

Match Funded Grants Policy and Application Pack



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What are the eligibility criteria and conditions relating to grants?

The Town Council has the legal authority to make grants under the General Power of Competence (Localism Act 2011). This power allows eligible local authorities to do anything that individuals generally may do, including providing financial support to local community initiatives that benefit the area or its residents.

Each financial year, Watton Town Council will allocate a fixed amount in its budget for community grants. For the current financial year, this is capped at £5,000. Once this budget has been allocated, no further grants will be awarded until the new financial year.

Other than in exceptional circumstances the Council will offer a 1:1 match funded grant. For each £1 awarded by the Town Council through the grant the applicant is expected to match fund with a pound to pound contribution.

The Town Council requires all applicants to comply with the following eligibility criteria. Please read this carefully before submitting your application.

The applying organisation should be a properly constituted voluntary body and should be either based wholly in Watton, or able to demonstrate that it benefits Watton residents.

The organisation concerned should demonstrate that it is providing a service outside the scope of or in addition to normal public or private provision.

Grants are not payable to organisations or charities operating abroad.

Grants cannot be utilised to “sponsor” named individuals e.g. aspiring sportsmen etc.

Where a grant is awarded towards a capital project, the organisation concerned should be able to demonstrate that it has clear plans for raising the remainder of the necessary finance.

Where a grant is given towards the purchase of equipment or as a contribution to building works etc., the grant will only be paid once an invoice has been received from the organisation concerned, or upon the production of other equivalent evidence to the satisfaction of the Town Clerk.

If a grant is made in advance of a copy of any invoice being submitted the invoice copy should be forwarded to the Town Council within 90 days of the expenditure being made.

A condition of any grant is that the Town Clerk reserves the right, on behalf of the Council, to inspect any purchase of furniture and equipment, etc., or any building work that has been carried out, to verify that the grant has been used for the purpose authorised.

Where a “starter grant” is provided, the Town Council will need to be satisfied that the organisation concerned has proposals to become self-supporting.

Organisations applying will need to provide a set of independently examined accounts for the previous financial year (except in relation to new organisations).

Community grants come from taxpayer funds, and a key principle of this policy is to ensure that grant expenditure is open and transparent, and that any grants awarded are proportionate to the benefits they are expected to achieve.

Help and advice

The Town Clerk can be contacted for further details about grants and donations. The Town Council's offices are situated at Wayland Hall, Watton. You can contact the Town Council by telephone on 01953 881007 or e-mail clerk@wattontowncouncil.gov.uk.

Questions and information

What are grants for?

The Town Council allocates a yearly fund to give grants to charitable, voluntary sector organisations. This is to support the work carried out by groups who undertake activities that benefit Watton residents.

The organisation must demonstrate a clear need for financial support and typically show how fundraising has taken place. The Town Council will not consider grant applications for projects which could reasonably be expected to secure funding by other means and applicants are encouraged to look at alternative sources of funding in addition to this grant scheme.

Who can apply for a grant?

The types of organisation that can apply for grants are, for example, Charitable Organisations, Pre-school Playgroups, Youth Clubs, Sports Clubs, Art Groups, Advice Organisations etc. The organisation must be non-profit making.

Grant payments shall only be made to an organisation, the Council will not issue grants to individuals.

Grants are intended to support projects that will benefit Watton residents as a whole.

Therefore there are cases when grants will not be given, including:

- General Appeals (e.g. national/international disasters)
- National Organisations without a locally based group
- Individuals (e.g. sponsorship for individual sportsmen and women)

“Upward Funders” i.e. local groups whose fundraising is sent to the central headquarters for redistribution

An organisation may only submit one application for a grant in any one Financial Year.

How much grant funding is available?

There will generally be a maximum of **£500** per grant application. It is possible the Town Council would also consider making a grant for a larger amount in exceptional circumstances.

The amount requested should relate to a specific project, item, or identifiable area of work. The request should be supported by an action plan outlining the use of the funding. The Town Council will consider each application on its merit, and the sum awarded may vary from that requested.

How do I apply for a grant?

If you think you meet the criteria for requesting a grant, please complete the attached application form and return it to the Town Clerk. You will also need to send a copy of your latest accounts. The applicant may be asked to present their request at a Watton Town Council meeting before the application can be granted.

How is the decision made?

If you are awarded a grant, you will be advised as soon as possible after the decision has been made at a meeting of the Full Town Council.

Successful Applicants

The Town Council will expect updates on the use of the funding provided and will request all successful applicants to give a short presentation at the Annual Town Meeting on how the grant money has been spent.

Unsuccessful Applicants will be notified, once a decision has been made, why the grant has not been given.

Application Checklist

The following Check List may assist you in completing your Grant and Donation Application Form. Applicants are advised to read through the list below before submitting their completed forms.

Have you completed **ALL** sections of the form?

(If you are unable to complete any part of the form, please indicate why in your supporting statement, or write “not applicable” where appropriate).

Does your application set out how your organisation meets the requirements of the 'eligibility criteria'? **(See page two).**

Have you enclosed your organisation's latest set of accounts?

(If you are unable to provide these for any reason, you **MUST** indicate why in your supporting statement).

Have you signed the statement on page 8 of your application form to certify that all the details are correct?

Does your application explain how Watton residents would benefit from any grant or donation awarded to your organisation?

Please return your form as soon as possible to the Town Clerk, to enable your application to be considered by the Full Town Council.

Data Protection Act 2018

To comply with this Act, we require you to consent to Watton Town Council using personal data supplied by you in the processing and review of this grant application and in any other legitimate activity of Watton Town Council: this includes transfer to and use by such individuals and organisations as Watton Town Council deems appropriate.

Watton Town Council requires your further assurance that personal data about any other individual is supplied to Watton Town Council with his/her consent.

Your signature on the Application Form confirms this assent and assurance.

Watton Town Council Grant Application Form

Please complete **all sections** of this form clearly.

A. Your Organisation

1.	Full name of organisation	
2.	Registered charity number (where applicable)	
3.	Year organisation established	
4.	What does your organisation do? Please give aims and objectives. If you have a publicity leaflet, please attach this too	
5.	Please state whether your organisation is:	Watton based for Watton people? Yes/No Watton branch of a national organisation? Yes/No Watton based serving a wider area? Yes/No Local organisation partly serving Watton? Yes/No
6.	Where are your organisation's headquarters	
7.	What is the total membership of your Organisation?	
8.	How many Members live in Watton?	

B. Grant Request

9.	How much grant are you asking for?	£
10.	What is the total cost of the project?	£
11.	What will you use the grant for?	
12.	How many people in Watton do you estimate will be receiving help from the grant?	
13.	Are funds available from other sources? (If yes, please give details)	
14.	What fund raising efforts will your organisation be making	

C. Additional details

15.	Please indicate the age range of the beneficiaries of any award - e.g., young children/youth/adult/senior citizens.	
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16.	Please provide a set of your organisation's latest AUDITED ACCOUNTS, together with details of income and expenditure for the current year. If a large reserve and/or surplus is indicated in your latest annual accounts please explain why you are applying for additional funds.	
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D. Statement in Support of Grant Request

17.	Please use this space to include a STATEMENT in support of your request. (This must <i>include details of how your organisation meets the 'eligibility criteria' set out in the information pack</i> included with this form. In addition, you should include details of the ways in which you would publicise how the Town Council has assisted you, if your application is successful)	
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E. Agree to

Please tick

18.	Do you agree to provide updates on how the grant is spent?	
19.	Do you agree to provide receipts for expenditure if requested?	
20.	Do you agree to provide a report for the Annual Town Meeting in the April following your award?	

F. Contact details and Certification

21.	Name of Contact	
22.	Name and address of person making the application (to whom all correspondence will be sent):	
23..	Daytime telephone number	
24..	Email address	
25.	Organisations BAC's details	Account Name: Account Number: Sort Code:

I certify that the above information and the contents of the attached documents are correct at the time of applying. I understand that if any of the information is subsequently found to be incorrect this may lead to the organisation being disqualified from consideration and/or the withdrawal of any grant awarded. I agree to my organisation being bound by the eligibility criteria and any conditions set by the Town Council.

SIGNED:..... **DATED:**

Due for review: July 2027
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