**District Grants report for Synod**

So far this year we have received 14 requests for grants and at the time of writing all have had final approval and the funds made available. The next grants’ committee will be on 7th November 2016.

The grants awarded have been made up as shown in the table below.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Area** | **Number of grants** | **% of funds allocated** |
| Youth support | 4 | 29 |
| Property | 4 | 21 |
| Outreach and evangelism | 6 | 50 |

One grant, for the Queen’s Hall homeless project also included a loan facility for up to £30000 to ensure that the project had sufficient cash flow.

The grants made for staff are usually spread over 2 or 3 years

One grant has not gone to the third year due to the long term illness of the person appointed and their subsequent resignation.

We have made two training grants totally £110 and were pleased to note that in each case the Church/Circuit were also contributing to this area of staff development.

We have awarded £300 to an individual to attend a Lasallian Developing World Project in Tanzania and a further £300 to support a young person attending a Guide project in Uganda. The committee also received an application from St Andrew’s, Bolton, for £60 x 2, to support two young people to attend Soul Survivor. They have both joined St Andrew’s with their families in the last 12 months, having arrived in the UK after several years in a refugee camp in Burundi.

Further statistics of the grants awarded are available on request.

The overall funding available for grants is limited and although we are still able to make substantial grants the committee often have to reduce the amount granted below that originally requested. Applicants should this in mind when setting their budgets.

Advice on grant principles and on all aspects of the application process, including on-line applications is available from the District Grants’ Officer.