


MEMBERS CIL FUNDING REQUEST FORM

Each section has guidance within it to assist you in filling this form out. Please delete this information once you have completed each section. All sections must be completed.

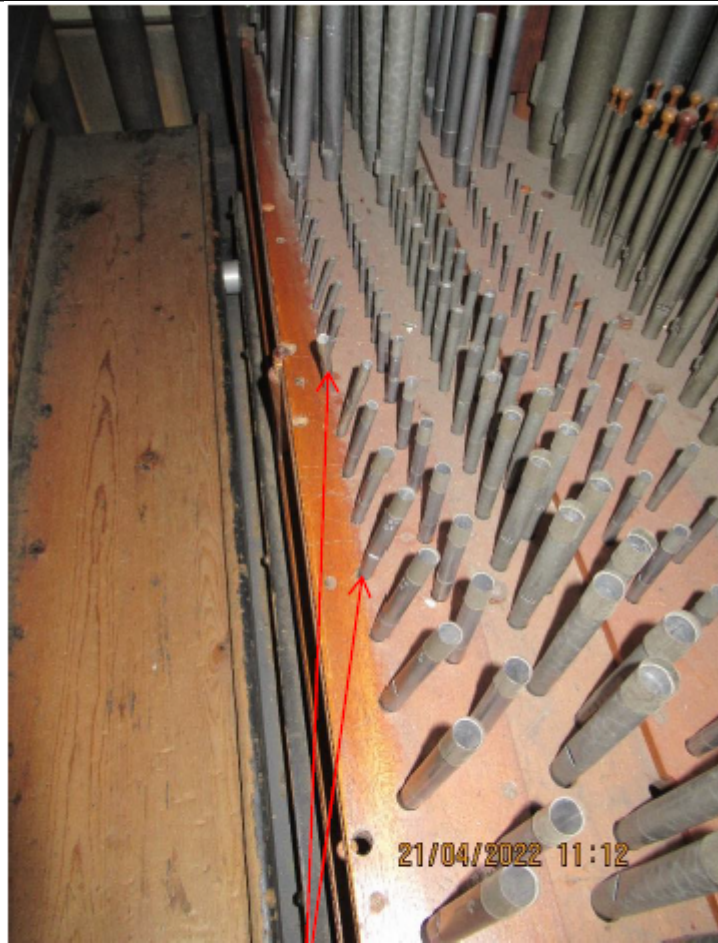
- Relevant internal officers informed 2 months prior to committee
- Residents consulted
- All sections of Member CIL funding request complete

AREA COMMITTEE – MEMBERS CIL FUNDING REQUEST	
MEMBER	Edwards
DATE	21-2-24
WARD	High Barnet
cross-ward applications	<i>{Please outline the additional wards and provide the Member(s) endorsement}</i>
SCHEME SUMMARY	
<i>Renovating the organ in the St John the Baptists church.</i>	
	

The organ is in urgent need of repair – the below images indicate some of the elements that require overdue attention in this organ.



Collapsed resonators Great 8'
Tromba



Some of the many damaged and bent pipes on Choir

Funding Request (£)	£83,000 (50% of the cost)
CIL Eligibility	<p>The scheme is supported by Ward member Emma Whysall. It falls within the priorities of the Area Committee, which is seeking to establish culture as a priority for the development of Barnet. St. John the Baptist Church is a community centre which has capacity for 500 people, and which provides regular musical concerts and opportunities for performance which are both religious and non-religious in nature. The scheme is located within the centre of Barnet High Street, and offers wide community benefit, as supported by the detail given below, as well as by numerous letters in support of the scheme which are attached. The scheme supports the development of Barnet, as an improvement of a key piece of cultural infrastructure, a historic Hill organ, the loss of</p>

	<p>function of which would be a great loss to the community. The scheme does not relate to political or lobbying activities, nor does it benefit any individual counsellor.</p> <p>The group submitting the application is St. John the Baptist Church of England Church, which is part of the Diocese of St. Albans, and the Church of England. It is a not-for-profit organisation, registered as a charity (RCN: 1130743.) This scheme has been subject to rigorous financial assessment, which has included hiring the services of Paul Hale, an organ specialist, who has independently assessed every quote. All spending decisions are subject to majority vote of the church council, which is elected annually by members of the St. John the Baptist Electoral Roll.</p>
<p>Area Committee priorities</p>	<p>The Council is currently establishing a Cultural Strategy for Barnet – and our faith centres are key to the culture of our borough. In Chipping Barnet St John’s is a key cultural hub and refurbishing the organ ensures that not only will the spiritual work of the Church be able to continue for many years to come but it can remain the heart of our town.</p>
<p>Who will deliver the scheme</p>	<p>Henry Groves & Son Ltd</p>
<p>Community Grants <i>(if applicable please confirm this is included with the application)</i></p>	<p>Yes</p>
<p>Feasibility Study only</p>	<p>No</p>
<p>BUDGET & DELIVERY</p>	
<p>The total cost of the scheme is £137, 770 + VAT at 20%, equal to £27, 554. This has been provided by Henry Groves & Sons Ltd, in the quote dated 17-08-23, which continues to be up to date. This quote is attached, and provides an itemised breakdown of the work to be completed.</p> <p>Quotes are also attached from GO Organs, which quoted £193, 620.00, and Mander Organ Builder, which quoted £389, 770.</p>	

Quotes provided with the application	Please see attached quotes from Henry Groves & Son Ltd, GO Organs, and Mander Organ Builders.
Timescale for delivery	The organ renovation will take 6 months to complete, with a provisional start date of October, 2024.
Council Service Delivery	N/A
Dependencies/Risks	This work will require the organ to be unplayable for roughly 3 months. The church also has a grand piano which can be used as a temporary replacement for some of the services which the organ provides, and the church is exploring hiring an electronic organ for the period to provide for services which cannot be provided the piano.

VALUE FOR MONEY

The Church have sought several quotes, some nearing £250,000.0. At the advice of the Diocese of St. Albans, they engaged organ Specialist Paul Hale, who after a site visit and an extensive report has advised them on the work required and the quotes that had been obtained. Paul Hale has advised on the organs at Manchester and Newcastle Cathedrals. At his advice Jonathan Wallace of Henry Groves & Son was asked to provide a fourth quote which was for £137,000.00 plus VAT. Paul Hale also advised on this quote, against the others provided, all of which had seen the report which Paul wrote. On Paul Hale's advice, the Church Council prefers the quote of Henry Groves & Son.

The Church has raised funds by selling historic assets in the form of property. This has helped to liquidise assets, and was undertaken following financial advice from Lonsdale. There are other major works needed to the church, particularly upcoming repair works for outer church masonry, and works on the western doors of the church. The proceeds from the sale of assets must at once pay for required work, and also provide regular income through reinvestment. The church has annual outgoings which require a substantial reinvestment and annual drawdown of interest, to provide for the lost income of previously owned assets, if it is to remain financially stable.

The church has also begun local community fundraising, and regularly receives donations from the local community in support of funding the scheme. As well as local donations, the church has begun a 'Sponsor a Pipe' campaign, run a coffee morning, and is planning a quiz evening to support fundraising.

Repairing an organ is not just a once in a generation endeavour but one in many generations – further repairs will not be required for 50-70 years, as attested to by Paul Hale.

No ongoing revenue costs

Repairing the organ as per this scheme will not require any additional revenue, as the work will be sufficient for 50-70 years.

COMMUNITY BENEFITS

St John's is the heart of Chipping Barnet town, the chapel has existed in Chipping Barnet Town since approximately the 1250s.

As the Church is the heart of the town, the organ is the heart of the Church.

The Church Organ needs urgent and major refurbishment to safeguard it for the future, as many components of the organ are beginning to fail.

The organ is amongst the most significant aspects of St. John the Baptist Church. It was constructed by William Hill in 1884. It is used extremely regularly by the worshipping community at St. John the Baptist at services throughout every week of the year.

However, it is more importantly a community asset, a central element of one of Barnet's most historic buildings, and a key part of innumerable community and civic functions. Civic events include the large Barnet Remembrance Sunday event, the Community Carol Services at Barnet Christmas Fayre, and community services and events at Christmas and Easter.

Many local schools use the organ as an irreplaceable element of their school services, coming to use the church partly for use of the Organ. Schools which hold such services include Queen Elizabeth's Boys, Queen Elizabeth's Girls, Underhill, Lyonsdown, Foulds, St. Catherine's, Summerside Primary, and Haberdashers Girls.

The organ is also used on a weekly basis by local students who are learning to play the organ, and who would not have the opportunity to learn otherwise. The Church has also created 2 organ scholarships with Queen Elizabeth's Boys, which began in January. They aim to create a further 2 scholarships with Queen Elizabeth's Girls, and discussions about this project are underway. These scholarships will be held annually and renewed for as long as the church and schools are willing and able to continue. It is particularly exciting to be creating the opportunity to welcome female students to learn the organ, as women are hugely underrepresented in the classical music world – especially as organists.

The Church is also founding choral scholarships from 2024 - the desire is to create 8 scholarship places for young people to get a musical education – the hope is to particularly encourage underrepresented grounds in the classical world including BAME backgrounds.

The Church holds regular classical concerts open to the community which bring our community together. Amongst these is the major performance of J.S Bach's St. John's Passion by the UK-Japan Choir, supported by the Japanese Embassy in the UK, which takes place in on the 24th March 2024. This is likely to become an annual event, and the organ is essential to these sorts of performances. The Church also hosts the annual High Barnet Chamber Music Festival. The church is seeking to create more opportunities for musical concerts, especially including the organ, but as Joshua Balance (Director of the High Barnet Chamber Music Festival) attests in his attached letter, the proposed organ works are essential for these to continue.

Regular musical events help combat loneliness in our community especially amongst the elderly – given the number of Alms Houses and retirement properties in High Barnet ward this is a particular concern. Musical events are also offered to local care and nursing homes, such as Barnet Grange Nursing home, and provide an important aspect of holistic care for the residents who attend. Musical events are well attended Community events and attract musicians from across the world to play in the unique space that is St John's.

The Church has also fundraised to create the new post of Director of Music and Musical Mission. The postholder will have the purview of creating

more opportunities for local singers and musicians, particularly young people, and particularly from underrepresented groups in classical music, including women and members of the BAME community. The postholder will help to establish the first choir to include women in the church in 150 years, and will provide a range of free services expanding musical education and support for local schools and young people's organisations. The need for support in musical education has been reflected to the church by local schools, and it is has been reflected to the church that students from less advantaged backgrounds enjoy far fewer musical education opportunities. By creating a position which offers free musical education and support, the church is seeking to address this need as it has been expressed in Barnet by individuals and organisations. A key part of this post will be use of the organ as a teaching tool, as well as to allow a variety of music in the church. There are few, if any, places in Barnet which have an instrument of the size and quality of the Hill Organ at St. John the Baptist, and so it is uniquely situated to offer this important support, which has been so warmly welcomed by local schools.

Lead Officer Review – if required	
Lead Officer	
Date	
Assessment & Recommendations	