

WARBOYS PARISH COUNCIL
Section 137 Grant Awarding Policy

The Section 137 Grant Awarding Policy was adopted by Warboys Parish Council on the 12th May 2025

Review Date	Reviewed By	Review Accepted By Full Council

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Warboys Parish Council Grant Policy

1. Introduction

1.1 Warboys Parish Council has statutory powers to allocate funds to local organisations for the overall benefit of Warboys Parish and its residents.

1.2 The power to donate is derived from the Local Government Act 1972, Section 137, which allows a local authority to spend a limited amount on activities for which it has no specific power, provided the activity is considered to "bring direct benefit to the area, or any part of it or all of some of its inhabitants."

1.3 The Local Government and Housing Act 1989 further requires that the benefit obtained be commensurate with the expenditure incurred.

2. Purpose of the Grant Policy

The Council may receive donation requests exceeding the funds earmarked for this purpose within its prudent annual budget. Therefore, this document sets out policy guidelines to ensure a fair and transparent decision-making process when awarding grants.

3. Policy Statement

3.1 It is the policy of Warboys Parish Council to support charitable organisations, supported by local people, that provide facilities and services for the community.

3.2 The Council will earmark a sum within each annual budget to be used at its sole discretion in furtherance of this policy.

4. Objectives

4.1 This document outlines the Council's guidelines for awarding grants and formalises the application process to ensure accessibility, openness, and fairness for the groups and organisations the Council aims to support.

4.2 The grant-awarding process will remain fair and transparent at all times.

5. General Information for Applicants

5.1 Warboys Parish Council seeks to support initiatives by local community groups and organisations, subject to budget constraints and available resources.

5.2 The size of any grant awarded is at the Council's discretion, with a maximum limit of £500 per application. While the Council will consider awarding up to the full amount requested, this is not guaranteed.

5.3 Applications can be submitted at any time and will be considered at the next suitable full Council meeting.

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5.4 All supporting documents must be provided at the time of application.

5.5 Organisations are also welcome to attend the meeting where their application will be discussed to raise the project in the public forum section of the meeting.

5.6 Copies of the S137 Grant Application Form can be requested by contacting the Clerks at clerk@warboysparishcouncil.co.uk, visiting www.warboyspc.info, or phoning 07985 771 676.

6. Eligibility Criteria

Grants are available to:

- Warboys-based charities.
- Organisations serving the needs of Warboys residents.
- Residents of Warboys requesting grant aid for a project/event benefiting the local community.
- Warboys-based clubs, associations, or charities serving a specific section of the community or the community as a whole.
- Local branches of regional or national organisations/groups serving the needs of Warboys residents.

7. Ineligible Applications

Applications are unlikely to be considered from:

- Projects that fall under the statutory responsibility of other government bodies.
- Projects improving or benefiting privately owned land or property.
- Individuals or private business projects.
- “For-profit” commercial organisations.
- Regional or national organisations unless the grant is demonstrably used specifically for Warboys residents.
- Organisations with political affiliations or established to further a party-political agenda.

8. Eligible Projects

Projects should:

- Enhance the local community’s quality of life.
- Provide a lasting and sustainable benefit to Warboys.
- Improve the social, environmental, and/or economic profile of Warboys.

9. Low Priority Projects

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The following are less likely to be prioritised for funding:

- Projects with a significant funding shortfall.
- Projects requiring multiple grants where Warboys Parish Council is the first contributor (although provisional awards may be made, contingent on further funding).
- Projects that merely replace existing facilities without significant improvement.

10. Conditions of Grant

Grant recipients must:

- Acknowledge Warboys Parish Council's support in all publicity and promotional materials, including posters, advertisements, press releases, and leaflets.
- Use the grant solely for the purpose for which it was awarded.
- Refrain from distributing the grant to any other organisation.
- Normally have clear written aims and objectives, a written constitution, and a separate bank account.
- Provide evidence of expenditure and project outcomes to the Council as appropriate.

11. Application Requirements Applications must include:

- The organisation's name and contact details.
- The amount requested.
- The purpose of the grant.
- An explanation of the direct benefit to Warboys Parish.
- All supporting documents relevant to the application.

12. One-Off Donations Grant requests are for single donations only. Warboys Parish Council does not commit to ongoing support, and no donation or series of donations should be taken as an indicator of future funding. All decisions by the Council are final.

Copies of the S137 Grant Application Form can be requested from the Clerks clerk@warboysparishcouncil.co.uk, visiting www.warboyspc.info or phoning 07985 771 676

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