**COMMUNITY GRANT APPLICATION FORM**

**PAYABLE FROM THE 1ST OF APRIL 2024**

This form may be downloaded and printed completed and signed by an authorised officer of the organisation. It may then be posted to the Clerk at the address above or preferably scanned and emailed to the Clerk.

**1. Name of Organisation**

**2. Contact Details**

 Name:

 Phone:

 Email:

**Introduction**

Thank you for applying for a community grant. As the title implies your organisation must either be based within the Beaudesert & Henley electoral area or if not proof must be provided that your organisation provides a service[s] which are of benefit to the community. The JPC are happy to support any organisation that is already creating ways of funding for themselves, and we would ask that you briefly describe in the space below what activities you have undertaken, and a breakdown of funds raised for the previous year and the forthcoming year.

**3. Purpose:**

 Describe briefly what is the purpose of the grant you are applying for and attach any documents to

this form that may support this request.

**4. Grant Value Requested: (maximum £5000) £**

**5. Banking Details:**

Bank or Building Society:

 Account Name:

 Account Number: Sort Code:

**6. Applicant Agreement:**

 This application must be signed and dated in the following box. The signatory must be authorised to

do so by the organisation seeking the grant and the grant can only be awarded for the purposes

stated herein and not for purposes undisclosed. By signing this application you are confirming that you have read and agree with the terms and conditions below.

 Signatory:

 Name [Please print]

 For and Behalf Of: Dated:

**7. Enclosures**  (Type Yes)

 Financial accounts for the previous 2 years accounting period

 Evidence of bank balance

 Evidence to quantify benefit to residents of Beaudesert & Henley in Arden

 3 quotes (where applicable)

**Important Dates**

Applications invited from the **14 August** **2023**

Closing date for applications **11 September 2023**

**11th - 15th September 2023** the Clerk to review and check application eligibility

**18th September 2023** the Clerk to write to individual organisation acknowledging application or to reject due to incomplete information or eligibility not met.

**18th September 2023** the Clerk to distribute completed packs to grants panel for review

**25th September** **2023** Grants panel to meet to review all applications

**9th October 2023** Grant interviews (if required)

**6th November** **2023** Grant panel to present recommendations to full council

**7th November** **2023** Clerk to write to organisations to communicate decisions

**April 2024** Grant payments to be made

**TERMS & CONDITIONS**

**SECTION N - Community Grants Working Party Terms of Reference**

1. The applicant is a voluntary or charitable body with a strong connection to Henley in Arden
2. There should be a clear benefit to a significant part of the community of Henley in Arden. Evidence
3. of parish residents either using or benefiting from the service must be provided
4. Support is aimed at specific projects. The Council will normally only commit funds once in each financial year for
	1. any one organisations. It cannot guarantee availability of funding in subsequent years.
5. Grants will not be supported to pay for salaries
6. Types of projects considered suitable are - improvements to the local environment and amenities provision of
	1. recreational arts or entertainment facilities.
7. The maximum grant payable per application is usually £5000 other than in exceptional circumstances
8. The council looks for some assurance that both the project and the applicant have long-term viability.
9. Evidence of your organisations own fund raising will be required for every application. The council will not
	1. usually support a grant for more than 50% of the total cost of the project or application
10. If a project is still in the planning stage a time-limited offer of a grant may be made conditional upon evidence
	1. of a firm commitment to a start date e.g. by placing a contractually binding order. The project for which the
	2. grant is claimed should commence within 6 months of the offer or it may lapse.
11. The council may ask the applicant to incur the expenditure and provide invoices for reimbursement

**Application process**

1. Applications for a grant should be sent to the Parish Clerk. The grant form can be downloaded from the website
	1. or an application can be made by requesting an application form direct from the Parish Clerk.
2. Grants are considered annually unless of an urgent nature in which case this should be stated on the application
	1. form. Mini grants of up to £500 can be requested at any time.
3. Applicants may be invited to a meeting with the Grants panel to discuss the application
4. Financial accounts must be provided for the previous 2 years accounting period.
5. Evidence of bank balance is mandatory.
6. 3 quotes for any work to be carried out must be submitted with the application.
7. Evidence of benefit to Beaudesert & Henley in Arden residents must be quantified.
8. Applications which do not include evidence from points 4-7 above will automatically be rejected.
9. Applicants will be informed of the council’s decision as soon as practicable after the meeting.

**If Successful**

1. All documentation provided will be available for public scrutiny and should be legible.
2. Payments will be by BACS into organisations bank account in April of the following year subject to the above criteria.

**Monitoring and reporting requirements**

1. A progress report is required within 6 months of the grant being provided. This report will be made available for
2. public scrutiny.
3. As a condition of receiving a grant you are required to complete a short evaluation form. Groups are expected to
4. provide written evidence of what the money has been spent on and the benefit it has brought to the people of
5. the Parish. Such evidence of how the money has been spent should include copies of invoices and receipts plus
6. attendance numbers photos. Press clippings etc. where applicable. This information should be submitted at
7. latest10 months after receipt of the grant monies.
8. The grant can only be used for the purpose stated in the application and the council reserves the right to reclaim
9. any grant not being used for the specific purpose of the application. However if a group wishes to change the
10. purpose of the grant they must seek approval by writing to the council who will consider the matter.

**General Grant Conditions**

Applicants for projects where the work has already been completed will not be considered.

The JPC normally issue notice of grant applications on the website and local press during October awards are made in April the following year.

The application form is available from the Clerk apply by email or phone as follows –

clerk@henley-in-arden-pc.gov.uk 01564 637 607

**Notes**

[JPC Grant Committee Only]

**LEGAL FRAMEWORK [JPC GRANTS]**

The Joint Parish Council is committed to being open and transparent and will follow the recommended best practice contained within The Government Transparency Code 2015 by publishing a list of amounts awarded on an annual basis.

This form covers all Community Grant awards which are defined as ‘payments made by the Parish Council to be used by an organisation for an activity or service (not directly controlled or administered by the Parish Council) in the furtherance of the well-being of the community’

**Legal Framework**

Under the Localism Act 2011 the Joint Parish Council declared itself eligible for and subsequently adopted the General Power of Competence at the Annual General Meeting on the 15th of May 2023. This in essence removes the financial limit and restrictions on grant awarding although the assessment criteria for S137 remain a useful benchmark against which to assess applications. The JPC further ratified this amended version at the Ordinary Meeting on Monday the 7th of August 2023.