

Committee	COUNCIL MEETING
Date	15th July 2019
Agenda Item	11

Grant applications

Grant awarding policy and procedure

Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972 allows local authorities, including Parish Councils, to incur expenditure which will bring direct benefit to their area or any part of it, or to all or some of its inhabitants.

The Town Council has the power to award a grant to an organisation for a specific purpose which will benefit the town and its residents. At its annual budgeting meeting, it will decide on the amount to be set aside to award as grants to deserving organisations. The organisation to which this award is made should not be directly administered by the Council, and it should be able to demonstrate a clear financial need. The grant must be in the interests of the area and its inhabitants, and should be commensurate with expenditure. It must provide a service, improve the environment or have some other positive impact on the people of Halstead.

Such grants cannot be awarded to:

- Private individuals
- Commercial organisations
- Purposes for which another local or central government department must provide
- Upward funders, where local fundraising goes to a central HQ for redistribution
- Political parties
- Religious organisations, unless for a purpose which does not discriminate on grounds of belief

This list is not exhaustive and may be added to at the Council's discretion.

Only one application for a grant can be made by any one organisation in any one financial year. A grant awarded in one year cannot be assumed to continue into the next financial year, and must be reapplied for each year. Nor can a grant be made retrospectively.

Applications received

Organisation	Amount requested	purpose
Halstead Day Centre	£300	To cover fuel costs for 55 Halstead residents who use the Day centre to make a visit to the centre's beach hut in Brightlingsea. (the Centre no longer has any statutory support and those who attend pay for the services they receive)

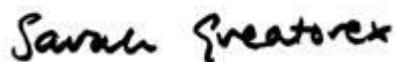
Halstead & District Local History Society	£500	To purchase archive storage boxes, polyester sleeves and albums.
Braintree District Neighbourhood Watch	£50 - £250	To go towards Neighbourhood watch street signs and printing of newsletters.
5 th Halstead Trinity Guides	£279.98	To improve the allotment which the guides look after (sleepers/beds/benches)
Halstead Road runners	£500	To provide toilets for the Halstead & Essex Marathon May 2020
Halstead District Photographic Society	£340	To go towards costs of the 10 th twin towns photographic competition including entries from Halstead, Haubourdin, Colchester, Wetzlar, Braintree and Pierrefitte
Halstead River Care group	£100	To go towards purchase of a platform truck/handcart for transporting equipment and rubbish
Courtauld Halstead Bowls Club	£500	To go towards the refurbishment of the club house in preparation for the centenary in 2021.
Kernos Centre based in Sudbury	£500	To go towards funding counselling sessions for clients from Halstead. 12 Halstead clients seen in 2018. Clients pay according to their means. Some are unable to pay anything but are not refused counselling
Halstead Choral	£500	To go towards outreach activities with St Andrews junior school and Ramsey academy, funding their participation in the choir's Christmas concert.

A working group meeting consisting of Cllrs Munday, Claydon, Caulfield and Pell and the Town Clerk, conducted a preliminary assessment of the applications on 9/7/19.

Their recommendations are as follows:

Organisation	Amount proposed	purpose
Halstead Day Centre	£465	To fund day trips to Brightlingsea
Halstead & District Local History Society	£250	To purchase storage materials
Braintree District Neighbourhood Watch	£75	For street signs and printing
5 th Halstead Trinity Guides	£280	To improve guides' allotment
Halstead Road runners	£250	To provide toilets for Halstead & Essex Marathon 2020
Halstead District Photographic Society	£170	10 th twin towns photographic competition
Halstead River Care Group	£260	To purchase handcarts for transporting equipment and rubbish
Halstead Choral	£250	To support outreach activities with schools

Recommendation: That the Council agrees to distribute funding as per the decisions taken by the working group.



Sarah Greatorex Town Clerk