

Bucklebury Parish Council

Policy for donations to charities

1. Regular annual contributions to local environmental groups should be maintained, and identified in the budget each year. These groups do not have to reapply every year, provided the Parish Council can see a benefit to the community. These groups are: the PVCT, the PVCV, the BHCG, the CPRE, and GLEAM.
2. Other charities and organisations which can demonstrate a specific benefit to the local community and which are in line with the objectives of the Parish Plan, will be invited to apply for a grant by November 30th each year. The invitation will be issued in the September edition of the Oaks. Applications will be by letter to the Parish Clerk.
3. The BPC will decide at its meeting in December which groups to support in the coming financial year, and the budgetary allocation to applicants. The fund for discretionary donations is likely to be in the order of 5% of the precept (this excludes donations to Para 1 charities). Payment dates will be at the discretion of the Parish Council.
4. The Memorial Hall, and the Victory Room will also be invited to apply for financial assistance by November 30th and their requests will be considered at the same meeting in December. Any grants for these public buildings will be separate from the fund for discretionary donations (see para 3). Formal requests for a grant should be made in writing detailing a timescale for the proposal and any other sources of funding sought or made available. Exceptionally the parish council may agree to ring-fence an amount of money for the coming financial year as a contingency fund for unforeseen maintenance problems. The village hall committees will be asked for a statement of their annual accounts.
5. This is a policy for donations. Loans could be considered as a separate item by BPC.

January 2010