

GRANTS TO THE VOLUNTARY SECTOR PANEL – 3RD JULY 2007

SUBJECT: APPLICATIONS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

REPORT BY: DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE SERVICES

1. STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURE

1.1 The Panel's budget for 2007/2008 is £318,702. The following amounts have been allocated to date:-

	£
CAB *	123,348
Discretionary Rate Relief	138,000
Grants awarded by Panel	0
Grants determined by Officers in consultation with Chairman and Vice Chairman	8,910
Trophies, footballs etc	0
Total Expenditure	270,258

- £103,880 in cash and £19,468 in kind, the latter being premises running costs.

Therefore, the balance available for grants to the voluntary sector is £48, 444.

The total of amounts requested for applications listed in this report is £15,009. 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	250
(b) OAP Association without own building	130
(c) Junior Sports Club	45 per no. of members
(d) Individuals representing Wales at home	130
(e) Individuals representing Wales abroad	250
(f) Jazz Bands	70
(g) Choirs	70
(h) Scout/cubs/brownies/guides/boys brigade/crusaders	45 per no. of members
(i) St John Ambulance:-	
Cadets	70 per no. of members
Badgers	45 per no. of members

(j)	Boys and Girls Clubs and YMCA's with own premises	470
(k)	Youth Associations without own premises	45 per no. of members
(l)	Brass and Silver Bands	500

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

A total of 31 new applications have been received and are appended below for consideration.

- 2.2 **Cambrian Educational Foundation for Deaf Children**
This Welsh Charity offers assistance to young people with a hearing impediment to enhance their educational and social development. The Foundation is active in this area and makes a number of grants each year. In past years £100 has been provided.
- 2.3 **British Lung Foundation Wales**
The Foundation provides advice, information and support to people with any type of lung disease. This is done through literature, a telephone helpline and a network of support groups, known as Breathe Easy Clubs. An unspecified grant is requested to help with the running costs of the local Club, based in Ystrad Mynach.
- 2.4 **Voice FM - Youth Activities Project**
The above is a multi-agency initiative providing a radio and media provision within the County Borough to assist young people in achieving their potential and contribute to their community. The project is based at Newbridge Memorial Hall and urgent electrical work is required to operate broadcasting equipment at an estimated cost of £800. An unspecified grant is sought towards this cost.
- 2.5 **WISCM Trust**
The above is a National Charity, based in Abertridwr, which aims to motivate unemployed and socially excluded young people through involvement in outdoor pursuits. A grant of £5,000 is sought in order to purchase equipment.
- 2.6 **Islwyn Community Credit Union**
Business Rates of £1,444.80 are due on the Union's premises in Blackwood. A grant of this amount is requested as no rate relief is available to credit unions.
- 2.7 **Rhymney Valley Division Guide Association**
A grant of £700 is sought to help as many young people as possible attend two events to be held this year. These are a "Young Friends" fun day for Brownies in Mid Wales and the "Dublin Dash", a programme of activities for Guides.
- 2.8 **Aberbargoed RFC**
The Club needs to hold an annual dinner and preservation event in order to attract new players and sponsors. A grant of £750 is requested towards the cost of this event.
- 2.9 **Arthritis Care, Ystrad Mynach**
Financial assistance is sought towards the cost of transporting members to meetings and outings. In past years £270 has been provided.
- 2.10 **Bargoed & District Art Society**
Financial assistance is requested towards the running costs of the Society and mounting the annual exhibition. No amount has been specified. In past years £100 has been provided.
- 2.11 **Bargoed Golf Club**
The Club has 500 adult and 20 junior members. A grant of £750 is requested to promote Club facilities and attract new members. An amount of £90 is payable under the set criteria in respect of the junior membership (£180 for 1st application).

- 2.12 **Bedwas Young Farmers Club**
The Club has around 30 members aged between 12 and 27 and recently became the All Wales YFC Drama Champions 2007. As a result of this, the Club went on to represent Wales at the National YFC Drama Finals in Torquay. A grant of £100 is sought in order to replenish Club funds.
- 2.13 **Blackwood & District Amateur Radio Society**
The above, which has 63 adult and 4 junior members, is seeking a grant of £100 towards running costs and the purchase of a morse key and decoder. In past years £100 has been awarded
- 2.14 **Caerphilly Local History Society**
The Society currently has a membership of 65. A grant is sought to help with the £200 annual cost of meeting room rental. Last year £120 was provided.
- 2.15 **Cefn Glas Residents Association**
The above has 47 members and aims to encourage good neighbourliness and community spirit. A grant of £200 is requested to help provide funds for social activities and functions. Last year £200 was awarded in respect of the first application.
- 2.16 **Cefn Hengoed Ladies Friendship Club**
The above is a group of 14 ladies who meet each week. A grant of £100 is requested towards the cost of rent and transport. In past years £35 has been provided.
- 2.17 **Crosskeys Methodist Church**
On Friday June 8th the Church will be holding a celebration evening to commemorate the bi-centenary of the birth of Charles Wesley and the formation of Primitive Methodism. The cost of printing posters and Hymn Programmes will be £285 and assistance is requested towards these costs.
- 2.18 **Crosskeys Silver Band**
In September, the Band will be representing Wales at the National Brass Band Championship Finals to be held in Harrogate. The cost of transport and accommodation is estimated at £4,545 and assistance is requested with these costs. Crosskeys Band can be awarded £500 annually according to the set criteria but have not applied so far this year.
- 2.19 **Crumlin Women's Institute**
The above has 10 members and is seeking a grant of £70 to help meet basic expenses. In 2005, £70 was awarded in respect of the first application.
- 2.20 **Cwmcarn Dancing Club**
The Club has 46 adult members and aims to provide and promote modern sequence dancing. A grant of £75 is requested to help pay the weekly rent. In past years £50 has been provided.
- 2.21 **DASH TRAVEL, Hengoed**
DASH TRAVEL is a Company Limited by Guarantee (non profit making) which aims to assist disabled people and seniors by researching into available facilities in areas where they wish to travel. A grant of £1000 is sought for the purchase of stationery and posters in order to publicise the service.
- 2.22 **Deri Regeneration Group**
The Group is seeking a grant of £350 to purchase office equipment and sundries for the Community Centre that is currently being constructed. In past years £100 has been awarded in respect of the groups running costs and a Welsh Church Fund grant has recently been approved towards the cost of office furniture.

- 2.23 **Machen over 50's Club**
The above has 36 members and aims to provide social activities and educational talks. An unspecified grant is sought to help with running costs. Last year £50 was provided.
- 2.24 **Neuadd St Cattwg Community Hall, Gelligaer**
The building is to be used by the whole community and run by a committee of volunteers. Welsh Church Fund assistance has been approved for equipment. A grant of £2,000 is now sought towards revenue costs of the cyber café.
- 2.25 **Newbridge - Online Website**
The website is used by ex-patriots around the world and by locals on a daily basis. It is a not for profit voluntary site which costs around £400 a year for third party services. An unspecified grant is sought towards this cost. In past years £100 was provided.
- 2.26 **Rhymney Valley Guides Senior Section**
This group has 14 adult and 2 junior members. This is the first application and a grant of £100 is requested for camping equipment.
- 2.27 **Rhymney Valley Young at Hearts**
This organisation aims to provide facilities to benefit the elderly inhabitants of the area although the drop-in centre and shop are open to the whole community. A grant of £250 is sought to purchase recreational games. No previous application has been submitted to the Panel.
- 2.28 **Royal Engineers Association, Abergavenny & Heads of the Valleys Branch**
The above held their annual parade at Brynmawr on 3rd June. A number of members are from this area and a donation is sought towards the cost of the parade. Last year £100 was provided in respect of the first application.
- 2.29 **SHADE (Self Help Against Depression), Risca**
The above provides a self-help facility not otherwise provided for people with depression or anxiety. A grant of £520 is sought to pay for rental of the building used for meetings. No previous application has been submitted to the Panel.
- 2.30 **Ysgwyddgwyn Bingo Club, Deri**
The above is a group of 15 residents of a Council Sheltered Complex. A grant of £100 is sought to help with the cost of transport for visits.
- 2.31 **Ystrad Fawr Juvenile Formation Team**
The above is a group of 18 children, based at New Cottage Dance Centre, who annually enter the British Open Championship in Blackpool. The team have to raise the entire cost of competing and financial assistance is requested. In the last financial year £90 was awarded.

DEFERRED APPLICATION

The following was deferred for further information at the last meeting:-

- 2.32 **Eisteddfod Cwm Rhymni**
A Volunteer Committee is organising a Community Eisteddfod to be held at Lewis Girls School in October. All community groups within the County Borough, both Welsh and non Welsh-speaking, will be able to take part. Financial assistance of £1,500 is sought to cover revenue costs incurred in hosting the Eisteddfod which is intended to be an annual event. The Policy and Tourism Units have been approached and will help to raise awareness but will not provide any funding.

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;
 - (iv) 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 £3,000, and therefore the balance available is £43,045. Fifteen new and deferred applications are appended below. The total of amounts requested in accordance with the agreed criteria is £15,164.

3.2 Crosskeys Methodist Church

The Church is undertaking a programme of repairs and renovations. The first phase is treatment of woodworm, waterproofing and rendering. Estimated cost is £4,705 and the maximum grant is requested.

3.3 Oakdale Christian Centre

A total of £9,643 has recently been spent on remedial work including new windows, new ceilings and roof repairs. A grant of £1500 is requested.

3.4 Pontllanfraith Methodist Church

A programme of refurbishment is estimated to cost in excess of £35,000. The Council's Key Fund will provide some of the monies and a Welsh Church Fund grant of £1,500 is sought towards the balance to be found by the Church.

3.5 St David's Church, Oakdale

An inspection of the Church has revealed electrical faults that will cost £655 to repair. A grant of £218 would represent one third.

3.6 St. David's Methodist Church and Community Hall, Risca

The installation of disabled toilets and rewiring will cost over £30,000. Maximum consideration is requested.

3.7 St Gwladys Church Hall, Bargoed

A grant of £1,500 is sought towards the cost of renovating the Hall, estimated at £199,000.

3.8 Blackwood & District Amateur Radio Society

A grant of £300 is requested to purchase a computer for club use within Blackwood Community College. If approved, connection would be via the CCBC Intranet.

3.9 Blackwood Town Cricket Club

A grant of £1,500 is sought towards the purchase of an outfield cutter at a cost of £5,800.

3.10 2nd Caerphilly Scout Group

The installation of a disabled toilet at the Scout Hall and redecoration are estimated to cost £8,600. Maximum consideration is requested.

3.11 Crosskeys Allotments Association

The above aims to hold several publicity events and open days to encourage local people to get involved in projects and activities. The cost of three open days is £735 and a grant of one third is requested (£245).

3.12 Rhymney Sports & Social Club

The organisation is seeking grant assistance to purchase a lockable steel storage cabinet to safely house equipment in a multi-use Community Centre. The cost will be £281.50 and £94 would represent one third.

3.13 Rudry Community Council

A grant of £240 is requested to purchase a wooden table and seats to be installed at Rudry playground which is owned by Caerphilly CBC.

3.14 Ysgol Feithrin Abertridwr

The above is a charity based bilingual nursery that has been in the Aber Valley for the past 25 years. A secure fence is needed around the premises and will cost over £5,000. Maximum consideration is requested.

Change of Purpose

3.15 Risca Male Choir

In 2006/2007 a grant of £667 was approved in respect of redecoration of the Choir's practice rooms. Since then, an estimate has been received for urgent roof repairs amounting to £8,344. The Choir have requested that the approval be switched to the roof repairs and the maximum grant be awarded.

DEFERRED APPLICATION

The following request was deferred at the last meeting for further information:-

3.16 St John's Parish Church Hall, Machen

A grant of £1394 is sought towards the cost of improvements and maintenance of the Machen Church Hall. Further information was requested regarding use of the Hall and the Parish Church Committee have provided a list of users that is attached as Appendix 1.

4. TROPHIES, FOOTBALLS ETC

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 £
2006/2007		
200/06	Newbridge (Celynen) Brass Band	500
201/06	Oakdale Silver Band	500
202/06	Gilfach A & A Elderly Residents Association	130
203/06	Gilfach OAP Association	130

204/06	Pentwynmawr Ladies Choir	70
205/06	1st Aberbargoed Brownies (1st Application)	45 + 45
206/06	2nd Hengoed Brownies	90
207/06	1st Aberbargoed Rainbows	45
208/06	4th Caerphilly Rainbows	45
209/06	2nd Nelson Brownies	90
210/06	1st Blackmonk Explorer Scouts (1st Application)	45 + 45
211/06	Gerald John, Bedwas – Sea Angling	250
212/06	Claire Kelly, Caerphilly – Bowls (£130 paid previously)	120
213/06	Denise Molan, Caerphilly – Bowls (£130 paid previously)	120
220/06	Risca Male Choir (1st application)	70 + 70
221/06	3rd Caerphilly Rainbows	45
222/06	2nd Cefn Fforest Rainbows, Brownies & Guides	135
223/06	2nd Nelson Rainbows	45
224/06	2nd Ystrad Mynach Brownies (1st application)	45 + 45
225/06	1st Abercarn Scout Group (1st application)	135 + 135
226/06	Rhymney Youth FC	135
227/06	Bargoed YMCA (Includes 8 Junior Sports Teams)	830
228/06	Rhys George, Aberbargoed – Pool	130
229/06	Nicky Griffiths, Gelligaer – Pool	130
230/06	Luc Jones, Hafodyrynys – Track Cycling	250
231/06	Lauren Robson, Blackwood – Taekwondo	250
2007/2008		
001/07	Kelly Anne Evans, Trethomas – Netball	250
002/07	Laura Bateman, Wattsville – Gymnastics	250
003/07	Hannah Bateman, Wattsville – Gymnastics	250
004/07	Georgia Kate Haines, Abercarn – Gymnastics	250
005/07	Leah- Marie Hill, Pontywaun – Sequence Dancing	130
006/07	Paige Jones, Croespenmaen – Sequence Dancing	130
007/07	Leigh Marshall-Gilbert, Pontllanfraith – Sequence Dancing	130
008/07	Laura Pople, Newbridge – Sequence Dancing	130
009/07	Jordan-Marie Storey, Pentwynmawr – Sequence Dancing	130
010/07	Gareth Wassall, Risca – Sequence Dancing	130
011/07	Stephen Boucher, Markham – Pool	130
012/07	Kate Dawes, Llanbradach – Pool	130
013/07	Tom Dawes, Llanbradach – Pool	130
014/07	Jake Palmer, Gelligaer – Pool	130
015/07	Dale James Pope, Markham – Pool	130
016/07	Richard Vaughan, Llanbradach – Badminton	250

017/07	Brithdir 55-65 Club	130
018/07	Pentwyn & District Senior Citizens Club	130
019/07	Pontllanfraith Senior Citizens Club	130
020/07	Llanbradach OAP Welfare Committee	250
021/07	Maesycwmmmer OAP Association	250
022/07	Woodfieldside OAP Association	250
023/07	Abercarn Cricket Club	180
024/07	Blackwood Town Cricket Club	450
025/07	Pontymister Youth Football Club	540
026/07	Cefn Hengoed Youth Centre	470
027/07	Shinto Kai Brotherhood, Croespenmaen	135
028/07	Peggy Rickards, Blackwood – Bowls	130
029/07	Elwyn West, Blackwood – Bowls	130
030/07	Bernard Williams, Gilfach – Bowls	130
031/07	Ryan Banwell, Bargoed – Roller Hockey	250
032/07	Alex Price, Caerphilly – Roller Hockey	250
033/07	Christos Tsipas, Caerphilly – Roller Hockey	250
034/07	Michael West, Llanbradach – Roller Hockey	250
035/07	Caerphilly District Explorer Scout Unit	45
036/07	7th Caerphilly Scout Group	180
037/07	1st Cascade Brownies (1st application)	45 + 45
038/07	1st Ystrad Mynach Guides	90
039/07	Gilfach OAP Welfare Committee	250
040/07	Cascade OAP Association	130
041/07	Tiryberth OAP Association	130
042/07	WRVS Darby & Joan Club, Newbridge	130
043/07	Kieren Graham, Caerphilly – Roller Hockey	250
044/07	Angharad Griffiths, Princetown – Hockey	250
045/07	Dean Kibble, Oakdale – Fishing	250
046/07	Fiona Murphy, Caerphilly – Squash	13

Appendices:
Appendix 1

Correspondence relating to Machen Church Hall