

Briefing Paper

To: All Members of Ringmer Parish Council

From: Karen Crowhurst – Clerk/RFO to Ringmer Parish Council

Date: Thursday 16th April 2020

Subject: Variation of Ringmer Parish Council Grants Policy

BACKGROUND

Ringmer Parish Council now has 3 types of funds available for the community to apply for. These are, Small Grants Scheme for grants up to £500, the Special Projects Scheme for the financial year 2020/2021 and Community Infrastructure. It was agreed to make available £20,000 available to Ringmer community for Special Projects this is to be done in 2 rounds, however the year has not gone as anticipated with a national crisis of Coronavirus. The 2 round process does not allow the Community to access funds in the event of an emergency. Therefore, I would like to request the Council consider the variations to the grant policy.

Council can fund individuals as the Council currently has the General Power of Competence.

RECOMMENDATIONS TO COUNCIL

Special Projects Applications

Ringmer Parish Council has placed £20,000 for the 2020-2021 Financial Year. This is called Special Projects. The aim of this grant is for those wishing to apply for more than £500. Grants can be applied for using the Grant Application Form and will either be considered during a timebound period with the deadline for applications being 1st June 2020 during the financial year, unless the grant is an urgent requirement during times of emergency, then the Council will consider the grant application submitted at the next Parish Council meeting. The urgency of the application will be determined by the Chairman, Vice Chairman and the Clerk.

Eligibility

Projects must deliver their outcomes in the financial year ending 5 April 2021. Projects delivering within calendar year 2020 will be prioritised.

Awards will be made only to voluntary or non-profit community groups or charities delivering services, facilities or activities for the benefit of Ringmer residents. Projects managed by Ringmer-based organisations delivering outcomes in Ringmer parish may be prioritised.

Awards may provide up to 100% of the cost of the project, but projects that can demonstrate matching funding from other sources may be prioritised.

Only one application will be accepted from any one organisation in any one year.

Community Infrastructure Levy Applications - Ringmer Parish Council Pot

There is a separate form and criteria for Community Infrastructure Levy applications. Ringmer Community Groups and Organisations should use the new form and guidance document available on the Parish Council website or by contacting the Parish Office. Ringmer Parish Council are mindful that applications to the District Pot will require support from the Parish Council. If you require this in writing please contact the Clerk in order for the Council to consider this as a whole at a meeting, where Council can agree to support your application in the minutes as well as write a supporting statement

- 1) Council **resolves** to accept the minutes of the meeting held on 12th March with the exception of 8.24 1) To proceed with a phased scheme. The dates of which will be announced. This will enable removing the date of 1st June which is not realistic due to the Coronavirus Pandemic.
- 2) Council **resolves** the variation of the Ringmer Parish Council Grant Policy with immediate effect.