

# St Austell Bay Parish Council Grant Policy

The Council recognises the importance of supporting groups, organisations and charities that benefit the local community, and that making grants is a valuable method of support. The purpose of this document is to ensure that St Austell Bay Parish Council has an open, consistent and easily understood approach to awarding grants.

The Parish Council has statutory powers which enable it to make funds available to local organisations for the overall benefit of the parish. The Council will consider an application for grant aid from any local community group, voluntary or charitable organisation where the group's activities can be seen to be of benefit to the parish and its residents. The total figure available for grant aid will be agreed by the council as part of its budget each financial year.

Applications must be made on the Council's grant application form. This form is available from the clerk or on the website [www.staustellbay-pc.gov.uk](http://www.staustellbay-pc.gov.uk). Applicants must have a bank account.

## **In deciding on the award of a grant, the council will consider the following criteria:**

- The level of benefit to St Austell Bay parish residents and the impact the grant will make
- The financial sustainability and viability of the group and/or project.
- Generally the minimum grant awarded will be £25 and the maximum £250
- Only one grant will be given to a group in any one financial year, but groups may submit an application for grant aid in each year

## **The council will not fund the following:**

- General appeals (including national and international appeals)
- Statutory organisations or the direct replacement of statutory funding
- Political groups or activities promoting political beliefs
- Religious groups where funding is to be used to promote religious beliefs
- Commercial "for profit" projects
- Retrospective awards. Projects that may take place or equipment that may be purchased before an application can be decided.
- Upward appeals where a local organisation contributes fund raising to a central headquarters or national body or raises funds to contribute to other charities

## **Successful Applicants**

- A grant award must only be used for the purpose stated on the application. If the grant, or any part of it, is not used for the purpose stated within 12 months of the award, then all monies, or unexpended part of such monies must be returned to the council. The council may request proof of expenditure.
- Organisations receiving grants are required to advise their users/members that the grant has been received from St Austell Bay Parish Council and the council may also publish details of any grants it makes. Where appropriate the support of the

council should also be acknowledged in documentation and promotional material, including websites, press releases etc.

- Where equipment is gifted to an organisation, the council requires that it be insured and maintained at the expense of the user.
- Where possible within VAT regulations, the parish council may purchase items and gift them to the applicant, thereby maximising the possibility of reclaiming VAT to the benefit of the parish budget.

Last reviewed 15 December 2022