

BROXTON & DISTRICT PARISH COUNCIL

Grant Application Form & Guidelines

Applicant's Details

Name of Organisation 1st Sandstone Scout Group (Charity number 520163)

Name of Contact David Lithgow Smith (Treasurer)

Address for correspondence (inc. payments)

The Old Scypen, Bickley Town, Malpas, SY14 8EQ

Contact Telephone Number: Day 01948 820800 / 07793 019948

Evening 01948 820800 / 07793 019948

E-mail Address admin@sandstonescouts.org.uk

Please indicate preferred method of communication: telephone or E-mail

Does the organisation have its own bank account? **YES**

Is your organisation affiliated to a National Body? **YES**

If YES, Please give details. **The Scout Association (Charity number 306101)**

Does your organisation charge a membership fee or for public for use of your facilities? **YES**

If YES, Please provide details of how this funding will benefit the wider community not just your membership.

When not in use by the Group the site is available for hire by other Scout Groups and appropriate organisations. Weekend hirings were 18 in 2023 and 16 in 2024.

Has your organisation received funding from the Parish Council in the last 12 months? **NO**

If YES, Please provide details and state if this application is for the same project.

Application Details

Amount of Money you are requesting **£500**

Please note the Council will only accept one application per year per organisation although this may be to fund more than one project.

Is this the total amount required for the project? **NO**

IF NO, Please give details of other sources of money including fundraising.

The Group will be part funding the project from reserves accumulated for the purpose and seeks to fund the remainder from grants by local Parish Councils and other fundraising activities

Will the project result in funds being raised (e.g. will the grant provide funding for an item to be sold)?

NO, except that the significant upgrade of the site facilities may justify a small increase in the fees charged to other groups and organisations for hiring the site

IF YES, Please give details of how that money will be spent.

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Please give details of the application (inc. details of the number of people likely to benefit in the Parish Council area and details of any tendering process for items of equipment).

The Bickerton Scout Hut is a wooden ex-army hut originally sited at Beeston, purchased at auction in 1955, and re-erected by local volunteers on a site gifted by the Oulton Park Estate on Goldford Lane, Bickerton. Since then it has been in continual use by the Bickerton Scouts which, in 2005 merged with the Tattenhall Scouts to form the Sandstone Scout Group.

It stands in its own grounds and also has a 30 year renewable lease on almost 4 acres of adjacent woodland and direct access onto the Sandstone Trail and the public access land on Bickerton Hill

The site is held in Trust for the use of the local resident Scout Group. Should the Scout Group close the Trustees would be required to deploy the site and buildings for 'the benefit of the local community' which is taken as referring to Bickerton Parish and the immediately adjacent parishes.

The Sandstone Scout Group is open to all local young people, boys and girls. It currently has 194 young members (aged 6 – 17) supported by 47 adult volunteer Leaders who provide their time without payment. 18 of the young members live in the Broxton Parish Council area.

The 7 age group sections meet on Mon, Tue, Wed and Thu evenings and on many weekends, some of which are off site. Activities include camping, hiking, survival skills, first aid, archery, navigation, air rifle shooting, pioneering, laser tag, caving, rafting, kayaking, bell boating, climbing, mountain days and our annual lug-a-drum pioneering challenge. The Group is also an accredited Duke of Edinburgh Award (DofE) Centre enabling young people to achieve their DofE Bronze, Silver and Gold Awards.

In the last 15 years improvements have been made in order to meet modern requirements including the construction of a detached store, outdoor shelter and campfire area (with pizza oven!) and installation of wall insulation, together with new toilets and shower, electric heating (to supplement the wood burning stove), LED lighting and WiFi (for emergency and instructional use).

The kitchen, however, has received minimal attention since it was installed 40 years ago. It no longer meets the needs of the much larger Group and falls below modern hygiene standards. The plan is, therefore, to replace all fixtures, fittings and appliances over the summer holiday period using volunteer labour (except for electrical work) and the expertise of one of the volunteer Leaders who fits commercial kitchens.

If necessary continue on separate sheet.

If requesting £1000+ please attach a copy of the organisations accounts.

I/We certify that the details given on this application are true and correct.

SIGNED David Lithgow Smith

DATE 17 April 2025

Please return to the clerk: E-mail clerk@broxtonparishcouncil.org.uk

Grant Guidelines

Broxton & District Parish Council strives to allocate grants and donations in a fair and open manner judging each application on its own merits.

Other than in exceptional circumstances the Council will only offer grants of up to £250.

When allocating grants and donations the Parish Council must show regard to the statutory powers granted to the Council through various local government acts and Audit regulations. A copy of this can be found in the back of The Good Councillors Guide or from the Clerk.

The Parish Council does not provide grants or donations to individuals or national charities.

Grants and donations will be decided by Broxton & District Parish Council as agenda items at Parish Council meetings.

All grants and donations are made on a strictly one off basis – receiving funding in one financial year does not mean funding will be automatically provided in future years.

All grants and donations given must be for the benefit of some or all of the parishioners of Broxton & District Parish Council. As such the Council asks all applicants to confirm how many parishioners are likely to benefit from the applications approval and where possible identify the number who will benefit.

When seeking funding from Broxton & District Parish Council you and your organisation should take into account the following criteria which are intended as guidelines rather than prescriptive rules:-

- Be able to provide a clear explanation of what the funding is for, including time scales.
- Be able to demonstrate how 'value for money' has been achieved e.g. tendering process that has been followed.
- Be able to provide examples of other funding sources including fund raising events.
- Be able to show who will benefit from this funding.
- Be able to explain what impact not receiving this funding will have on your organisation.

However groups must meet the following criteria:-

- Have an organisation bank account (not personal).
- Must provide copies of the organisations accounts if requesting £1000+ or if requested to do so.

Timing of Applications

- The council will consider applications for funding at its March meeting each year, in exceptional circumstances the Council may consider applications at other times of the year.

When deciding allocation of grants and donations Broxton & District Parish Council will consider the following criteria:-

- The benefit to the parishioners (including the number) of Broxton & District Parish Council in providing this funding.
- The financial circumstances of the organisation.
- How previous funding has been spent by that organisation.
- The financial position of the parish council itself.

Broxton & District Parish Council will not generally fund:-

- Political organisations.
- National Bodies or Charities.
- More than one grant application per year from any one organisation.
- Projects which will only benefit members of an organisation where membership is determined by a membership fee and is therefore not open to all parishioners.

It should be noted that all parish councillors are governed by the Code of Conduct and have an obligation to declare pecuniary or other interests where relevant when considering the allocation of all grants or donations.

To be considered for funding by Broxton & District Parish Council you must complete the application form from the clerk.

For more information please contact the clerk.

Clerk to Broxton & District Parish Council
clerk@broxtonparishcouncil.org.uk

Approved May 2022

Reviewed July 2023