

## **Findon Parish Council DRAFT - Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Policy**

### **1. Purpose of the Policy**

This policy sets out how Findon Parish Council (FPC) identifies, assesses, prioritises, and allocates Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) funds.

It ensures that all decisions are transparent, evidence-based, and aligned with the needs and priorities of the village.

*CIL is collected by the South Downs National Park Authority (SDNPA) and distributed to support infrastructure that benefits local communities.*

*FPC receives a proportion of CIL directly (allocated) and may also apply to SDNPA for larger Strategic CIL awards.*

### **2. What CIL Can Support**

CIL may be used for infrastructure that provides clear public benefit, including:

- Community buildings and shared spaces
- Heritage assets and conservation projects
- Recreation, sport, and wellbeing facilities
- Public realm improvements
- Accessibility improvements
- Sustainable transport and active travel
- Biodiversity and landscape projects
- Equipment or infrastructure that supports community resilience

CIL cannot be used for routine maintenance, staffing costs, or projects without demonstrable public benefit.

### **3. SDNPA Assessment Criteria**

When applying for SDNPA CIL funding, projects must demonstrate:

- Strategic Fit – alignment with SDNPA priorities, the Findon Neighbourhood Plan, and local evidence of need
- Community Benefit – clear, measurable outcomes for residents
- Deliverability – realistic planning, permissions, costings, and timescales

- Value for Money – proportionate costs and sustainable long-term impact
- Community Support – evidence of engagement, consultation, or partnership
- Sustainability – long-term viability and responsible stewardship

## **PROPOSAL**

### **4. Findon Parish Council Annual CIL Cycle (Call for Projects)**

FPC follows a *proactive* annual cycle to ensure projects are well-developed before SDNPA's March submission window.

#### **August**

- Annual strategic review of village needs
- Call for ideas from councillors, residents, and partners
- Review of Neighbourhood Plan priorities

#### **September – December**

- Feasibility work
- Early design and cost exploration
- Evidence gathering (usage data, surveys, photos, risk assessments, heritage notes)
- Engagement with partners (SDNPA, WSCC, community groups, landowners)

#### **January**

- Shortlisting of viable projects
- Identification of match funding if required

#### **February**

- Drafting Expressions of Interest or full applications
- Final checks on permissions, quotes, and deliverability

#### **March**

- Council approval of submissions
- Submission to SDNPA

#### **March / April**

- Review of Parish CIL receipts

- Allocation decisions for parish-level CIL spending

## **5. Use of Parish CIL Receipts**

FPC may allocate its own CIL receipts to:

- Small and medium-scale infrastructure projects
- Match funding for SDNPA/Heritage Fund bids
- Urgent infrastructure needs supported by evidence
- Heritage, recreation, and wellbeing improvements
- Accessibility and safety enhancements

**All spending must be:**

- **Evidence-based and Community backed**
- **Transparent**
- **Published annually in the Parish CIL Report**
- **Compliant with CIL Regulations**

## **6. Community Engagement**

FPC is committed to involving the community in identifying infrastructure needs and this should be a rolling engagement to keep on top of ever-changing social/community needs.

*Engagement may include:*

- Public meetings
- Surveys
- Consultation events
- Collaboration with local groups, schools, and organisations
- Targeted engagement with under-represented groups

*Community input informs the annual review and helps shape project priorities.*

## **7. Monitoring and Reporting**

FPC will:

- Publish an Annual CIL Report
- Monitor project delivery and outcomes

For consideration by Parish  
Council on 14 May 2026

- Ensure funds are spent within the required timeframe
- Maintain clear audit trails for all decisions

### **8. Review of Policy**

This policy will be reviewed every two years or sooner if required by changes in legislation or SDNPA guidance.