

Minutes of Grant sub.committee meeting Monday 1st February 2010

Present: Jacquie Griffin, Rosemary Day, Carolyn Peach, Eveline Gillians

Matters arising from previous minutes

- 1) Diocese - Rosemary has written to the Archdeacon, but has not yet received a reply.
- 2) English Heritage - Jacquie has contacted English Heritage by phone and letter and has received a reply indicating that their initial impression is that we would appear to be eligible. However, there are a range of provisos:
 - The architect appointed must be an accredited conservation architect; a list was included in their reply.
 - A current quinquennial report or condition survey must show the repairs to be urgent to avoid damage to the fabric of the building
 - We have to make enquiries to ensure there is no existing chancel liability (see Carolyn below)
 - We must provide current financial report for the PCC, not DCC. The fact that we are becoming a separate PCC may help this, but we will need to prove it. In addition the report needs to clarify the status of the funds (restricted or unrestricted) and conform with Church Accounting Regulations.
- 3) RAF Brize Norton - Rosemary had contacted RAF, they had appeared enthusiastic and would be happy to provide help and manpower. It was decided that they would be a good contact for the Fund-raising committee as they might be able to help with some of the challenge type plans.
- 4) Oxfordshire Historic Churches Trust - Alison Shaw had advised Jacquie that an application should be made in time for the May meeting. We need to have appointed the architect.
- 6) Patrons - Christchurch and Eton College - Carolyn had drafted a letter to Christchurch College. It was decided to blend this letter with that used by both Rosemary and Jacquie in order to produce a stock letter to send with all applications.
- 7) Taylor Bartlett Trust - we have received £250 from this trust.
- 9) Carterton Lions - are running a car boot sale on our behalf on 27th May. We need to have our own car boots at the event, and arrange collectors. The Lions keep a percentage and give us the balance of fees from the car booters.
- 10) Jacquie had met the Churchwardens from Bampton and Minster Lovell. The Minster Lovell churchwarden advised that it is impossible to submit an application to English Heritage without the architect's help. They are using Bartoch and Stokes from Cheltenham.
- 11) Carolyn had been through the ffhb website and identified possible sources of grants. She had produced a spreadsheet of possibilities.

Discussion

Eveline had brought information sent to her by her brother, covering sources of grants in the Rochester and Lincolnshire areas. We worked our way through this information and Carolyn's spreadsheet to identify organisations to contact.

We discussed English Heritage and recognised, although it would be a hard path, we could not ignore the possibility and would need to pursue this. We would still need to discuss having the church open at DCC.

Decisions

It was decided that the priority lay in getting an architect, and that it needed to be done competitively in order to fulfil English Heritage's criteria. The architect must be acceptable to both English Heritage and the Diocese.

Carolyn agreed to:

- Email her draft letter to Jacquie
- Send letters to Christchurch and Eton Colleges once the stock letter had been produced (see below)
- Telephone Diocese at Church House in order to find out:
 - i) their list of approved architects, in order to cross reference this with the lists obtained by Jacquie and from English Heritage
 - ii) whether there is an existing chancel liability on our church
 - iii) whether they had access to a fundraising site into which we could tap
- Look into The Chase Charity and Lankellychase.
- Telephone WODC in response to a newspaper cutting, found by Ann Hancock in the Witney Gazette, inviting applications for grants by 15th February. *Since the meeting Carolyn has done this, but the grants were only available for arts projects.*

Jacquie agreed to:

- Combine her letter with Carolyn's and email it to Carolyn, Rosemary and Eveline.
- Look into Heritage Lottery Fund - since the meeting she has done this and found that the part of this that is relevant to Churches is administered by English Heritage, so is included in the application already being pursued.
- Look into Church Buildings Council from Carolyn's spreadsheet.
- Send a letter to The Sainsbury Family Trust, 9 Red Lion Court, London. EC4A 3EB
- Send a letter to the Architectural Heritage Fund, Clareville House, 26-27 Oxendon Street, London

Rosemary agreed to send letters to:

- Sainsbury Family Charitable Trusts - The Headley Trust
- The Bernard Sunley Charitable Foundation
- Allchurches Trust Ltd (also download an application form www.allchurches.co.uk.)
- The Alan Evans Memorial Trust

Eveline agreed to contact:

- The Mercers Company Charitable Foundation - application on line
- The Wolfson Foundation - letter to enquire about eligibility.

There are other sources, but it was decided to wait till later to apply to these:

- Department for Culture, Media and Sport - once the work has been completed.
- GC Gibson Trust - apply in July or August ready for September.
- Incorporated Church Building Society - apply when we have faculty.
- The Ironmongers Society - may be useful for guttering - wait until we have architect's plans.
- National Churches Trust - have to wait until after a decision from English Heritage.
- The Venziana Fund - wait until 2/3 of sum has already been raised.
- Garfield Weston Foundation - wait till more progress has been made.

When current avenues had been pursued it would be sensible to ask for more ideas from Churchwardens at Minster Lovell and Bampton. Bill had also mentioned a useful contact, a previous Bishop of Bermuda. These would be explored at a later date.

No date was fixed as yet for the next meeting.

Jacquie Griffin