

**GRANTS TO VOLUNTARY SECTOR PANEL –  
15TH MARCH 2006**

**SUBJECT: APPLICATIONS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE**

**REPORT BY: DEPUTY CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

**1. STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURE**

1.1 The Panel's budget for 2005/2006 is £309,432. The following amounts have been allocated to date: -

	£
CAB *	116,360
Discretionary Rate Relief	155,346
Grants awarded by Panel	15,758
Grants determined by Officers in consultation with Chairman and Vice Chairman	23,445
Trophies, footballs etc	1000
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>311909</b>

\* £99,360 in cash and £17,000 in kind, the latter being premises running costs.

As the current year's budget is fully spent, any further approvals will be a first call upon next year's monies.

The total of amounts requested for applications listed in this report is £10,100. 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: -

Annual Award	£
(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

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

A total of 18 new applications have been received and are appended below for consideration.

## **2.2 Lower Sirhowy Valley Communities Partnership**

The above aims to develop a local action plan through joint working with a wide range of statutory and voluntary agencies. A grant of £2,500 is sought to provide running costs and assist the partnership to be independently administered. This would be the only source of revenue and running costs as it is not a Communities First Partnership.

## **2.3 Gelligaer & Penybryn Communities Partnership**

The above is a Communities First Partnership which is in receipt of funding from the Welsh Assembly to cover running costs. A grant of £2,500 is requested to purchase software in order to produce a newsletter.

## **2.4 Britannia Community Association**

One of the main objectives of Britannia Community Association is to provide social and leisure activities for the residents. Funding has recently been obtained for a youth shelter and a multi use games area. An unspecified grant is sought towards printing, stationery and general running costs.

## **2.5 Cwmfelinfach Residents Association**

The above has over 100 members and aims to enrich the lives of everyone in the village. A grant of £200 is requested towards administration and advertising costs. This is the first application.

## **2.6 Cruse Bereavement Care, Caerphilly Branch**

Cruse Bereavement Care exists to promote the well being of anyone bereaved by death. A grant £300 is requested to pay for a Broadband connection which will allow the use of E-mail. This is the first application to Caerphilly CBC.

## **2.7 Crosskeys Silver Band**

The Band currently has 19 adult members and is requesting a grant of £500 towards the running costs of the bandroom. Last year £450 was provided for a similar purpose.

## **2.8 Oakdale Silver Band**

This Band currently has 25 adult and 3 junior members. A grant of £1000 is sought to pay the rental for the rehearsal room. The Band has not applied for assistance since 1997. A separate Welsh Church Fund application is listed at 3.

## **2.9 Blackwood & District Amateur Radio Society**

This Society, with 66 adult and 7 junior members, has been in existence for about 75 years. A grant of £2,099 is requested to purchase a new Radio Transceiver.

## **2.10 Darran Valley Ramblers**

This group aims to identify rights of way and promote walking for people of all abilities. A grant of £60 is requested which is the same as awarded in previous years.

## **2.11 Good Companions, Cefn Hengoed**

The above is a group of 20 pensioners who meet weekly. An unspecified grant is sought towards the cost of day trips. In previous years £30 has been provided.

## **2.12 Machen Over 50's Club**

The Club, which has 40 members, is seeking a contribution towards running costs. Last year £100 was awarded in respect of the first application.

## **2.13 Oxford House (Risca) Industrial History Society**

The Society was formed in 1971 and operates Risca Industrial History Museum which is open to the public on Saturdays in summer and is regularly used by local schools. The Society also provides a programme of lectures to other organisations. Current financial commitments amount to £5,850 of which £3,800 relates to equipment and refurbishment and the remainder to running costs and display materials. Unspecified financial assistance is sought to help maintain this valuable community resource.

## **2.14 Mid Glamorgan Schools Swimming Association**

A grant of £200 is sought to help fund children from this area attending the Welsh Schools national swimming Championships. It is not known how many will qualify but around 70-80 children from Caerphilly Schools will take part in local trials.

## **2.15 Windsor School of Dance – Parent Support Group**

Windsor School of Dance holds classes in Caerphilly, Bedwas and Abertridwr. In April 2006 a total of 30 children will be competing in the International Dance Championships in Blackpool. The parent support group was set up to organise the trip and raise funds. Total cost will be in excess of £11,000 and any financial assistance would be appreciated. This is the first application to Caerphilly CBC.

## **2.16 Ystrad Fawr Latin Formation Dance Team**

In April 2006 a team of 20 children will be entering the British Open Latin Dance Championships in Blackpool. They are currently raising funds towards the cost of travel, accommodation and costumes and any financial assistance would be appreciated. Last year £120 was awarded in respect of the first application.

## **2.17 World Kickboxing Championships – Athens May 2006**

The World Kickboxing Championships will be held in Athens during May 2006. There are two clubs in the County Borough, at Caerphilly and Pontllanfraith. A total of 12 members have achieved the qualifying standard in Welsh Tournaments and can travel as part of Team Wales if they can afford the cost. The Panel is asked to determine whether to accept applications from individuals who may be classed as "representing Wales" or whether to invite applications from the Clubs which are fundraising to send as many members as possible.

## **2.18 Cylch Meithrin Penpedairheol**

The above is a Welsh Medium Playgroup, providing pre-school education for 13 children. A grant of £500 is requested to assist with running costs.

## **2.19 Friends of Ynysddu Youth**

The above is a newly formed constituted body set up for the benefit of the young people of Ynysddu. The group's first project is to seek funding for floodlights on a multi use games area. To fulfil the funding criteria planning permission must be obtained and a grant of £240 is sought to cover the application fee.

## **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 £37,939 and therefore the balance available is £8,106. Twelve new applications are appended below. The total of amounts requested in accordance with the agreed criteria is £15,932.

### **3.2 Groeswen Welsh Independent Chapel**

It is hoped that work will commence this year on a major restoration project costing a total of £300,000. The maximum grant is sought towards the first phase of the project.

### **3.3 Newbridge Methodist Church**

A grant of £1,500 is requested towards the cost of re-wiring the former Church building which is still owned and maintained by the Church.

### **3.4 Penuel Congregational Chapel, Nelson**

Repairs to the Chapel windows and new carpet are expected to cost in excess of £5,000. The maximum grant is therefore requested.

### **3.5 Pontllanfraith Methodist Church**

A grant of £1,500 is sought towards the cost of re-roofing the Church building which is estimated to be in excess of £10,000.

### **3.6 Elim Tabernacle, Abertysswg**

A new central heating system is estimated to cost £5,000. Maximum consideration is sought. In addition, the Panel is requested to provide £1,334 towards the unfunded balance.

### **3.7 St Aiden's Church, Butetown, Rhymney**

The Church intends to renew all fascias, soffits and gutters. Total cost, including redecoration, is estimated at £2,300 and £766 would represent one third. An amount of £1,000 has been awarded by the Communities First Trust Fund and the Church has requested that the Panel

provides the balance of £534 from financial assistance.

### **3.8 St Tyfaelogs Parish Hall, Pontlottyn**

A new path and retaining wall will cost £8,695. The maximum grant is sought and an application has been submitted to the Communities First Trust for £5,000. The Church has requested that the Panel provide the balance from financial assistance.

### **3.9 Caerphilly Tennis Club**

The Club has been successful in attracting a Sportlot grant of £75,000 towards a regeneration project that will expand the use of the Club to a wider section of the Community. There is a shortfall of £17,000 to be raised and a grant of £1,500 is requested towards this amount.

### **3.10 Oakdale Silver Band**

The Band is hoping to purchase a van in order to transport equipment from the rehearsal room to events. A grant of £1,000 is requested but no estimate of the cost has been submitted.

### **3.11 Girlguiding Gwent, International Camp**

Girlguiding Gwent is organising an International Camp to be held at Caldicot Castle in August 2006. Around 600 young people from across the World are expected to attend. A grant of £1,000 is requested towards the cost of Marquee hire and to help pay for activities within the Castle. Applications have also been submitted to other Councils in the Gwent area.

### **3.12 Risca Senior Citizens Club**

The kitchen at the Senior Citizens Hall needs to be upgraded in order to comply with hygiene regulations. The cost of a complete overhaul is estimated at £7,800 and maximum consideration is requested.

### **3.13 Britannia Complex Entertainment Fund, Risca**

The above is a Council owned sheltered complex. The residents are raising funds to purchase a 40" television, bingo machine, sheets of music and catering provisions. Total expenditure is estimated at £3,498 and £1,166 would represent one third. In past years applications for financial assistance from Council Complexes have been refused.

## **2006/2007 APPLICATIONS**

The following organisations are not eligible until 2006/2007 but have submitted applications for approval as soon as possible.

### **3.14 Cae'r Gorlan Baptist Church, Abercarn**

A number of improvements are planned including new carpets, protective grilles to windows, a new microphone system and redecoration. Total estimated cost is £2,850 and £950 would represent one third.

### **3.15 St Augustine's Church, Pontllanfraith**

Repairs to bargeboards, troughing and downpipes are estimated to cost £1,615 and £538 would represent one third.

#### 4. Citizens Advice Bureaux

At the meeting of 19th May 2004, the Panel resolved that a three year level of funding be granted to the Citizens Advice Bureaux, with annual increases at the level of inflation. Members are therefore advised that the core funding for 2006/2007 will be increased by 2% from £99,360 to £101,348 p.a.

#### 5. DECISIONS OF OFFICERS

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

<b>Ref</b>	<b>Name of Organisation</b>	<b>Grant Awarded £</b>
141 /05	Caerphilly Aged Persons Welfare Committee	240
142/05	Darran Valley 55 Club	120
143/05	7th Caerphilly Scout Group	140
144/05	2nd New Tredegar Scout Group(1st Application)	105 +105]
145/05	Blackwood RFC Mini and Junior	350
146/05	Blackwood Town Cricket Club	350
147/05	Caerphilly Skater Hockey Club	140
148/05	Hendredenny Park Primary Youth Club	210
149/05	Bargoed YMCA	460
150/05	Bargoed YMCA – Junior Sports	280
152/05	Kieren Graham, Caerphilly – Skater Hockey	240
157 /05	Ystrad Mynach OAP Association	120
158/05	Nelson & District Choral Society	60
159/05	5th Risca Scout Group	105 + 105
160/05	Cefn Hengoed Youth Centre	460
161/05	Heolddu Junior Netball Club	105 + 105
162/05	Penpedairheol & Cascade Youth Club	490
163/05	Phoenix United Football Club	350
164/05	Rhymney Youth Football Club	105
165/05	Roy Mountjoy, Blackwood – Pool	240
166/05	Michael West, Llanbradach – Roller Hockey	120
164 /05/2	Rhymney Youth FC (Additional for 1st Application)	105

167/05	1st Caerphilly Guides	70
168/05	2nd Caerphilly Scout Group	140
169/05	Newbridge & District Ladies Choir	60
170/05	Woodfieldside OAP Association	240
171/05	WRVS Darby & Joan Club, Newbridge	120
172/05	Ryan Banwell, Bargoed – Roller Hockey	120
173/05	Carl Wood, Gilfach – Bowls	120
174 /05	Pontymister Senior Citizens Association	240
175/05	St Martins Ward OAP Association	120
176/05	Caerphilly Tennis Club	210
177/05	Devils Martial Arts, Pontllanfraith & New Tredegar	140
178/05	Penrhos Football Club (1st Application)	35 + 35
179/05	Ystrad Mynach Boys & Girls Club	460
180/05	Ian Henderson, Caerphilly – Bowls	240
181/05	Phillip Morgan, Caerphilly - Shooting	120
182/05	Penllwyn Senior Citizens Association	120

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