

Application for Financial Assistance (Historic Buildings Grants) from the Conservation and Heritage Fund - St Mary and All Saints, Whitmore (Ref: 17/18001/HBG)

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Working Party indicate its views on proposals going to the Planning Committee that:-

£531 for repairs to stonework on the tower, gutter cleaning and repairs at St Mary and All Saints Church, Whitmore, subject to the appropriate standard conditions

Purpose of report

To inform the Working Party of an application for financial assistance towards the cost of the repair of this structure which is a Grade II* Listed Church and give the Working Party an opportunity to express its views on that application.

Whitmore Parish Church is largely 12th century church with 17th and 19th century alterations. It is listed Grade II*. The plinth and nave are stone and it is also partially timber framed with tile roof.

The quinquennial report has highlighted a number of items which the Church want to deal with relatively urgently, namely blocked and leaking gutters and repairs and repointing to the tower.

The total cost of the works from the lowest quotation is estimated at £2,658.32 excluding VAT. The Church is able to claim the VAT back. The works are eligible for grant up to 20% of the total cost because the building is a Listed Building which means that the grant offer is £531.

The Conservation Officer wants to ensure that any repointing will be undertaken in an appropriate lime mortar mix and a specific condition will be added to any grant offer if the Planning Committee is minded to approve this grant.

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 £27,600 in the Fund allowing for commitments.