

Meeting of:	Welsh Church Act Estate Committee
Date of Meeting:	Monday, 19 June 2023
Relevant Scrutiny Committee:	Corporate Performance and Resources
Report Title:	Applications for Financial Assistance 2023/24 Tranche 1
Purpose of Report:	To consider applications for financial assistance funded from the Welsh Church Act Estate.
Report Owner:	Tom Bowring, Director of Corporate Resources
Responsible Officer:	Matt Bowmer Head of Finance/ Section 151 Officer
Elected Member and Officer Consultation:	Not applicable
Policy Framework:	Not applicable
<p>Executive Summary:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A budget of £55,700 has been set for issuing grants during 2023/24. • An unallocated budget amount of £12,120 carried over from 2022/23 is also available for allocation during 2023/24. • The total grants budget for 2023/24 is £67,820. • Grants set out in Appendix A total £10,000. 	

Recommendation

1. That Committee considers and approves the applications for grant assistance as set out in Appendix A of this report

Reason for Recommendation

1. In furtherance of the objectives of the Trust

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 application to be considered.
- 2.2 The revenue outturn for 2022/23 and projections for 2023/24 are included in Appendix C and make provision for grant allocations of £67,820 in 2023/24.

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. Climate Change and Nature Implications

- 4.1** All applications shall be considered for climate and nature implications prior to recommendation. Consideration will be made of inclusion of a question in the application form in future to allow applicants to demonstrate consideration of the impact of the scheme.

5. Resources and Legal Considerations

Financial

- 5.1** The sum of £55,700 has been provided for grants in the Trust's revenue estimates for 2023/24. A further amount of £12,120 carried forward from 2022/23 is also available for allocation during 2023/24 giving a total sum of £67,820 available for grant awards during the year.
- 5.2** It is recommended that an allocation of £10,000 made for applications for grant assistance as set out at Appendix A to this report, which will leave a remaining balance of £57,820 to be allocated during the remainder of 2023/24.

Employment

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

Legal (Including Equalities)

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

6. Background Papers

None

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE 2023-2024

WELSH CHURCH ACTS

Tranche 1

Committee Date 19TH JUNE 2023

APPENDIX A

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					
	All RECOMMENDED BY THE Vale of Glamorgan Council					
1	Penarth Methodist Church	Community Centre Repair & Access Improvements- replace leaky flat roof to day centre and to improve access to the centre for wheelchair, pram and pushchair users by automating 4 existing internal doors. Project anticipated to start on 1st August 2023.	Places of Worship and Burial Grounds	£4,000.00	£4,000.00	Total project cost £38,203. Funded by Vale of Glamorgan Methodist Circuit £10,000 (approved) Wales Methodist Synod £5,000 (approved), Listed Places of Worship VAT recovery fund £6,274, Viridor - Trident Park £2,500 (application submitted) James Pantefeddwyn Foundation (application submitted), Reserves £2,500 Fund Raising £7,100 of which £4,350 has been raised so far. Accounts and bank statement included in application, together with 2 quotes, correspondence from other organisations who are awarding funds, the church's constitution and equal opportunities policy.
2	Forget-Me-Not- Chorus (FMNC), Registered Charity No 1151812	FMNC Community Taster Sessions - Funding is sought to run an engagement project in the Vale of Glamorgan to raise awareness of the organisations Cardiff South & Vale Community Choir through 9 taster sessions, 6 at the Young Onset Dementia Unit, Barry Hospital 3 with Memory Cafes meeting in Barry, Sully, and Penarth.	Other	£1,203.72	£1,000.00	Total Project Cost £1,553.72 which is the salary costs for the project manager, the freelance music leader and the freelance pianist for the 9 sessions. The Charity aims to provide the 25% match funding (£350) through "The Big Give Christmas Challenge" which is currently in progress. Bank Statement, Annual Report & Accounts, Articles of Association and Equal Opportunity's Policy all included in application.
3	Croes Y Parc Chapel Peterston Super Ely	Repair to Boundary Wall -The priority of this application is the wall retaining church burial ground which is in a state of distress and needs urgent repair. Other projects including the installation of underfloor heating, new disabled toilet facilities and new seating.	Places of Worship and Burial Grounds	£5,000.00	£5,000.00	Project Cost for Church Wall Repair £84,781 , other Church Revolutions total £144,050.80. Applications to the HLF, National Churches Trust & Benefact Trust (not evidenced) for funding totalling £160,000. £35,000 self funding is in place which will cover the 25% match funding for the church wall repair project. One quote for all works provided, 5 builders were tendered but only one responded. Draft chapel accounts, building fund account and statement, constitution and church handbook dealing with equal opportunities policy also included. Award in Principle until further clarification of funding is received.
4						
5						
6						
		Total Requested / Recommended		£10,203.72	£10,000.00	

WELSH CHURCH ACT FUND

The Charitable purposes for which the fund may be applied.

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.

WELSH CHURCH ACTS

APPENDIX C

Revenue Estimates 2023/24

	<u>2022/23</u>	<u>2023/24</u>	<u>2023/24</u>
	As per Accounts	to 30/05/2022	Full Year
	Actual	Actual	Estimate
	£	£	£
Income			
Property Rents (73600)	11,305	0	10,000
Lease Income	7,625	7,625	7,625
Dividends			
Projected Investment Income	36,073	0	45,000
Interest - VoG on £100,000	2,238	0	1,100
Total Income	57,241	7,625	63,725
Expenditure			
Printing, stationery, advertising general etc	0	0	0
Training Expenses	175	0	200
Court and Legal Fees	585	0	2,000
Valuation and Planning	350	0	1,315
Provision for Doubtful debts	7	0	10
Other premises costs e.g. Grounds Maintenance	1,955	0	2,500
Audit Fees	1,617	0	2,000
Grants	39,840	5,000	67,820
Total Expenditure	44,529	5,000	75,845
Total (Surplus)/Deficit for the year	-12,712	-2,625	12,120
Carried forward from Prev Grant allocation		-12,120	-12,120
Total Contribution (from)/to Reserves	12,712	0	0
Adjusted Total	0	-14,745	0

Grant funds available:	Total
Grant Allocation 2022/23	45,250
Awarded at Committee 20/06/2022	-24,840
Awarded at Committee 10/10/2022	-10,000
St Dochdwy, Penarth (Claim withdrawn - Private Funding)	1,710
Balance remaining to be bwd into 2023/24	12,120

Grant funds available:	Total
Grant Allocation 2023/24	67,820
Recommended	-10,000 As shown in Appendix A
Balance remaining to allocate in year	57,820