

## **Dogmersfield Parish Council Worthy Cause Support Policy**

The following policies provide a framework for the consideration of individual requests for support of a worthy cause:

### **1) Worthiness**

Worthiness can only be a subjective judgement and consequently it will not be possible to establish clearly defined criteria with thresholds.

An event or proposal must be open to all Parish residents and satisfy the Section 137 requirements in that it must be in the interests of, and will bring direct benefit to, the Parish or any part of it, or all or some of its residents.

### **2) Viability**

Events and proposals are likely to fall within one of the following categories:

- (a) a new initiative or event requiring help to 'get off the ground'
- (b) a well-established event which is not or is no longer financially viable requiring support to enable it to continue
- (c) a well-established or new event that should be self-sustaining without support

Unless there are extra special circumstances Council-funded support should be limited to categories (a) and (b), and all support requests should justify why the event or proposal comes within categories (a) and (b).

### **3) Limitations**

Recognising that funding made available under Section 137 is limited to a cost per elector, Council-funded support should also be based on a contribution per elector or household. In this respect the Council should use a rounded figure of 120 households. Hence for example £1 per household would represent a support offer of £120.

Any financial support provided should be commensurate with the direct benefit accruing.

The legacy of legal limitations regarding the provision of assistance to the church must be respected.