



GRANTS TO THE VOLUNTARY SECTOR PANEL - 19TH NOVEMBER 2008

SUBJECT: APPLICATIONS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

REPORT BY: DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE SERVICES

1. STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURE

1.1 The Panel's budget for 2008/2009 is £201,728. The following amounts have been allocated to date:-

| | £ |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| Discretionary Rate Relief | 143,000 |
| Grants awarded by Panel | 8,094 |
| Royal Welsh Show Feature contribution* | 3,000 |
| Grants determined by Officers in consultation with Chairman and Vice Chairman | 18,985 |
| Trophies, footballs etc | 1,000 |
| Total Expenditure | 174,079 |

- At the Cabinet meeting of 19th February 2008, it was agreed that a contribution of £3,000 would be paid in respect of the above from the Grants to Voluntary Sector budget.

Therefore, the balance available for grants to the voluntary sector is £27,649. In addition, 50% of the 2007/08 underspend has been carried forward to supplement this years budget in accordance with the Authority's financial policy, an amount of £4,220, giving rise to total available funding of £31,869.

The total of amounts requested for applications listed in this report is £14,175. 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 number of members |
| (d) | Individuals representing Wales at home | 130 |
| (e) | Individuals representing Wales overseas | 250 |
| (f) | Jazz Bands | 70 |
| (g) | Choirs | 70 |

| | | |
|-----|-------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| (h) | Scout/cubs/brownies/guides/boys brigade/ crusaders | 45 per number of members |
| (i) | St John Ambulance:- Cadets | 70 per number of members |
| | Badgers | 45 per number of members |
| (j) | Boys and Girls Clubs and YMCA's with own premises | 470 |
| (k) | Youth Associations without own premises | 45 per number of members |
| (l) | Brass and Silver Bands | 500 |
| (m) | Allotment Associations | 50 |

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

A total of 24 new applications have been received and are appended below for consideration.

2.2 Army Benevolent Fund

Concern about the growing casualty rate has led the ABF to set up a Current Operations Fund to support soldiers injured or families of those killed as a result of their service during current and future operations. An appeal has been launched to prepare now to cope with the needs of the future and the predicted considerable increase in the demand on ABF resources. A donation has been requested but no amount has been specified. The ABF was refused assistance in 1999, as it is a National charity. Members may wish to consider whether they wish to continue this policy.

2.3 Wales Council for Deaf People

Wales Council for Deaf People is writing to all Local Authorities in Wales with a request to consider funding its work with deaf and hard of hearing people. The organisation provides numerous services to deaf and hard of hearing people throughout Wales. The only previous award was a Welsh Church Fund grant in 2004 towards an item of equipment. The Social Services Directorate has a Voluntary Sector Service contract with the Deaf Association Wales, who were also awarded £100 by the Panel in 2005/2006 in respect of a fun day.

2.4 Aber Valley Male Choir

The Choir will be celebrating its 50th anniversary in 2009 and, as part of a programme of events, will be undertaking a tour of Scotland. A grant of £1000 is sought towards the cost. The Choir can receive annual awards of £70 under the set criteria but has not applied for several years. In 2006/07 a Choir was awarded £140 in respect of their tour of Normandy.

2.5 Alexandra Court Complex

The above is a Council sheltered housing complex with 19 residents. A grant of £250 is requested to purchase a bingo machine and board games. The Panel has not previously supported similar applications.

2.6 Bargoed & District Art Society

The society held its annual exhibition of members work on 24th August at Llancaiach Fawr. An unspecified grant is sought to help with running costs of the Society. In past years £100 has been provided.

2.7 Blackwood Community First Responders

The above group of 16 adults aims to save lives by attending the scene of a cardiac arrest within eight minutes. Training is provided by the Welsh Ambulance Service but no funding. The group is trying to raise £5000 in order to buy a defibrillator and responder bag. A Welsh Church Fund application is also included at 3.2. In 2006/2007 a similar group were awarded £200 in respect of their first application.

2.8 Britannia - Fleur de Lys Community Group

This group aims to improve the villages' environment and the outlook for residents. A grant of £1000 is requested to help with running costs. Last year £100 was provided.

2.9 Bryn Road Tenants & Community Association

The above new group has 45 members who are tenants of a Council's sheltered housing complex. A grant of £500 is sought to help with the cost functions that help to improve the wellbeing of the membership. The Panel has not previously supported similar applications.

2.10 Caerphilly Causeway Prospects

The above group aims to enable people with learning difficulties to enjoy worship. Members from across the County Borough are transported to monthly meetings and National events. A grant of £250 is requested to help with the cost of transport and to purchase resources. In past years £100 has been provided.

2.11 Caerffili Ramblers

This group was formed 15 years ago and now has around 100 members, many of whom are pensioners. Walks are organised twice weekly with additional evening walks in summer. An unspecified grant is sought to help with the cost of programmes, newsletters and postage. This is the group's first application. In past years similar groups have been awarded £60 annually.

2.12 Caerphilly Women's Aid

The above provides support and safe accommodation for women and children who are experiencing domestic abuse. The organisation is seeking a contribution to its Christmas campaign that aims to provide trips to the pantomime and other social events. Core funding of £384,000 is provided by the Housing Department as part of the Supporting People Initiative.

2.13 Cwmcarn Dancing Club

The Club has 26 members and has recently moved to Pentwynmawr. A grant of £75 is sought to help with the cost of hall rental. In past years £50 has been awarded.

2.14 Menter Iaith Sir Caerffili

The above, which is funded by CCBC and the Welsh Language Board, aims to promote the use of Welsh by helping businesses and organisations to introduce a bilingual service. The annual Christmas Fair will be held on 30th November at Llancaiach Fawr and financial assistance is sought to help fund this event. No amount has been specified and the organisation has not applied to the Panel previously.

2.15 Nelson Village Partnership

The above is a non Communities First partnership that was established in 2003. A grant of £2500 is sought to help with the cost of producing and mailing a newsletter. No previous application has been submitted. Similar awards have been made to other Partnerships in past years.

2.16 Crosskeys and Pontywaun Partnership

The Partnership was established in 2007 to support the process of regeneration and community development. A grant of £2,500 is sought to cover the cost of administration and production of a newsletter. A similar amount was awarded in 2005/2006 to the Crosskeys and Pontywaun Residents Association prior to the setting up of the Partnership, in response to an application submitted by Community Regeneration. In the past, the Panel has provided initial funding to Community Partnerships but not repeat grants. This also applies to items 2.17, 2.18 and 2.19 below

2.17 Pengam and Communities Partnership

The above was formed in 2003 to support the processes of regeneration and community development. A grant of £1000 is requested towards administration costs. In 2005/2006, £2500 was provided for a similar purpose.

2.18 Penllwyn Community Partnership

A grant of £2500 is requested to help with administration costs. A similar amount was awarded to this Partnership in 2006/2007.

2.19 Oakdale and Penmaen Community Partnership

A grant of £2500 is sought as in 2.14 above and this amount was also awarded in 2006/2007.

2.20 Newbridge-Online

The above is a community website that is used by ex-patriots around the world and by locals on a daily basis. An unspecified grant is requested to help with the cost of publicity and third party services. In past years £100 has been provided.

2.21 New Start 4 Life, Deri

This organisation provides a community activity that promotes healthy living through advice and exercise classes in order to support people who have suffered from physical or cardiac illnesses. A grant of £100 is requested to help with the cost of gym fees. This is the same amount that was awarded last year.

2.22 Royal British Legion Newbridge Branch

The above has organised concerts to raise funds for the Poppy Appeal for a number of years. This year's concert took place on Friday, 10th October at Newbridge Comprehensive School and a grant is requested towards the cost. No amount has been specified. In recent years grants of £300 have been awarded for anniversary concerts in respect of the Falklands conflict and the end of World War Two.

2.23 Taekwondo-Wales

A number of applications for financial assistance have been received in respect of attendance at a Taekwondo Tournament in Holland. Accreditation has been provided by Taekwondo-Wales, which is not a National Association but a club that holds classes at four sites in the CCBC area. The Tournament to be attended includes clubs from across Europe but does not involve National teams.

Members are asked to consider if club members selected for such a tournament are representing Wales and can receive individual awards of £250. Alternatively, the Club could be invited to apply for a grant in respect of its junior membership in accordance with the set criteria.

2.24 Zoar Welsh Baptist Chapel, Pontlottyn

A new Church building has been constructed that is intended to be used as a concert venue and meeting place for the village. An unspecified grant is sought towards the cost of new Bibles and other items for the Church. Churches and Chapels are normally only supported from the Welsh Church Fund, for capital expenditure rather than consumables.

2.25 DASH Travel, Bargoed

The following application was considered at the meeting of 3rd July and was refused financial assistance.

DASH Travel is a company limited by guarantee (not for profit) whose remit is to work as a tour operator specifically for disabled people or senior citizens resident within Community First areas. Unspecified financial assistance is sought to help the company serve such residents in Caerphilly CBC.

The applicant believes that Members were not fully informed as to the meaning of "Company Limited by Guarantee" and has asked that the following additional information be provided and that the request be re-considered.

Definition/explanation of a Company Limited by Guarantee

Companies limited by guarantee are private limited companies where the liability of the members is limited. A guarantee company does not have a share capital, but has members who are guarantors instead of shareholders. Limitation of liability takes the form of a guarantee from its members to pay a nominal sum in the event of the company being wound up while they are a member or within one year of their ceasing to be a member. The amount of money that is guaranteed can be as little as £1 and will be stated within the constitution of the company (the Memorandum & Articles of Association).

Guarantee companies are useful for non-profit organisations that require corporate status. This means that its profits are not distributed to its members but are retained to be used for the purposes of the guarantee company. Of course this does not mean that the guarantee company cannot make a profit, as indeed it is almost paramount that it can and does so. Where an organisation is likely to enter into contracts it may need the benefit of limited liability to protect its Board of Trustees and its members, who may be involved on a voluntary basis

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 £17,020, and therefore the balance available is £29,025. Thirteen new applications are appended below. The total of amounts requested in accordance with the agreed criteria is £15,383.

3.2 Blackwood Community First Responders

The above group of 16 adults aims to save lives by attending the scene of a cardiac arrest within eight minutes. Training is provided by the Welsh Ambulance Service but no funding. The maximum grant is sought to help purchase an automated defibrillator and responder bag estimated to cost £5000. An application for financial assistance from the Council's budget has also been included at 2.7.

3.3 Brithdir Community Centre

Replacement of the heating system is expected to cost in excess of £11000. A grant of £1500 is requested towards the cost.

3.4 Groeswen Chapel, Caerphilly

The Chapel has recently been restored at a cost of £320,000. The Trustees now wish to set up a permanent exhibition of the Chapel's historical records and the growth of non-conformity. The cost of exhibition wall panels is estimated at £10986 and a grant of £1500 is sought.

3.5 Moriah Baptist Church, Risca

Repairs to the leaded light windows are being carried out in stages. Stage one has recently been completed at a cost of £13,825 and a grant of £1,500 is requested.

3.6 Risca United Football Club

A grant of £1500 is sought to assist with the erection of a fence to fully enclose the senior pitch and prevent vandalism. A similar application was approved in 2004 but the project did not go ahead.

3.7 St Martin's Church, Caerphilly

The Church walls need to be re-rendered due to water penetration. A quotation of £9136 has been received and the maximum grant is requested.

3.8 St Peter's Church, Aberbargoed

New windows and flooring are estimated to cost in excess of £10,000. A grant of £1500 is requested.

3.9 St Tyfaelog's Parish Church Hall

A grant of £1500 is requested towards the cost of refurbishing kitchen facilities. No estimate is available but the cost is expected to be in excess of £6500.

3.10 TAB Life Centre, Pontllanfraith

A grant of £1500 is requested towards the cost of a new PA system and instruments estimated at £7095.

3.11 Elim Tabernacle Church, Abertysswg

The Church has received a Communities First grant of £5000 to purchase fire safety equipment and a loop system. The total cost exceeded that amount by £267 and a Welsh Church Fund grant is requested to cover the shortfall.

3.12 1st Gilfach Scout Group

A Welsh Church Fund grant is requested towards a building refurbishment project at Gilfach Scout Hall. Total cost is estimated at £5438 and £5000 is being sought from the Communities First Trust Fund, leaving a shortfall of £438.

3.13 Oakdale Baptist Church

New windows and guttering have recently been fitted at a cost of £3535. A grant of £1178 would represent one third.

3.14 Valleys Fibromyalgia Group

The above is a support group for fibromyalgia sufferers who meet in Rhymney Library. The group would like to purchase books to inform and assist members and is seeking a grant of £1500. Welsh Church Fund grants are normally only awarded in respect of capital expenditure. This organisation would meet the criteria for support from the Panel's budget, and Members may wish to consider whether assistance from that source would be offered, should the organisation apply.

4. DECISIONS OF OFFICERS

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

| Ref | Name of Organisation | Grant Awarded £ |
|------------|------------------------------------|------------------------|
| 021/08 | Blackwood OAP Association | 130 |
| 022/08 | Fochriw Over 55's Club | 130 |
| 023/08 | Pentwyn & District OAP Association | 130 |
| 024/08 | Tiryberth OAP Association | 130 |
| 025/08 | Ystrad Mynach Male Choir | 70 |

| | | |
|--------|---------------------------------------------------|---------|
| 026/08 | Aber Valley YMCA | 470 |
| 027/08 | Oakdale Silver Band | 500 |
| 028/08 | 5th Caerphilly Brownies | 45 |
| 02908 | 2nd Caerphilly Guides | 90 |
| 030/08 | 1st Newbridge Brownies | 90 |
| 031/08 | Blackwood Town Cricket Club | 360 |
| 032/08 | Devils Martial Arts | 180 |
| 033/08 | Senghenydd Cricket Club | 45 |
| 034/08 | Luc Jones, Hafodyrynys – Track Cycling | 130 |
| 035/08 | Elena Little, Pentwynmawr – Shooting | 250 |
| 036/08 | Anne Greenaway, Bargoed – Bowls | 250 |
| 037/08 | Denise Molan, Caerphilly - Bowls | 250 |
| 038/08 | Amber Murphy, Pontllanfraith – Kickboxing | 250 |
| 039/08 | Lauren Price, Bargoed - Kickboxing | 250 |
| 040/08 | Lauren Williams, Pontllanfraith – Kickboxing | 250 |
| 068/08 | Cascade OAP Association | 130 |
| 069/08 | Hengoed OAP Association | 130 |
| 070/08 | Cefn Hengoed Ladies Choir | 70 |
| 071/08 | Oaklands Allotment Association | 50 |
| 072/08 | Pontllanfraith St John Ambulance Cadets | 70 |
| 073/08 | 1st Markham Brownies (1st application) | 90 + 90 |
| 074/08 | 1st Phillipstown Brownies (1st application) | 90 + 90 |
| 075/08 | Karate Budokan, Caerphilly Club (1st application) | 90 + 90 |
| 076/08 | Benytta Doman, Abercarn – Athletics | 130 |
| 077/08 | Ian Henderson, Caerphilly – Bowls | 130 |
| 078/08 | Conor Hopkins, Treowen – Cricket | 130 |
| 079/08 | Gareth Jones, Caerphilly - Bowls | 130 |
| 080/08 | Dean Kibble, Oakdale – Fly-Fishing | 130 |
| 081/08 | Fiona Murphy, Caerphilly - Squash | 130 |

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|--------|---------------------------------------------------------|---------|
| 082/08 | Carys Speake, Caerphilly – Youth Music Theatre UK | 130 |
| 083/08 | Malcolm Allen, Pentwynmawr – Clay Target Shooting | 250 |
| 084/08 | John Dobson, Trethomas - Snooker | 250 |
| 085/08 | Angharad Griffiths, Princetown – Hockey | 250 |
| 086/08 | Martyn Lewis, Caerphilly - Badminton | 250 |
| 087/08 | Lauren Robson, Blackwood – Taekwondo | 250 |
| 094/08 | Risca Senior Citizens | 250 |
| 095/08 | Gelligaer OAP Association | 130 |
| 096/08 | Crosskeys Silver Band | 500 |
| 097/08 | Gwythonor Ganol Allotment Association (1st application) | 50 + 50 |
| 098/08 | Pontlottyn Boys & Girls Club | 470 |
| 099/08 | 1st Aber Valley Scouts | 45 |
| 100/08 | 2nd Caerphilly Scout Group | 180 |
| 101/08 | 1st New Tredegar Brownies (1st application) | 45 + 45 |
| 102/08 | Phoenix United Football Club | 360 |
| 103/08 | Risca United Football Club | 90 |
| 104/08 | Risca Judo Club | 90 |
| 105/08 | Trinant Juniors AFC (1st application) | 45 + 45 |
| 106/08 | Monet- Rose Adams, Risca - Cycling | 130 |
| 107/08 | Daniel Sharrem, Aberbeeg – Athletics | 130 |
| 108/08 | Elwyn West, Blackwood – Bowls | 130 |
| 109/08 | Ann Butler, Caerphilly – Clay Target Shooting | 250 |
| 110/08 | Keiren Graham, Caerphilly – Roller Hockey | 250 |
| 111/08 | Gerald John, Bedwas – Sea Angling | 250 |
| 112/08 | Alan Poole, Caerphilly – Clay Target Shooting | 250 |
| 113/08 | Cwmcarn OAP Welfare Association | 250 |
| 114/08 | Bedwas Trethomas & Machen Band Society | 500 |
| 115/08 | Ystrad Mynach OAP Association | 130 |
| 116/08 | Rhymney Millennium Chorale | 70 |

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|--------|----------------------------------------|-----|
| 117/08 | Rhymney Silurian Male Choir | 70 |
| 118/08 | 1st Gilfach Scout Group | 90 |
| 119/08 | 1st Oakdale Brownies | 45 |
| 120/08 | Gary Beagen, Abercarn – Shooting | 250 |
| 121/08 | Huw Carpenter, Caerphilly - Snooker | 130 |
| 122/08 | Allen Hughes, Crosskeys – Fly-Fishing | 130 |
| 123/08 | Huw Jenkins, Penybryn – Kickboxing | 250 |
| 124/08 | Ethan Kilby, Phillipstown – Kickboxing | 250 |
| 125/08 | Mark Lerwill, Caerphilly – Kickboxing | 250 |
| 126/08 | Scott Morgan, Ynysddu - Shooting | 250 |
| 127/08 | Darren Thompson, Newbridge - Snooker | 250 |
| 128/08 | Paul Wallen, Gelligaer - Karate | 250 |
| 129/08 | Michael Wells, Caerphilly – Karate | 250 |
| 130/08 | Bernard Williams, Gilfach – Bowls | 130 |
| 131/08 | Paul Williams, Trethomas - Bowls | 130 |
| 132/08 | Carl Wood, Gilfach – Bowls | 130 |
| 133/08 | Jacob Matthews, Newbridge – Athletics | 130 |