

SUBJECT:	WELSH CHURCH FUND WORKING GROUP
MEETING:	ICMD (RESOURCES)
DATE:	25th March 2026
DIVISIONS/WARD AFFECTED:	All

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 4 held on Thursday 05th March 2026.

2. RECOMMENDATION:

- 2.1** The Committee resolved that the following grants are awarded as per the schedule of applications.

SCHEDULE OF APPLICATIONS CONSIDERED 2025/26 – MEETING 4.

- 1. St Michael's Church, Glascoed** requested £1,080 to commission an architect to conduct an initial pre-development feasibility study on adapting the available space for community use.

Recommendation: No award was made at the meeting, as the Committee require further information from the applicant.

- 2. Earlswood and Newchurch West Memorial Hall** requested £1,848 for repairs to the Hall's solar panels and rectifier, as they provide power to the hall and generate income to subsidise the running costs.

Recommendation: £500 awarded for repairs to the solar rectifier on this community asset.

- 3. The Palmer Centre, Chepstow** requested £3,000 required to replace the floor covering in the Café area for health & Safety reasons.

Recommendation: £1,500 awarded to aid in replacing the floor coverings in the café area of this community use asset.

- 4. Friends of Magor & Undy Community Hub** requested £495 to purchase 3 computer tablets so that the hub's internet café can provide internet access for the local community.

Recommendation: £350 awarded to assist in the provision of computer tablets for community use within the Hub's internet café.

- 5. Mathern & District Village Hall** requested £18,405 to remove and replace the hall ceiling which contains Asbestos, and replace the old and inefficient lighting.

Recommendation: £1,300 awarded to assist in the replacement of old and inefficient lighting..

- 6. St Michael's Church, Tintern, Church Lads & Girls Brigade** requested £900 for Leadership Training of young people attending the National Junior Leaders Training Course.

Recommendation: £900 awarded to assist in attending an educational training course for members of this young person's community group.

- 7. St Michael's Church, Tintern Pavia** requested £2,430 for the renewal of the church's electrical equipment to meet current standards and the installation of improved external lighting

Recommendation: £1,000 awarded to assist in the installation of outside lighting at the church to meet modern safety standards.

- 8. Plas Gunter Mansion Trust** requested a £5,000 contribution towards the £4m redevelopment of the Grade II* Listed 17th century Plas Gunter Mansion & Garden in Abergavenny. To bring in back into a condition where it can serve the community as a historical, educational and community resource.

Recommendation: £2,500 awarded to assist in redevelopment of the Grade II* Listed 17th century Mansion house for active community use.

- 9. CilyCoed Dragons netball** requested £752 to support the expansion of this sports activity club, as increasing numbers of players want to join, and this then requires extra sports equipment to accommodate all of the participants.

Recommendation: £320 awarded to assist in providing extra physical resources to enable the expansion of this community sports club

- 10. Zoar Baptist Chapel, Pandy,** requested £400 for the irepair of fencing along an exposed riverbank leading to the entrance of the chapel on Health & Safety concerns.

Recommendation: £400 awarded to assist in repairing the chapel's fencing that prevents accidental access to the riverbank.

- 11. St Teilo's Church, Llantilio Crossenny** requested £1,000 for repairs to the Church Roof; Boundary Wall; Preaching Cross and Porch Floor, and the felling of an unsafe Yew tree within the churchyard

Recommendation: £1,000 awarded to assist in repairing the church's building fabric and associated maintenance.

3. OPTIONS APPRAISAL

Decision options available to the Committee are guided and driven by the information supplied by the applicants.

4. EVALUATION CRITERIA

No evaluation criteria are applicable to the grant awarded by the trust.

5. REASONS

A Meeting took place on Thursday 05^h March 2026 of the Welsh Church Fund Committee Working Group to recommend the payment of grants as detailed in the attached schedule (Appendix 1).

County Councillors in attendance at meeting 4:

County Councillor A. Webb (Chair)
County Councillor J. Strong (Vice-Chair)
County Councillor M. Lane
County Councillor S. Garrett

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE at meeting 4:

D. Jarrett Central Finance
W. Barnard Democratic Services Officer

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE at meeting 4.

None

CONFIRMATION OF REPORT OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the meetings held on Thursday 04th December 2025.

6. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

A total of £9,770 has been allocated to applicants at Meeting 4 of the Welsh Church Fund Committee. The balance of £23,825 will be carried forward for utilisation within the 2026-27 fiscal year.

7. 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.

8. CONSULTEES:

Senior Leadership Team
Cabinet -Single Member - Resources
Head of Legal Services
Assistant Head of Finance

9. BACKGROUND PAPERS:

Welsh Church Fund Schedule of Applications 2025/26– Meeting 4 (Appendix 1)

10. AUTHOR:

David Jarrett – Finance Business Partner – Corporate Accountancy

11. CONTACT DETAILS

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