STILTON PARISH COUNCIL

Stilton Pavilion, High Street, Stilton PE7 3RA
Telephone: 01733 639106 - Email: clerk@stiltonparishcouncil.gov.uk

Supporting the Community Grant Programme
(including s.137 spending)

Introduction

The Supporting the Community Grants Programme is designed to empower and enable organisations to provide support services that enhance quality of life, improve the environment and/or positively promote Stilton.

Qualifying criteria

Location of work:	Ideally within the Parish
Funding covers:	Projects, events, start up costs, help with running costs, equipment, prizes, entertainment, village shows, etc
Organisation type:	Charities and not-for-profit organisations, including social enterprises.

Key grant details

Grant size:	All applications considered
Length:	One year
Decision timescale:	Not more than three months
Deadlines:	None

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Overview

The Supporting the Community Grant Programme aims to support small, grassroots organisations embedded in the community. The grant programme is intended to support organisations that provide services that benefit the whole or part of the community, improving the lives of the people living within the Parish. The Parish Council is sympathetic to new organisations and those in their early stages of development alongside established organisations with a track record of delivering services that benefit the community.

The aim of the Supporting the Community Grant Programme is to help:

- People from across the community participate in activities which improve connectedness, opportunities and wellbeing
- People who are excluded, vulnerable or facing other forms of hardship and have access to community-based services for support
- Bring about a stronger, active, more engaged community.

Funding guidelines

Supporting the Community Grant Programme is intended to support and enable community-led organisations, groups and events that benefit Stilton residents.

The Parish Council can only award grants where it has a power to spend public funds. For s.137 spending, evidence of how many parishioners would benefit from the funding must be detailed. For 2024-25, the amount per elector for s.137 spending is £10.81.

Section 137 (1) of the Local Government Act 1972 permits the Parish Council to incur expenses for which it has no other specific powers if the council considers that the expenditure is in the interests of, and will bring direct benefit to, the area or any part of it, or to all or some of its inhabitants.

The applicant may be asked go give a short presentation to the Parish Council describing the application.

Where a member of the Council is a member of an organisation/group applying for funding, that member must declare, in accordance with the Code of Conduct, an interest in the matter and refrain from voting. Advice may be sought from the Monitoring Officer.

Grant benefactors agree to publicity arranged by Stilton Parish Council to highlight funds provided.

Application process

Application forms for the Supporting the Community Grant Programme must be submitted to the Clerk via email. These will be forwarded to the Grants Working Group for assessment prior to being sent to the Parish Council for decision-making.

Please read the guidelines before starting your application and refer to the application form help text as you complete your application. You can also refer to the Frequently Ask Questions.

How to apply

Applications can be submitted at any time. There are no deadlines.

We assess applications as they are received. It may take up to three months from submission for you to hear the outcome.

The Grants Working Group will assess each application. Shortlisted applications will be presented to the Parish Council with recommendations. The Parish Council will make a final decision.

Please read our full guidelines before starting your application.

Please do not send any unrequested additional documents or use any links in the application form. We only assess applications based on the information provided in the application form.

We acknowledge all applications received. If you do not receive an acknowledgement within seven days, you should contact the Clerk.

Policy Review

Reviewed: 12 May 2026 (agenda item PC108/26)
Next review date: May 2027

Frequently Asked Questions

Can I speak with anyone before beginning the application process?
If you have any questions about the Supporting the Community Grant Programme, please contact the Clerk (clerk@stiltonparishcouncil.gov.uk) Please note that it is not possible to advise you if your application will be a success or not.

How does the Stilton Parish Council define community?
Supporting the Community Grant Programme is designed to support the activities and services that benefit those living within the Parish of Stilton. These services should be accessible to the whole community and address the needs of the people living in it.

We recognise that community can also refer to people brought together by faith, race or ethnicity, age, gender, or sexual orientation who share social ties and common perspectives, engage in community activities, and provide support services for each other.

What size organisations can apply for Supporting the Community Grant Programme funding?
The Supporting the Community Grant Programme is small and ideally has to be targeted accordingly but the Parish Council will consider all applications.

Is the Supporting the Community Grant Programme for local or national organisations?

Due to the Supporting the Community Grant Programme fund's overall size, funding is anticipated to support locally acting organisations but the Parish Council will consider all applications that work to benefit the community.

How much can I apply for?
You can apply for any amount but please be aware the Parish Council only has a set budget for awarding grants and s.137 spending. Grants are one-off awards.

How often can I apply for funding?
The Supporting the Community Grant Programme is not a core grant programme. In consequence, while it is possible to apply for a grant each financial year, each application is judged on its merits. It should not be assumed that a successful application in one year will be successful the following year.

I already have a Supporting the Community Grant Programme. Can I apply for additional funding?
Organisations can only have one active Supporting the Community Grant Programme.

We are not a registered charity; does this mean we cannot apply for a grant?
As well as registered charities, we can support community interest companies (CICs), not-for-profit organisations and community groups. If your organisation is not a registered charity, please forward your organisation's constitution with your application.

Is it possible to have my application looked at before I submit it?
We are not able to review applications before submission.

My application was turned down. How soon can I apply again?
You can apply again six months after the date we advised you that your application was unsuccessful.