

MOBBS MEMORIAL TRUST (MMT)

HISTORY

The Mobbs Memorial Trust was formed by Sir Noel Mobbs in 1956 with Mobbs family funds to provide the preliminary finance totalling £150,000. In 1959, when approaching his 80th birthday, which he did not live to see, Sir Noel wrote “*The principal purpose which I, as Lord of the Manor, formed the Trust is for the maintenance in perpetuity of the peace, quietness and beauty of the ancient Church and Churchyard of Saint Giles in which Thomas Gray wrote his famous Elegy, the adjoining Manor House and Memorial Gardens*”.

The original objectives were:

- To assist in the preservation and maintenance in Stoke Poges of St Giles Church, the Memorial Gardens (dedicated in 1935 by the Bishop of Buckingham as a Garden of Remembrance which were passed in 1971 to the then Eton Rural District Council - now South Bucks District Council) and the National Trust field on the east side of the Churchyard.
- To support charitable objects within such parts of Buckinghamshire and Berkshire within a radius of 4 miles (increased in 1973 to 35 miles as the original radius was too restrictive) of St Giles Church, Stoke Poges.

TRUSTEES

The original Managing Trustees were Sir Noel Mobbs and his sons Richard, Eric and Gerald. The present Managing Trustees, all descendents of the founder, are Charles Mobbs (Chairman), Michael Mobbs, Sandra Greenslade, Christopher Mobbs and Alexander Mobbs. The Trustees meet quarterly to consider applications.

ASSETS

The Trust’s assets are primarily invested on the London Stock Exchange, are administered by professional portfolio managers and the income generated is used to achieve the objectives of the Trust.

OBJECTIVES

- To assist in the preservation and maintenance of St Giles Church, Stoke Poges.
- To support charitable objects within Buckinghamshire and Berkshire that are within a 35 miles radius of St Giles Church, Stoke Poges.

APPLICATION GUIDELINES

- Each application is treated strictly on its own merit and, so long as it complies with MMT’s basic criteria, is considered by Trustees at their quarterly meetings, normally March, June, September and December. Notification of the outcome of each application is given immediately after each meeting. Grants or donations tend to range between £500 and £10,000.
- MMT prefers to support applications:
 - for “one-off” capital projects
 - for the benefit of the public at large
 - that obtain funding from other sources as well as MMT

Examples of some recent successful applications include: community halls to enhance their facilities; hostels, housing associations or care centres for the young, elderly, disadvantaged or disabled requiring equipment; sports clubs for additional equipment; primary schools for computers and the enhancement of art and drama facilities.

- MMT does not normally support applications:
 - from or for individuals or private companies
 - from national charitable organisations unless a specific need arises with the local area
 - that should be funded by national or local government
 - for running costs, apart from exceptional cases within a 4 miles radius of Stoke Poges
- Written applications, if they appear to comply with the above criteria, should be:
 - sent by post to: Dr. Charles Mobbs, MMT Chairman, Cypress Cottage, 89 St John’s Road, Newport, Isle of Wight PO30 1LS
 - or emailed to applications@mobbsmemorialtrust.com