

COPYTHORNE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING – TUESDAY APRIL 8TH 2025

Item 13. Application from a local organisation for a Council grant.

Introduction

Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972 gives the Council the power to “incur expenditure which in their opinion is in the interests of and will bring direct benefit to their area or any part of it or all or some of its inhabitants.....”. Section 137 was amended by the ***Local Government and Housing Act 1989 s 36*** so that any expenditure must be commensurate with the benefit to the community. The amount for 2025/26 is £11.10 per elector on April 1st 2025. The Parish of Copythorne has circa 2250 electors. Any expenditure under section 137 must be recorded in the minutes and identified as such in the accounts.

Included within the 2025/26 budget is a sum of £500 in respect of small grants to be awarded by the Parish Council to support the work of local organisations. So far in 2025/26, the Parish Council has awarded no grants leaving the full £500 of the budget to be awarded.

I have recently received one application. Details of the application to be considered are set out below:-

Cadnam Cricket Club

The club are seeking an unspecified grant amount towards the cost of renewing the fencing at their ground in Cadnam (see application form attached)

Recent Grant History

The club has not received a grant from the Parish Council for at least 20 years (records have not been checked further back than 2023/24).

Summary

Councillors are invited to consider the merits of the above application, decide whether or not they wish to support it and if so to agree on the level of grant awarded.

No section 137 grants were awarded in 2024/25 and whilst section 137 funding cannot be carried over from previous years members could choose to increase the 2025/26 budget by transferring funds from the Council's General Reserve.

DAVID RIGBY, Clerk/R F O

March 31st 2025

GRANT APPLICATION FORM

I/We wish to apply for a Parish Council grant.

1. Name of organisation:- Cadnam Cricket Club
Address:- Lambs Corner, Cadnam, Southampton, SO40 2NR
Contact Details: Phone [REDACTED] E-mail [REDACTED]

2. Person to contact concerning the application, if different from above

Name:- Robert Lloyd
Address:- Cadnam C C , Lambs Corner, Cadnam, Southampton, SO40 2NR
Contact Details:- Phone [REDACTED] E-mail [REDACTED]

3. Description of project and the needs it will serve (use separate sheet if necessary):

Please see attached document

4. Estimated cost of project £12,500

5. Proposed date of project April 2025

6. Membership details: Adult (70), Junior (50), Family (30) in number

7. Finance: Please supply a copy of your latest audited accounts and balance sheet.

Signed:- R J Lloyd

Capacity:- Vice Chairman

Date:- March 30th 2025

CADNAM CRICKET CLUB GRANT APPLICATION TO COPYTHORNE PARISH COUNCIL

1. The Club

Cadnam CC are a longstanding community cricket club who have been based in the New Forest since 1880, providing an important formal sports provision

The club supports 4 men's teams who play in the Hampshire Cricket League (HCL), 2 midweek Border League XI and a Sunday XI who play friendlies most Sundays throughout the season. In 2023 the Men's 1st XI won promotion into County Division 2 South of the HCL and look forward to the challenge of gaining promotion to a higher division in 2026.

In 2021, the club started a women's soft-ball team, with a group of 18 players now training and playing regular soft-ball fixtures throughout the season. In 2023 a number of the women's players regularly represented the men's 3rd XI and the club's Sunday XI in hardball fixtures, which not only demonstrated the club's inclusive approach, but the fantastic progression of the women's section and development of its players in such a short period of time.

The club's junior section offers cricket to over 50 young people from 5 to 15 years of age. During the summer season, the club deliver excellent training led by a Hampshire Cricket Club Coach which the club funding this through its own subscriptions for 5 – 11 year olds, as well as competitive fixtures for U9, U11 and from 2025 U13 teams. This winter the club are offering indoor training sessions for all juniors aged 5 – 15 throughout the winter and are working on meeting the criteria to achieve their ClubMark accreditation. It is hoped that in the next few years, the growth of the junior section will create a pathway to senior cricket at the club.

In total the club boasts over 130 playing members from the age of 5 to 73, as well approximately 30 non playing members and a well-established team of hard-working volunteers fulfilling the multiple roles required of any successful community sports club serving the residents of the New Forest.

2 The Proposal

Project: Replacement of Stockproof Perimeter Fencing

Description: 375 linear meters of stock proof fencing. Timber posts at 3-4m centres with stockproof wire and adequate styles to enable ball retrieval.

Need: Due to the club's location in the New Forest National Park, they hold obligations within their licence to provide and maintain stockproof perimeter fencing around the pitch perimeter to protect the cricket pitch from grazing livestock during the cricket season. The current system is coming to the end of its life, with many of the timber posts rotting out, and a couple of complaints from the public in recent months on the grounds of Health and Safety.

Planning: Not required. Replacement of existing feature.

Timeframes: April 2025.

Cost Estimate: 410 linear meters @ £28 per meter = £11,500

2nr Vehicular gates and 8nr styles = £1,000

Total Project Cost: £12,500 plus VAT