

# SWALLOWFIELD PARISH COUNCIL



## GRANTS, DONATIONS & FINANCIAL SUPPORT

*Adopted at the  
Parish Council Meeting held on  
8th March 2016*

**REVISION HISTORY**

<b>Issue</b>	<b>Adopted</b>	<b>Significant Amendments</b>
1	March 2016	New

## CONTENTS

1	INTRODUCTION	4
2	GUIDANCE	4
2.1	Exercising statutory powers	4
2.2	Education, health, well-being and social care	4
2.3	Local Organisations making dedicated use of council facilities	4
2.4	Local groups and societies	5
2.5	Other Organisations	5
2.6	National and International organisations	5

## **1 INTRODUCTION**

This policy is for guidance only and Swallowfield Parish Council may by resolution at a full Council Meeting make exceptions in specific cases. An over-arching constraint is that Swallowfield Parish Council must act at all times solely within its statutory powers.

The Parish Council will include a sum in its annual budget that is to be regarded as the maximum available for the purposes outlined in this policy. All payments and commitments including the proposed terms of any loan or financial guarantee made under this policy shall be brought to Council for approval.

The Parish Council draws a distinction between certain organisations whether of charitable status, official or otherwise and applies different policies accordingly as follows.

## **2 GUIDANCE**

### **2.1 Exercising statutory powers**

Organisations that assist the Parish Council in exercising its statutory powers and obligations. There is one specific example, the local Citizens' Advice Bureau (CAB) which provides advice and information to enable citizens of the parish to assert their rights or lawful entitlements. See footnote for further explanation.

The Parish Council will make grants to these organisations having regard to the specific purpose, relevance to citizens of the parish and other sources of funding that might be available.

### **2.2 Education, health, well-being and social care**

Organisations that educate or provide direct support to citizens of the Parish on matters of health, well-being and social care that supplement the services provided by the Borough Council, NHS and similar official bodies. Examples are Heartstart and Community Responders.

The Parish Council would not normally make grants or donations to such organisations but has discretion to do so having regard to the specific purpose, relevance to citizens of the parish and other sources of funding that might be available.

### **2.3 Local Organisations making dedicated use of council facilities**

Organisations that make dedicated use of Parish Council owned facilities to provide an amenity or service that the Parish Council considers to be of general value to citizens of the parish. Examples include Pre-school, RSF Tennis Club, Riseley Village Tea Room and the Village Stores.

The Parish Council would not normally make grants or donations to such organisations which should be self-financing but has discretion to provide facilities at a favourable or subsidised rate or provide short term loans or financial guarantees.

#### 2.4 Local groups and societies

Local groups and societies that are Hall Users such as Swallowfield Parish Events Group, Russell Players and the Scouts.

The Parish Council does not award grants or donate to such organisations. However, it has discretion to provide short term loans or financial guarantees.

#### 2.5 Other Organisations

Organisations with a remit that is local to the Parish or the Borough and which do not fall into any of the categories above.

The Parish Council does not award grants, donate or provide financial support to such organisations.

#### 2.6 National and International organisations

National and International organisations that have a principle remit that is national or international in nature. Examples include the Campaign to Protect Rural England, Macmillan Cancer Support, the British Heart Foundation and the Worldwide Fund for Nature.

The Parish Council does not award grants, donate or provide financial support to such organisations.

#### **Footnote:**

The CAB is different to other organisations in that it fulfils a role that is acknowledged in the statutory powers afforded to Parish and Town Councils as detailed in the Local Government Act 1972 s142(2A) and referenced in the "Yellow Book" on local council administration. The CAB fulfils the role of providing advice or support to individuals to enable them to assert their rights or fulfil their obligations under the law. CABs are local charities affiliated to a National Association (NACAB) which is a separate charity that maintains an expert knowledge base of advice and guidance through a central database and undertakes a coordination function to ensure consistency and quality of advice and service delivery. These organisations receive most of their funding from central and local government (including Parish and Town Councils) grants. Our local CAB is the Wokingham and District CAB.