

Tredegar Town Council makes grant funding available to all local associations in Tredegar and sets aside annually agreed amounts as part of its annual budget. As grants are made out of money provided by the council tax payers of Tredegar, the Council has a responsibility to satisfy itself that grants will provide benefit to the local community.

Guidelines for the consideration of grant applications

- Tredegar Town Council will only make grants to bona fide associations.
- Grants will only be made to associations based in Tredegar or to those which make a provision/are of benefit to Tredegar residents.
- First time applicants must initially meet with Members of the Civic Sub-Committee and then every 5 years thereafter.
- When the Civic Sub-Committee meets with the association, the association's Constitution, list of Committee Members and recent bank statement must be made available to the RFO for scrutiny.
- All grant applications must be submitted in a written format with a copy of the association's most recent year end accounts or bank statement.
- Each association must specify the reason for the grant application and supply quotes for items where/when possible.
- All grant applications must be submitted to the Civic Meeting for Council to make a recommendation to be submitted at the next Ordinary Meeting for approval.
- Council may wish at an Ordinary Meeting, with full approval of those present at that meeting, to accept a grant for consideration which has been received at that meeting or just prior to it. This will be with the understanding that the RFO is not to issue a grant cheque until all the necessary paperwork has been received by the office (accounts, etc) and/or the association has already received a grant during that financial year.
- If the association's application is successful, they must agree to indicate the sponsorship from Tredegar Town Council on their literature i.e. TTC logo included on the association's headed paper or in a match programme/poster, website banner.
- Council will request in the letter to successful grant applicants that their support is reciprocated by participating in Town Council events.
- The grant funding offered to the association must be spent within a year and a completed end of year project report returned to TTC with copies of receipts (where possible) – The return must be submitted prior to an application being submitted in the next financial year.
- Only one grant will be given to an association in each financial year unless the association is embarking on a Special Project which Council deems as beneficial to Tredegar.
- Council, due to legislation, is not permitted to sponsor individuals or commercial organisations.
- All grant funding made by Council must be made using the appropriate legislative powers.
- Start-up grants are to be capped at a maximum of £100.00p, Council may over-ride this figure with a bona fide reason and provided all present at the meeting are in approval.
- Churches & Chapels – grants are to be issued for Capital expenditure only.

As of April 2017, the monetary value of grants offered is:

- Churches & Chapels (s.137) - £300.00p.
- Sporting associations - £200.00p.
- Recreational, cultural & musical associations - £200.00p.
- Other s.137 – National Charities – ranges between £50.00p to £100.00p.
- St Johns Ambulance – maximum amount of £500.00p.
- Tredegar Business Forum & Royal British Legion – maximum amount of £250.00p each.
- Parc Bryn Bach & Bedwellty House/Park (Aneurin Leisure Trust) – maximum amount of £1000.00p each but on alternating years.
- CAB & Hospice of the Valleys – maximum amount of £375.00p each.

Legislative Powers

For the Council to be able to make any grants to associations there must be an appropriate legislative power available and this power must be recorded with the grant application details as part of the Schedule of Payments submitted to Council for final approval of payment. Therefore it is essential that the purpose of the grant application is specified as this determines which power is used to permit the expenditure.

Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1979 s.19 – This power enables grants to be made available to sporting, recreational, cultural and musical associations. Also for the provision of entertainment and support of the arts the power **Local Government Act 1972 s.145** is available.

Local Government Act 1972 Ss. 111, 144 & 145 – This power permits funding towards associations such as Tredegar Twinning.

Allotments - Grants to allotments and allotment association are authorised under the **Small Holdings and Allotment Act 1908** as amended by the Allotment Act 1922, as amended by the Small Holdings and Allotment Act 1926, as amended by the Allotment Act 1950. It is also permitted to make a grant using the power **Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1979 s.19** depending on the intended use of the grant.

Parc Bryn Bach – A grant is permitted under **s.6 & 7 of the Countryside Act 1968**. There are also the provisions of the **Open Spaces Act of 1906** and the **Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1979 s.19** depending on the intended use of the grant.

Local Government Act 1972 s.137 – This permits grant expenditure on items or areas of interest to Council but where no specific power exists for that expenditure. Even though the range and scope of the activities covered by this power is quite wide it is subject to certain legal conditions with one of the most important being

“a local authority shall not, by virtue of this subsection, incur any expenditure.....unless the direct benefit accruing to their area or any part of it or to all or some of the inhabitants of their area will be commensurate with the expenditure to be incurred”.

There are two limits for s.137 expenditure which must be adhered to. The first of these is the maximum amount of expenditure available and this is calculated by the number of electors in Tredegar x rate per elector (set by the Welsh Assembly Government) e.g. Maximum Permitted

11,061 electors x £7.36 = £81,408.96. The second limit is £2,000 where the association that receives such a grant is required to provide a written report as to how the grant was put to use.

Council has two budget heads for s.137; one specifically for Churches and Chapels and one covering general s.137 expenditure such as grants to Shelter Cymru. This split is purely to be able to easily identify the specific expenditure and to monitor that the expenditure remains within the set budget for each head. NB. The two figures are totalled together by the R.F.O. to make sure they remain below the maximum permitted expenditure.

Council have agreed that the presentation of Grants can be done in either of the following ways:-

- Association invited to a presentation evening.
- Mayor/Deputy Mayor to attend the association's meeting to present – Council gives authorisation as an approved duty for the Mayor/Deputy Mayor to be in receipt of the grant cheque from the Council office and hold in their possession until presentation to the association.

Annette Jones
R.F.O.