Synod Advance Fund

Grants to support Churches with urgent repairs

The Synod Schemes & Grants Committee offers 10% funding for building schemes with a mission and outreach objective. However, the Committee recognises that churches have had restricted income for 2 years because of reduced members offerings and loss of letting income. Some buildings require urgent maintenance, which may have been identified in a Quinquennial inspection, but they do not have the resources to carry out the work. Discretionary grants are being made available Churches should show that they are financially viable in terms of routine expenditure and assessments through a 12 month budge and previous year accounts.

The SS&GC will make up to a total of £50,000 from Advance Fund available until the end of Connexional Year 2022/23 for such schemes.

**Guidelines**

Churches should consult their Circuit and Synod Property Stewards, ensuring that guidelines for listed buildings and other building regulations are adhered to.

Proposals should be submitted on the SAF application form. (Available on the Synod website or on request). However, there is no requirement to link the work to the church and Circuit mission plans (omit that section). The proposals should include:

* A plan stating what work is required and time table
* What consultation has taken place to ensure quality of the work/ repairs,
* Evidence that due diligence with regards to cost effectiveness and consideration for the environment has been made.
* Budgets which indicate the costs and any additional sources of funds or fundraising
* Proposals should be approved by the churches own planning and financial procedures (eg number of quotes required) – please include the date of that approval
* Proposals should also receive Circuit approval - please include the date of that approval

**Grants up to £5000 are available:**

* Churches or other sources should contribute at least 50% of the amount requested from Synod .

Note: grants cannot be awarded for work already completed or to repay loans.

**Reporting Requirements**

Churches receiving grants should produce a short report indicating the outcomes of the project and any lessons learnt after 12 months. This will enable the committee to evaluate the effectiveness of the scheme.

Any questions please contact Gill Peace: peacelossl@btinternet.com or

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