



# Grants Awarding Policy

Thurston Parish Council

**Policy Approved:** Policy & Resources Committee 18 February 2026

**Presented to Council:** Full Council Meeting 4 March 2026

**Review Body:** Policy & Resources Committee

**Review Period:** Annually or following legislative changes.

**Next Review:** Policy & Resources Committee February 2027

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## POLICIES AIMS

Thurston Parish Council has statutory powers to make funds available to local organisations for the overall benefit of Thurston and its residents.

This document outlines Thurston Parish Council's guidelines for awarding. It also formalises the application process to ensure access, openness and fairness to the groups and organisations we aim to support. We will ensure that our grant awarding activity is fair and transparent.

### General information for applicants

It is Thurston Parish Council's intention (subject to budget restrictions and available resources) to support initiatives from local community groups and organisations. Priority will be given to applicants who have not previously received grants from Thurston Parish Council. The size of any grant awarded is at the discretion of the Parish Council but will not exceed £500 in any one application.

### Who is eligible to apply

The following organisations may apply to Thurston Parish Council:

- a) A Thurston based charity
- b) An organisation serving the needs of the residents of Thurston
- c) Resident(s) of Thurston requesting grant aid with a project/event, which will be for the benefit of the local community
- d) A Thurston based club/association/charity serving a specific section of the community or the community as a whole
- e) A local branch of a regional or national organisation/group which serves the needs of the residents of Thurston.

### Who is not eligible to apply

We will normally reject applications from:

- a) Projects which are the prime statutory responsibility of other government bodies who would normally be funded by a local or regional authority
- b) Projects which improve or benefit privately owned land or property
- c) Support for individuals or private business projects
- d) Applications by "for profit" commercial organisations
- e) From regional and national organisations unless it can be clearly demonstrated that the grant would be used specifically for the residents served by Thurston Parish Council
- f) From organisations with political affiliations or those established for the purpose of forwarding a party-political agenda.

Priority will be given to those applications submitted early in the financial year (which runs from April to March), however the Parish Council reserves the right to leave the application process, funding dependent, until the end of the financial year.

## What can be funded

The project should be something that makes the local community a better place to live, work and play. It should be something that will provide a long lasting and sustainable benefit to our local area. The project must be something that will improve the social, environmental and /or economic profile of Thurston. Priority will be given to those applications which add value over applications for running costs.

## The following are unlikely to be considered as a grant priority

Projects where there is a large shortfall in the funding required to complete the project or projects that simply replace existing facilities with no significant improvement.

## Conditions of grant

Thurston Parish Council support must be acknowledged as appropriate on all publicity and promotional material including posters, advertisements, press releases and leaflets.

Financial support can only be used for the purpose for which the grant is given.

Grants must not be distributed to any other organisation.

## Applications should be submitted, using the Small Grant Application Form to:

The Responsible Financial Officer, Mrs Victoria Waples  
Parish Council Office  
Thurston Parish Council  
New Green Centre  
Thurston IP31 3TG  
e-mail: [finance@thurstonparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:finance@thurstonparishcouncil.gov.uk)

## Decisions will be based on the following criteria

- General eligibility
- Impact on key local need
- Community support
- Value for money
- Environmental impact
- Community involvement
- Feasibility
- Likely effectiveness.