

Guidelines

The Trustees wish to record basic guidelines that will be applied by them when determining the award of grants from the Trust and have agreed that the following outline criteria will be applied. The Trustees do, however, wish to record that the awarding of grants is entirely within their discretion and accordingly, if considered appropriate, awards may be made which do not fall precisely within these guidelines

- The principle of the Trust is for 'any charitable purpose for the inhabitants of the area of the ancient parish of Guiting Power.' Its object is the relief of need among elderly, disabled or vulnerable people living in our area of benefit.
- Area of benefit
 - The area of benefit of The Constable's Piece Trust is defined as 'the ancient parish of Guiting Power'. See our map for the area included in the parish. The Trustees are only able to consider applications from individuals living in the area of benefit and organisations working within that area.
- What we don't fund
 - To comply with our objectives, there are some activities that we cannot fund. To avoid wasted effort and disappointment we list here the principle areas that The Constable's Piece Trust does not fund:
 - Post-graduate education
 - General running/living costs
 - General appeals
 - Religious activities
 - National organisations operating in the area of benefit without a local office
 - General public sector appeals (apart from in a few very exceptional cases)
 - Applications from outside the area of benefit
- Who do we help?
 - Individuals
 - The Trust makes grants to local individuals in need. These grants generally take the form of purchases of equipment, goods or services. Applications are welcomed from:
 - elderly citizens in difficult circumstances
 - carers or people with disabilities who need some financial help
 - those in housing need
 - individuals on low incomes or in poor health
 - help to access education and training if current circumstances would prevent this opportunity.
 - These grants do not normally exceed £100.
 - Organization's
 - The Trust can make grants to a local charitable, voluntary and community organisations working within our area of benefit. Applications should be for one-off non-recurrent funding for a specific purpose and be of benefit to the disadvantaged inhabitants of the parish.
 - Grants are normally in the range £100.
- Trustee-led grants
 - If no applications have been received, the Trustees of the Trust may propose one organisational grant each year on the basis of their own knowledge of local voluntary or community organisations. Lobbying of Trustees will disqualify an organisation.
- Grant limits/restrictions
 - The Trustees' investment strategy is designed to ensure the long term future of the Trust. In order to protect the underlying assets of the Trust the Trustees can only use the *income of the Trust* (eg interest) for the provision of grants. The amounts available to distribute may vary year on year depending on investments and other income, such as donations. In addition, the Trustees want to

help as many eligible beneficiaries as possible therefore applications are restricted to one per eligible household within any 12 month period.

- Who can apply?
 - We welcome applications from people who are experiencing difficult circumstances. This may be because of low income or poor health. To be able to apply you must:
 - live within our area of benefit (see our map to check if you qualify)
 - have lived in the area of benefit for at least 6 months (this does not necessarily have to have been at the same address)
 - be living in permanent accommodation
 - have been granted indefinite leave to remain in the UK
 - You will not be able to apply if you:
 - are planning to move out of our area of benefit
 - have been awarded a grant within the last two years
 - have received 3 grants in the past
 - What can be applied for?
 - You can make an application for the purchase of a specific item or service. We do not make grants to:
 - pay for general living costs
 - pay off debts
 - buy non-essential items
 - Most applications will be for an amount under £100. However, in particular circumstances, the Trustees will consider requests for more than this amount.
- How to apply
 - All applications must be made on the appropriate application form.
 - An application form can be downloaded from the Constable's Piece page of the Guiting Power website <http://www.guitingevents.co.uk/>
 - For those without internet access, a form can be requested from GPPC CLERK: Kate Sales, 5 Okus Road, Charlton Kings, Cheltenham. GL53 8DU
 - Complete the application form answering all sections as fully as possible.
 - Return your completed application form with all supporting documents to the GPPC CLERK: Kate Sales.
 - By post to 5 Okus Road, Charlton Kings, Cheltenham. GL53 8DU.
 - By E-mail: constablespiece@guitingevents.co.uk
- How applications are considered
 - The Trustees of the Trust hold a meeting three times a year following a Parish Council meeting.
 - Grants are awarded annually.
 - Applications must be submitted by the 1st February and will be considered at the following meeting (normally April).
 - If the eligibility criteria are met and the Trustees agree, a grant will be approved.
 - Applicants will be notified in writing of the decision as soon as reasonably possible (aim to be within 4 weeks).
- Please contact the Trust for further information (c/o Kate Sales, GPPC Parish Clerk, 5 Okus Road, Charlton Kings, Cheltenham. GL53 8DU. By E-mail: constablespiece@guitingevents.co.uk)