

Executive Board Member Decisions Meeting for the Leader**Welsh Church Fund 2017 - 2018****Report Author: Caroline Owen****CAOwen@carmarthenshire.gov.uk****Tel: 01269 590216****Balance Available: £15,168.59****Report Value: £2,923.05**

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Application reference – WCF-17-27

Project Title	Bethesda Refurbishment & Upgrade
Applicant	Bethesda Congregational Church Tumble
Project Description	<p>The Church is utilised on a regular basis and provides religious services, Sunday school activities, thanksgiving, weddings, funeral services, baptism, and St David's Day concert, also Christmas nativity play and carol services.</p> <p>The venue is strongly supported by Tumble Primary School and Mynydd Mawr Choir who practise there twice a week, also supporting non-religious events such as regular coffee mornings, encouraging the community to utilise the building.</p> <p>The vestry is a key space of the facility and there are issues of water penetration and dampness, also the front entrance and parapet walls are in a poor condition and contributes to water ingress issues internally. The surveyor has also identified woodworm in the vestry and church which requires urgent specialist treatment.</p> <p>The sound system within the church requires improving and upgrading, due to complaints received from the elderly and those with hearing difficulties.</p> <p>This project is for the required repairs, in line with the surveyors report and the installation of an upgraded sound system, which will greatly improve the audio reproduction throughout the church. Incorporating a loop system will relay the output of the sound system to any person wearing a hearing aid fitted with a coupler. This work will ensure that the building is fit for purpose and improve the whole experience and enjoyment for the community who utilise the facility on a regular basis.</p> <p>The grant will accelerate the implementation of this project, the church is fully sustainable in both the short and long term. The refurbishment will ensure the facility is fit for purpose and therefore lead to its long term sustainability.</p>

	The inspection has revealed that the Church remains in sound structural and superficial order throughout and it is clear the facility is well maintained by the members.
Total Project Cost	£11,692.20
Eligible Capital	£11,692.20 £5,593.20 – Repairs to front entrance porch £2,304.00 – Specialist woodworm treatment £2,670.00 – Sound system £1,125.00 – Loop system
Eligible Revenue	Nil
Ineligible Costs	Nil
Cllr and Officer Consultations Undertaken	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cllr. Emlyn Dole • Cllr. Dot Jones • Ferrier Hart Thomas – Chartered Building Surveyors
Ownership/ Lease	Union of Welsh Independents
Funding Package	£11,692.20
Value of Community Investment	£11,692.20
Amount and % of grant requested	£2,923.05 @ 25%
Value of Levered Funds	£8,769.15 Own funds secured
Outputs to be achieved	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of community groups assisted – 1 • Physical Improvements - 3 • Public and private leverage funding - £8,769.15
Business Plan/Officer Comments	<p>Surveyors report supplied and the project funding request is for repairs and upgrade to the facility, which meet the criteria of the fund.</p> <p>This project will maintain the Chapel and vestry for the local and wider community for future generations and conserve their heritage.</p> <p>No funding has been received from CCC in the last three years</p>
Officer Recommendation	Award - £2,923.05
Subject to	