

Agenda Item: 18	Council: Full Council /Extraordinary etc Date of Meeting: 17th June 2026
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OAKHAM TOWN COUNCIL

Report Authors: Cllr Martin Brookes	Title: Grant Application
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Subject Grant Application – The RAF in Rutland Memorial Bench Initiative

1. Purpose of the Report

To consider a grant application for **£500** from "The RAF in Rutland Memorial Bench Initiative" toward the procurement and installation of a commemorative RAF bench in central Oakham.

2. Recommendations

That Council:

1. **Consider and approve/reject** the grant application of £500 from the FY 2026–2027 Grants Budget.
2. **Apply a condition** to any approved funding requiring the applicants to secure formal siting and groundwork approvals from the relevant local authorities prior to the release of funds.
3. **Determine** whether Oakham Town Council will adopt the bench as a civic asset for future maintenance upon successful installation, or if maintenance remains the responsibility of the applicant group.

3. Key Information

- **Applicant:** Mr. Ian Reynolds DL & Mr. Barry Swallow.
- **Total Project Cost:** £2,200 (Core RAF Bench project).
- **Amount Requested:** £500.
- **Community Benefit:** Enhances the civic space, provides a dedicated point of reflection for Oakham's high veteran demographic, and commemorates Rutland's historic aviation ties.

4. Financial Implications

The £500 grant would be drawn from the Council’s designated community grants budget for the financial year 2026–2027.

5. Legal & Policy Framework

The Council has the power to award grants to local community initiatives under the Local Government Act 1972 (s.137) where the expenditure is deemed to bring direct benefit to the council's area or its inhabitants.

Report/Proposal Prepared By: Cllr Martin Brookes (Chairman)

Date: May 30, 2026

COUNCIL RESOLVES TO

4. **Consider and approve/reject** the grant application of £500 from the FY 2026–2027 Grants Budget.
5. **Apply a condition** to any approved funding requiring the applicants to secure formal siting and groundwork approvals from the relevant local authorities prior to the release of funds.
6. **Determine whether Oakham Town Council will adopt the bench as a civic asset for future maintenance upon successful installation, or if maintenance remains the responsibility of the applicant group.**