**Section 137 Grants to support community organisations, services, and events**

Every year Llangan Community Council Section awards grants to voluntary or community organisations who work in the area to support the local community. The grants are only awarded if the activities of the groups are in the interest of, or will bring direct benefit to, the area, or all, or an appreciable number of its inhabitants.

**What can the grants fund?**

The grants can be awarded for a variety of purposes e.g.

* to support local events
* improve or help run local community facilities
* purchase equipment to deliver or improve community services and facilities

The events and facilities funded must be open to all members of the local community.

The Community Council must satisfy itself that the grant will benefit the area and an appreciable number of residents. Ideally there should be clear evidence of local need or demand for the proposed activity.

**What can’t the grant fund?**

Ineligible costs will include:

* normal running and revenue expenses
* planning permission costs unless they form part only part of the grant funding requested
* retrospective costs e.g. costs for work already undertaken or equipment/work materials that have been purchased or ordered prior to a formal grant offer, are ineligible and should not be included in any application you may wish to make

**Who can apply?**

* applications are invited from community organisations and charities. The Community Council defines a voluntary group as a ‘not-for-profit’ organisation, set up and run by a voluntary, management committee. Individuals may not apply
* applications will only be considered from organisations working in the Llangan Community Council area which includes Llangan, Treoes, Ruthin and St. Mary Hill
* grants will only be made to groups which need financial help. Accumulated reserves will be considered when grant levels are decided

**How much can I apply for?**

The maximum sum set aside each financial year for grants, is agreed upon annually at the full Council meeting at which the precept is set.

If the grant requests received exceed the grant monies available in a financial year, then councillors will target grants which benefit as many people as possible within the community and address the policy priorities of the Community Council.

**When do I have to apply by?**

There are no set deadlines. Fully developed projects will be assessed on an individual basis. Your application will then be considered at the next available meeting of the Council.

**How do I apply?**

You must fully complete the grant application form and provide all requested information and send it to the Clerk. This includes:

* summary of the applicant’s accounts for the last financial year where possible
* the current financial position of the applicants i.e. the latest bank statement
* details of the applicant’s organisation, committee and meeting structure, appointed officers, etc. Councillors must feel confident that appropriate management mechanisms and financial controls are in place within the applicant’s organisation
* Other funding sources applied or obtained for in relation to the grant concerned

You must set out how the community in the Community Council’s area will benefit from the work funded by any grant. This is particularly important where an application is made by an organisation working regionally or nationally.

**Are there conditions that apply to the grant?**

Yes, the following conditions apply:

1. Grants will not normally be awarded to individuals.
2. Grants will not be made retrospectively.
3. Grants will not be awarded to fund activities of a political nature, nor activities considered to be the responsibility of the principal authority.
4. Grants will not be awarded to organisations that make, or attempt to make, profit for the benefit of members or owners over and above revenue expenditure, e.g. running costs, staff costs, premises maintenance and general overheads.
5. Organisations applying for a grant should be properly constituted, with appointed officers.
6. Grants will be awarded on the assumption that other sources of income have been sought.
7. Grants will only be considered accompanied by sufficient and appropriate documentation which may require inclusion of financial records. If there is insufficient documentary evidence the application will not be considered.
8. If the organisation/body is unable to use the grant for the stated purpose, monies must be returned to Llangan Community Council.
9. Grants must be used for the purpose for which the application was made and the Community Council must be satisfied that the project represents value for money – a quotation must be provided where possible.
10. All grants are awarded at the Community Council’s discretion. Llangan Community Council’s decision is final and there is no right of appeal.
11. Evidence of completion of the project.

**If successful, when is the grant payable?**

Payment will usually only be made on submission of invoices at the completion of the project.

**How often can I apply?**

There are no restrictions on when an organisation can re-apply for funding, but only one project can be supported at one time per organisation. New applications can be submitted once all aspects of the current project are complete.

If you require further guidance, please contact the Clerk to the Community Council:

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