

GRANTS TO THE VOLUNTARY SECTOR COMMITTEE - 6TH SEPTEMBER 2004

SUBJECT: APPLICATIONS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

REPORT BY: DEPUTY CHIEF EXECUTIVE

1. STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURE

1.1 The Panel's budget for 2004/2005 is £303,365. The following amounts have been allocated to date:-

	£
CAB *	114,410
Discretionary Rate Relief	152,300
Grants awarded by Panel	3,489
Grants determined by Officers in consultation with Chairman and Vice Chairman	14,160
Trophies, footballs etc.	.
Total Expenditure	284,359

* £97,410 in cash and £17,000 in kind, the latter being premises running costs.

Therefore, the balance available for grants to the voluntary sector is £19,006.

The total of amounts requested for applications listed in this report is £ 6,163. In addition there are a number which do not specify amounts.

2. APPLICATIONS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

2.1 The current general criteria for awarding financial assistance are listed below:-

	£
(a) OAP Association with own building	220
(b) OAP Association without own building	110
(c) Junior Sports Club	30 per number of members
(d) Individuals representing Wales at home	Up to 110
(e) Individuals representing Wales abroad	Up to 220
(f) Jazz Bands	55
(g) Choirs	55
(h) Scout/cubs/brownies/guides/boys brigade/crusaders	30 per number of members
(i) St. John Ambulance:-	
Cadets	55 per number of members
Badgers	30 per number of members

All other applications for sponsorship and miscellaneous grants are treated on their merits.

A total of 25 new and deferred applications have been received and are appended below for consideration.

2.2 Christian Lewis Trust

The above is a national charity that provides "crisis breaks" for sick children and their families at one of four locations in Wales and also provides play therapy. The Trust is currently supporting six families in the County Borough. Last year £300 was provided and similar consideration is sought.

2.3 Catholic Deaf Service

The above is a voluntary society, based in Cardiff, which in April 2005 will be hosting the National Conference for deaf people of Great Britain and Ireland. Delegates will fund their own accommodation but other expenses will amount to around £5,000 and financial assistance is requested. No amount has been specified.

2.4 Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal

The Council has recently purchased 50 wreaths from British Legion Sheltered Workshops. The British Legion do not quote a price but state the cost of production and delivery which is £16.50 per wreath. Buyers are asked to make a donation of at least the cost price with any excess going to the Poppy Appeal. Financial regulations only allow the stated cost price to be paid. Therefore the Member's Services Manager has paid £825 and forwarded the request for a donation. No amount has been specified.

2.5 Weston Spirit Wales

The above is a national youth organisation with centres in Cardiff and Merthyr Tydfil, tackling issues of social exclusion amongst 13-25 year olds. Weston Spirit is seeking funding to offer personal development programmes to socially excluded young people in the Caerphilly area. Youth Development Workers hope to deliver two short courses to two separate youth organisations involving 20-25 young people. Total cost would be £1,500.

2.6 Pit Pony Sanctuary, Pontypridd

The above registered charity was established in 1988 and currently has 10 retired ponies. An unspecified grant is sought to help establish a permanent and secure home for the pit ponies and other needy horses from the area.

2.7 Bargoed, Aberbargoed & Gilfach Credit Union

The Union has paid Business Rates in respect of its premises in Aberbargoed. Rate relief is not available to Credit Unions and a grant of £497.20 is requested to cover rates paid. Last year £484 was awarded for the same purpose.

2.8 Caerphilly & District Credit Union

As in 2.2 above the Union has paid Business Rates of £1,966.20 on its premises in Caerphilly and a grant of this amount is sought. Last year £1914 was provided.

2.9 Caerphilly County Borough Family History Society

The Society takes part in numerous exhibitions and provides speakers for Community Groups throughout the County Borough. An unspecified donation is sought to purchase records and equipment. In past years £100 has been awarded.

2.10 Bargoed & District Art Society

The Society's annual exhibition opens on 27th September in Ystrad Mynach. An unspecified grant is requested towards the running costs of the Society. In previous years £100 has been provided.

- 2.11 Bargoed Karate Club**
The Club has 24 adult and 36 junior members. A grant of £1,000 is sought to purchase club tracksuits for competitions. Under the set criteria the Club would receive £180 in respect of it's first application.
- 2.12 Cefn Hengoed Good Companions**
The above is a group of 20 adults who meet weekly. Unspecified assistance is sought with the cost of day trips and speakers. In past years £30 has been provided.
- 2.13 Crosskeys and Pontywaun Carnival & Fete**
A grant of £150 is requested to assist with the cost of running this annual event. Last year £100 was provided in respect of the first application.
- 2.14 Crosskeys Silver Band**
The Band currently has 25 adult and 10 junior members. A grant of £1,500 is requested towards running costs of the Bandroom and paying the Conductor's honorarium. Last year £200 was awarded. The Band is currently in financial difficulty because of the terms of its lease with this Authority.
- 2.15 Cwmcarn Modern Sequence Dance Club**
The above is a group of senior citizens who meet in Cwmcarn Institute and Village Hall. An unspecified grant is sought towards running costs. In past years £50 has been provided.
- 2.16 Islwyn Scenic Drifters**
The above is a group of 29 adults who aim to stimulate interest in the hobby of modelling radio –controlled marine craft. An unspecified grant is requested towards running costs. This is the Club's first application.
- 2.17 Llanarth Tuesday T. Dance Club**
The above has 47 retired members who meet on one afternoon per week. An unspecified grant is sought towards the cost of purchasing a CD player. This is the Club's first application.
- 2.18 Newbridge - Online Website**
The website has been running for a number of years and is widely used by the Community. Users are able to add items for sale, leave messages on the message site, upload photos and log events into the What's on Guide. There is also a Guestbook used by former residents all over the world. The present owner needs to pay over £500 to register with services for the website and has requested financial assistance in order to maintain the standard.
- 2.19 Orissa Society UK, Wales**
The Society has 37 adult and 16 junior members. It aims to promote the interests and well being of all persons from Orissa, India in the UK and to encourage goodwill and cooperation between it's members and their host community. Members will be hosting an ethnic cultural event for local people on 28th August at Ysgol Gyfun Cwm Rhymini and a grant of £300 is sought towards the cost of staging the event.
- 2.20 Penyrheol Community Centre**
The Centre has recently undergone a programme of refurbishment to improve access for disabled users. In order to complete this programme, the Management Committee have decided to purchase new carpet for the foyer and replace the stage curtains. Total cost is £1,157 and financial assistance has been requested. The Centre receives a management grant from Leisure Services annually.
- 2.21 Risca Young at Hearts Club**
The above is a group of 10 senior citizens who meet weekly at Oxford House. A grant of £200 is requested towards the cost of trips and a Christmas Meal. Previously, in 2000/01 an amount of £50 was awarded.

2.22 The Salvation Army – Risca Corps

A grant of £100 is sought towards the cost of an outward-bound weekend for young people to take part in lifeskill and initiative activities. In 2002/03 £60 was awarded in respect of a children's musical production. The Risca Corps currently has 25 junior members.

2.23 Urdd Gobaith Cymru – Poland Trip

Three pupils of Ysgol Gyfun Cwm Rhymni will be travelling with the Urdd to Poland during August. The trip is in aid of raising funds for Polish orphanages. The three pupils have to raise funds to cover the cost of their trip and have requested financial support.

2.24 Rachel Davies, Ystrad Mynach – Oz Experience

Ms Davies will be taking part in a SCAD Dive in September in order to raise funds for charity and help fund an expedition to Australia in 2005. Unspecified sponsorship is requested.

Deferred Applications

The following requests were deferred at previous meetings

2.25 British Olympic Appeal 2004

Once every four years the British Olympic Association (BOA), a not for profit organisation, seeks the necessary funds to prepare and send over 450 athletes to the Olympic Games. The BOA is solely responsible for all costs of Team GB's participation and receives no Government or Lottery funding. This year every Welsh Unitary Council has been approached to support the appeal. No amount has been specified. There is no record of this Authority or any of its predecessors contributing in the past.

2.26 Moriah Baptist Church Banner Group

The above is a group of 10 ladies over 65 years of age who meet every week to make Christian banners in silk for display within the Church. Materials are expensive but the cost represents a considerable saving over the cost of purchasing banners. Some of the ladies have been invited to other Churches to teach their skills. A grant of £150 is requested towards the purchase of materials.

3. WELSH CHURCH ACTS FUND

3.1 At previous meetings of the Panel it was decided that the following criteria would apply when considering applications for assistance from the Welsh Church Fund.

- (i) A grant of no more than £1,500 be given to partly fund projects of £4,500 and over;
- (ii) Smaller projects less than £4,500 be grant aided up to a third of the total cost;
- (iii) All organisations receiving grants produce the necessary financial records to show the expenditure has been incurred;
- (vi) No organisation be allowed to apply in consecutive years.

The Council's annual allocation from the Fund is £46,045. The total of grants awarded so far this year is £12,702 and therefore the balance available is £33,343. 18 new applications are appended below. The total of amounts requested in accordance with the agreed criteria is £21,500.

3.2 Bethel Baptist Church, Bedwas

A grant is requested to assist with the provision of disabled toilet facilities. Estimates have not been received but the cost is expected to exceed £4,500. Maximum consideration is sought.

3.3 Cascade Methodist Church

A grant of £1,500 is requested towards the cost of a new roof estimated to cost £5,200.

- 3.4 Ebenezer Baptist Church, Machen**
In order to comply with the Disability Discrimination Act, the Church needs to install a ramp with retaining wall, estimated to cost £7,550. The maximum grant is requested.
- 3.5 Elim Church, Abertysswg**
A grant of £1,500 is sought towards the cost of replacing the heating system and a new toilet. Total estimated cost is in excess of £7,000.
- 3.6 Markham Congregational Church**
Two ramps are to be constructed to provide disabled access to the building which is widely used as a community facility. Total cost will be £20,600 and the maximum grant is requested.
- 3.7 Mount Zion Gospel Mission, Gelligaer**
An additional room with kitchen facilities is to be added to the Chapel to allow more space for community activities. Total cost of the project is £21,750 and the maximum grant is sought.
- 3.8 Oakdale Christian Centre**
The building has recently been brought up to the latest electrical and fire safety standards. Total cost was £5,316 and a grant of £1,500 is requested.
- 3.9 St. David's Church, Rhymney**
Repair work, tree surgery and installation of a hearing loop are expected to cost in excess of £6,000. Maximum consideration is sought.
- 3.10 St David's Methodist Church and Hall, Risca**
Assistance is sought with the cost of a sound reinforcement and induction loop system. Estimated cost is £2,460 and £820 would represent a third.
- 3.11 St. Gwladys Church, Bargoed**
Repairs are to be undertaken to the roof and doors and flagstones are to be relayed to provide level access. Lowest estimate is £5,144 and therefore a grant of £1,500 is sought.
- 3.12 St. Mary's Church Hall, Risca**
Renewal of the heating system, dry rot treatment and redecoration will cost over £5,600 in total. Maximum consideration is requested.
- 3.13 St. Peter's Church, Deri**
Work to be carried out includes repointing, constructing ramps and creating a disabled toilet. Total cost of the project is estimated in excess of £22,000 and the maximum grant is sought.
- 3.14 Ty Isaf Baptist Church, Pontymister**
A grant of £1,500 is requested to enable an improved access for disabled people at the front entrance. Estimated cost is £6,400.
- 3.15 Tredegar and District Free Church Council**
The above has joined with a group of students from Cardiff University to undertake a programme of outreach events in the Tredegar and Markham area. The total cost of £3,390 includes accommodation for the group, refreshments, marketing and materials. An amount of £1,130 would represent one third.
- 3.16 Wales Council for Deaf People**
The above organisation is made up of local community support groups who are provided with loop systems. These systems are currently being updated at a cost of £1,213 per system and financial assistance is requested. There is one group in this area at Caerphilly Deaf Club. An amount of £404 would represent one third of the cost of one new system.
- 3.17 Cylch Meithrin Yr Enfys, Ystrad Mynach**
The above is a Welsh Medium Playgroup which meets at Ystrad Mynach Boys and Girls Club.

A grant of £1,266 is requested towards the cost of urgent repairs to the heating and windows of the Boys and Girls Club, estimated at £3,800.

3.18 Dragon Divers Sub Aqua Club

The Club uses the swimming pool at St Martin’s School for training and meetings are held in Llanbradach. Assistance is sought with the purchase of equipment particularly for women and young people. At present the Club has little appropriately sized equipment to increase the participation of youth and community groups. Estimated cost is in excess of £10,000 and the maximum grant is requested.

3.19 Pontllanfraith Primary School Parent Teacher Association

The PTA is raising funds for the painting of a mural on boards surrounding the play area for pupils with autism. Total cost is £1,050 and £350 would represent a third.

4. TROPHIES, FOOTBALLS ETC.

4.1 It has been the practice of the Panel in recent years to retain an amount in respect of trophies, footballs etc to be distributed on behalf of the Authority by the Head of Leisure Services. Last year £1,000 was allocated for this purpose. The Panel is asked to consider whether to continue this practice.

5. DECISIONS OF OFFICERS

5.1 The following grants have been awarded in accordance with the agreed criteria:-

Ref	Name of Organisation	Grant Awarded £
49/04	Caerphilly Aged Persons Welfare Committee	220
50/04	Cefn Hengoed OAP Association	110
51/04	Hengoed OAP Association	110
52/04	Hollybush OAP Association	110
53/04	Senghenydd Aged Persons Welfare Committee	110
54/04	Cefn Hengoed Ladies Choir	55
55/04	3 rd Caerphilly Rainbows	30
56/04	Blackwood Mini & Junior RFC	120
57/04	Pontymister Youth AFC	390
58/04	Senghenydd Cricket Club	90
59/04	Aber Valley YMCA	420
60/04	Bargoed YMCA	660
61/04	Anthony Lewis, Gilfach - Bowls	110
62/04	Craig Williams, Gilfach – Bowls	110
63/04	Lee Harris, Risca – Football	110

64/04	Rhian Bowden, Caerphilly – Rugby	220
65/04	Lloyd Summers, Abertridwr – Fishing	110
66/04	Nicole Walkley, Caerphilly – Badminton	220
67/04	Richard Wilkes, Caerphilly – Rugby	220
68/04	David Trew, Bargoed – Bowls	110
69/04	Gilfach A & A Residents Assn	110
70/04	Gilfach OAP Association	110
71/04	Pentwyn & District Senior Citizens Assn	110
72/04	Machen Junior Cricket Club	150
73/04	4th Caerphilly Rainbows	30
74/04	John Dobson, Bedwas - Snooker	110
75/04	Gareth Harris, Gilfach - Bowls	110
76/04	Hannah Torangi, Caerphilly – Rugby	220
77/04	Fochriw Over 55 Club	110
78/04	Nelson OAP Association	110
79/04	1 st Fleur de Lys Brownies	30
80/04	Blackwood Town Cricket Club	300
81/04	Ystrad Mynach Boys & Girls Club	420
82/04	Thomas James, Rhymney - Athletics	220
83/04	Tim Hazell, Newbridge - Archery	220
84/04	Martin Selway, Caerphilly - Bowls	110
85/04	Christopher Gierak, Caerphilly – Hockey	110
86/04	Steven Gilbert, Crumlin – Pool	110
87/04	Nathan Jones, Deri – Pool	110
88/04	Ken Leeson, Cefn Hengoed – Pool	110
89/04	Keith Lewis, Markham – Pool	110
90/04	Ian Sargeant, Deri – Pool	110
91/04	Adrian Wilde, Gelligaer – Pool	110
92/04	Luke Vokes, Aberbargoed – Snooker	110

93/04	Nicky Griffiths, Gelligaer – Pool	110
94/04	Terry Brown, Caerphilly – Shooting	110
95/04	Darren Morgan, Llanbradach – Shooting	110
96/04	Phil Ross Morgan, Caerphilly – Shooting	110
97/04	Risca Senior Citizens	220
98/04	WRVS Darby & Joan Club, Newbridge	110
99/04	Rhymney Millennium Chorale	55
100/04	Rhymney Silurian Male Choir	55
101/04	Kelly Birkin, Blackwood - Athletics	110
102/04	Rhys George, Aberbargoed - Pool	110
103/04	Alan Poole, Caerphilly – Shooting	110
104/04	Helen Thomas, Gilfach –Shooting	110
124/04	Newbridge OAP Association	110
125/04	Deri Mini RFC	150
126/04	Nelson and District Choral Society	55
127/04	Carl Wood, Gilfach – Bowls	110
128/04	Ian Belcher, Ystrad Mynach – Shooting	110