Grant Funders for small repairs

The following is a list of possible grants funders for minor repairs or maintenance of church buildings. Other grant funders support slightly larger programmes of repair but most of these aren’t listed here as they tend to give only a proportion of the cost of a larger project and are therefore less useful for small urgent repair works where the amounts involved are smaller and match funding might be difficult. Although the list will be regularly reviewed, up to date information and eligibility criteria should always be sought directly from the funders. The ‘amount’ suggested in this document is only given as a rough indication of what the funder typically gives.

In almost all cases you need to apply before the project starts as grants won’t be awarded retrospectively.

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| **Grants for maintenance and small repairs:** |
| Norfolk Churches Trust  **Amount:** Varies, but their ‘stitch in time’ grant for urgent small repairs identified in the QIR is normally £500. Larger amounts can be given for more substantial urgent repair projects.  **For:** ‘Grants are awarded for a wide range of urgent repairs and conservation projects but cannot be awarded retrospectively. Extremely urgent ‘stitch in time’ grants to pay for small but critical repairs identified in a Quinquennial Inspection Report are also available.’  **Notes/significant conditions:** There is no minimum cost, or specified match funding requirement. Parishes that are not already members of the Trust are required to join when making an application.  **Website/contact:** [Grants - The Norfolk Churches Trust](https://norfolkchurchestrust.org.uk/grants/) |
| National Churches Trust – Small Grants  **Amount:** £500 - £5,000, only ever covering up to 50% of overall cost on total project cost of £20,000 or less (inc. VAT and fees). 50% of the funds needed must be in place before applying.  **For:** This programme offers small grants of between £500 and £5,000 towards urgent maintenance works and small repairs identified as high priority within a recent Quinquennial Inspection or Survey Report. Also, small investigative works and surveys.  **Notes/significant conditions:** In 2023, the first time you can apply is likely to be in March. Decisions will be considered on a bi-monthly rolling basis i.e. decisions will be made in April, June, August and in October. 50% of project cost must be in place, and you must have sought at least 2 quotes for the work. Churches must be open to the public, beyond worship, for at least 100 days a year (or will be when the project is completed).  **Website/contact:** https://www.nationalchurchestrust.org/get-support/grants/small-grants |
| Geoffrey Watling Charity – Norfolk and part of Suffolk only  **Amount:** £1,000 (or less) - £30,000. No match funding required but must be actively pursuing other sources of funding.  **For:** ‘The objects of the Charity are to apply the income of the trust fund to such charity or charities or for such charitable purposes as the Trustees in their discretion may from time to time determine. The area of benefit is generally within the County of Norfolk and Waveney District of Suffolk. As well as organisations which are registered with the Charity Commission applications will be accepted from local churches which are excepted charities and which are listed on their denomination’s website’.  **Notes/significant conditions:** ‘The grant application form is the document that will be reviewed by the Trustees, therefore please keep the information on the form as simple as possible and avoid the use of technical terms and jargon.’ Applicants must wait 2 years before applying again.  **Contact/website:** https://geoffreywatling.org.uk/ |
| Benefacts Trust (formerly Allchurches Trust) – Building Improvement Grant  **Amount:** Not yet sure of average size of grant for this fund as recently restructured, but under previous programme between £1,000 - £15,000 was typical. The trust ask you to present the overall cost of the project, together with match funding you have secured, and they will decide what to give rather than the applicant request a specific amount. 30% match funding required.  **For:** Urgent repairs or other capital works, conservation or restoration of historic features, other aesthetic enhancements to improve indoor or outdoor spaces for users, and energy efficiency/renewable energy measures which improve the sustainability of church buildings/facilities and enable their continued use.  **Notes/significant conditions:** Applicants must have secured funding for at least 30% of their total project cost before applying.  Contact/Website: https://benefacttrust.co.uk/which-grant-is-for-me/building-improvement-grants/ |