

Peterborough Diocesan Guild of Church Bell Ringers
Bell Fund Application Guidance Notes

1. The fund and its Objects

The Bell Fund is financed solely by the Guild by its various voluntary methods and exists to assist Churches within the Diocese in preserving redundant bells; the repair, restoration and augmentation of existing bells; and the provision of new bells.

2. Work eligible for Grant

Work that comes within the categories listed above is eligible for a grant. However, items of general maintenance, such as new ropes, stays, sliders etc, unless part of a larger scheme for the bells are not eligible.

Any building work which is directly related to the bell installation, such as building a bell frame in to the tower walls, is eligible for a grant. However, work to the church fabric, such as the installation/repair of floors, or repair/replacement of louvers is not eligible for a grant from this fund.

3. Method of Application

Applications should normally be made by the Incumbent or a Churchwarden on behalf of the PCC, submitted on the application form provided and sent to the Guild Steward:

Mr. Nick Churchman
3, Cecil Street,
Rothwell,
Northants. NN14 6EZ

Telephone: (01536) 660860
e-mail: **nick.churchman@gmail.com**

The application must be accompanied by a copy of the specification for work to be carried out and the estimated cost which is to include any allowances for self help and VAT. Details and costs for any additional building work which is not covered in section 2 should also be supplied. While such work will not be eligible for a grant, it helps give an overall view of the proposed project. As much information as possible should be given as to how the work is to be financed, including details of any grants or separate funds that are, or may be available.

Currently the VAT on bell work may be reclaimed under the "Listed Places of Worship Grant Scheme", which projects may wish to take advantage of. Details of this can be found on their website at www.lpwscheme.org.uk

4. Method of Consideration

Applications received by the Steward will be considered at the meeting of the Guild's Restoration and Maintenance Committee, who may request further information and/or permission to inspect the existing installation. The Committee will then forward the applications to the Bell Fund's Administrators, who will make a recommendation to the Guild's next General Meeting. The Guild's Steward will notify the applicant of the meetings decision in writing. If work is not commenced within one year of the grant being awarded, then it will lapse.

5. Payment of the Grant

A grant will only be paid upon satisfactory completion of the work and providing the work was commenced within the period stated within Item 4. A combined form for advising when work commences and for requesting the payment will be enclosed with the notification of the grant. The request for payment must be accompanied by a copy of the final account for the work and details of any variations from that originally proposed. The Administrators may reduce the amount of the grant if all of the work is not carried out or if the final cost is less than that originally submitted.

6. Information

Further information is available from the Guild Steward.