

## MUCH MARCLE PARISH COUNCIL

# APPLICATION FOR A GRANT

This application form is to be read in conjunction with our policy on grants and donations. Please continue with the application even if you do not consider all questions to be applicable as each application is considered on its own merit. If you have any questions whilst completing the form, please contact the Clerk.

Name of organisation (must be non profit making voluntary organisation where membership is open)	Much Marcle Parochial Church Council
Name of person making application	Richard Brooks
Address Contact telephone no.	The Mount, Much Marcle, HR8 2NB 660241/07768332049
Email address	brooks604@btinternet.com
Details of the project	On- going churchyard maintenance and creation of a new garden of remembrance
Overall cost of the project	An annual sum of £4316 is currently being paid for mowing. That may seem excessive but it is an awkward area to work on and this was the cheapest quote that could be found and the contractor has held his price for the last two years The costs of the garden and the railings have yet to be determined.
Amount sought	The council has in the past paid £500 pa towards the cost of mowing and general upkeep
Details of any other own or external funding considered or received	An annual appeal to those with relatives in the churchyard was launched in 2023 and had an exceptional response raising £3,400. It is planned to repeat this whilst recognising that some of the donations would be one off and there is no guarantee of a repeat response
Demonstrate clearly how the grant will help	To be applied towards the cost of mowing and general churchyard maintenance including the repair of railings, grave goods etc The railings are in need of refurbishment and require painting but hopefully little repointing of the stone bases The new garden of remembrance is required as the area currently being used is full and untidy. That area also needs attention. It is hoped the cost will

	be minimal as the PCC hopes to be able to the work itself
Detail how many people of Much Marcle Parish will benefit	To preserve the beauty of the graveyard and the environs of the church. The churchyard exists for the benefit of all in the parish who have the right of burial/internment there irrespective of their connection with the church
Any other additional information that supports the application	<p>The church is a destination church receiving many visitors from around the world. It house two unique monuments as well as a famous yew tree (the only one in Herefordshire to be included in the late Queen`s Green Canopy Register). The PCC feel strongly that the churchyard must be tidy to reflect the importance of the site.</p> <p>. In recent years the PCC has carried out many improvements including the installation of kitchen &amp; toilet facilities, new lighting and heating. This has enabled its use to be extended to be a venue for Hellens Music as well a popular wedding venue in association with Homme and Hellens houses.</p> <p>The church continues to operate at a deficit. Operating income including fund raising of £4000 in 2023 amounted to just over £29537 while operating cost were just over £51000. These figures exclude expenditure on capital projects principally the bell tower repairs which cost £144000 over the last three years mostly in 2023</p> <p>The church does have reserves and the interest earned of £9240 last year helped with costs as did some grants but the overall deficit last year was £107561.</p> <p>The reserves are protected funds and are diminishing in the face of continued operating deficits. With the Diocese requiring ever increasing payments to provide our share of the cost of our vicar and other overheads-this year we have to provide £22000- no prospect of improvement is apparent</p> <p>Any assistance will be appreciated</p>

**To support your application, and if possible, please supply the following:**

- A copy of your constitution and, if appropriate, membership rules;
- A copy of your organisation`s audited accounts or accounts that have been examined by a suitably qualified person, or in the case of a newly formed organisation, a detailed budget and business plan (if applicable);
- Please return the completed form to: Rachel Freestone, Clerk to Much Marcle Parish Council, Email: [parishclerk@muchmarcleparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:parishclerk@muchmarcleparishcouncil.gov.uk)

