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**Date: 23rd November 2023**

To Whom It May Concern,

A multi-locational meeting of the **Voluntary Sector Liaison Committee** will be held in Penallta House, and via Microsoft Teams on **Thursday, 30th November, 2023 at 10.30 am** to consider the matters contained in the following agenda. You are welcome to use Welsh at the meeting, a minimum notice period of 3 working days is required should you wish to do so. A simultaneous translation will be provided on request.

Members of the public or Press may attend in person at Penallta House or may view the meeting live via the following link: <https://civico.net/caerphilly>.

This meeting will be live-streamed and a recording made available to view via the Council's website, except for discussions involving confidential or exempt items. Therefore the images/audio of those individuals speaking will be publicly available to all via the recording on the Council website at [www.caerphilly.gov.uk](http://www.caerphilly.gov.uk)

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Chrissy'.

**Christina Harrhy**  
CHIEF EXECUTIVE

## AGENDA

- |                                     | Pages |
|-------------------------------------|-------|
| 1 To receive apologies for absence. |       |

A greener place Man gwyrddach



2 Declarations of Interest.

Councillors and Officers are reminded of their personal responsibility to declare any personal and/or prejudicial interest (s) in respect of any item of business on this agenda in accordance with the Local Government Act 2000, the Council's Constitution and the Code of Conduct for both Councillors and Officers.

To approve and sign the following minutes: -

3 Voluntary Sector Liaison Committee held on 8th June 2023.

1 - 6

4 Matters Arising.

5 Changes to Recycling Law for Businesses and the Charity Sector (Presentation).

6 The Work of Care and Repair Blaenau Gwent and Caerphilly (Presentation).

7 Headline Results of the Grant Survey (Verbal Update).

8 Grants awarded via the Grants to the Voluntary Sector Fund and the Welsh Church Acts Fund.

7 - 16

**Circulation:**

Councillors M. Chacon-Dawson, R. Chapman, Mrs P. Cook, J.E. Fussell, C.J. Gordon, T. Heron, Ms J.G. Jones, T. Parry, D.W.R. Preece, Mrs D. Price, H. Pritchard, E. Stenner, L.G. Whittle, S. Williams and W. Williams

**REPRESENTATIVES OF THE VOLUNTARY SECTOR:**

Abertridwr Community Church, Barod Cymru, Blaenau Gwent and Caerphilly Care & Repair Cymru, Caerphilly and Blaenau Gwent Citizens Advice, Cruse in Gwent, GAVO, Groundwork Wales, Homestart Cymru, Menter Iaith Sir Caerfilli, Oakdale Community Centre, Parent Network, Pobl Housing, Right From The Start, SSAFA Gwent, The United Reformed Church, The Youth Centre Cefn Hengoed, Vanguard Caerphilly

And Appropriate Officers

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## VOLUNTARY SECTOR LIAISON COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF THE MULTI-LOCATIONAL MEETING HELD AT PENALLTA HOUSE  
AND VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS ON THURSDAY, 8<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2023 AT 10.30 A.M.

PRESENT:

Councillors:

M. Chacon-Dawson, R. Chapman, P. Cook, J. E. Fussell, C. Gordon, J. Jones, Mrs T. Parry, D.W.R. Preece, D. Price, H. Pritchard, Mrs E. Stenner, L.G. Whittle, S. Williams and W. Williams.

Representatives of the Voluntary Sector:

S. Tiley (GAVO), A. Palmer (GAVO), G. Jones (GAVO), K. Dawson (GAVO), B. North (Groundwork Wales), L. Jones (Menter Iaith Sir Caerffili), R. Evans (Oakdale Community Centre), J. Wade (The United Reformed Church), J. Pritchard (The Youth Centre, Cefn Hengoed) and M. Wade (Vanguard Caerphilly).

Compact Partners:

L. McFarlane (Gwent Police) and H. Llewellyn (Town and Community Councils Representative).

Also in attendance:

K. Peters (Corporate Policy Manager), S. Richards (Head of Education Planning and Strategy), H. Delonnette (Senior Policy Officer), H. Pells (Policy Officer), P. Hudson (Business Enterprise Renewal Team Leader), I. Raymond (Principal Project Officer) and S. Hughes (Committee Services Officer).

### RECORDING ARRANGEMENTS

The Chair reminded those present that the meeting would be live-streamed and a recording made available to view via the Council's website, except for discussions involving confidential or exempt items - [Click here to view](#). The Committee was advised that voting on decisions would be taken via a show of hands.

#### 1. TO APPOINT A CHAIR FOR THE ENSUING YEAR

It was moved and seconded that Mrs L. Jones (Menter Iaith Sir Caerffili) be appointed as Chair. By way of a show of hands this was unanimously agreed.

RESOLVED that L. Jones (Menter Iaith Sir Caerffili) be appointed as Chair of the Voluntary Sector Liaison Committee for the ensuing year.

**2. TO APPOINT A VICE CHAIR FOR THE ENSUING YEAR**

It was moved and seconded that Councillor M. Chacon-Dawson be appointed as Vice Chair. By way of a show of hands this was unanimously agreed.

RESOLVED that Councillor M. Chacon-Dawson be appointed as Vice Chair of the Voluntary Sector Liaison Committee for the ensuing year.

**3. TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

An apology for absence was received from South Wales Fire and Rescue Service.

A Councillor raised concerns regarding low attendance at the Voluntary Sector Liaison Committee meetings from Voluntary Sector Representatives and Compact Partners. The Chair and the Deputy Chief Executive for GAVO advised the Committee that this issue has been raised in the Voluntary Sector Representatives Forum, and it was explained that there has been a substantial change of personnel within organisations and also a number of volunteers have stepped down following Covid. The Committee was further advised that elections will be held during this year for Voluntary Sector Liaison Committee representation, which will go out to the wider voluntary sector and Third Sector Forum in Caerphilly.

**4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest received at the commencement or during the course of the meeting.

**5. VOLUNTARY SECTOR LIAISON COMMITTEE HELD ON 2<sup>ND</sup> FEBRUARY 2023**

It was moved and seconded that the minutes of the Voluntary Sector Liaison Committee meeting held on 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2023 be approved as a correct record. By way of a show of hands this was agreed by the majority present.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Voluntary Sector Liaison Committee meeting held on 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2023 (minute nos. 1 – 8) be approved as a correct record.

**6. MATTERS ARISING**

There were no matters arising.

**7. UPDATED TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE VOLUNTARY SECTOR LIAISON COMMITTEE**

The Corporate Policy Manager presented the report to update the Terms of Reference for the Voluntary Sector Liaison Committee following the decision taken at full Council on the 11<sup>th</sup> of May 2023 to combine the role of the Committee with the main role of the former Grants to the Voluntary Sector Advisory Panel.

It was noted that the Terms of Reference for this Committee was last considered in 2013. Following a review undertaken by the Grants to the Voluntary Sector Advisory Panel into the operation of grants provided by the Council under the 'Welsh Church Acts Fund' and the small grants scheme, the 'Grants to the Voluntary Sector', a recommendation was made to Council to combine the roles of the two bodies and to disband the Advisory Panel in favour of its main functions transferring to this Liaison Committee. Save for a role for Council members only, explained at section 5.6 of the report. It was further noted that the effect of the changes to the

Terms of Reference are minor and primarily centred on this Committee receiving reports on grants awarded in future.

The Corporate Policy Manager reported that some partners to the Third Sector Agreement and members of the Committee were no longer able to attend meetings due to capacity and reduced resources. An amendment was proposed that the Terms of Reference would reflect that partners would attend and provide reports, on request, and as agendas dictate.

A representative of the Voluntary Sector positively commented on the decision to combine the role of the Committee with the main role of the former Grants to the Voluntary Sector Panel, as it will allow Voluntary Sector Representatives to speak directly to Members of the Sub-Committee to explain the frustrations that have been experienced with the system over the years and to be able to suggest improvements. The Voluntary Sector Representative referred to the workshop session held on 18<sup>th</sup> January 2023 with the Grants to the Voluntary Sector Panel and the Voluntary Sector and further information was sought on the recommendations that were proposed, particularly in relation to the Welsh Church Acts Fund. A number of points were made which included making the application form available online, the requirement for funding organisations upfront rather than being re-imbursed, the requirement for a six-year minimum lease on premises which include Council owned buildings, and further points were raised around the lease, grant of faculty and planning and building regulations.

In response, the Corporate Policy Manager provided an overview of the workshop and explained that the recommendations proposed by the Grants to the Voluntary Sector Panel in relation to the Welsh Church Acts Fund and Grants to the Voluntary Sector Fund would be considered by Cabinet on 14<sup>th</sup> June 2023 and reported back to the Voluntary Sector. The Corporate Policy Manager highlighted that she did not have the Cabinet Report available to refer to, however it was noted that some of the points raised are going to be considered by Cabinet. It was confirmed that the points raised around the lease, grant of faculty and planning and building regulations were not discussed in the workshop as they have previously been answered by the Head of Property Services and there will not be any change to those elements. The Deputy Chief Executive for GAVO added that the workshop did discuss funding organisations upfront and the Head of Financial Services and Section 151 Officer agreed to consider the potential of changing it to funding 50% upfront.

A Voluntary Sector Representative suggested that the operation of the Welsh Church Acts Fund and Grants to the Voluntary Sector Fund is discussed at the next Voluntary Sector Liaison Committee meeting to consider further recommendations.

Following consideration of the report, and subject to the amendment proposed Under Section 2 (Membership) of the draft Terms of Reference, in that 'One nominated representative from each of the following or a nominated substitute' be replaced with 'Partners to the Third Sector Agreement will attend and provide reports as agendas dictate', it was moved and seconded that the recommendation be approved. By way of a show of hands this was agreed by the majority present.

RESOLVED that the Voluntary Sector Liaison Committee considered and agreed the amended draft terms of reference appended to the report (Appendix 1).

## **8. PARTICIPATORY BUDGETING - VERBAL UPDATE**

The Chief Executive Officer for GAVO provided an update on the Participatory Budgeting position. The Committee was informed that conversations are taking place with the Health Board and Caerphilly County Borough Council as to how funds will be distributed. It was confirmed that £427,881 has been received from the local authority and of that £363,700 is going to be given out in grants. It was explained that the difference in amount will be to fund a part time member of staff for two years to manage the funding and who will be dedicated to support organisations, not only in applying for the funding but also after the process. It was highlighted that this part time member of staff would also support organisations who are

unsuccessful with bids. The Committee was provided with timeline for the application process and advised that more updates will be provided as the role progresses.

The Voluntary Sector Liaison Committee noted the verbal update.

**9. INTRODUCTION FOR PLANS TO CONSULT ON THE THIRD SECTOR PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT FOR GWENT - VERBAL UPDATE**

The Deputy Chief Executive for GAVO provided a verbal update on the introduction for plans to consult on the Third Sector Partnership Agreement for Gwent.

The Voluntary Sector Liaison Committee noted the update.

**10. GRANTS AWARDED VIA THE GRANTS TO THE VOLUNTARY SECTOR FUND AND THE WELSH CHURCH ACTS FUND**

The Corporate Policy Manager introduced the report to inform the Voluntary Sector Liaison Committee of the budget available for the Grants to the Voluntary Sector Fund for 2023/24 and the grants awarded in April 2023. The Committee was also informed of the budget available for the Welsh Church Acts Fund for 2023/24 and the grants awarded in April 2023. Details were also provided on applications received and approved by the Head of Financial Services and S151 Officer under delegated powers during April 2023, for each grant scheme.

Members of the Voluntary Sector Liaison Committee noted the applications received that met the criteria for the Grants to the Voluntary Sector Fund and the Welsh Church Acts Fund, which have already been approved by the Head of Financial Services and S151 Officer under delegated powers, and which are reported to the Voluntary Sector Liaison Committee for information.

**11. UPDATE ON SHARED PROSPERITY FUND – PRESENTATION**

The Business Enterprise Renewal Team Leader delivered a presentation to provide an update and overview on the Shared Prosperity Fund, which included the allocation of funding, the Investment Plan which sets out how they intend to use and deliver the funding, UK Government investment priorities and objectives, progress to date, the Local Investment Plan, the delivery of the fund, future projects, projects in progress and voluntary sector supported future projects.

In response to a request from the representative of Gwent Police, the Business Enterprise Renewal Team Leader provided contact details for the persons in charge of the crime and disorder reduction grant.

A representative of the Voluntary Sector requested a copy of the presentation and raised concerns regarding the short timescale given for the progress to date. In response to a query from a Councillor, the Business Enterprise Renewal Team Leader clarified that the Shared Prosperity Fund is a 3-year programme, the allocation of funding has to be spent by March 2025 and any un-spent monies are re-distributed to the Treasury. It was highlighted that there were ringfenced amounts at the end of the first year which have been carried forward to year two, so there are opportunities to develop current projects.

The Voluntary Sector Liaison Committee noted the presentation.

**12. WELL-BEING PLAN UPDATE – PRESENTATION**

The Senior Policy Officer delivered a presentation to provide an update on the Gwent Well-

being Plan, which included a brief introduction and an overview of the objectives and steps of the Gwent Well-being Plan. The Committee was informed that the final sign off by PSB is the 22<sup>nd</sup> June and it will be published by the end of June 2023. Furthermore, an overview was provided on the Local Delivery Plans and how they are going to be developed.

In terms of the draft Local Delivery Plans the Chair asked if there will there be any opportunities for people across the voluntary sector to get involved. In response, the Senior Policy Officer advised that GAVO are involved in the process and they will make sure the Voluntary Sector and Third Sector are involved in some way. In response to a request from a Councillor, it was agreed that a copy of the presentation would be e-mailed to all members of the Committee.

The Voluntary Sector Liaison Committee noted the presentation.

**13. ITEMS OF INTEREST CONCERNING THE VOLUNTARY SECTOR FROM COMPACT PARTNERS**

There were no items of interest concerning the voluntary sector from Compact Partners.

The meeting closed at 11.55 am.

Approved as a correct record and subject to any amendments or corrections agreed and recorded in the minutes of the meeting held on 30<sup>th</sup> November 2023, they were signed by the Chair.

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CHAIR

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## **VOLUNTARY SECTOR LIAISON COMMITTEE – 30<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2023**

**SUBJECT: GRANTS AWARDED VIA THE GRANTS TO THE VOLUNTARY SECTOR FUND AND THE WELSH CHURCH ACTS FUND**

**REPORT BY: CORPORATE DIRECTOR FOR EDUCATION AND CORPORATE SERVICES**

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### **1. PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 To inform the Voluntary Sector Liaison Committee (VSLC) of the budget available for the Grants to the Voluntary Sector (GTVS) Fund for 2023/24 and the grants awarded between 1<sup>st</sup> May and 31<sup>st</sup> October 2023.
- 1.2 To inform the VSLC of the budget available for the Welsh Church Acts Fund (WCAF) for 2023/24 and the grants awarded between 1<sup>st</sup> May and 31<sup>st</sup> October 2023.

### **2. SUMMARY**

- 2.1 The report advises the VSLC of the budget allocations for both the Voluntary Sector budget and the Welsh Church Acts Fund budget for 2023/24. It also provides details of applications received and approved by the Head of Financial Services & S151 Officer under delegated powers between 1<sup>st</sup> May and 31<sup>st</sup> October 2023, for each grant scheme.

### **3. RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 3.1 That members of the VSLC note the applications received that meet the criteria for the GTVS Fund and the WCAF, which have already been approved by the Head of Financial Services and S151 Officer under delegated powers, and which are reported to the VSLC for information.

### **4. REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 4.1 To ensure that the applications received under this report are determined in accordance with the Council's scheme of delegation criteria.

## 5. THE REPORT

5.1 This is the latest update to the VSLC in relation to grants awarded under the GTVS Fund and the WCAF, following the disbanding of the Grants to the Voluntary Sector Panel.

### 5.2 GRANTS TO THE VOLUNTARY SECTOR BUDGET

5.2.1 The GTVS budget for 2023/24 is shown in the table below:

Budget 2023/24	£8,735.00
Carry forward balance from 2022/23	£106,351.67
<b>Total Available Budget 2023/24</b>	<b>£115,086.67</b>
Total 2023/24 Grants awarded previously	£2,960.00
<b>Balance Remaining</b>	<b>£112,126.67</b>

5.2.2 The GTVS budget and Discretionary Rate Relief budgets have been split for 2023-24. The GTVS budget has been calculated using the 2022/23 base and inflating by the rate agreed in the Council budget setting process (5%), which is an amount of £8,735. In addition, £106,351.67 has been carried forward from underspends in previous years, giving a total available budget for 2023/24 of £115,086.67.

5.2.3 Between 1<sup>st</sup> May and 31<sup>st</sup> October 2023, 67 new General Criteria awards were made totalling **£15,640**. These have been approved by the Head of Financial Services & S151 Officer under delegated powers and are reported to the VSLC for information only. The awards are summarised in the table below:

Ref	Name of organisation/ individual	Category	Amount awarded
23-GC018	No. 2353 Ystrad Mynach RAF Air Cadets	Boys & Girls Clubs/YMCA/Scouts/Cubs/ Brownies/ Guides/Boys Brigade/Crusaders (up to 50 members)	£100.00
23-GC019	Application from an individual	Individuals (amateur) representing Wales at home	£130.00
23-GC020	Application from an individual	Individuals (amateur) representing Wales at home	£130.00
23-GC021	Application from an individual	Individuals (amateur) representing Wales abroad	£250.00
23-GC022	Bargoed Hockey Club	Sports Club (up to 50 members)	£100.00
23-GC023	Rhymney Valley South Road Flying Club	Pigeon Clubs	£200.00
23-GC024	Crosskeys Community Spirit	Community Groups	£100.00
23-GC025	Gilfach Ladies Bowling Club	Community Groups	£100.00
23-GC026	Sirhowy Valley Hub CIC	Community Groups	£100.00
23-GC027	Application from an individual	Individuals (amateur) representing Wales abroad	£250.00

<b>Ref</b>	<b>Name of organisation/ individual</b>	<b>Category</b>	<b>Amount awarded</b>
23-GC028	United Services (Machen) Club and Institute Ltd	Community Groups	£100.00
23-GC029	Penuel Baptist Church, Rhymney	Community Groups	£100.00
23-GC030	Application from an individual	Individuals (amateur) representing Wales at home	£130.00
23-GC031	Crosskeys Krafters	Community Groups	£100.00
23-GC032	Application from an individual	Individuals (amateur) representing Wales abroad	£250.00
23-GC033	Application from an individual	Individuals (amateur) representing Wales abroad	£300.00
23-GC034	Cwm Calon Community Association	Other Community Groups	£200.00
23-GC035	Aber Valley YMCA	Other membership group e.g. Boys & Girls Club, YMCA, Scouts, Cubs, Brownies, Rainbows, St John Ambulance etc. (over 50 members)	£300.00
23-GC036	Cefn Fforest Jazz Band	Arts Groups e.g. Jazz Bands, Choirs, Arts Societies, Writers Clubs, Theatre Groups etc.	£200.00
23-GC037	Application from an individual	Individuals (amateur) representing Wales within the UK	£200.00
23-GC038	Application from an individual	Individuals (amateur) representing Wales within the UK	£200.00
23-GC039	Rhymney Castle Select South Road Flying Club	Environment Groups e.g. Allotments, Beekeepers Groups, Gardening Clubs, Tenants & Residents Associations, Pigeon Clubs etc.	£200.00
23-GC040	United Services (Machen) Club and Institute Ltd	Organisation or Association not owning a building	£200.00
23-GC041	Cefn Hengoed Ladies Choir	Other Community Groups	£200.00
23-GC042	Valley Daffodils	Other Community Groups	£200.00
23-GC043	Cariad Quilters	Other Community Groups	£200.00
23-GC044	Caerphilly Uniform Exchange CIC	Organisation or Association not owning a building	£200.00
23-GC045	Caerphilly People First	Other Community Groups	£200.00
23-GC046	Bargoed YMCA	Organisation or Association owning a building	£360.00
23-GC047	St Gwladys' Church Hall	Organisation or Association owning a building	£360.00

<b>Ref</b>	<b>Name of organisation/ individual</b>	<b>Category</b>	<b>Amount awarded</b>
23-GC048	Application from an individual	Individuals (amateur) representing Wales within the UK	£200.00
23-GC049	Application from an individual	Individuals (amateur) representing Wales abroad	£300.00
23-GC050	Application from an individual	Individuals (amateur) representing Wales abroad	£300.00
23-GC051	Application from an individual	Individuals (amateur) representing Wales abroad	£300.00
23-GC052	Application from an individual	Individuals (amateur) representing Wales abroad	£300.00
23-GC053	Application from an individual	Individuals (amateur) representing Wales abroad	£300.00
23-GC054	Bethel Quilters	Other Community Groups	£200.00
23-GC055	Machen Bowling Club	Sports Club (up to 50 members)	£200.00
23-GC056	Fitzroy Lodge	Organisation or Association not owning a building	£200.00
23-GC057	YM Bit's and Bob's Community Group	Other Community Groups	£200.00
23-GC058	Application from an individual	Individuals (amateur) representing Wales abroad	£300.00
23-GC059	Application from an individual	Individuals (amateur) representing Wales abroad	£300.00
23-GC060	Application from an individual	Individuals (amateur) representing Wales at home	£200.00
23-GC061	Salvaged Creation Wales CIC	Other Community Groups	£200.00
23-GC062	Application from an individual	Individuals (amateur) representing Wales abroad	£300.00
23-GC063	Application from an individual	Individuals (amateur) representing Wales abroad	£300.00
23-GC064	Application from an individual	Individuals (amateur) representing Wales abroad	£300.00
23-GC066	Application from an individual	Individuals (amateur) representing Wales abroad	£300.00
23-GC067	Application from an individual	Individuals (amateur) representing Wales abroad	£300.00
23-GC068	Application from an individual	Individuals (amateur) representing Wales abroad	£300.00
23-GC069	Application from an individual	Individuals (amateur) representing Wales abroad	£300.00
23-GC070	Application from an individual	Individuals (amateur) representing Wales abroad	£300.00
23-GC071	1st Trinant Rainbows	Other membership group e.g. Boys & Girls Club, YMCA, Scouts, Cubs, Brownies, Rainbows, St John Ambulance etc. (up to 50 members)	£200.00

<b>Ref</b>	<b>Name of organisation/ individual</b>	<b>Category</b>	<b>Amount awarded</b>
23-GC072	Application from an individual	Individuals (amateur) representing Wales abroad	£300.00
23-GC073	Application from an individual	Individuals (amateur) representing Wales within the UK	£200.00
23-GC074	Application from an individual	Individuals (amateur) representing Wales abroad	£300.00
23-GC075	Application from an individual	Individuals (amateur) representing Wales abroad	£300.00
23-GC076	Application from an individual	Individuals (amateur) representing Wales abroad	£300.00
23-GC077	BWORKZ	Environment Groups e.g. Allotments, Beekeepers Groups, Gardening Clubs, Tenants & Residents Associations, Pigeon Clubs etc.	£200.00
23-GC078	The Youth Centre, Cefn Hengoed	Organisation or Association not owning a building	£200.00
23-GC079	Application from an individual	Individuals (amateur) representing Wales abroad	£300.00
23-GC080	Application from an individual	Individuals (amateur) representing Wales abroad	£300.00
23-GC081	Application from an individual	Individuals (amateur) representing Wales abroad	£300.00
23-GC082	Application from an individual	Individuals (amateur) representing Wales abroad	£300.00
23-GC083	Oakdale Silver Band	Brass and Silver Bands	£480.00
23-GC084	1st Trinant Brownies	Other membership group e.g. Boys & Girls Club, YMCA, Scouts, Cubs, Brownies, Rainbows, St John Ambulance etc. (up to 50 members)	£200.00
23-GC085	Mynyddislwyn Ladies Choir	Arts Groups e.g. Jazz Bands, Choirs, Arts Societies, Writers Clubs, Theatre Groups etc.	£200.00
		<b>Total</b>	<b>£15,640.00</b>

5.2.4 After the awards detailed in the table above have been considered, the amount remaining in the current financial year is **£96,486.67** inclusive of the carry forward balance.

5.2.5 One application has been received from an organisation which is outside the General Criteria. This application will be considered at the Voluntary Sector Liaison Sub-Committee immediately following this meeting, and any grant award will be reported to a future meeting of the VSLC for information.

### 5.3 WELSH CHURCH ACTS FUND

- 5.3.1 The total Welsh Church Acts Fund budget available for 2023/24 is **£224,508.57**. This consists of the annual allocation from Monmouthshire County Council (**£59,841.17**) plus unallocated sums from previous years (**£164,667.40**).

Budget 2023/24	£59,841.17
Underspend Held By Monmouthshire CBC	£56,259.68
Carry forward balances in CCBC accounts	£108,407.72
Total Available Budget	£224,508.57
Underspend from previously approved projects	£0.00
<b>Total available budget 2023/24</b>	<b>£224,508.57</b>
Total 2023/24 grants awarded previously	£25,634.98
<b>Balance remaining</b>	<b>£198,873.59</b>

- 5.3.2 Between 1<sup>st</sup> May and 31<sup>st</sup> October 2023, 13 applications were received totalling **£71,374.83**. These have been approved by the Head of Financial Services & S151 Officer under delegated powers and are reported to the VSLC for information only. The awards are summarised in the table below.

Ref	Name of organisation	Description	Amount awarded
ORG23-WCF006	Newbridge Memo	Replacing lighting with LED throughout building	£5,000.00
ORG23-WCF007	Rock Fellowship	Replacement roof and purchase of new kitchen appliances	£4,605.79
ORG23-WCF008	Senghenydd Community Centre	Upgrading all lighting to LED	£5,000.00
ORG23-WCF009	Mynyddislwyn Community Choir (Mynyddislwyn Male Choir)	Repairs to choir building (Penmaen Chapel)	£5,000.00
ORG23-WCF010	Helping Hands	Building works to create ramp and purchase of karaoke & bingo machine	£4,433.00
ORG23-WCF011	Raw Performance CIC	Purchase of laptops and equipment for fitness sessions	£4,960.31
ORG23-WCF012	Wattsville Community Group	Erection of safety fencing to protect children	£7,356.00
ORG23-WCF013	Markham Miners Welfare Scheme	Replacement heating system for building	£5,937.00
ORG23-WCF014	St Tyfaelog's Church Hall, Pontlottyn	Replacement flat roof and new ceiling, plus window blinds	£3,456.74
ORG23-WCF015	Crumlin Cricket Club	Supply & installation of permanent netted cricket call stop fencing	£7,500.00

<b>Ref</b>	<b>Name of organisation</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Amount awarded</b>
ORG23-WCF016	Cefn Fforest Community Centre Management Committee	Various equipment for young people	£7,103.59
ORG23-WCF017	Bushscout Cymru (Caerphilly)	Purchase of 5 gazebos with branding and fixing kits	£7,000.00
ORG23-WCF018	Friends of the Eco Park	Repairs to wall & steps, install handrail & cost of ramp	£4,022.40
		<b>Total</b>	<b>£71,374.83</b>

5.3.3 If all the grants awarded in previous years but not yet spent draw down the maximum amounts allocated to them, there will be a balance of **£127,498.76** remaining for new projects in 2023/24.

5.3.4 One application has been received from an individual in relation to the WCAF. This application will be considered at the Voluntary Sector Liaison Sub-Committee immediately following this meeting, and any grant award will be reported to a future meeting of the VSLC for information.

## **5.4 Conclusion**

5.4.1 The report summarises all allocations made via the GTVS Fund and the WCAF between 1<sup>st</sup> May and 31<sup>st</sup> October 2023. Further allocations will be reported to the VSLC at future meetings.

## **6. ASSUMPTIONS**

6.1 There are no assumptions as the 2023/24 budget has been confirmed. The carried forward underspends from previous years are provisional, as the statement of accounts are still draft and subject to audit.

## **7. SUMMARY OF INTEGRATED IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

7.1 As this report is for information only a full Integrated Impact Assessment has not been undertaken.

## **8. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

8.1 The financial implications are those set out in the report.

## **9. PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS**

9.1 There are no personnel implications.

## **10. CONSULTATIONS**

10.1 There are no consultation responses which have not been reflected in this report.

## **11. STATUTORY POWER**

11.1 Local Government Act 1972 and 2003 and the Council's Financial Regulations.

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Appendices:

Appendix 1 List of General Criteria



**General Criteria for Financial Assistance**

<b>Category</b>	<b>Criteria</b>	<b>Amount (£)</b>
A	Organisation or Association owning a building	360
B	Organisation or Association not owning a building	200
C	Sports Club (up to 50 members)	200
D	Sports Club (over 50 members)	300
E	Other membership group e.g. Boys & Girls Club, YMCA, Scouts, Cubs, Brownies, Rainbows, St John Ambulance etc. (up to 50 members)	200
F	Other membership group e.g. Boys & Girls Club, YMCA, Scouts, Cubs, Brownies, Rainbows, St John Ambulance etc. (over 50 members)	300
G	Brass and Silver Bands	480
H	Arts Groups e.g. Jazz Bands, Choirs, Arts Societies, Writers Clubs, Theatre Groups etc.	200
I	Environment Groups e.g. Allotments, Beekeepers Groups, Gardening Clubs, Tenants & Residents Associations, Pigeon Clubs etc.	200
J	Other Community Groups	200
K	Individuals (amateur) representing Wales within the UK	200
L	Individuals (amateur) representing Wales outside the UK	300
M	Individuals (amateur) representing Wales Top-up Grant	100

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