



# WELWYN PARISH COUNCIL

Serving the communities of Welwyn, Oaklands & Mardley Heath and Digswell

Parish Centre, Lockleys Drive, Welwyn, Hertfordshire, AL6 9NT

2014 Grant Aid policy  
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## Grant Aid Policy

### Background

This Council makes grants to a variety of bodies, each application being considered on its merits. The majority of these grants will be of a non-financial nature and take the form of additional subsidy towards hire of the council's facilities over and above the community rate.

Some of these funds may be allocated under our Section 137 power to use council funds to support the community in general.

### Who Welwyn Parish Council give grants to and why

This Council will not normally award any grant unless all the following conditions are met:

1. The applicant is a body or organisation having a bank account and a proper constitution or suitable equivalent.
2. The applicant is based in or near the Parish and its activities and/or membership are entirely, or mainly, in the Parish.

**Welwyn Parish Council has extremely limited funds and the applicant must show how the support will predominantly support the area or residents of the Parish.**

3. The applicant has submitted the required form to the Council and that the Council are satisfied that the applicant cannot reasonably undertake the relevant activity without support.
4. The applicant has made reasonable efforts to secure other funding, including part-funding and/or dipping into it's own reserves.
5. The activity is (or would qualify as) a charity, in particular that it is considered to be not-for-profit.
6. The activity will result in a public benefit, to which (in principle) the entire relevant public of the Parish will have access on equal terms.

### What Welwyn Parish Council expects from applicants

All recipients of grants from the Council must report back to the Council in writing as to the use made of the grant, and the Clerk may require further information, copies of accounts and other reasonable documentation. This is to support the use of public money and for audit purposes.

**If an organisation has applied for support towards hall hire, they will need to make an application in good time for each financial year if they want a reduction in the normal hire rates. Grants will not usually be given in retrospect.**

### Examples of what Welwyn Parish Council has supported in the past

The Council has provided additional subsidies for hirers doing everything from Fund Raising activities for local community groups through to helping local groups to run more sessions by keeping rates low.

**Organisations should indicate in their application both a discount rate and total amount applied for.**

This Council has in the past supported individuals e.g. young people in a brass band which has been invited to travel to a competition. In such cases, the grant would be made to the brass band to support the relevant individual. For example, if the application is for support to build a new tennis court, it cannot be restricted to members-only; all parishioners, subject to reasonable standards of behaviour, must be able to hire the court. Or, if the application is for a grant to help relieve need in the Parish, assistance must be distributed to needy persons on objective and non-discriminatory criteria.

### Notes

The application form is available as a separate document.