



NESTON TOWN COUNCIL GRANTS POLICY

VERSION NUMBER	V5
DATE & MINUTE REFERENCE	07/02/2023 C&E 92a
DATE OF NEXT REVIEW	01/02/2025

Who can apply?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Voluntary and Community groups and organisations operating within the Neston area. Successful applicants will be expected to become a Plastic Free Neston Community Ally or to commit to work towards becoming a Plastic Free Neston Business Champion. • Organisations (including businesses) can apply for a grant for the specific purpose of purchasing a defibrillator and for maintenance of a defibrillator. Defibrillators must be located on an external wall that allows 24-hour access and must be registered with The Circuit (the national defibrillator network). • Grant awards must be used for the benefit of residents living within Neston Town Council boundaries.
Application maximum	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Main grants programme – £2,500 per application. • Small grants programme - £500 per application. • Defibrillator grants programme – £700 per application.
What is it for?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To enable local people to participate in voluntary groups and activities. • To help the Neston area’s voluntary and community groups to improve the impact on the community. • To ensure the provision of services, needed by the residents of the Neston area, via the voluntary sector. • To support organisations which meet the needs of people experiencing social and economic difficulties. • To ensure that there is equality of access and opportunity for all Neston area residents to the services it provides and funds. • To ensure access to defibrillators across the Neston area. • To improve or enhance the local environment.
What/who is excluded from the grant scheme?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organisations that do not provide a service to the community in the Neston area • General national appeals or charities • Statutory organisations or the direct replacement of statutory funding

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Political groups or activities promoting political beliefs • Religious groups where funding is to be used to promote religious beliefs • Arts & sports projects with no community or charitable element • Animal welfare • Retrospective applications
How often can the same organisation apply for grant?	An organisation can receive grant funding no more than once for the same project or activity within the same year. Applications for continued or repeat funding can be considered before a year has elapsed, but the funds will not be released until a year has elapsed.
General principles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assistance will be given on the basis of need, merit and contribution to the local community and availability of funds • Applicants must clearly show how any assistance given will benefit the people living in the Neston area or will benefit the environment of the Neston area • Any assistance given will be subject to ongoing monitoring and subsequent evaluation of the outcome of the grant • Organisations should not make a presumption that funding will continue on a year-to-year basis
General points	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Upon completion of the project the Council requires a written statement of how the grant was used • Applications demonstrating support from other organisations, including funding from a variety of sources, will be more likely to succeed • Applications for longer-term projects should include a plan for financial sustainability • Where applicable the Council should be given credit for supporting the project • Payments can only be made to organisations or partnerships not to individuals • The Council reserves the right to see the organisations accounts and may require supplementary information to support the application • Unspent monies in excess of £50 must be returned to the Council • Receipts must be provided for any single item of expenditure in excess of £100. • Grant applications are only to be made when the applicant is unable to fully fund the project or make purchases from their own resources

Process

- All applications must be made on the Grant Application Form
- All applications will be considered by the Council's Grants Committee
- Applicants will be advised in which Grants Committee meeting will consider the application and will be advised within 5 days of the meeting of the success or otherwise of the application

A set of accounts must be submitted following completion of the project for which the grant has been issued within 90 days, and until those accounts have been submitted, no further grant applications will be considered.