

Loppington Parish Council

Community Benefit Fund

Applicant: Loppington PCC

Committee Date: 14th May 2024

In accordance with s139 Local Government Act 1972 Loppington Parish Council (the Council) is in receipt of funding to be applied to Community Projects for the benefit of the communities of the Parish and which has been approved by a meeting of the Parish Councillors prior to the allocation of any payment (the Approved Projects).

Recommendation

That the Council consider the application received, and in accordance with the Council's Grants Policy, Financial Regulations and Standing Orders award funding to the Applicant and the Project(s) provided that members consider it to be a commensurate benefit to the residents of the Parish

1. Small Grants – up to £250

In accordance with the Council's Grants Policy the Council may allocate Community Benefit Fund annually to small projects or single community events.

Intermediary Grants – up to £1,000

In accordance with the Council's Grants Policy the Council may allocate Community Benefit Fund annually to clearly defined or ongoing Community Projects

Major Grants (over £1,000)

In accordance with the Council's Grants Policy the Council may award grants to charities, clubs or societies to help with the cost of clearly defined or ongoing Community Projects.

2. To allow the Parish Council to consider this request:

a) In accordance with the Parish Council's Grants Policy, the application to be supported by 3 quotes/estimates and a copy of the PCC most recent audited accounts and full details of the project including any match funding.

b) Provide bank account details to which any award can lawfully be made.

4. Financial

a) The Council is in receipt of a copy of the PCC audited accounts ending 31st December 2023.

The PCC has applied for other funding totalling £9,900 but to date only £2,900 is secured. The PCC has a potential VAT reclaim of circa £6,717

b) The request from the Applicant is for £16,500 being circa 50% of the cost of the Project (excluding VAT). See application details below.

c) The Council currently has £16,590 available in the Community Benefit Fund

5. Legal Position in respect of Council/Community Benefit Fund spending

As the money received under section 139 (1) (b) for the benefit of the residents is administered by the Parish Council under that section in terms of the quasi trust created by the donation, the normal rules prohibiting spending on church property do not apply. Therefore, **if** the Parish Council concludes that repairs to the Church building are a benefit to the residents and it complies with clause 3.1 of the 2016 agreement, the Community Benefit Fund could be used to help fund repairs to the church building.

The Parish Council may approve and make a grant of a fixed sum to the PCC which would not be subject to procurement under the Council's Financial Regulations and Contract Finder. The Council would not be responsible for any additional or unexpected costs beyond the fixed sum awarded but will reserve the right to monitor the project to ensure that the grant is used in accordance with the application.

6. Decision Required:

- a) Whether or not the Parish Council supports the Project, and
- b) With reference to the Council's Financial Statement and funding available, establish the amount financial support, and
- c) Conditions to be applied to any award

Clerk
Loppington Parish Council
May 2024

Applicant :	Loppington PCC	Ref:																		
Project Title:	Repairs to fabric of St. Michaels Church																			
Project Cost:	<table border="1"> <tr> <td colspan="2">£</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Stonework repairs</td> <td>20,645.15</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Rainwater goods</td> <td>2,260.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Window repairs</td> <td>3,350.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>All pre and post work costs</td> <td>7,825.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>total ex Vat & contingency</td> <td>33,580.15</td> </tr> <tr> <td>VAT (probably reclaimable)</td> <td>6,717.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Contingency including inflation.</td> <td>3,458.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>TOTAL PROJECT COSTS¹</td> <td>43,755.15</td> </tr> </table>		£		Stonework repairs	20,645.15	Rainwater goods	2,260.00	Window repairs	3,350.00	All pre and post work costs	7,825.00	total ex Vat & contingency	33,580.15	VAT (probably reclaimable)	6,717.00	Contingency including inflation.	3,458.00	TOTAL PROJECT COSTS¹	43,755.15
£																				
Stonework repairs	20,645.15																			
Rainwater goods	2,260.00																			
Window repairs	3,350.00																			
All pre and post work costs	7,825.00																			
total ex Vat & contingency	33,580.15																			
VAT (probably reclaimable)	6,717.00																			
Contingency including inflation.	3,458.00																			
TOTAL PROJECT COSTS¹	43,755.15																			
Total Project Cost	Circa £43,755																			
Project Summary:	<p>The project is to repair the external sandstone at the east end of St. Michael's church and other work to prevent damp ingress. The church building, although considerably altered at various times over the years, dates from 1190 and is grade 1 Listed and of social and historic value to the families and community of Loppington.</p>																			
Background Papers	<p>Grant Application Form received 27th April 2024 Associated Documents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bell Masonry Stonework Schedule of Works. <p>Estimates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bell Stone Masonry - The accepted quotation. • Geoff Moore Reclesia. quote • Mc Millan & Holder Ltd. quote <p>Loppington PCC Audited Accounts 2023 Commentary to Accounts. Explanation of the reason for applying for the grant.</p>																			
Amount Requested:	£16,500																			
Legal Authority:	<p>S139 Local Government Act 1972 Acceptance of gifts of property.</p> <p>(1) Subject to the provisions of this section a local authority may accept, hold and administer—</p> <p>(a) for the purpose of discharging any of their functions, gifts of property, whether real or personal, made for that purpose; or</p> <p>(b) for the benefit of the inhabitants of their area or of some part of it, gifts made for that purpose; and may execute any work (including works of maintenance or improvement) incidental to or consequential on the exercise of the powers conferred by this section.</p>																			

	<p>(2) Where any such work is executed in connection with a gift made for the benefit of the inhabitants of the area of a local authority or of some part of that area, the cost of executing the work shall be added to any expenditure under section 137 above in computing the limit imposed on that expenditure by subsection (4) of that section.</p> <p>(3) This section shall not authorise the acceptance by a local authority of property which, when accepted, would be held in trust for an ecclesiastical charity or for a charity for the relief of poverty.</p> <p>(4) Nothing in this section shall affect any powers exercisable by a local authority under or by virtue of [F1the Education Act 1996].</p>
--	---

¹ Please list any external funding (other than from LPC) which you intend to apply for stating from whom, then confirm the total amount you would like to apply for from LPC.