

Voluntary and Community Action

Local Trusts and Foundations

Funding Information Sheet No. 6

October 2008

The Association of Charitable Foundations estimate that there are approximately 10,000 independent trusts and foundations in the UK, giving £2 billion in grants each year to voluntary and community organisations - almost the same as the sum total of government grant funding of the voluntary and community sector.

Funding Information Sheets

The Funding Advice Service has produced a series of Funding Information Sheets on:

- the different types of grants available
- good practice when applying for funds
- sustainable fundraising

These are available to download from our website or can be obtained from our office.



What Trusts Fund?

Independent trusts and foundations tend to prefer to fund gaps in government funding, but each has a separate culture, criteria and different guidelines. As trusts are often privately endowed and not reliant on government funding they are able to be creative, flexible and sometimes unorthodox in the use of their funds. Trusts are good sources of funding for unpopular causes and some may embrace an element of risk, funding pilot projects and new initiatives. Most trusts prefer to give a donation towards a project or towards a piece of equipment. But core funding is not ruled out for work which falls into their categories.

Selecting Trusts

Trusts can be selected through the use of various published directories and online resources to locate trusts that might be suitable for your project. A short list of possible trusts can be drawn up by ruling out those that will not be interested in your cause. Voluntary and Community Action has most of the major up-to-date directories and access to the *Trustfunding*, *FunderFinder* and *GRANTfinder* databases. The following pages list

local trusts and foundations in Bedfordshire or whose preference is to fund projects in Bedfordshire.

Before Writing an Application

It is vital to do your homework properly, look at the guidelines and criteria to ensure your project is eligible to apply. It's best to telephone a potential trust or foundation, to check that your organisation and project are eligible to apply to them. You can usually get hold of guidelines and application forms this way. If you already have a copy of the guidelines then you should talk to funders about the eligibility of your project at this point.

Prepare an individually tailored application if the trust does not have a standard application form.

Writing your Application

While writing the application form it is always good to remind yourself to keep certain things in mind. In general you have to show to the trust or foundation:

- how your organisation or project meets the trust's aims
- demonstrate that there is a clear need for the project
- explain the purpose of the work

Continued on back page





“THERE ARE MANY DIFFERENT CHARITABLE TRUSTS AND FOUNDATIONS WHO WERE SET UP TO SUPPORT MANY DIFFERENT CAUSES.”

“THE VOLUNTARY AND COMMUNITY ACTION REFERENCE LIBRARY HAS UP-TO-DATE COPIES OF ALL THE MAIN DIRECTORIES. THERE IS ALSO SEARCH ENGINES CALLED FUNDERFINDER, GRANTFINDER AND TRUSTFUNDING WHICH IS AVAILABLE TO USE AS PART OF A FUNDING ADVICE SESSION.”

The Vauxhall Griffin Awards for Bedfordshire

The Griffin Awards have benefited over 45 local organisations. Vauxhall continues to recognise and promote the often unsung successes of local community activity in their UK bases of Bedfordshire and the Wirral.

What the judges look for:

- the project or service must have long-term benefit for the wider community
- it should demonstrate originality of thought and the nature of any volunteer involvement
- it should aim to break down barriers between sections of the community and support team building and individual development.

The judging panel will be looking for applicants to demonstrate at least some of the following elements:

- grass roots community

involvement

- improving existing facilities or providing additional ones
- helping people to raise the standard of their local community
- be viable and sustainable in the long term.

In Bedfordshire, a £10,000 first prize, towards the cost of their project or service. There is also a runner up prize of £5,000.

There is also a new award for Bedfordshire Young Volunteer of the Year with a prize of £1,000 for the organisation they support.

All nominations must be received by 30 April and application forms can be downloaded from their website.

For more information contact: Paul Patten, Vauxhall Griffin Awards, CCAS, 80 Croydon Road, Beckenham, Kent BR3 4DF. Website: www.griffinawards.org Email: vauxhall@ccas.globalnet.co.uk,

GM Community Grants

Griffin Grants give grants of £1000 each (each nominated bi-monthly) prioritising groups which work for the benefit of local youth (age group priority for 2005/6 is those aged 11 to 20, but special consideration will also be given to applications by groups which provide services to those aged 11 and under).

Please be as specific as you can about project costs, and the number of people who will benefit.

To nominate a group for a Griffin Grant, all you have to do is send an application on a single side of

A4 paper. Give details of the group's work, membership, what the money would be used for, project costs and number of people who will benefit, and anything else you think the judges need to know.

Judges are looking to support or fund specific projects, rather than contribute to general running costs.

Send your nomination to GM Community Grants, News/Gazette, 39 Upper George Street, Luton, LU1 2RD or email to: vauxhall@thetrustpartnership.com

The Steel Charitable Trust

Beneficial area: UK and overseas, with a local interest in Luton and the surrounding area.

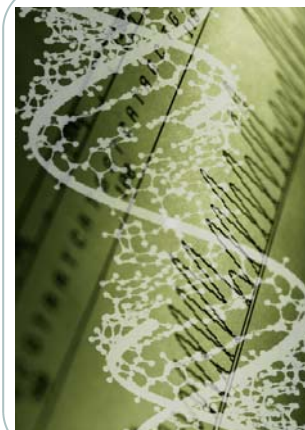
The aim of the trust is to make grants for a wide range of general charitable purposes, at the trustees' discretion, concentrating mainly on the fields of culture and recreation, medical research, health, social services, environment and preservation, and international aid.

Grants range from £200-150,000 with an average of £5,000.

Apply in writing and include the following:

- statement of purpose for which the grant is required
- full latest accounts showing all other sources of funding
- statement of existing funding for the purpose of the grant application.

There are no deadlines, but applications are only to be made on-line, for more information visit their website: www.steelcharitabletrust.org.uk or email administrator@steelcharitabletrust.org.uk



The Wixamtree Trust

Organisations must be based or operating within the county of Bedfordshire and be either a registered charity or considered to be charitable in nature by the Inland Revenue. Funds one-off, capital, core and research; successful applicants can reapply on an annual basis. It is rare for them to approve a grant amounting to more than 10% of the annual running costs of an organisation or of any particular project or service for which the funds are being sought.

Generally funds range from £1,000-£10,000 with a smaller number of donations outside of this. As long as the charity, project or service is for the benefit of people in Bedfordshire, the trustees will consider a request for funding. Trustees meet every quarter: January, April, July and October.

The trustees have entered into an arrangement with the Beds and Herts Historic Churches Trust

(BHHCT) to help process applications from Bedfordshire churches which are seeking support for repairs to the fabric of their buildings. It was felt that the BHHCT had more expertise in this area and by using their network of assessors could therefore provide useful guidance to the Wixamtree trustees by making recommendations and suggesting grant levels. Bedfordshire churches seeking support will be provided with a different application form and once submitted a site visit to evaluate the project will be arranged. The final decision on whether or not to support a particular project, and at what level, rests with the trustees of The Wixamtree Trust. An annual budget of £90,000 has been set aside for such appeals

The preferred application route is by email. Please email for an application form at wixamtree@thetrustpartnership.com You can also write for an application form to: Administrator, The Wixamtree Trust 148 The Grove, West Wickham, Kent BR4 9JZ. Telephone: 02087774140 www.wixamtree.org

THE WORDS "TRUST" AND "FOUNDATION" ARE VIRTUALLY SYNONYMOUS. ALL CHARITABLE FOUNDATIONS ARE TRUSTS, I.E. THEY ARE MANAGED BY TRUSTEES, WHO MAY OR MAY NOT BE SUPPORTED BY PAID STAFF. A "FOUNDATION" IS A TRUST WHOSE INCOME DERIVES FROM AN ENDOWMENT OF LAND OR INVESTED CAPITAL. NOT ALL FOUNDATIONS MAKE GRANTS; SOME USE THEIR INCOME TO FINANCE CHARITABLE WORK OF THEIR OWN.



“LOOK AT WHO THEY HAVE FUNDED IN THE PAST AND HOW MUCH THEY HAVE GIVEN.”

“DO NOT TAKE FOR GRANTED THAT THE FUNDER KNOWS YOUR ORGANISATION SIMPLY BECAUSE YOU HAVE APPLIED BEFORE. STAFF MOVE ON AND THE NEW ADMINISTRATOR WILL REQUIRE ALL THE RELEVANT INFORMATION REQUESTED ON THE APPLICATION FORM.”

The Robert Kiln Charitable Trust

Beneficial area: UK, with a special interest in Hertfordshire and Bedfordshire.

The trust was formed in 1970 by the late Robert Kiln, a Lloyd's underwriter, and the five present trustees are all members of the family. The trust's income comes from dividends from various investments in shares and unit trusts.

The trust will support the following areas of work:

- archaeology
- local charities
- environmental conservation.

Applications will not be considered from: individuals, large national

appeals, churches, schools and artistic projects (such as theatre groups).

Apply in writing setting out as much information as seems relevant, and if possible, costings and details of any other support. The trust no longer has twice-yearly distribution meetings and endeavours to distribute funds within one month of receiving applications (subject to funds being available). The trust does not acknowledge receipt of applications unless a stamped addressed envelope is enclosed.

Contact: The Secretary, The Robert Kiln Charitable Trust, 15a Bull Plain, Hertford SG14 1DX.

Mrs B L Robinson's Charitable Trust

Beneficial area - Bedfordshire.

Grants are awarded for general charitable purposes, with a preference for work in Bedfordshire. Grant amounts have not been specified. Trustee meetings take place twice a year, generally in Spring and Autumn of each year.

Previous grants have been made

Hillcrest Out of School Club (£3,000), Christian Family Care (£5,000), Countryside Foundation for Education (£2,000) and Stables Trust and The Bedford Guild House (£1,000 each).

Apply in writing to: Susan O'Donnell, Clerk, Mrs B L Robinson's Charitable Trust, 6 Churchill Close, Streatley, near Luton, Bedfordshire LU3 3PJ. For more information telephone: 01582 882502 Email: odon@ukonline.co.uk

William Delafield Charitable Trust

Beneficial area: UK, particularly Oxfordshire, Buckinghamshire, Hertfordshire and Bedfordshire.

This trust's policy is to make grants towards the restoration of records or archives of historical societies/bodies.

Grants have included £10,000 to Pitt Rivers Museum, £3,500 to Oxfordshire Historic Churches Trust, £1,400 to Berkhamsted

Collegiate School, £1,400 to Cowper and Newton Museum, £1,000 to All Saints' – Leighton Buzzard, £1,700 to Sir Henry Royce Memorial Fund and £500 to Buckinghamshire Archaeological Society.

Apply in writing to: MacIntyre Hudson, William Delafield Charitable Trust, 31 Castle Street, High Wycombe, Buckinghamshire HP13 6RU. For more information telephone: 01494 441226.

The Strangward Trust

Beneficial area: Eastern England and the East Midlands.

The trust makes grants to organisations working with people who have physical or mental disabilities.

Grants that have been made included £1,000 each to Children's Adventure Farm Trust, Deaf

Connect and Handicapped Anglers' Trust and £500 each to Dogs for the Disabled, Huntingdon Workbridge and Listening Books.

Apply in writing to: Mrs L Davies, The Strangward Trust, Vincent Sykes and Higham, Montague House, Chancery Lane, Thrapston, Northamptonshire NN14 4LN, Telephone: 01832 732161. Email: louise.davies@vshlaw.co.uk



The Simon Whitbread Charitable Trust

Beneficial area: UK, with a preference for Bedfordshire

The trust supports general causes, education, family welfare, medicine, medical research and preservation.

Generally no support for local projects outside Bedfordshire.

Grants that have been made include £5,000 to St Luke's Hospital for Clergy, £3,000 to Telephones for the Blind, £2,500

to Mencap, £2,000 each to Bedfordshire and Luton Community NHS Trust, Family Welfare Trust, St John Ambulance and Spurgeons Child Care and £1,500 to Bedfordshire Housing Association Centre.

Applications in writing to: ECA Martineau, Administrator, The Simon Whitbread Charitable Trust, Hunters, 9 New Square, Lincoln's Inn, London WC2A 3RZ. Acknowledgements are not given. Please do not telephone.

"GET A FRIEND WHO ISN'T AS INVOLVED IN THE PROJECT AS YOU ARE TO READ YOUR APPLICATION THOUGH - IT MUST NEED ONLY ONE READ TO BE UNDERSTOOD."

The Neighbourly Charitable Trust

Beneficial area: Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire.

The trust was founded by the late Mrs Sell who lived in Bedfordshire. Grants are made to disability charities in the beneficial area. The trust also owns a yacht and a narrow boat which have been adapted for use by disabled people and are leased free of charge to appropriate charities.

It does not give grants to national charities (except occasionally a local branch) or to individuals.

Apply in writing to the Trust for consideration at the trustees' meetings held twice a year.

Contact: Sharon Long, Secretary, The Neighbourly Charitable Trust, First Floor, Asbrittle House, 2a Lower Dagnall Street, St Albans, Hertfordshire AL3 4PA, Telephone: 01727 843603, admin@ipltd.co.uk

"PREPARE YOUR APPLICATION CAREFULLY AND FOLLOW THE GUIDELINES GIVEN BY THE TRUST OR FOUNDATION YOU ARE APPLYING TO."



The Horace and Marjorie Gale Charitable Trust

Beneficial area: UK, mainly Bedfordshire

The trust gives support in three areas:

- for churches and church ministries, with emphasis on Bunyan Meeting Free Church in Bedford and the ministries of the Baptist Union in England and Wales
- donations to charities and organisations active in the community life of Bedford and

Bedfordshire

- donations to UK charities and organisations active in community life.

Grants are distributed once a year and applications should be made by May for consideration in July.

Apply in writing to Gerry Garner, The Horace and Marjorie Gale Charitable Trust, Garner Associates, Northwood House, 138 Bromham Road, Bedford, MK40 2QW. Telephone: 01234 354508. Email: email@garnerassociates.co.uk



The John Warren Foundation

Beneficial area: Lincolnshire, then Bedfordshire, Northamptonshire and Nottinghamshire.

The trust gives grants only for repairs to the building fabric of small churches. Grants available are from between £500 to £1,250.

No support is given for major cathedral appeals.

Apply in writing to JE Lamb, The John Warren Foundation, Lamb and Holmes Solicitors, West Street, Kettering, Northamptonshire, NN16 0AZ. Telephone: 01536 513195

“THE SHEER VOLUME OF APPLICATIONS MEANS THAT MOST TRUSTS DO NOT NORMALLY ACKNOWLEDGE APPLICATIONS, AND MANY ARE UNABLE TO REPLY TO APPLICANTS WHO ARE ULTIMATELY UNSUCCESSFUL. IF YOU WANT TO BE SURE OF AN ACKNOWLEDGEMENT, SEND A SELF-ADDRESSED ENVELOPE.”

Resources

The number of trusts listed in this information sheet are only those whose preference is to fund voluntary organisations and community groups based in Bedfordshire. There are thousands of other trusts out there that your project could apply to by making use of the resources available at Voluntary and Community Action. Our Funding Adviser could guide you through these resources and help you to identify the right trust to fund your project.

An example of a search by FunderFinder and Trustfunding for 'sports for people with disability' resulted in a total of 18 new trusts, none of which are mentioned in this information

sheet. A search for 'young people and performing arts' resulted in a total of 22 new trusts.

*Trustfunding.org.uk is updated regularly throughout the year and includes information on over 4,200 grant-making trusts.

** FunderFinder is a database, updated twice a year, that helps voluntary and community groups identify charitable trusts and foundations that might fund their work.

For more help on identifying the right funder for you group please contact our Finding Adviser on 01525 850559 or by email to funding@action-centralbeds.org.uk

The Francis Coales Charitable Foundation

Beneficial area - UK, with a preference for Bedfordshire, Buckinghamshire, Hertfordshire and Northamptonshire.

The nature of the foundation is to assist with grants for the repair of old buildings, which are open to the public, for the conservation of monuments, tombs, hatchments, memorial brasses, etc. It also assists with the cost of archaeological research and related causes, the purchase of documents or items for record offices and museums, and the publication of architectural and archaeological books or papers.

Assistance for structural repairs is normally given to churches and their contents in Buckinghamshire, Bedfordshire, Northamptonshire and Hertfordshire. However, no territorial restriction is placed upon church monuments, etc.

No grants for buildings built after 1875, hospitals or hospices. Ecclesiastical buildings cannot receive grants for 'domestic' items such as electrical wiring, heating,

improvements or re-ordering.

An application form should be completed and include a quotation for the work or the estimated cost, details of the amount of funds already raised and details of funds applied for and other bodies approached. Applications for buildings or contents should include a copy of the relevant part of the architect/conservator's specification showing the actual work proposed. Photographs showing details of the problems can also be supplied as these often speak louder than words.

The trust also states that receiving six copies of any leaflet or statement of finance is helpful so that each trustee can have a copy in advance of the meeting. Trustees normally meet three times a year to consider grants.

For an application form or more information contact: T H Parker, Administrator, The Francis Coales Charitable Foundation, The Bays, Hillcote, Bleadon Hill, Weston-super-Mare, Somerset, BS24 9JS. Telephone: 01934 814009. Email: fccf45@hotmail.com



"IT IS BETTER TO TARGET THOSE WHOSE GUIDELINES YOU FIT THE CLOSEST AND WHO CAN FUND A REASONABLE CHUNK OF YOUR WORK."

"KNOW WHO THE CONTACTS ARE TO ACCESS FUNDING IN RELATION TO THE SIZE OF GRANT REQUIRED AND THE NATURE OF THE PROJECT. NETWORK CONTACTS WILL BE USEFUL HERE AND SO WILL VOLUNTARY AND COMMUNITY ACTION TO PROVIDE FURTHER INFORMATION."

The IBC Vehicles Ltd Employees' Charity Fund

Beneficial area: UK, a preference for within a 25 mile radius of Luton.

This trust is funded by employees who donate an amount from their wages, which the company matches.

Most grants to UK organisations were towards health, disability or medically related charities.

No grants are made to schools or to animal charities.

Applications are considered at a monthly meeting, apply in writing.

Contact: Michael Ashley, Chair, The IBC Vehicles Ltd Employees' Charity Fund, 38 Grampian Way, Luton, Bedfordshire LU2 0TY.

to be funded – who it will help and how, what is distinctive about it

- a budget for the project
- ask for a specific sum of money
- demonstrate that your organisation has the capacity to manage the money properly
- your name, address and phone number.

If the trust or foundation does not have an application form then the written application should not be more than two sides of A4. Make the application long enough to describe what you want properly, but short enough to be easy to take in at first reading. For more information on writing an application or applying to trusts please refer to our information sheet on *Making a Successful Funding Application*.

Allow Plenty of Time

Some trusts meet once a month, others every quarter or once a year, so bear this in mind and allow plenty of time.

Charitable Status

Most trusts prefer to fund organisations that are Registered Charities. If your organisation is not a registered charity and wants to consider this option please contact Voluntary and community

Action for help.

Keeping in Touch

If you are lucky enough to receive an offer of a grant, ensure that you acknowledge it and make arrangements to meet the conditions (if any) that are set for releasing payment. If you are simply sent a cheque, make sure you acknowledge and thank the trust or foundation. It is surprising how many applicants do not do this. Thereafter try to keep in touch in whatever way the funder suggests.

Do let your funder know if there are problems. It is far better to be alerted at an early stage to any difficulties or if you are not able to meet any deadlines.

Finally it is worth checking, perhaps six months before your current funding runs out, whether that particular funder is willing to consider a further application!



Voluntary and Community Action

Bossard House
West Street
Leighton Buzzard
Bedfordshire LU7 1DA

Tel: 01525 850559
Fax: 01525 376281
mail@action-centralbeds.org.uk
www.action-centralbeds.org.uk

How can our Funding Advice Service help?

We can help you discover which grant making trusts, foundations or funders are the most appropriate for your organisation to approach for funding, help you to fill out the application form or provide help and support with any funding related issues.

Please give us a call on 01525 850559 to arrange a meeting so we can guide you through the maze of funding opportunities available.