



## ***CABINET (FINANCE) SUB COMMITTEE***

***Immediately Following Cabinet on  
WEDNESDAY, 5 FEBRUARY 2020***

***COUNCIL CHAMBER - PORT TALBOT CIVIC CENTRE***

### **PART 1**

1. Appointment of Chairperson
2. Declarations of Interest
3. Miscellaneous Grant Fund Applications (*Pages 3 - 8*)
4. Neath Port Talbot Welsh Church Act Trust Fund (*Pages 9 - 14*)
5. Urgent Items  
Any urgent items (whether public or exempt), at the discretion of the Chairperson pursuant to Statutory Instrument 2001 No 2290 (as amended)
6. Access to Meetings  
That pursuant to Regulation 4 (3) and (5) of Statutory Instrument 2001 No. 2290, the public be excluded for the following item of business which involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 14 or Part 4 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972.

### **PART 2**

7. Housing Benefits Write Offs (*Pages 15 - 26*)

**S.Phillips**  
**Chief Executive**

**Civic Centre**  
**Port Talbot**

**Thursday 30 January, 2020**

**Cabinet Board Members:**

**Councillors:** C.Clement-Williams and D.Jones

**Notes:**

- (1) *If any Cabinet Board Member is unable to attend, any other Cabinet Member may substitute as a voting Member on the Committee. Members are asked to make these arrangements direct and then to advise Democratic Services staff.*
- (2) *The views of the earlier Scrutiny Committee are to be taken into account in arriving at decisions (pre decision scrutiny process). The Chairperson and Vice Chairperson of the relevant Scrutiny Committee will be invited to be present at this meeting.*



Cyngor Castell-nedd Port Talbot  
Neath Port Talbot Council

## **NEATH PORT TALBOT COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL**

### **CABINET (FINANCE) SUB COMMITTEE**

**5 FEBRUARY 2020**

### **REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF FINANCE & CORPORATE SERVICES – H.JENKINS**

#### **Matters for Decision**

**Wards Affected: Godre'rgraig, Glyncorrwg**

#### **Miscellaneous Grant Fund Applications**

#### **Purpose of the Report:**

1. To seek Member approval in relation to grant applications received at Appendix 1 attached.

#### **Background and Financial Impacts**

2. The Council has a Miscellaneous Grants Scheme to support individual applications for grants in line with the criteria set out below:-

## **Existing Policy Statement**

- a) Each application will be considered on its merits.
- b) The Committee will only approve applications for financial assistance from voluntary or charitable organisations which are manifestly committed to voluntary endeavours of a local nature. This will not preclude the consideration of applications where the disposal of funds is outside the area but still provides significant benefits for the people from the Neath Port Talbot area.
- c) No applications will be considered from religious bodies except relating to church halls and other premises where there is significant community use of the property for non-religious activities.
- d) No applications will be considered from other public funded bodies such as community councils, hospital trusts, etc. or where the benefit may be in lieu of their contributions such as appeals for hospital equipment.
- e) Applications from individuals may be considered where both the person and the community derive a benefit.
- f) No grants will be made to any individual or organisation whose prime purpose is to distribute their funds to other charitable bodies.

## **Miscellaneous Grant funding available**

- 3. Members have approved a budget of £2,650 for miscellaneous grants for 2019/20

## **Integrated Impact Assessment**

- 4. There are no impacts in respect of the obligations to the Council under the Equality Act 2010, the Welsh Language Standards (No 1) Regulations 2015, the Environment (Wales) Act 2016 and support via this grant provides generally a positive impact in

respect of the Wellbeing and Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015.

### **Valleys Communities Impacts**

5. Applications for grant are available to voluntary and charitable organisations across the county borough.

### **Workforce Impacts**

6. There are no workforce impacts.

### **Legal Impacts**

7. Grants are provided in line with the approved scheme criteria.

### **Risk Management Impacts**

8. All grant applications are considered on their own merit and in line with the approved scheme criteria.

### **Consultation**

9. There is no requirement for external consultation on this item.
10. It is recommended that Members approve the applications set out in Appendix 1 to this report.

## **Reason for Proposed Decision**

11. To decide on the amount of financial support in respect of the grant applications received.

## **Implementation of Decision**

12. The decision is proposed for implementation after the three day call in period.

## **Appendices**

13. Appendix 1 – Schedule of grant application.

## **List of Background Papers**

14. Grant Applications

## **Officer Contact**

Mr Hywel Jenkins – Director of Finance and Corporate Services

Tel. No: 01639 763251

email: [h.jenkins@npt.gov.uk](mailto:h.jenkins@npt.gov.uk)

**Schedule of Grant Application**

<b>Applicant</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Amount Request/Cost of "Project"</b>	<b>Previous Support</b>	<b>Comments</b>
Ystalyfera Community Council	Grant assistance towards the rent amount of lease of Godre'rgraig Park Graig Road	Grant towards the increased cost of rent of £480 p.a. due from 22 <sup>nd</sup> April 2020	PRB 20.09.17 grant of £300 pa towards rent of £434.50	Provide grant of £320 p.a. from date of rent increase until next rent review
Noddfa Community Centre, Glyncorrwg	Application for further grant assistance towards rent amount of lease of Noddfa Community Centre, Dunraven Street, Glyncorrwg.	£110 in addition to £2,310 previously awarded towards the increased cost of rent of £2,420 p.a. due from 5th March 2020.	Grant approved December 2019 for £2,310 p.a. for five years from rent review date	Members to consider request for additional grant.

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## NEATH PORT TALBOT COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

### CABINET (FINANCE) SUB COMMITTEE

5 FEBRUARY 2020

### REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF FINANCE & CORPORATE SERVICES – H.JENKINS

#### Matter for Decision

Wards Affected – All

#### NEATH PORT TALBOT WELSH CHURCH ACT TRUST FUND

##### 1. Purpose of Report

To seek Member approval in relation to grant application received at Appendix 1 attached.

##### 2. Background and Financial Impact

The Council as trustee is responsible for managing the Welsh Church Act Trust Fund. Grants are received by application from churches and chapels, charitable organisations and individuals as set out in the criteria below. The Welsh Church Fund has funds available to it in its own right to distribute as part of an approved grant scheme. All claimants must claim their grant within two years of committee approval.

#### Review of Award Criteria

#### Welsh Church Acts Fund Guidelines for Grant Applications

- a) Each application will be considered on its merits.
- b) Grants will only be awarded to charities and voluntary bodies which are based in, or active in, or provide significant benefits to some or all of the residents of the Neath Port Talbot County Borough area.
- c) Grants will only be awarded to individuals in exceptional circumstances.

- d) Grants will not normally exceed £1,000 and in exceptional circumstances £4,000 per applicant and successful applicants will not normally be reconsidered for a further grant within 3 years of the date of approval of the last grant.
- e) Grants will have a time limit for the take up of said grant of two years from the date of approval.
- f) Grants will not normally be awarded where the service could be dealt with out of the annual budget of the Council's service Committees activities or by other public bodies.
- g) Grants will not normally be awarded where they would commit the fund to regular annual payments nor will recurring annual expenses be supported.
- h) Grants will only be made out of the income of the fund, preserving the Fund's capital assets.
- i) Priority will be given to applications which are of significant benefit to the Neath Port Talbot County Borough area.
- j) Grant aid will not normally cover the full cost of a project/proposal and normally will be approved at 25% of actual costs incurred up to the maximum as outlined in condition (d) above. The grant of £4,000 will only be approved where expenditure exceeds £50,000.
- k) Organisations assessed as being able to meet the cost (e.g. by size or nature) are unlikely to receive any grant aid.
- l) Grants towards work of a structural nature will only be considered where
  - there is evidence that a professional assessment has been made of the works
  - the applicant organisation can demonstrate that there is no other impediment to work proceeding at an early date (e.g. planning permission).
- m) In the case of Churches and Chapels grants will only be approved for the repair of the fabric of buildings which are more than 50 years old and of the highest architectural and historic interest. Church halls, however, where available and used

significantly by the public for non-religious purposes will not be subject to these criteria.

- n) No retrospective applications are considered.
- o) The Panel will take into account the Church membership and the normal size of the congregation.
- p) In the case of students undertaking further Education courses, contributions towards the costs of individual instruments or pieces of equipment etc. will be made as follows - 50% of all costs over a threshold of £2,000 up to a maximum grant of £1,000.

### **3. Integrated Impact Assessment**

There is no requirement to undertake an impact assessment.

### **4. Valleys Communities Impacts**

Applications for grant are available to churches and chapels, individuals and charitable organisations across the county borough.

### **5. Workforce Impacts**

There are no workforce impacts.

### **6. Legal Impacts**

Grants are provided in line with the approved scheme criteria.

### **7. Risk Management Impacts**

All grant applications are considered on their own merit and in line with the approved scheme criteria.

### **8. Consultation**

There is no requirement for external consultation on this item.

### **9. Recommendation**

It is recommended that Members approve the application set out in the Appendix to this report.

**10. Reason for Proposed Decision**

To decide on the amount of financial support in respect of the grant application received.

**11. Implementation of Decision**

The decision is proposed for implementation after the three day call in period.

**12. Appendices**

Appendix – schedule of grant application.

**13. List of Background Papers**

Grant Application.

**14. Officer Contact**

Mr Hywel Jenkins – Director of Finance and Corporate Services  
Tel. No: 01639 763251  
email: [h.jenkins@npt.gov.uk](mailto:h.jenkins@npt.gov.uk)

**Appendix**

Applicant	Purpose	Amount Request/Cost of "Project"	Previous Support	Comments
Swansea Canal Society	Application received from Swansea Canal Society for grant assistance towards the associated costs of publishing and printing a publication "The definitive history of the Swansea Canal". Publication projected for November 2020.	The estimated total cost of the publication is £22,796 and the Swansea Canal Society have requested grant assistance of £5,000. Other sources of funding have been obtained to date totalling £12,750.	N/A	

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By virtue of paragraph(s) 14 of Part 4 of Schedule 12A  
of the Local Government Act 1972.

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