

REPORT PC26.027 Grant Application March 2026

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1. REPORT SUMMARY

A report to councillors regarding grant applications received in February 2026.

2. BACKGROUND

The Parish Councils grant policy invites applications from charities, clubs and community groups to benefit the residents of the parish.

3. SUMMARY

One application received, attached Annex One Old Sarum and Longhedge Community Centre, was circulated to councillors at the start of March to consider if further information was required. One question was received requesting further details of the responsibilities of the Centre Manager in relation to their 20 hours.

4. RECOMMENDATION

That the council considers a grant of £15,000 to Old Sarum and Longhedge Community Centre towards funding the salary of the Centre Manager under the powers granted by the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions Act) 1976, s.19. [Power to provide buildings for use of clubs having athletic, social or educational objectives – inc. staff].

ANNEX ONE



Laverstock & Ford Parish Council

incorporating Bishopdown Farm, Ford, Hampton Park, Laverstock, Longhedge, Old Sarum, River Down Park and parts of Milford

Application for Grant for Voluntary Organisations Local Government Act 1972, Section 137

Please be advised that all applicants are invited to attend and address the Laverstock and Ford Parish Council Meeting deciding your application. Although this is not compulsory it is seen to be beneficial especially for grant applications over £500.

1	Name of Organisation and date (the name of your club, charity etc. plus date of application)
	Old Sarum & Longhedge Community Centre (OSLHCC)
2	Amount of Grant aid being requested (how much money are you asking for?)
	£15,000
3	Tell us about the project or activity you are applying for financial support for (this space is for a summary, you can also include further detail and supporting documents with this application).

	<p>As a contribution towards the cost of employing a manager for the Centre</p>
<p>LAVERTOCK & FORD PARISH COUNCIL GRANT APPLICATION page 1 of 5</p>	

<p>4</p>	<p>Please explain how your project or activity supports the Laverstock and Ford Parish Council's Parish Plan (available to view at www.laverstockford-pc.gov.uk)</p>
	<p>OSLHCC has a key role to play in the Parish Council's objective of providing facilities for local people.</p> <p>The Centre provides a space for a wide range of activities, Examples are: The Pantry, sport & exercise classes including yoga and martial arts, youth groups including a youth theatre, Scouts and a youth club, healthcare services, the WI and many more. It is developing into a Community Hub for the area.</p> <p>The space is also available for private hire for parties.</p>

5	Please tell us how your project or activity meets the criteria set out in the Laverstock and Ford Parish Council's grant policy (available to view at www.laverstockford-pc.gov.uk)
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	<p>The Centre is at the heart of the Old Sarum and Longhedge Community.</p> <p>We note that grants cannot be made retrospectively – please note that Nina Cope has been appointed to the role of manager on a short-term contract. The Centre can afford to keep her on for about 3 months without needing further financial support but we are looking to make the role permanent.</p> <p>Is this the best deal available? – Nina Cope brings years of experience of managing all aspects of the Community Centre. As she approached us about the job at a time when we were needing to make a new appointment, we were delighted to have her back in post.</p> <p>The trustees are running the Centre under a lease of the building from LFPC. It is important to both parties that the Centre is a success in terms of usage. It also needs a regular maintenance schedule. Both these aspects of the job will be combined in the role of centre manager.</p> <p>Accounts at 31,3,26 will be available at the LFPC meeting. These will show no free reserves with a bank balance only sufficient to continue to safely operate the Centre.</p>
LAVERSTOCK & FORD PARISH COUNCIL GRANT APPLICATION page 2 of 5	

5	Approximately how many people who will benefit from your project or activity are residents of Laverstock and Ford Parish?
	The majority. It is a rule of membership of the Pantry, for example, that you have a local postcode
7	What will be the TOTAL cost of your project/activity (not just the money you are applying for in this application but the overall cost of the project)
	We have employed Nina for [REDACTED]. With on-costs I anticipate this to be annual cost of approximately [REDACTED]

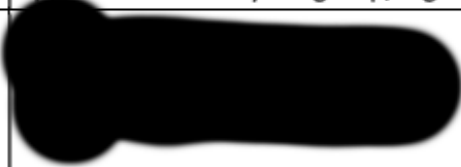
8	Have you applied for grant/s for this project or activity from any other source? (Please give details and tell us the dates of when these monies will be awarded)
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	<p>The trustees are working towards a strategy of rebranding the Centre as a Community Hub. We believe this may open up new funding streams. To date funding towards salary costs has been hard to find but this new approach may work. This is something we will be working on with Nina and she will lead the effort to find new sources of funding. At this point, though, we do not have any such funding in place.</p>
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9	If the TOTAL cost of your project/activity is more than the grant being applied for how will you fund the remaining costs?
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	<p>Nina is on a short term contract. If no funding is secured we will have to substantially cut her hours or, even not renew her contract at all.</p>
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10	Name and Address of your Organisation/Charity/Club etc. (as detailed on the bank account that any funds awarded will be paid to. Please include your Charity Registration number if you are applying as a Charity)
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	Charity 1161414 Old Sarum & Longhedge Community Centre, Pheasant Drive, Old Sarum
11	Name and contact details of primary contact (the person who has responsibility for making this application within your group/organisation)
	
12	What is your role within the organisation? (group/club/charity etc.)
	Treasurer and trustee
13	Does your Organisation/Charity/Club etc. have a bank account?
	Yes