



Small grants and loans are sometimes available towards the cost of repair and renovation of churches which are Listed or in a Conservation Area. The grant-making body will require evidence of a recent and thorough building inspection (> 021) and will need to be satisfied that all the work needed to put the building in good order is being carried out. They will also require the works to be specified and supervised by an appropriately qualified person. These requirements are, in fact, consonant with Synod policy and make very good sense.

As with all grant applications, it is essential to notify the grant-making body of the church's intention to carry out works well before they commence and to seek advice and application forms at an early stage.

### **English Heritage**

Grants are available only towards the cost of major, urgent repairs and are normally limited to Listed Buildings of Grade II\* or better, of which we have only one in the Wessex Synod. However, if your church is facing major repairs to its building and you have reason to believe that it would be considered to be of 'outstanding architectural or historic interest', you could make enquiries of English Heritage at:

Fortress House  
23 Savile Row  
London W1X 1AB

The English Heritage/Heritage Lottery Fund operates a Joint Grant Scheme for Churches. It makes provision for churches who are opposed to the use of lottery funds on grounds of conscience to apply for English Heritage funds only. The URC falls into this category (see page 18 of Record of General Assembly 1995 and Church and Society Report on page 67 of 1997 Assembly Reports). There is a box on the application which should be ticked to indicate that lottery funding is not being sought. The Scheme is currently under review.

## GRANTS & LOANS FROM CONSERVATION BODIES

### **Historic Churches Preservation Trust**

The Secretary  
Historic Church Preservation Trust  
Fulham Palace  
London SW6 6EA

### **Berkshire Historic Churches Trust**

W Stebbings Esq.  
6 Witelands Drive  
Mill Road  
Ascot  
Berkshire SL5 8LR

### **Hampshire and the Islands Historic Churches Trust**

B Woods Esq.  
Bradley Lodge  
Bradley  
Alresford  
Hampshire SO24 9SA

### **Oxfordshire Historic Churches Trust**

R H Lethbridge Esq.  
Fawler Manor  
Charlbury  
Oxon OX7 3AH

### **Wiltshire Historic Churches Trust**

G Cook Esq. FRIBA  
64 Endless Street  
Salisbury  
Wiltshire SP1 3UH

The County Historic Churches Trusts are all independent charities, raising money and helping financially with repairs to churches and chapels within their own boundaries. There are many other charities which makes grants for community projects in which church building schemes play a part.