



Grant Funding within the Diocese of Oxford

Contents

Part 1: Diocesan and Local Council Support	2
Diocese of Oxford Development Fund	2
The Alan Christmas Bursary Fund	2
Local Councils.....	2
Part 2: Building Maintenance and Repairs	3
Historic Churches Trusts.....	3
Other Building Funders.....	3
Part 3: Social Action and Community Use of Buildings.....	4
UK Community Foundations.....	4
Other social action/community work funders	4
Part 4: Grants for Specific Projects	6
Artwork and Monuments.....	6
Bells	7
Evangelism.....	7
Organs and Choral Music	8
Roof Alarms.....	8
Windows and Stained Glass.....	8
William & Jane Morris Fund	9
Index.....	9

This guide is intended to give the reader funding support at a quick glance. Not all sources of income will be available to you, but it gives a broad range of projects and accessibility to funding, some of which you may not have heard of before.

Fundraising is never an easy task and it can be quite daunting when faced with a large capital project or staff costs. Whatever your situation, advice is available from the Generous Giving Team. [Joshua Townson](#), Generous Giving Adviser is here to help and support you by finding the best ways of maximising your church funds.

Part 1: Diocesan and Local Council Support

Diocese of Oxford Development Fund

The amount of money available to parishes and benefices in the Diocese of Oxford is c. £1m each year.

Grant applications to the Development Fund must support local projects that are missionally creative, reflect where God is at work in the community, and encourage wider learning across the diocese.

The Fund is open to all but aims to particularly support those parishes who, after paying Parish Share and other essential costs, have very limited financial resources to invest in missional activity. We know even modest grants can make a significant difference in such parishes.

The Alan Christmas Bursary Fund

The Alan Christmas Bursary is a small fund aiming to support the relationship between Christianity and the world of work. Applications can be made for bursaries by those intending to study, deliver a public lecture, or embark on projects that advance the understanding of the relationship between Christianity and the world of work. For questions or to apply contact:

socialjustice@oxford.anglican.org

Local Councils

The Oxford Diocese spans a vast area covering the Thames Valley, incorporating the 9 local authorities of:

Bracknell Forest Council
Buckinghamshire County Council
Milton Keynes Council
Oxfordshire County Council
Reading Borough Council
Slough Borough Council
The Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead
West Berkshire Council
Wokingham Borough Council

Parish, community and town councils can help on a number of local issues, like providing:

- allotments
- public clocks
- bus shelters
- community centres
- play areas and play equipment
- grants to help local organisations
- consultation on neighbourhood planning

Can a parish council give a grant to a church?

Over the years, many Parish Councils (PCs) and other Local Councils in England and Wales have given discretionary grants to church buildings, church halls, graveyards and other church property, of all denominations, to help these buildings and other property provide benefit to the community.

Part 2: Building Maintenance and Repairs

Listed Places of Worship Grant Scheme

The Listed Places of Worship (LPW) Grant Scheme, run by the Department of Culture, Media and Sport, gives grants covering the VAT on repairs of over £1,000 to listed buildings used as places of worship.

Historic Churches Trusts

The HCTs are independent charities which support the maintenance, and in some cases development, of historic (usually 30+ years old) churches buildings. They are county specific and each has its own set of criteria and funding priorities.

[Berkshire Historic Churches Trust](#)

[Buckinghamshire Historic Churches Trust](#)

[Oxfordshire Historic Churches Trust](#)

Other Building Funders

National Churches Trust

A major grant funder for church buildings. [Click here](#) to see information about their grants. There is also a list of [associated funders](#). They have some advice on [where to search for grant funding](#) and [how to raise money](#).

Benefact Trust

This funder (formerly AllChurches Trust) responds to requests for financial assistance from Anglican churches, churches of other denominations and the wider Christian community. The Trust supports appeals from churches for building and restoration projects, repair of church fabric, church community initiatives, religious charities, charities preserving the UK heritage and other charitable causes.

Garfield Weston Foundation

This foundation gives grants for reordering church buildings in order to give greater flexibility of use, including assistance with disabled access. It also helps fund creating kitchen and toilet

facilities. Applications are considered on an individual basis monthly. It normally takes three or four months for an application to be processed.

Landfill Communities Fund

Since 1996 Landfill Operators can choose to re-direct part of their tax bill to local communities near landfill sites rather than paying it to the Treasury. The funds are distributed through Environmental Bodies (such as WREN, Veolia Trust, Suez Communities Trust, Biffa, Viridor Credits, Cory Environmental etc) which are able to support the repair and wider community use of historic places of worship.

Martin Laing Foundation

Part of the [Laing Family Trusts](#), this trust includes conservation of church buildings.

National Lottery Heritage Fund

The Heritage Fund has a variety of programmes which might suit your project if it has a heritage and community angle. Contact [the local fund office](#) for a chat.

Historic England

Grants for repairs to historic sites or education about the heritage of a particular place. Our Grant Schemes

Part 3: Social Action and Community Use of Buildings

UK Community Foundations

Local Community Foundations are a good source of local knowledge and funds. They do not specifically fund churches but are open to applications for any charitable projects in their geographic area. Similar to the Historic Churches Trusts, are county specific and each has its own set of criteria and funding priorities.

[Berkshire Community Foundation](#)

[Heart of Bucks \(Buckinghamshire\) Community Foundation](#)

[Milton Keynes Community Foundation](#)

[Oxfordshire Community Foundation](#)

Other social action/community work funders

Acts 435

Not a grant giver as such, but allows people to give money directly to others. Managed through a network of churches and local charities. The goal is to give 100% of the donations to those in need.

Aviva Community Fund

Grants of up to £50,000 for forward-thinking causes that help move their communities forward. Quarterly rounds.

Benefact Trust

A dedicated grant fund for community work.

BBC Children in Need

Provides grants to projects in the UK which focus on children and young people who are disadvantaged. The grant programmes are open all year round for applications.

Besom Network

Helps people make a difference to those suffering due to poverty, isolation, abuse, ill health, injustice, homelessness. It provides a bridge between those who want to give time, money, things or skills and those who are in need.

Bernard Sunley Charitable Foundation

Grants are awarded for refurbishment and improvement projects at churches and church halls that have a strong community angle. They also fund the purchase of new minibuses that assist those most in need in their local communities.

Cinnamon Network

This is an umbrella network for a range of social outreach and action projects and often have micro grants available to set up new initiatives.

FCC Community Action Fund

Grants to improve facilities, including church halls, for community use.

Henry Smith Charity

Funds organisations that work with people to reduce social and economic disadvantage. They can include salaries and running costs.

Joseph Rank Trust

Grants are provided for the installation of facilities.

Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust

A Quaker trust which supports people who address the root causes of conflict and injustice.

[Laing Family Trusts](#)

Supports a wide range of charities engaged in promoting Christian faith and values and in the relief of poverty (interpreted in its broadest sense) and other forms of social action.

[Lloyds Bank Foundation](#)

A focus on supporting charities that help people facing multiple disadvantages to move forward with their lives. It aims to deliver lasting positive change by providing both financial and practical support.

[National Lottery Community Fund](#)

The NLCF has a variety of programmes which might suit your project if it has a community angle.

[Nationwide Foundation](#)

Has a small grants programme open to charities which offer financial support focusing on financial exclusion, housing issues and homelessness.

[Norwood and Newton Settlement](#)

Funds the demolition and rebuilding of churches, church extensions and upgrades, building purchase to convert to churches from schools, pubs etc., and capital projects from local charities.

[Pilgrim Trust](#)

A Church of England affiliated charity which offers grants for young women's mental health support work.

[Trusthouse Charitable Foundation](#)

The foundation gives grants to help established projects which work in the fields of community support, arts, education and heritage, disability and health.

Part 4: Grants for Specific Projects

Artwork and Monuments

[Church Care](#)

A grant scheme managed by the Church of England providing grants for bells and bell frames; books and manuscripts; church plate (e.g. chalices & patens); churchyard structures; clocks; brasses and decorative metalwork; monuments; organs; paintings and wall paintings; stained glass; textiles; and woodwork.

Churches Conservation Foundation

A small grant programme for special conservation projects to the fabric and contents of historic listed churches and chapels in England.

Memorial Grant Scheme VAT Rebate

Grants towards VAT on the construction, repair and maintenance of public memorials (excludes private memorials).

William & Jane Morris Fund

Grants for churches built before 1896 for conservation of decorative features (stained glass, sculpture, furniture, internal monuments and tombs, and wall paintings).

Bells

Central Council Bell Restoration Fund

Grants occasionally available from the Central Council of Church Bell Ringers. Any grants are advertised in their regular communications.

Church Care

A grant scheme managed by the Church of England providing grants for bells and bell frames; books and manuscripts; church plate (e.g. chalices & patens); churchyard structures; clocks; brasses and decorative metalwork; monuments; organs; paintings and wall paintings; stained glass; textiles; and woodwork.

Sharpe Trust

Grants for the maintenance and restoration of church bells.

Evangelism

Laing Family Trusts

Supports a wide range of charities engaged in promoting Christian faith (evangelical only) and values and in the relief of poverty (interpreted in its broadest sense) and other forms of social action.

Gladiator Trust

Funds for educational, promotional or spiritual reasons related to the advancement of religion.

Organs and Choral Music

British Institute of Organ Studies

An extensive guidebook on grant funding for organ work.

Church Care

A grant scheme managed by the Church of England providing grants for bells and bell frames; books and manuscripts; church plate (e.g. chalices & patens); churchyard structures; clocks; brasses and decorative metalwork; monuments; organs; paintings and wall paintings; stained glass; textiles; and woodwork.

Institute of British Organ Building

A list of recommended organ grant funders.

Ouseley Church Music Trust

Grants for musicians, scholarships, bursaries, or choral developmental projects, and the purchase of liturgical music. They also seek to fund innovative outreach projects based around choral music.

Roof Alarms

One of the best ways to prevent lead and metal theft, and in most instances to improve your chances of receiving an insurance pay-out in the case of a theft, is to install a roof alarm.

Ecclesiastical Insurance has [a list of approved suppliers](#).

Benefact Trust

The main funder of roof alarm grant.

Oxfordshire Historic Churches Trust

A dedicated roof alarm fund within OHCT (Oxfordshire churches only).

Windows and Stained Glass

Churches Conservation Foundation

A small grant programme for special conservation projects to the fabric and contents of historic listed churches and chapels in England.

Church Care

A grant scheme managed by the Church of England providing grants for bells and bell frames; books and manuscripts; church plate (e.g. chalices & patens); churchyard structures; clocks; brasses and decorative metalwork; monuments; organs; paintings and wall paintings; stained glass; textiles; and woodwork.

Memorial Grant Scheme VAT Rebate

Grants towards VAT on the construction, repair and maintenance of public memorials (excludes private memorials).

William & Jane Morris Fund

Grants for churches built before 1896 for conservation of decorative features (stained glass, sculpture, furniture, internal monuments and tombs, and wall paintings).

Worshipful Company of Glaziers

Grants for the conservation of historic and/or artistically significant stained and architectural glass. They also fund the promotion of the craft by supporting the education and training of craftsmen and women in the fields of stained and painted glass, and by fostering public information.

Index

Acts 435, 4
AllChurches Trust, 3
Aviva Community Fund, 5
BBC Children in Need, 5
Benefact Trust, 3, 5, 8
Berkshire Community Foundation, 4
Berkshire Historic Churches Trust, 3
Bernard Sunley Charitable Foundation, 5
Besom Network, 5
British Institute of Organ Studies, 8
Buckinghamshire Historic Churches Trust, 3
Central Council Bell Restoration Fund, 7
Church Care, 6, 7, 8
Churches Conservation Foundation, 7, 8
Cinnamon Network, 5
Diocese of Oxford Development Fund, 2
FCC Community Action Fund, 5
Garfield Weston Foundation, 3
Gladiator Trust, 7
Heart of Bucks (Buckinghamshire) Community Foundation, 4
Henry Smith Charity, 5
Historic England, 4
Institute of British Organ Building, 8
Joseph Rank Trust, 5
Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust, 5
Laing Family Trusts, 6, 7
 Martin Laing Foundation, 4
Landfill Communities Fund, 4
Listed Places of Worship Grant Scheme, 3
Lloyds Bank Foundation, 6
Memorial Grant Scheme VAT Rebate, 7, 9
Milton Keynes Community Foundation, 4
National Churches Trust, 3
National Lottery
 Community Fund, 6
 Heritage Fund, 4
Nationwide Foundation, 6
Norwood and Newton Settlement, 6
Ouseley Church Music Trust, 8
Oxfordshire Community Foundation, 4
Oxfordshire Historic Churches Trust, 3, 8
Pilgrim Trust, 6
Sharpe Trust, 7
Trusthouse Charitable Foundation, 6
William & Jane Morris Fund, 7, 9
Worshipful Company of Glaziers, 9