



LISS PARISH COUNCIL

GUIDANCE ON BIDS FOR USE OF PARISH COUNCIL CIL FUNDING

Background

The Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) is a levy paid by developers on most types of residential development. It is there to help pay for infrastructure and services needed to support the development and its impact on people living in and around it. Most of the money is paid to the local planning authority, in our case the South Downs National Park Authority, but 25% is paid directly to Parish Councils where they have prepared a neighbourhood development plan. Liss Parish Council prepared the Liss Village Neighbourhood Development Plan approved in 2017. Over 200 houses are likely to be built in Liss over the period up to 2028 and several hundred thousand pounds will be paid to the Parish Council as the houses are built.

Significant sums have been paid since 2021 and the Parish Council has to decide how to spend those funds to support development and benefit the village. The Council has set up its own processes for assessing priorities for projects but it also welcomes bids by organisations and individuals in Liss for how they might spend CIL money for the benefit of the village.

This note is intended to give guidance to organisations and individuals who wish to bid for using Parish Council CIL money. There is no set format for a bid, but they should reflect this guidance and be made to the Parish Clerk, Sarah Smith. Contact details are on the Parish Council website (www.lissparishcouncil.gov.uk). Do speak with the Clerk for further advice before submitting a bid.

All bids will be considered on their merits, but generally they are expected to reflect the priorities and other considerations set out in this note.

What can CIL be spent on?

Government regulations allow the Parish Council portion of CIL money to be spent on a wider range of things than the portion controlled by the local planning authority. It should reflect the impact of development and any resulting increase in population and can be used:

"to support the development of the local council's area, or any part of that area, by funding—

- (a) the provision, improvement, replacement, operation or maintenance of infrastructure; or
- (b) anything else that is concerned with addressing the demands that development places on an area."

[Community Infrastructure Levy (Amendment) Regulations 2010, Reg 59c]

These might include provision arising directly from development or population growth but might also include existing deficiencies in provision where development provides an opportunity to remedy such deficiencies. It might include one off provision, but can also cover ongoing costs for organisations as they cater for the needs of the village. It can also be used to match funding from other sources. Provision must be within or primarily benefit the parish of Liss.

What are the priorities?

Bids should reflect priorities for the village. The background to those priorities is provided by Liss being within a National Park, and we need to take account of the priorities set by the South Downs National Park Authority, particularly in the South Downs Local Plan and its own Infrastructure Delivery Plan. The Liss Village Neighbourhood Plan sets out a future for development in the village and the Parish Council sets out its current priorities within its annual Action Plan, which can be seen on our website. We are also working on strategies for improving recreation provision and improving the village centre.

The Parish Council has also sought to support activities within the village where it sees a need, particularly through the provision of grants and encouragement to organisations benefiting the village. Priority will normally be given to supporting activities that:

- Provide facilities or infrastructure to the benefit of the Parish as a whole.
- Benefit families, particularly children and young people,
- Benefit the elderly
- Benefit the disabled
- Benefit those otherwise disadvantaged
- Promote social inclusiveness
- Promote awareness of the village
- Enhance community wellbeing

All of these should be considered against the background of sustainability and environmental priorities.

Conditions

Bids should be submitted by the organisation or individual who proposes to take forward the Bid. Although there is no specific format, Bids should include the following information

- a. The intended outcomes of the Bid.
- b. The Purpose of the money asked for.
- c. Is there match funding or leverage for funding available?
- d. The Proposed plan and timetable for delivery of the Bid outcomes.
- e. The Governance and Management arrangements proposed.
- f. How far the proposed activities are ready to proceed.
- g. The criteria used to assess the outcomes.
- h. If the Bid is to cover ongoing costs, what happens when the Bid funding stops.

Evidence of expenditure will be required. If the Parish Council is not satisfied that the money has been used properly it may ask for a refund.

The Parish Council would like to hear about all proposals or ideas for the future and these may be discussed informally with the Council but for bids to progress they will normally need to be significantly developed.

It will be important to demonstrate as far as possible that there is public support for the proposal, and consultation within the community may be appropriate before progressing the bid.

There is no set time for making a bid but bids received by the end of October can be considered alongside projects being considered by the Parish Council for inclusion in its programme for the following financial year.

The Parish Council will consider all bids received against the priorities for the village and the strength of proposals for delivering the bid. It will also take into account the relative benefits of bids in meeting priorities when competing for limited funds, and also equity between the benefits to different parts of the village and different sections of the community.

Approved by Liss Parish Council on 16th May 2022