

FUNDING FOR CHURCH BUILDINGS: RESOURCES

FUNDING SHEET **2**

National websites with funding advice

The following are the best websites for general advice on funding for church building work. We have added a few comments after each of these. Expect a fair amount of overlap, and some inconsistencies. Even national websites may not always be 100% up to date and you should check all specific information, for example by referring to the grant-making trusts' own websites.

www.parishresources.org.uk/

This is maintained by the Church of England national stewardship department. There is some good general information about the wider financial and charitable position of the PCC, including Gift Aid, legacies, charity law, etc. Follow the link to the funding guides and you will find a number of valuable sheets – including a good deal of material which started life in our former publication ‘*Funding Church Repairs*’ !

www.churchcare.co.uk/churches/funding-and-grants

The ChurchCare website deserves to be better known, having been developed into a wide ranging source of national advice on Anglican church buildings. If you follow the link to ‘churches’ you will find the section on funding and grants.

<http://nationalchurchestrust.org/supporting-you/support-and-advice/finding-funding/finding-funding.php>

The National Churches Trust (NCT) is non-denominational, and is a grant-maker in its own right. This section of their website includes direct links to all the major sources of grant-aid together with a search facility for local regions, however at the moment this has little to offer for Gloucestershire.

www.arthurrankcentre.org.uk/publications-and-resources/rural-church-buildings/item/8769

The Arthur Rank Centre specialises in the needs of rural churches.

www.trustfunding.org.uk

This website, maintained by the Directory of Social Change, is the successor to the old “Directory of Grant Making Trusts”. With the advent of the internet, printed directories of grant-makers have become a thing of the past. Information is constantly changing, and websites are the way to capture latest information.

The Giving department of the Diocese of Gloucester subscribes to this website, and arrangements can be made for you undertake a search by appointment at Church House. If yours is a major appeal, you will be well advised to get to grips with trustfunding.org.uk, which is the professional database for fundraising. If you need direct and longer-term access to the information, you should consider taking out a subscription, and details can be found on the website. |

Maggie Durran

You may have seen Maggie Durran's weekly column in Church Times. Over the past ten years or so she has become a leading authority on the whole subject of fundraising for church building projects. She published a book in April 2010 known as "The UK Church Fundraising Handbook". This contains a wealth of real life information and case study and is worth buying, although detailed information may already have changed and should be checked. The ISBN is 978-1848250024

Maggie runs a consulting practice : www.maggiedurranconsulting.co.uk

She has huge experience with working with grant-making bodies and with parishes and can help either by advising on strategy or with direct help on applications. As when working with any professional, you need to be quite clear about her basis of charging before going further.

Professional fundraisers

Professionals may have their place in a very large appeal, but are much less likely to be worthwhile for the medium or small appeal. You will need to be very clear about the charging basis, also it is imperative that the person can demonstrate direct experience within the heritage sector, and preferably with church fundraising.

The Internet generally...

We cannot overemphasise the value of the Internet in taking forward a church fabric appeal. Not only can you quickly access grant-makers' websites, and check every aspect before submitting any applications, but you can look at what other churches are doing to raise money and adapt their ideas. All that is needed is the time to explore, and a creative approach to using your search facility.

Our own Giving department

Your appeal cannot sensibly be undertaken without reviewing the regular giving of your congregation. Helen Richardson, the Diocesan Giving Officer, can help and she can be contacted on hrichardson@glosdioc.org.uk

What other parishes have done

The DAC Secretary has a collection of past appeal brochures, some highly professional, others rather less so. Don't reinvent the wheel – come and see what others have done. We may also be able to put you in direct touch with appeal treasurers from other parishes who are happy to talk you through their own experiences.

If you need further advice in relation to this guidance sheet, please contact us at Church House on 01452 410022 or by email at dac@glosdioc.org.uk