SUBJECT: WELSH CHURCH FUND WORKING GROUP

MEETING: Cabinet

DATE: 19th February 2020

DIVISIONS/WARD AFFECTED: AII

1. PURPOSE:

1.1 The purpose of this report is to make recommendations to Cabinet on the Schedule of Applications for the Welsh Church Fund Working Group meeting 7 held on the 16th January 2020.

1.2 To approve The Welsh Church Fund funding allocation criteria for 2020-21 financial year.

2. **RECOMMENDATION:**

2.1 We resolved that the following grants be awarded as per the schedule of applications.

SCHEDULE OF APPLICATIONS CONSIDERED 2019/20 – MEETING 7.

1. Usk Baptist Church, requested £1,800 in funding to rectify a leak in the roof valley between the Church and the adjoining church function rooms.

Recommendation: £1,300 was awarded to assist in providing essential roof repairs to this Grade 1 listed Church.

2. St Peter's Church, Dixton, requested £5,000 to assist in the replacement of the Chancel roof of the Church as the roof has been deemed to be unsafe.

Recommendation: £3,500 was awarded to assist in the essential replacement of the Chancel roof of the Church.

.3 Monmouthshire Meadows Group requested £5,479 to replace unsafe fencing; the relocation of the road gate; provision of a kissing gate; installation of interpretive sign boards and install 2 owl boxes.

Recommendation: £597 was awarded to assist in funding this community project that benefits residents within Monmouthshire.

Usk Memorial Hall, requested £1,000 to assist in the replacement of non-regulation electrical fuse-boards and the total re-wiring of the Memorial Hall.

Recommendation: £800 was awarded to assist in the replacement and upgrading to regulation of the electrical fuse-boards and wiring within this community asset.

Caldicot Community Garden, requested £659.20 required to erect fencing around allotment area to protect crops and flowers being cultivated as current edging is crumbling and is a Health & Safety hazard to volunteers.

Recommendation: This application was deferred for further information.

Rockfield Village Life Community Project, requested £900 for the repair / restoration of the Village Praying Stone Cross as it has fractured and is being held together by metal support banding.

Recommendation: £500 was awarded to assist in providing essential safety repairs to this historical community cross.

2.2 The grant allocation funding criteria (Appendix 2) for the Welsh Church Trust Fund for 2020-21 was approved.

3. OPTIONS APPRAISAL

Options available to the Committee are driven by the information only supplied by the applicants

4. EVALUATION CRITERIA

No evaluation criteria are applicable to the grants awarded by the trust

5. REASONS

A meeting took place on Thursday 16th January 2020 of the Welsh Church Fund Cabinet Working Group to recommend the payment of grants as detailed in the attached schedule (Appendix 1).

County Councillors in attendance at meeting:

County Councillor A. Webb (Chair)

County Councillor D. Evans (Vice Chair)

County Councillor B. Strong

County Councillor S. Woodhouse

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE:

D Jarrett Central Finance

W Barnard Committee Administration

5.1 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Item 1 – Usk Baptist Church: County Councillor B. Strong declared a personal, non-prejudicial interest as a Member of the Church

5.2 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

None

5.3 CONFIRMATION OF REPORT OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the meetings held on the 24th October 2019 were confirmed and signed as a true record.

RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

A total of £6,697 was allocated at Meeting 7 of the Welsh Church Fund Committee. These grant awards have now extinguished the total available grant allocation for the 2019-20 financial year.

6. WELLBEING OF FUTURE GENERATIONS IMPLICATIONS (INCORPORATING EQUALITIES, SUSTAINABILITY, SAFEGUARDING AND CORPORATE PARENTING):

There are no Future Generations, equality, safeguarding, corporate parenting or sustainable development implications directly arising from this report. The assessment is contained in the attached appendix.

6.1.1 CONSULTEES:

Senior Leadership Team
All Cabinet Members
Head of Legal Services
Assistant Head of Finance
Central Finance Management Accountant

7. BACKGROUND PAPERS:

Welsh Church Fund Schedule of Applications 2019/20– Meeting 7 (Appendix 1) The Welsh Church Fund Funding Allocation Criteria for 2020-21 (Appendix 2)

8. AUTHOR:

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9. CONTACT DETAILS

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