



A Guide to Making an Application to The Worthy Causes Committee

The Mark Benevolent Fund – MBF, a Registered Charity (207610), came into existence in 1868 on the suggestion of the Most Worshipful Grand Master of Mark Master Masons, the Reverend George Raymond Portal, whose views on charity were far more progressive and radical than the general thinking of the times. Nowadays, as well as helping individual Mark Masons and their families the MBF is open to helping other worthy causes and registered charities.

The Worthy Causes Committee meets 2 or 3 times a year at Mark Masons' Hall, in London to examine applications from registered charities in England and Wales, looking for financial support. We also accept applications from Mark Provinces & Districts wishing to support suitable registered charities or other causes.

We do not fund:

- Salaries or bursaries
- Research projects
- Non-quantified general running expenses
- Partnership projects
- Projects requiring repeat or annual funding
- Any charitable request where a more suitable charity exists
- Well endowed charities with massive funds not used
- Organisations which have received a grant from the MBF within 5 years
- Organisations which have used a previous grant in a manner not indicated to us in their application

We do Favour:

- One off projects supplying hardware, equipment or vehicles. For example, medical equipment such as scanners and diagnostic equipment. Also, transport benefitting the disabled and less able bodied including minibuses or minivans all of which can enable the use of existing skills, resources and manpower to provide services across a wide spectrum of community needs.
- From time to time we may fund building projects where certain rooms require 'fitting out' such as kitchens or bathrooms.

What Your Application Should Contain:

- Applications should be addressed to The Honorary Secretary of the Mark Benevolent Fund.
- Your request should contain full details of your project and full costs involved. Please state if your charity is VAT registered and if you can reclaim the VAT on any project.
- It should set out who will benefit, and how they will benefit from your chosen project whether at a local, national or international level. The wider the scope of the benefit the better.
- A set of your most recent accounts will also aid the decision of the Committee.
- Please send your completed application to the address below. If any further is required, we will be in touch.

The Trustees and other members of the Committee are very aware that they are administering Mark Benevolent Funds and that the issue of the appropriateness of the allocation of Benevolent Fund Monies is uppermost in everyone's mind as applications are considered.

If you need any further details then please contact:

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