



Author: Lynda Powell, Town Clerk
Committee: Full Council: 25th March 2024
Agenda Item: 109b Community Grants
Date: 20.3.2024

1 Purpose. To provide Councillors with advice from Cornwall Association of Local Councils (CALC) in respect of providing grants to churchyards.

2 Decision Required. Councillors are asked to consider the funding application document 109b.

3 Background

3.1 At the last meeting of the Full Council Councillors considered a grant application from St Martins and St Nicholas churches, Looe PCC.

3.2 The Clerk was asked to seek advice from CALC as Council was uncertain if they had the power to provide a grant to a churchyard.

4. CALC Advice

4.1 CALC have advised that,

The legislation has changed to allow you to consider providing a financial contribution to the church for anything which is within the scope of your council's existing powers including S137. It is a complicated change in the law and there is not much guidance about, but if the council feels it is appropriate S137 will cover you for the expenditure up to the limit.

4.2 The Local Government Act 1972, S137 enables Councils to spend a limited amount of money for purposes for which they have no other specific statutory power. For 2023/4 S137 expenditure is set at £9.93 per member of the population of the local authorities area. The Council has not incurred any expenditure under S137 in this financial year.