

**CENTRAL SWINDON NORTH  
PARISH COUNCIL**

**WARD ALLOWANCE  
SPENDING FRAMEWORK**

To be Adopted

## **Introduction**

**All applications for the Ward Development Allowance spend can only be made in advance through the Finance & Staffing Committee. Requests cannot be approved retrospectively.**

**In all cases Members of the Finance & Staffing Committee will have the opportunity adjust or reject recommendations of a member at the meeting, or adjust agreed priorities in the light of representations from the community/other members.**

## **Governance**

- Applications can only be made by members of the Ward they represent.
- Applications must be approved at the next F&S and where possible the Clerk/Deputy Clerk should be informed of the nature of each request in advance so can be included on the published Agenda.
- Decisions are minuted and published on-line as part of the Finance & Staffing Committee.

The Ward Development Allowance has four key functions:

- To support new community activity contributing to the Parishes Vision.
- To provide activities and amenities that improves the quality of residents lives.
- To improve the connections and links between the Parish, Parish Councillors and our respective communities.
- To assist small organisations and residents to develop themselves.

### **Permissible Spend:**

Councillors should consider the impact the request has and the request must be within the legal powers of spend that a Parish Council holds.

When making representations to F&S, Councillors should consider:

- Does the submission directly help a wide range of residents across the Parish?
- How will it improve resident's quality of life?
- Does this submission have the potential to bring additional funds into the Parish?
- Will any residents be involved in the delivery of the representation?
- What are the main benefits of the representation?
- Does the representation support residents with specific needs? e.g. older people, young people not in education, employment or training, those with disabilities.

### **What the allocation cannot be used for:**

- Direct childcare services/activities that enable parents/carers to undertake paid work.
- Proxy requests from groups who should apply through the Parish Grant process.
- Counselling or one to one mentoring services (with the exception of advocacy support).
- Services/activities provided to individuals or organisations not within the Ward boundary of the Councillor who makes the request
- Newsletters or literature containing opinion or publicity of a political nature.
- Party political or direct religious activities.
- Projects related to buildings/assets linked to the proposing Councillor or where a Councillor holds a significant personal interest.

- Projects related to members of a Councillors family or friend.
- Initiatives apparently established for the purpose of providing employment for an individual, or with a view to developing a private business venture.
- Activities operating outside a Councillors Ward.
- Activity which holds an on-going revenue cost to the Parishes core budget.
- Duplications of the same request

Only the Parish Manager/Clerk can commission works. Councillors are not permitted to commission works directly.

Examples of where spend could be used for are to support local Sporting/Health related activities, Leaflets relating to a community initiative, Room hire, Stationary, Bus Shelters, bulbs/low maintenance flowers/planters and also things which could bring communities together to help run a project.