

WINSFORD TOWN COUNCIL -19 OCTOBER 2026 GRANT APPLICATION – OVER ALLOTMENTS ASSOCIATION

PURPOSE

To consider a grant application from the **Over Allotments Association** for improvements to its growing facilities. The application requests **£2,500** towards a project costing **£3,250**.

BACKGROUND

The Association seeks funding for:

- Replacement of an existing polytunnel cover
- Purchase of an additional polytunnel to expand hanging basket production
- Installation of shading to existing polytunnels.

The Association previously received Town Council grant funding towards solar panels and electrification of its communal building.

COMMUNITY BENEFIT

The Association advises that the project will:

- Increase capacity for growing flowers, plants and produce;
- Support affordable hanging basket sales to residents;
- Provide opportunities for schools and community groups;
- Support adults with special educational needs from Meadowbank Lodge and St John's Church;
- Help maintain and enhance the town's floral displays.

POLICY ASSESSMENT

The project supports several objectives within the Council's Grants Policy, including:

- Community participation and inclusion;
- Health and wellbeing;
- Environmental improvement;
- Partnership working and community benefit.

However, Members should note that:

- The policy limits grants to **75% of total project costs**.
- The maximum award permitted under the policy would be **£2,437.50**.
- The application requests **£2,500**, equivalent to **76.9%** of project costs.
- No specific match funding has been identified within the application.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Description	Amount
Total Project Cost	£3,250.00
Grant Requested	£2,500.00
Maximum Grant Under Policy	£2,437.50

CONCLUSION

The application demonstrates clear community, environmental and educational benefits and aligns with many of the Council's grant objectives. However, the request

exceeds the normal maximum funding percentage permitted by the Grants Policy and no match funding has been identified.

RECOMMENDATION

Members are asked to determine one of the following options:

Option A

Approve a grant of **£2,437.50**, being the maximum allowable under the Grants Policy, subject to compliance with the Council's standard grant conditions.

Option B

Defer the application pending clarification of project financing and match funding arrangements.

Option C

Refuse the application on the grounds that it does not currently comply with the financial requirements of the Grants Policy.

Option D

Approve the application as submitted and award a grant of **£2,500**.