceptable.

Contributions may be made to charities and bodies providing a public service on a non-profit making basis, but only in furtherance of their work in the United Kingdom. It is unlawful for a council to contribute to an individual or a charity or a public service body operating overseas. Contributions to UK charities and bodies providing a public service do not have to bring any direct benefit to the council's area or to its inhabitants.

Annual Donations

In their annual budget for 2024 / 2025 Brixton Parish Council have set aside a sum of £4620 for donations to the following; South Hams Community Action (previously CVS), Samaritans, Citizens Advice South Hams, Ivybridge Ring n Ride, Youth - Scouts, Brownies / Rainbows, RBL - Parish Wreath, St Marys Lighting, Dementia Friendly Parishes around the Yealm, Yealmpton & Brixton Community Volunteers, St Mary's - 6 x year group awards and Sherford Vale Primary School.

Applications

Brixton Parish Council would welcome any further applications:

Applications will be accepted throughout the financial year from individuals (on behalf of a group) or not for profit community groups, or where the donation is to provide benefit to residents of Brixton.

Brixton Parish Council operates the following criteria in considering away application for a grant:

- Only one application for a grant in each financial year
- A limit of £200.00 per organisation will be applied, except for exceptional circumstances. This figure will be reviewed on an annual basis.
- The organisation must be non-profit making (and not an individual)
- Grants are not made retrospectively
- The organisation must be one that, in some way, benefits the local community
- The organisation must demonstrate a clear need for financial support by providing a description of the project / activity for which a contribution is needed
- A set of audited accounts or suitable financial statement must be submitted to ensure there is a genuine need for a grant

- Organisations that have only recently set up and do not have audited accounts should provide a financial statement regarding their proposed budget instead.
- Efforts to generate income from other sources must be submitted
- A report on how the money was spent should be submitted to Brixton Parish Council with details of the outturn
- Monitoring may take place.

Procedure

Applications will be accepted throughout the year by completing the parish council's grant application form and should be submitted to the Clerk of the Council with the information required. The application will be placed on the Parish Council agenda for consideration at its next meeting based on the information provided. All agenda papers are published and therefore any application will be in the public domain. The Clerk of the Council will inform the applicant of the Councils' decision and arrange payment if the application is successful or an explanation if the grant or donation was turned down.

For successful applications:

A written receipt must be provided by the organisation and a note to show the funds have been used for the purposes specified in the application.

- Brixton Parish Council reserves the right to require repayment in the event of the outcome not being achieved.
- This successful application will then be added to Brixton Parish Council budget for the following financial year.

Policy adopted by Brixton Parish Council – 24th January 2018

Reviewed 27th February 2019, 27th May 2020, 5th May 2021, 29th June 2022, 28th June 2023 and 27th March 2024

Kirstie Aldridge, Clerk to Brixton Parish Council