

Application for Financial Assistance (Historic Buildings Grants) from the Conservation and Heritage Fund – Newcastle Methodist Church, Merrial Street (Ref: 14/15002/HBG)

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Working Party indicate its views on proposals going to the Planning Committee that a grant of £527 for window repair and replacement on Merrial Street frontage of the Methodist Church.

Purpose of report

To inform the Working Party of an application for financial assistance towards the cost of the repair and replacement of windows and give the Working Party an opportunity to express its views on that application.

An application has been received from Newcastle Methodist Church which is situated within Newcastle Town Centre Conservation Area. The building is an important historic building within the Conservation Area. The application is for the selective repair of the main frontage windows. The 16 windows are currently in a mixed state of repair and two are required to be replaced. These will be replaced like for like. The total cost of this work is £5,268.

The Church was offered a small grant of £216 in January 2014 for repairs to the valley roof and this new application concerns additional work which is required to keep the building in a proper state of repair.

The amount of grant available to the Church is modest at 10% towards the repair costs for buildings within Conservation Areas.

The views of the Conservation Advisory Working Party will be reported to the Planning Committee.

Financial Implications

There is sufficient funding to meet this grant application with approximately £20,000 in the Fund (allowing for commitments).