

## Grants policy

- 1) In October of each year the Town Council's Committee with responsibility for finance will consider all grant applications received. The Committee has delegated authority to approve all awards made to successful applicants.
- 2) Awards will not exceed the agreed annual budget unless the Town Council agrees to make an award under exceptional circumstances.
- 3) Provided all of the following criteria are met grants will only be awarded:
  - a) to voluntary, not for profit or charitable organisations
  - b) to promote and/or improve environmental, social and economic well-being of Much Wenlock and its community
  - c) where the Town Council has the legal power to do so.
- 4) The Town Clerk will provide the Committee with the appropriate legal advice under which power each grant can be awarded.
- 5) All grants awarded under LGA 1972 s137 will be recorded and published in accordance with LGA 1972 s228.
- 6) Grants awarded under LGA 1972 s137 will not exceed the statutory limit.
- 7) Whilst the Town Council is eligible to award grants in pursuance of the general power of competence all grants will be awarded using that power.
- 8) If requested the recipient will supply the Town Council with details of the expenditure incurred, and will provide all financial records and accounts, including receipts for items purchased with the grant, for a period of two years. In accordance with LGA 1972 s228 this information may be inspected by members of the public.
- 9) If the grant is not spent within twelve months from the date awarded, the Town Council reserves the right to ask for repayment of the grant if:
  - a) The contract is breached.
  - b) If the organisation has submitted any dishonest or misleading information on the grant application form.
  - c) If the organisation ceases to exist, becomes insolvent, goes into administration, receivership or liquidation.
- 10) Applications for grant aid will not be considered unless received by the Town Clerk on the official Town Council grant application form.
- 11) Should the Committee agree not to award a grant all organisations will be notified of their unsuccessful application by the Town Clerk.