

14. GRANT POLICY

- 14.1. Mepal Parish Council awards grants at its discretion to community organisations from within the parish which can demonstrate a clear need for financial support to benefit Mepal by; providing a service, enhancing the quality of life and improving the environment
- 14.2. The organisation must be non-profit making or charitable. Grants will not be made to individuals and would not normally exceed 50% of the cost of the project or activity. Grants will not be made to National Organisations or Religious Groups. Grants from Regional Organisations will not be considered unless they provide a specific service to the community of Mepal.
- 14.3. Grants will not be made retrospectively and only one application for a grant will be considered from each organisation in any one financial year. Organisations will be required to apply annually and each application will be reviewed on an equal basis within each year.
- 14.4. Preference will be given to organisations making use of parish facilities and/or having sought external funding prior to this application.
- 14.5. Consideration will be given to organisations wishing to organise a village event in which other groups are invited to participate. This should be done with a view to enhancing community life and raising funds for participating groups.
- 14.6. A community group may suffer a 'dip' in membership leading to shortage of funds. Temporary assistance can be granted with annual review. If situation does not improve, the community group will be advised to consider its future.
- 14.7. The Grants budget will be set annually as part of the general budget setting process.
- 14.8. Applications will be invited during Autumn each year to be considered at the Full Council Meeting in November each year.
- 14.9. Applicants will be required to complete an application form and return it to the Clerk by a given date.
- 14.10. Applicants will need to provide details of: their aims and purpose; project or activity; proportion/number of beneficiaries living in the electoral area; and demonstrate a clear need for funding.
- 14.11. Organisations will be required to provide a copy of their previous year's accounts or for new initiatives, a budget forecast.
- 14.12. All applicants will be contacted following the Parish Council's decision.

Document History – GRANT		
Status	Date	Version
Draft to Clerk	28 th April 2018	1.0
Draft to Council for Debate	4 th May 2018	1.0
Council Approved	14 th May 2018	1.0
Next Review by Clerk		