

## GRANTS TO VOLUNTARY SECTOR PANEL - 26TH JANUARY 2005

**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	8,257
Grants determined by Officers in consultation with Chairman and Vice Chairman	18,940
Trophies, footballs etc	1000
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>294,907</b>

\* £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 £8,458.

The total of amounts requested for applications listed in this report is £2,236. 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
(j) Boys and Girls Clubs and YMCA's with own premises	420

All other applications for sponsorship and miscellaneous grants are treated on their merits. At previous meetings, members resolved that a percentage increase be agreed in respect of the above and that consideration be given to standardising Youth Associations. The following table shows the effect of increases between 9% and 16%, and also includes an additional category at (k). It is recommended that any agreed increase be applied from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2005.

	<b>Annual Award</b>	<b>£</b>
(a)	OAP Association with own building	240
(b)	OAP Association without own building	120
(c)	Junior Sports Club	35 per number of members
(d)	Individuals representing Wales at home	120
(e)	Individuals representing Wales abroad	240
(f)	Jazz Bands	60
(g)	Choirs	60
(h)	Scout/cubs/brownies/guides/boys brigade/crusaders	35 per number of members
(i)	St John Ambulance:-	
	Cadets	60 per number of members
	Badgers	35 per number of members
(j)	Boys and Girls Clubs and YMCA's with own premises	460
(k)	Youth Associations without own premises	35 per number of members

A total of 22 new and deferred applications have been received and are appended below for consideration.

## **2.2 Islwyn Drug & Alcohol Project (IDAP)**

IDAP aims to provide a counselling, support and information service for those needing help with problems surrounding substance misuse or gambling. The project is based in Markham Institute but covers the whole County Borough. The IDAP Coordinator's post is funded by the Council and a support worker is provided by the Key Fund (both part time). A grant of £500 is requested to help with office administration costs.

## **2.3 Morgan John Rhys Society**

The Society aims to remember the life and work of Morgan John Rhys, a prominent figure in Welsh history, who was born and raised near Llanbradach. The Society plans to erect a plaque at Llanbradach Library to commemorate the two hundredth anniversary of his death. This will cost about £400. They would also like to erect smaller plaques at Seion Chapel Llanbradach, Hengoed Chapel and Llanbradach Community Centre at an approximate cost of £120 each. The Council is asked for financial support towards this venture.

## **2.4 Bedwas Trethomas & Machen (BTM) Band Society**

The BTM Band was invited, along with one other Welsh Band, to perform at the Scottish Open Brass Band Championships in November. The total cost of performing is estimated at £4500, including professional conductor's fees, and the Band have requested financial assistance. Last year £75 was provided, and in 2002/03 £500 was awarded in respect of new instruments.

## **2.5 Caerphilly Residents Defence Association**

The Association was formed in 1966 and represents 500 households. It was established with the intention of providing a unified voice for the residents of the Caerphilly town centre. A grant of £500 is sought in order to purchase a photocopier and printer.

## **2.6 Caerphilly and Gelligaer Mencap Society**

Mencap is a National Charity, which aims to provide support and practical help to people with a learning disability and their families. The above local Society held its annual party on 22nd January and an unspecified donation is requested. In past years £50 has been provided.

## **2.7 Darran Valley Ramblers**

This group of 20 adults and 5 juniors aims to identify rights of way in the Darran Valley and to promote walking for people of varying abilities. A grant of £60 is sought which is the amount

that has been provided in previous years.

**2.8 Fochriw Over 55's Club**

The above is a registered OAP Association, which until 2002/2003 received £220 annually in respect of its own premises. No award was paid last year as the Club did not apply. The building has been demolished and for 2004/2005 a grant of £110 has been paid. The Club now meets at the Community Centre and would like to purchase its own cupboard. Additional consideration is requested towards the cost of £300.

**2.9 Gelligaer Over 40's Club**

The above has 10 members, mainly retired persons, who meet on one afternoon per week. Financial assistance is sought towards the purchase of crockery, cutlery and refreshments. This is the Club's first application to the Council.

**2.10 Machen Over 50's Club**

The above, formed in 1992, has 40 members. An unspecified grant is requested towards the running costs of the Club. This is the first application to the Council.

**2.11 Pontllanfraith Women's Institute**

The above, which has 58 members, aims to improve and develop conditions of life and advance the education of women. A grant of £750 is sought to pay speakers on membership nights and for cultural visits. This is the first application to the Council.

**2.12 The College, Ystrad Mynach**

The annual prize giving ceremony took place at Caerphilly Castle on 25th November. The Council is asked sponsor the event with a donation. No amount has been specified.

**2.13 Bargoed and District YMCA**

The above has requested financial support as a voluntary organisation situated in a ward that has no Local Authority Community Centre. No amount has been specified. A grant of £420 has been paid in the current financial year, which is the agreed amount in accordance with the set criteria. In addition £240 was awarded in respect of junior sports teams.

**2.14 Caerphilly Skater Hockey Club**

At its meeting of 19th May, the Panel awarded the club £500 in recognition of all four junior teams qualifying for the National Championships held at Rotherham in July. One of the Club's teams, the Caerphilly Cobras under 14's, was invited to play in an International Tournament in Germany during November. The travelling party of 38 included 13 players. The total cost for the players was £1,700 and the Club has asked for further financial assistance in recognition of the team's achievement.

**2.15 4th Risca Brownies and Rainbows**

The above groups have recently been awarded £60 and £30 respectively in accordance with the set criteria and are listed at 4.1 below. Girl Guiding UK has recently launched new programmes for Brownies and Rainbows, which involves the purchase of new books and craft materials at a cost of £10 per member. Additional consideration has been requested on behalf of the above groups which have in excess of 35 members in total.

**2.16 Heolddu Comprehensive School, Bargoed**

Four pupils, plus one member of staff, travelled to Newcastle in December to represent Caerphilly County Borough in the final of a National children's literary quiz. A grant of £426.30 is requested towards the cost of the trip.

**2.17 St Peter's Youth Group, Newbridge**

The above group has over 40 members with an average attendance of 25 per weekly meeting. Financial assistance is sought to help purchase indoor games but no amount has been specified. This is the first application to the Council.

### **2.18 Ystrad Fawr Latin Formation Team**

The Team, consisting of 20 children, will be entering the British Open Latin Championships in Blackpool on 1st April 2005. They are currently raising funds to pay for travel, accommodation and costumes. An unspecified donation is requested. This is the Team's first application.

### **2.19 Peter Pan Nursery for Children with special needs, Staffordshire**

A request for financial support has been received from the above Charity, which currently has 80 children on the register. Funding is sought to employ a Schools Liaison Officer and to replace equipment, toys and books.

### **2.20 Mrs H.D. Hamer, Cefn Fforest**

Mrs Hamer is shortly to retire as a local organiser for the Royal British Legion annual Poppy Appeal. She hopes to arrange a social evening for the presentation of appreciation certificates to poppy sellers. An unspecified donation is requested towards the cost of a buffet.

### **2.21 Simon Grist, Trethomas – Everest Trek**

In March and April 2006 Mr. Grist will be trekking to the Base Camp of Everest to raise funds for Cancer Research UK. In order to take part he must generate at least £3,500 and also needs to fund his equipment costs. The total cost of equipment required is £1,470 and an unspecified contribution is sought towards this cost.

### **2.22 Patrick Seshie, Newport – Research Student**

Mr. Seshie is studying for a Ph.D in Management research at the University of Glamorgan. He is trying to raise money to complete his studies and has requested a contribution towards the total cost of £19,950.

#### **Deferred Applications**

The following requests were deferred at a previous meeting for further information.

### **2.23 The Pit Pony Sanctuary, Pontypridd**

The above registered charity was established in 1988 and currently has 10 retired ponies from private mines. An unspecified grant is sought to help buy a larger farm and establish a permanent and secure home for many more pit ponies and needy horses from the area. Trading Standards have confirmed that the Sanctuary has no direct involvement with this Authority. The roundup of horses in the Fochriw area was undertaken in conjunction with the Horse Protection League, RSPCA and the Pony Society.

## **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 £34,973 and therefore the balance available is £11,072. Seven new applications are appended below. The total of amounts requested in accordance with the agreed criteria is £7,860.

### **3.2 St David's Church, Oakdale**

A grant is sought towards the installation of a loop system, repair of a wall and replacement of stolen gates. Total cost is estimated at £1230 and £410 would represent one third.

### **3.3 St Catherine's Church, Crosskeys**

The Church aims to improve and refurbish the hall in order to make it accessible to all community groups. Total cost of the project is in excess of £30,000 and funding is also being sought from the Key Fund. The maximum Welsh Church Fund grant is requested.

### **3.4 Bethel Evangelical Church, Nelson**

A grant of £1500 is requested towards the cost of converting the Churchyard to a memorial garden. Total cost of the project will be in excess of £5,000.

### **3.5 Beulah Baptist Church, Newbridge**

The Church has recently undertaken alterations to the central heating system and rewiring of electrical cables. Total cost was £2,850 and £950 would represent one third.

### **3.6 Siloh Christian Community Centre, Ystrad Mynach**

A major programme of improvements is to be undertaken. Total cost of the project is £72,000 and the maximum grant is therefore requested.

### **3.7 Zoar Welsh Baptist Chapel, Pontlottyn**

A new Church building is under construction and the external fabric is almost complete. A Welsh Church Fund grant approved in 2002/03 has been paid towards the building cost. Phase 2 of the project is the internal aspect such as furniture and fittings. Detailed costings are not yet available but Maximum consideration is sought towards this phase.

### **3.8 Trinant Sports Rugby Football Club**

The above leases a ground from the Council and has its own changing rooms at the ground. The Club intends to install central heating in the changing rooms at a cost of £1,500. A grant of £500 would represent one third. An award of £120 in respect of the junior membership (1st application) has been paid and is listed at 4.1.

## **Item for Information - Change of Purpose**

### **3.9 Elim Church Pontlottyn**

The Church was awarded £1,500 in 2003/2004 towards the cost of a new building. However the plot of land intended for this purpose has now been sold and the members have purchased a former School building for conversion to a Church and community centre. The Church has requested that the Welsh Church Fund grant be applied to the cost of adapting and improving the premises.

## **4. DECISIONS OF OFFICERS**

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

<b>Ref</b>	<b>Name of Organisation</b>	<b>Grant Awarded £</b>
134/04	Caerphilly Squash Club	90 + 90
135/04	Trinant Sports RFC	60 + 60
136/04	Cefn Fforest Boys & Girls Football Club	300
137/04	The Youth Centre Cefn Hengoed	420
138/04	1st Machen Guides	30 + 30
139/04	Anthony Harris, Cwmcarn - Bowls	110

140/04	Gareth Pitt, Caerphilly – Squash	110
141/04	Frazer Richards, Caerphilly – Squash	110
142/04	Pontlottyn OAP Association	110
143/04	Ystrad Mynach OAP Association	110
144/04	4th Risca Brownies	60
45/04	4th Risca Rainbows	30
146/04	Cwmcarn Gymnastics Club	150
147/04	Fochriw Karate Club	60 + 60
148/04	Phoenix United Football Club	300
149/04	Risca & Gelli United Junior Football Club	120
150/04	2nd Hengoed Brownies	30 + 30
161/04	Darran Valley 55 Club	110
162/04	St Martins Ward OAP Association	110
163/04	Cwmcarn Angling Club	90
164/04	2nd Nelson Brownies (1 <sup>st</sup> Application)	60 + 60
165/04	Peter Creed, Caerphilly - Squash	220
166/04	Mary Gittens, Machen - Bowls	220
167/04	Ian Slade, Crosskeys - Bowls	220
168/04	Darren Thompson, Pentwynmawr - Snooker	220
169/04	Keiren Graham, Caerphilly – Roller Hockey	110
170/04	3rd Caerphilly Brownies	60
171/04	2nd Nelson Rainbow Guides	30 + 30
172/04	Ian Henderson, Caerphilly - Bowls	110
173/04	Daniel Williams, Hengoed – Roller Hockey	110
174/04	Ioan Rees, Pengam - Chess	220
175/04	Sioned Rees, Pengam – Chess	220
176/04	Tir-y Berth OAP Association	110