The Truro Diocesan Guild of Ringers

for the

Diocese of Truro

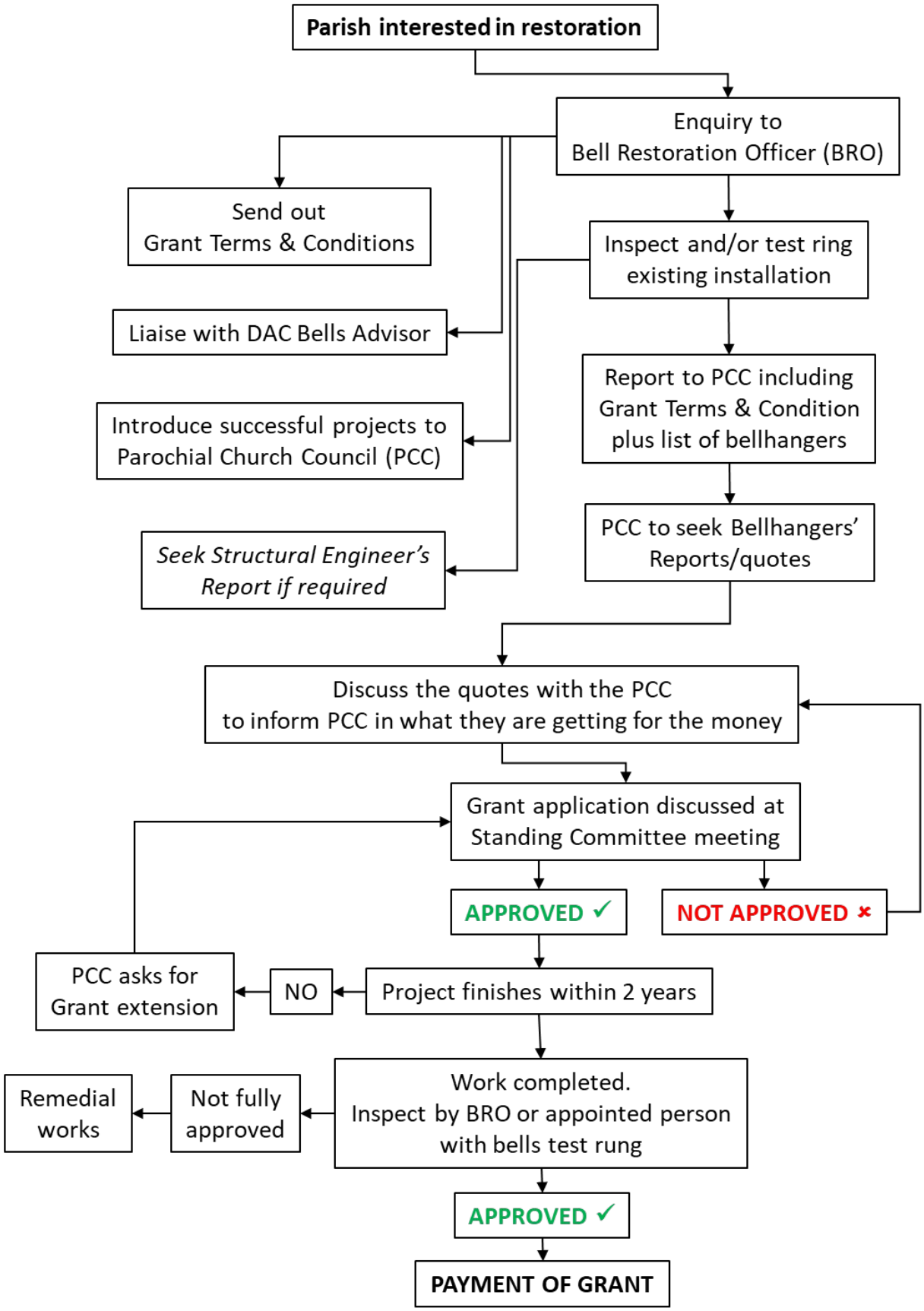
BELL RESTORATION FUND

Grant Terms & Conditions

www.tdgr.org.uk

2023

Grant Protocol



Grant Terms & Conditions

1. The Truro Diocesan Guild of Ringers for the Diocese of Truro ("the Guild") operates a Bell Restoration Fund designed to assist bell restoration projects within the Diocese.
2. Grants may be given towards work to restore bells and their fittings to enable full circle ringing to take place. Grants may also be given for augmenting and other ancillary work required to enable full circle ringing to continue or to be carried out. Work on clocks, static chimes and bells that are to be hung dead is excluded from grant availability. Work to towers (except when linked to a bell project) is also excluded.
3. Applicants should, as early as possible in the project, contact the Bell Restoration Officer (BRO) bro@tdgr.org.uk , or the Guild Secretary (GS) secretary@tdgr.org.uk so that general information can be provided.
4. Prior to application it is anticipated that the PCC would discuss any quotes with the BRO so that technical advice can be given when considering quotes from bellhangers.
5. Applications for a grant should be made to the BRO in writing using the form on the website (www.tdgr.org.uk). The application should include full details of the work to be undertaken, copies of the drawings and copies of quotations. The Guild requires that a minimum of two quotes should be sought for bell hanging or building work. Where it has not been possible to obtain two quotes, evidence will be required that sufficient attempts were made. The application should state the chosen contractors. All applications are referred by the BRO for recommendation to the Standing Committee (SC). Additional information may be requested at the initial stage of application to better inform the SC decision. The SC normally meets three times a year. Notification of acceptance will only be issued once the SC has approved the Grant.
6. The amount of any grant will be determined by the SC in its absolute discretion, following a recommendation by the BRO, having regard to the following guidelines:
    a. The grant will not normally exceed 15% of costs. However, smaller projects or those with particular difficulties may be awarded larger amounts;
    b. The costs eligible for a grant shall be those actually incurred for materials and services. They shall *normally* exclude:
        i. the value of any voluntary labour
        ii. VAT where it is reimbursable
    c. The cost of additional bells and fittings will not *normally* be funded, although this does not preclude a grant towards, e.g. the cost of an 8-bell frame in an existing 6-bell tower;
    d. Applicants must demonstrate to the Education Officer that they have initiated, or at least have a credible plan to initiate, the recruitment, training and development of a band of ringers to enable the bells to be rung regularly.
7. Any grant which may be awarded will be on the understanding that the project is completed according to the specification given in the grant application. Applicants should therefore inform the BRO immediately of any proposed changes. If the proposed changes are not approved by the Guild then the grant offer may be withdrawn. If the Guild does approve the changes then it may attach additional conditions to the offer of a grant.
8. All Grants are time limited from the date of approval, for a period of two years. At two years, all grants expire unless a written application to review is received.

9. An application for an additional grant may be made if the cost of the work exceeds that budgeted for in the original grant application or if circumstances change such as a bell is discovered cracked after removal from the tower. However any subsequent offers are at the discretion of the SC.
10. The Guild strongly advises that a copy of this document is passed on to your architect, bellhanger and other relevant advisors/contractors and that you obtain their acknowledgement that they have received and understood the contents.
11. Once a grant is approved, the BRO will become the liaison contact who will be available to assist in seeing the project through to completion and can keep the Guild fully informed of how the project is progressing. If necessary an alternative contact will be nominated. Once the work has started the Guild reserve the right to inspect the work in progress.
12. The grant monies will be paid when the project has been approved by the BRO. To release the grant, the BRO (or nominated person(s)) will carry out a full inspection of the installation checking that all grant technical conditions have been met and that the work, subject of the grant, has been completed correctly and competently. If the inspection reveals deficiencies, but the overall project is deemed to be satisfactory by the BRO, he/she may authorise withholding up to 25% of the grant until these deficiencies have been remedied. If the overall project is deemed not to be satisfactory then no grant will be paid.
13. Following written BRO approval, the grant monies will be paid to the Parochial Church Council (PCC) or, where there is no PCC responsible for the bells, to the equivalent body, or to whomsoever the PCC or equivalent body shall direct.
14. It is important that any project results in the best possible installation given all the circumstances, and the Guild will not give grants for projects where there is any doubt as to:
    a. the quality of sound of the bells, both inside and outside the tower;
    b. the “go” of the bells;
    c. the likely longevity of the project;
    d. whether the volume of the bells outside is likely to annoy local residents such that complaints are likely.
15. Consequently applicants should ensure that all Technical Guidelines (see appendix) are followed as closely as possible, and any proposed deviations from the Guidelines are discussed and agreed with the BRO.
16. The purpose of a project, and thus a grant, is to promote regular ringing: it is not normally good use of money for ringing to be restricted to a limited amount after a project has been finalised. There is an expectation that on completion of the work the bells will be made available to occasional visiting ringers for ringing events, peals and quarter peals.
17. Acceptance of the grant offered confirms the acceptance of the above terms and conditions. If you cannot comply with the above, please discuss with the BRO before relying on the grant.
18. All reports and advice given by the Guild and its members are given in good faith, they are given gratuitously and without reward and no liability can be accepted by the Members, Guild Standing Committee, Bell Restoration Officer or the Truro Diocesan Guild of Ringers in respect of the contents of such reports and advice. BRO reports are given for the benefit of the local ringers, incumbent and PCC and may not be relied on by any third party.

DECLARATION:

I,_____on behalf of

_____

agree to the terms and conditions set out above, and acknowledge that any breach of these terms and conditions may require that the grant to be repaid to the Truro Diocesan Guild of Ringers in full. I confirm that the governing body/members of the organisation to which the grant is to be awarded have authorised me to agree to the terms and conditions on their behalf and are fully aware of their resulting obligations.

Signed:_____ Date:_____

Position (normally should be the incumbent)

Grant value as agreed by the Standing Committee: £_____

Appendix Technical Guidance

Normal practice is that cast iron/steel bellframes are fully grouted into the walls using traditional methods for cast iron/steel frames, unless otherwise agreed and confirmed in writing by the Bell Restoration Officer and/or DAC Bells Advisor prior to the start of re-hanging.

Bell frames are designed by the contracting bellhanger and are intended to support and distribute the static and dynamic loads of the bells to the tower structure with near zero distortion of the frame (and the tower, ideally). To achieve this new cast iron/steel frames will usually require structural members that are built into the tower walls on two or more levels.

The structural members (‘beams’) transmitting the load to the tower walls are usually UB, RSJ or RSC. These usually project 150mm to 230mm (6”-9”) into the tower walls and are grouted flush with the wall face using a cement-based concrete. The grouting must remain visible.

Steel rusts under some circumstances adjacent to the wall face both outside and inside the wall surface at points where air is allowed access. This rarely occurs when the steel is coated, preferably by galvanising, before installation. It can occur where protection has been left until after installation.

The wall pockets must allow a clearance of 65mm (2.5”) all round between steel and cavity. Where the beam lies in an opening, the grout must be at least 90mm (3.5”) above the top surface of the beam and contoured to run water away. Ideally all beams are grouted in at one time using grout of the same consistency. The wall is shuttered and grout which is thin enough to reach all areas is poured in to fill the cavity and tamped.

Selected foundation beam ends are placed on pads 75mm (3”) thick (minimum) of concrete which have been previously poured into their wall pockets. The foundation beams selected for pads should be on the lower level and the minimum number necessary for the frame to sit snugly and truly in position on them and for them to support the remainder of the frame while it is assembled. When installed there must be no gap which would enable air and moisture to penetrate between the beam ends and the pads on which they sit. Once the entire frame is assembled all beam ends are grouted in.

Good clappering is crucial to all types of ringing. Each clapper will have a mass and distribution appropriate to the size of the bell for which it is intended. As a guide, the section sizes and mass ought to be that of a good wrought iron clapper. Ideally all SG clappers should be machined. All bells are to be left correctly struck at both strokes and capable of being easily rung, raised or lowered by an average ringer.

All bells must operate at compatible speeds with each other. The period of swing of each of the bells and clappers should be progressive from the smallest to the largest bell.

Being able to hear all the bells in the ring clearly is crucial to change ringing. Sound Control should be included in the project where appropriate with due regard for local inhabitants and noise disturbance. Some projects will need little or no sound control (e.g. where the ring is lowered in the tower); others will need louvres blocking up or adjustable sound control to reduce the nuisance levels. Whatever is decided, the result should be a clear and well-balanced sound both inside and outside the tower with the ability to adjust sound levels where there could be a problem.

The new installation should be fully accessible to allow maintenance to be carried out easily without danger to the operator. Working platforms and easy safe access are a priority. Guard rails, harness points and effective lighting should be provided where required. The whole project must comply with Health & Safety Executive (HSE) & Construction (Design) and Management (CDM) regulation and current best practice.