

Meeting of:	Welsh Church Act Estate Committee
Date of Meeting:	Monday, 28 September 2020
Relevant Scrutiny Committee:	Corporate Performance and Resources
Report Title:	Applications for Financial Assistance 2020/21
Purpose of Report:	To consider applications for financial assistance funded from the Welsh Church Act Estate and for Trustees to consider an amendment requested to a previous award
Report Owner:	Report of the Managing Director
Responsible Officer:	Carys Lord Head of Finance/ Section 151 officer
Elected Member and Officer Consultation:	Not applicable
Policy Framework:	Not applicable
Executive Summary:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A budget of £46,500 has been set for issuing grants during 2020/21. • Appendix A to the report recommends the approval of grants to the value of £24,804.

Recommendations

1. That Committee considers and approves the applications for grant assistance as set out in Appendix A of this report.
2. That Committee considers and approves the proposal to inform outstanding 2017/18 applicants that's they must now reapply for Welsh Church Act funding due to the time period that has lapsed.

Reasons for Recommendations

1. In furtherance of the objectives of the Trust.
2. To ensure the limited Welsh Church Act funding is utilised by organisations efficiently.

1. Background

- 1.1 The Welsh Church Act Estate Committee has delegated authority to manage the trust's affairs in accordance with "The Scheme" the Welsh Church Act Estate as vested in the Council.
- 1.2 The purposes for which the Welsh Church Act fund may make grants is set out in summary at Appendix B to this report.
- 1.3 The applications received are set out in Appendix A to this report.

2. Key Issues for Consideration

- 2.1 Appendix A to this report sets out a summary of the applications to be considered.
- 2.2 Appendix C to this report sets out the fund's revenue estimates for the current financial year.

3. How do proposals evidence the Five Ways of Working and contribute to our Well-being Objectives?

- 3.1 The Trusts actions need to comply with Charity Law and its decisions are independent of the Councils obligations under the Well-Being of Future Generations Act.

4. Resources and Legal Considerations

Financial

- 4.1 The sum of £46,500 has been provided for grants in the Trust's revenue estimates for 2020/21. It is recommended that an allocation of £24,804 is made for applications for grant assistance as set out at Appendix A to this report which will leave a remaining balance of £21,696 to be allocated during 2020/21.
- 4.2 At its meeting on 8th January 2018 Welsh Church Act Committee agreed to progress the recommended options for the lane to the rear of Church Road Cadoxton at an estimated cost of £30,000. This cost will need to be funded from reserves and is reflected in the financial estimates shown in Appendix C.
- 4.3 This draw down of £30,000 from reserves will leave an estimated reserve balance of £82,000 at 31st March 2021.
- 4.4 We have two grant awards outstanding from 2017/18 that have been unable to proceed with their schemes. Given, the timeframe that has elapsed and the limited resources available, we recommend that we now contact these organisations to advise that they will be required to reapply for Welsh Church Act funding if they still require the funding. This will release an additional £10k to be allocated during 2020/21 which is reflected in the grant award balance of £46,500. The awards are set out below.

The Rectorial benefice of Barry - St Cadocs Parish Church	Installation of Toilet and Repair of Pathways (awarded 2017/18)	£5,000
Tabernacle Baptist Church	Roof Repair Phase 1 (awarded 2017/18)	£5,000

Employment

- 4.5 There are no direct employment implications arising from this report.

Legal (Including Equalities)

- 4.6 There are no direct legal implications arising from this report.

5. Background Papers

ITEM NO	NAME OF ORGANISATION (Date of original application)	SPECIFIC PURPOSE FOR WHICH GRANT REQUESTED	CLASSIFICATION OF CLAIM	AMOUNT REQUESTED	GRANT RECOMMENDED	COMMENTS
	New Applications					
1	Holy Family Catholic Church / Archdiocese of Cardiff (Recommended by Cardiff). Located in Fairwater Cardiff	The venue is an important community space and the project relates to the supply and fitting of a new heating system. • 3 x energy-efficient boilers • Weather compensating control system • Water circulating pump • Flushing out the existing system to remove sediment • 1 x environmental audit undertaken to reduce our energy consumption	Places of Worship and Burial Grounds	£5,000.00	£2,500.00	Quote provided for 3 different new heating systems. Cheapest option chosen at a cost of £21,600. Will self fund remaining balance of project cost. Bank Statement included in application showing available funds of £80k. Copy of constitution also provided. Award reflects account balances and limited funding available.
2	Tabernacle Baptist Church (Recommended by Cardiff) The Hayes Cardiff	The building has totally inappropriate access facilities for anyone with restricted mobility including wheelchair users. The existing toilet facility is also outdated and in need of refurbishment to meet the access requirement for people with such problems. The project will address this through the installation of a ramp and provision of disabled toilet facilities.	Places of Worship and Burial Grounds	£5,000.00	£5,000.00	Total Project Cost £157k. Financed by own funds £32k. Other confirmed income sources £66k and unconfirmed grant applications £54k. Bank statement provided showing a credit balance of £51k. Two very detailed schedule of works provided with quotes along with a copy of the organisations constitution. Award in principal pending outcome of the grant applications.
3	St James Church Wick, part of the rectorial benefice of the Glamorgan Heritage Coast, registered charity no 1131490.	Project to establish a healthy & safe environment addressing the problem of damp and safety hazards at the church. Contract 1, Repoint external walls of chancel, repairs to church tower, remove trip hazards around font area, Contract 2, reposition altar, repairs to stonework around chancel window.	Places of Worship and Burial Grounds	£5,000.00	£5,000.00	Total project cost £41,441. Contract 1- Repointing chancel walls, repair crack to church tower, cast new lower base to font and elevate inclusive of estimated professional fees £34,931.00. Contract 2 - Repairs to south chancel window & altar and plaster repairs £6,510. Funded by S106 money £10,000 (Confirmed) All Churches Trust grant £1,500 (confirmed) and James Pantyfedwen Foundation £1,500 (offer letter on completion of work), Welsh Church Act Trust grant £5,000 and balance £23,441 to be self funded. Survey, Schedule of Works & Contractor's quotation provided. Lloyds Bank statement shows credit balance of £17,443.30 as at 8th June 2021. Links provided for constitution & statutory accounts. Award to be made in principal pending confirmation that scheme can proceed and balance of £5,997.70 has been raised.
4	Barry Romilly Bowling Club, Barry Company Limited by Guarantee (not for profit)	Promotion of club to attract new younger members, to introduce a more dynamic vibe, to inject new ideas improve the diversity of the club membership which will put the long term prospects of the club on a sound footing.	Other	£1,500.00	£0.00	£900 to cover membership (£100 per member), £600 for bowling equipment. Bank statements provided current A/c £19k business savings £30k. Latest accounts 30/09/2019 provided (surplus £25k) along with the clubs constitution and equal opportunities policy. No other WCA grants applied for previous awards from Strong Communities Grant Fund. No award recommended due to the nature of the request in the context of the recent Strong Communities Award and account balances in the context of reduced funding available in 2020/21.
5	Active Together, Covid 19 Recovery - Multiple Sclerosis Cymru Project will be implemented across Cardiff and the Vale.	Project to provide support to overcome the challenges Covid 19 has created for people with Multiple Sclerosis across Cardiff and the Vale. Provide data to the Welsh Government and other stakeholders through research.	Other	£5,000.00	£2,500.00	Total Project Cost £37,836 mainly staffing costs £4,542 a month for 8 months. Funded by grant from the Community Foundation Wales £14,674 (received) and applications to Ashley Family Foundation £10,000 and Wales & West Utilities Safe & Warm Fund £5,000 (outcome as yet unknown). Equal Opportunities And Annual Accounts included. Bank Statement £121,762 as at 30/06/20. Award reduced to reflect account balances in the context of reduced funding available in 2020/21.
6	Salem Baptist Church, Barry	Provision of bi-parting automatic doors and purchase of new stackable chairs to provide disability access throughout the church.	Places of Worship and Burial Grounds	£5,000.00	£2,500.00	This is Phase 2 of the project at a cost of £31,536.08 and will be self funded. Phase 1 already completed at a cost of £103k which was self funded following the sale of the main building. Bank current account balance £23k and investment account £84k as at 31/12/19. 2 quotes provided, along with the constitution and policy on equal opportunities. Award reduced to reflect account balances in the context of reduced funding available in 2020/21.
7	Vale of Glamorgan Brass Band	The band is fortunate to have its own band room, which is in fact 2 old squash courts. The current toilet facilities form part of the old changing rooms. There is 1 x Gents toilet with a cold-water sink and 1 x Ladies toilet with no hand washing facilities. They need to be upgraded on the grounds of health and safety, environmental efficiency and, funding permitting, to provide disabled facilities.	Other	£3,000 or £5,000	£2,304.00	Two options. Option 1 Upgrade 1 Toilet for Disabled Access Total cost £3,072. Option 2 complete option 1 and upgrade 2nd toilet and replace windows. Total cost £5,018. £500 received from Welsh Water Community Fund and £250 from reserves been approved. Proposed labour in kind (for option 2 only) £500.00. Bank Statement included £856 current a/c £1,516 business account. 2018 Accounts, confirmation of WW Community Fund grant, equal opportunities policy and constitution present. Detailed costings for both options included. Proposed award based on 75% of option 1.
8	Ty Hafan Childrens Hospice (Referred by Strong Communities Grant Scheme)	20th Anniversary Refurbishment - Phase 2 - The Transition Suite. Phase two will begin in 2020 and is the refurbishment of additional areas of the hospice including the teenager area (known as the Den, and will be renamed moving forward as the 'Transition Suite'), the children's bathroom's/toilet areas on the ground floor Care wing, and a family bathroom directly linked to our family room. The project will include the refurbishment of an essential	Other	£5,000.00	£5,000.00	Application referred from Strong Communities as does not meet award criteria. The project involves refurbishment of the teenager area (known as the Den, which will be renamed moving forward as the 'Transition Suite'), the children's bathroom's/toilet areas on the ground floor Care wing, and a family bathroom directly linked to our family room. Total project cost £92,497. Application for a Stronger Communities Grant has been rejected for £19,672, and applications for grant assistance are currently being submitted to the Cayo Foundation £11,475, the April Trust £21,311 and the Asda Foundation £25,000. Remaining balance reliant on fund raising. Award to be made in principal pending confirmation that scheme can proceed
Total Requested / Recommended				£31,500.00	£24,804.00	

VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL

WELSH CHURCH ACT FUND

WELSH CHURCH ACT ESTATE COMMITTEE

The Charitable purposes for which the fund may be applied.

The Welsh Church Act Estate Committee has delegated authority to manage in accordance with “The Scheme” the Welsh Church Act Estate as vested in the Council.

Set out below is a **summary only** of the purposes for which the Fund may be applied:

- (i) **Educational** - Provision of benefits not readily available from other sources, and recreation, social and physical training facilities, at educational establishments, not normally provided by the LEA.
- (ii) **Relief in sickness** - Assistance to persons who are sick, convalescent, disabled, handicapped or infirm, where such assistance is not readily available from other sources.
- (iii) **Relief in need** - Assistance generally or to individuals in need, hardship or distress.
- (iv) **Libraries, museums, art galleries etc.** – Advancing the appreciation of Welsh arts and literature in general.
- (v) **Social and recreational facilities in general.**
- (vi) **Protection of historic buildings etc.** – Promotion of interest in Welsh architecture, history and science in general, for the benefit of Welsh people.
- (vii) **Medical and social research, treatment in general etc.**- Preservation and protection of the physical and mental health of society in general. Provision of nurseries, convalescent homes and hostels
- (viii) **Probation etc.** - Assistance to persons on probation or the families thereof.
- (ix) **Blind persons** - Provision of welfare including accommodation.
- (x) **Aged persons** - Provision of accommodation.
- (xi) **Places of worship and burial grounds** – Restoration and maintenance.
- (xii) **Emergencies or disasters** - Directly assisting persons in need.
- (xiii) **Other charitable purposes** – Contributions to charitable organisations not inconsistent with the purposes of the trust.

The above is a précis only of the wide ranging purposes to which the Welsh Church Act Fund may be applied, and in cases of doubt reference should be made to the actual provisions of the scheme document.

WELSH CHURCH ACTS

APPENDIX C

Revenue Estimates 2019/20

	<u>2018/19</u>	<u>2020/21</u>	<u>2020/21</u>
	As per Accounts	to 17/09/2019	Full Year
	Actual	Actual	Estimate
	£	£	£
Income			
Property Rents	15,910	12,617	14,000
Dividends			
Projected Investment Income	34,645	8,704	36,000
Interest - VoG on £100,000	510	0	0
Total Income	51,065	21,321	50,000
Expenditure			
Printing, stationery, advertising general etc	0	0	0
Court and Legal Fees	0	15	15
Valuation and Planning	3,450	0	0
Cost of Sale	0	0	7,500
Other premises costs e.g. Grounds Maintenance	2,500	2,164	4,585
Audit Fees	1,400	0	1,400
2017/18 Grant Funding released as per recommendation 2	0	0	-10,000
Grants	49,367	0	46,500
Total Expenditure	56,717	2,179	50,000
Total (Surplus)/Deficit for the year	5,652		0
Total Contribution (from)/to Reserves	-5,652		0
Adjusted Total	0	-19,142	0
		-19,142	
		0	

Grant funds available:

2020/21 from above

Recommended at Committee 28.09.20

Balance remaining

Total

46,500

-24,804 As shown in Appendix A

21,696

Reserve Analysis

Opening Reserve Balance 31st March 2020

112,000

Projected draw down from reserves for Church Road

-30,000

Projected Reserve Balance 31st March 2021

82,000