

Lincoln Churches Trust

Notes for Applicants

Lincolnshire Churches Trust was formed to assist churches, of all denominations, within the historic boundaries of Lincolnshire, to conserve and keep the buildings wind and watertight and safe for worship.

The Trust is also keen to help with plans to make churches more sustainable and relevant to the needs of their Community. To this end applications for facilities such as kitchens and lavatories will also be considered.

However, the Trust is unable to consider applications for heating, electrics and decoration other than those forming part of the project

The Trust is unable to consider applications for work that has started or been completed.

What is the process

All applicants have to complete the Application Form which can be downloaded from our website.

The form is in four parts:

01. Contact details
This provides contact details to enable us to discuss the application with you and address for correspondence.
02. Church information
This section tells us about the building and place in the Community
03. Project information
This gives us an understanding of the proposals, costings and funding
04. Connections to Lincolnshire Churches Trust
This tells us if the PCC is a Member and the Church supports our fundraising.
05. Supporting Documents

These include:

- i. Copy of up to date accounts
- ii. Schedule of works
- iii. Copy of Contractors estimate
- iv. Evidence of Faculty (or equivalent)
- v. Insurance details
- vi. Photographs

Many applicants also include a mission statement to support their reasons for
The project

Details are required for the whole project whether it falls within the remit of areas eligible for grant or not.

The Trust are keen to support applicants through the process and suggest contact is made with the Grants Secretary to talk through the project.

The application should then be sent, by post, to the Grants Secretary.

Consideration of the application

Once the application has successfully been completed, projects may be visited by a member of the Grants Committee and the Secretary will prepare a report to present to the Committee for consideration.

Generally, applications will be more likely to succeed if you can show support from other funders and evidence of fundraising within the Community, together with Trust membership and any evidence of regular support for Trust fundraising activities, especially the annual Ride and Stride event.

The Committee meets throughout the year according to the number of applications received. Funds are not depleted at the first meeting in the year and the Trust endeavours to determine applications as quickly as possible.

Remember that the Trust looks to provide to enable the project to proceed and will consider the manageability of any funding shortfall before making an award.

The timing of your application is most important. If you apply long before the work can realistically be started this causes problems as we may have to withdraw the offer of a grant if it is not taken up within 12 months of the offer date. So please consider not only the shortfall but when the work is likely to start.

If your PCC is offered a grant, details of how to claim it will be included in the offer letter. This will include returning our Certificate of Completion signed by the Incumbent/Warden and the supervisor of the works, whether Architect or Surveyor.

Further grant applications cannot be considered within a five year period follow the date of initial offer.