

NEATH PORT TALBOT COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

CABINET (FINANCE) SUB COMMITTEE

31 JULY 2019

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

Matter for Decision

Wards Affected – ABERAVON

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

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.

4. Consultation

There is no requirement under the Constitution to consult on this item.

6. Recommendation

It is recommended that Members approve the application set out in Appendix 1 to this report

7. Reason for Proposed Decision

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

8. Implementation of Decision

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

10. List of Background Papers

Grant Application.

11. Officer Contact

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

Appendix 1

Applicant	Purpose	Amount Request/Cost of "Project"	Previous Support	Comments
The Rectorial Benefice of Aberavon – St Mary's Church	To provide grant assistance towards the cost of new heating system and external remedial works to preserve and maintain the fabric of the building.	Total project cost £332,498. Various funding streams have been obtained, bid for or is being sought to assist with paying the cost of these works. £30,000 has been raised by public appeal. A CADW grant must be spent by March 2020.	N/A	It is proposed that if expenditure exceeds £50,000, that a maximum amount of £4,000 is granted or if less than £50,000 25% of actual costs incurred up to the maximum of £1,000.