

The Worstead Village Festival ("Festival") - Grant Policy

The principal object of the charity is any charitable purpose for the general benefit of the inhabitants of the Parish of Worstead, Norfolk and its immediate neighbourhood or any part of the said parish for which provision is not made out of rates, taxes or other public funds, as the Executive Committee shall from time to time decide.

Grants can be applied for throughout the year, but will be considered on an annual basis, as determined by the Directors, presently, between 1 March and 30 September. Successful applications can expect to be notified by 5 December each year. To assist with expectations agreements may be reached in principle at an earlier point, but final financial decisions can ordinarily only be confirmed once the application period has expired and all requests are known. Application forms are available on the Festival website.

The Festival does not have a regular source of income other than monies raised from the annual event, and as a consequence it cannot guarantee there will be funds available for distribution every year. Following the annual Festival event the Directors will agree the amount available for distribution in the coming period; this will be added to any unused funds from the previous year(s), if applicable. Should successful grant applications not exhaust the annual fund the balance can either be held for distribution later in the year, or carried forward to the following years' fund, all at the Directors discretion.

Grants are considered within the objects of the Charity and are intended to provide capital support towards projects, events, activities or the like. Other than in exceptional circumstances the Festival does not seek to cover running costs for groups or organisations.

For larger requests, for example excess of £2,500, the Festival would expect a group or organisation to be matching some part of the full amount required with some of their own funds. Requests are given a balanced and considered review with all attempts made to understand the benefits and consequences prior to any decision being made. As guidance, to ensure effective utilisation of the grant funds the Directors are keen to ensure that requests for projects activities or whatever, wherever possible, have plans and processes for meeting the major part of their normal revenue needs.

Grants unclaimed after 12 months will become void and the organisation concerned must reapply.

Notwithstanding the above the grant fund can also be utilised for projects identified and agreed by the Directors as generally beneficial to the economic, social and cultural life of the village and surrounding areas and not the subject of a specific request.

The language above is directional and should not be taken as absolute, the Directors interpretation of what constitutes a capital or revenue based application shall be final. Anything noted in the policy above is determined at the discretion of the Directors, who as they deem appropriate can vary as necessary so long as the Objects of the Festival are respected.

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