

Church Piece Charity- Grant Policy

Church Piece Charity was re-established in 1992 mainly to enable the funds raised from the sale of a parcel of village owned land (the Church Piece estate) to be invested and the income distributed.

Within the terms of the charity trust document, the investment income is distributed between the maintenance of the Church (as a historical building) and any other charitable activity within Sutton Benger.

FAQs

Am I eligible for a grant?

The person/people who benefit should have lived in Sutton Benger within the parish boundary for at least two years.

Can my group or organisation apply for a grant?

Grant applications can be submitted from *not-for-profit* groups and organisations (whether existing or new) providing that the project will benefit Sutton Benger residents.

Can my group or organisation have employed staff?

Yes, but the grant cannot be used towards salaries or provision of goods or services for sale.

Can my organisation apply for an annual award?

All applications will be considered on their merits and awarded depending on funds available. If the same individual/organisation has received a grant in previous years this may reduce the chances of a successful application.

Can I apply for funding to help with a course or training?

We do not support statutory school age education or degrees. Other courses and extra-curricular costs may be considered if an educational or other benefit can be seen to return in some way to the Sutton Benger Community.

What's the maximum amount I can apply for?

Awards of up to £10,000 are only likely to be given to the Church, Village Hall or School. These applicants are encouraged to engage with a Trustee at the earliest opportunity to assess the chance of its success. In most other cases, applications will be below £5,000 although each one considered on individual merit and available funds.

How can I increase my chance of being successful?

Evidence of application for matched funding from other organisations, even if unsuccessful, are noted favourably. A commitment to Environmental, Social, and Corporate Governance (ESG) is also welcome. Projects/purchase of *Community assets* with open/free access are particularly welcome.

The trustees will therefore consider all applications that meet one or more of the following criteria:

- Organisations must show that they are not for profit, and that the purpose for which they are applying is a charitable cause i.e., for the benefit of the community.
- Individuals must show financial that funding cannot be met by alternative means i.e., it cannot replace government/local authority benefits/grants
- Individuals who are on a means tested benefit or have a household income of less than £20,000

The trustees have final discretion in the award of all grants based on the above criteria.

We are unable to offer grants to:

- Political or party-political activities
- Animal welfare
- Retrospective applications
- Funding of individual sports persons
- Salaries, except where related to delivery of a project.
- Anything that can be obtained from a local authority or government benefits
- Direct funding to local authorities or parish councils
- Maintenance of historic buildings (other than the church)

Applications should be made in writing/e-mail to The Secretary, on the standard application form. Applications will be considered at the following meeting which are typically early March, June, September, and December. All applications should be submitted by the end of the month before the trustee meeting.

Following completion of the project The Trustees may require evidence in the form of a report or other evidence. The Charity may request and expect full repayment of the grant if this is not forthcoming