

Document E

THE RONALD J SHARP BELL FUND
Code of Practice

KEY:

~~Wording to be deleted~~

Wording to be added

Notes (Not part of rules)

1. The fund shall be known as the Ronald J. Sharp Bell Fund.
2. Objectives. The objective of the fund shall be to advance the Christian Religion by:
 - (a) Providing financial assistance in the form of loans to churches within the territory covered by the Bedfordshire Association of Church Bell Ringers for the following purposes:-
 - (i) Augmentation, recasting, or any other work on bells, frames and fittings.
 - (ii) Major work in ringing rooms, e.g. floors
 - (iii) Work to the fabric of towers, e.g. sound control
 - (iv) Provision of and hanging of new peals.
 - (b) Providing grants to the Association **Management** ~~General~~ Committee, ~~and the District Committees~~ and churches within the territory of the Bedfordshire Association of Church Bell Ringers for the following educational purposes:-
 - (i) Training courses on bell ringing
 - (ii) Educational materials relating to bells and bell ringing
 - (iii) Promotion of bell ringing
3. Administration. The administrators of the fund shall be known as the "Fund Committee". The Fund Committee shall comprise ~~one member from each of the three Districts of the Association~~ **three Life or Resident members of the Association elected at the Association's Annual General Meeting**, together with the President and the ~~Association Honorary Secretary of the Association~~. The Fund Committee shall be empowered to co-opt **members** ~~from the Districts~~ to fill vacancies as necessary. The Fund Committee shall be empowered to approve or reject applications for loans and grants. Applications for loans and grants shall be made in writing to the ~~Association Honorary Secretary~~ **Association** Secretary. Having received an application for a loan or grant, the ~~Association Honorary Secretary~~ **Association** Secretary shall call a meeting of the Fund Committee within twenty-one days. The ~~Association Honorary~~ **Association** Treasurer and the ~~Bank~~ **Bank** Trustees of the Association shall be the trustees of the fund, any two of whom shall be cheque signatories.

This now reads:

Administration. The administrators of the fund shall be known as the "Fund Committee". The Fund Committee shall comprise three Life or Resident members of the Association elected at the Association's Annual General Meeting, together with the President and the Association Secretary. The Fund Committee shall be empowered to co-opt members to fill vacancies as necessary. The Fund Committee shall be empowered to approve or reject applications for loans and grants. Applications for loans and grants shall be made in writing to the Association Secretary. Having received an application for a loan or grant, the Association Secretary shall call a meeting of the Fund Committee within twenty-one days. The Association Treasurer and the Bank Trustees of the Association shall be the trustees of the fund, any two of whom shall be cheque signatories.

4. Income and Investment. The responsibility for fund raising and investment shall be that

of the **Management General** Committee of the Association. The **Management General** Committee of the Association shall have the power to borrow money for the purposes of the Fund.

5. Applications. Applications for a loan shall include all relevant details as follows: - An estimate of the proposed work, a specification of the proposed work and details of the financing scheme. Duration of the loan shall be twelve months. An extension of the loan may be applied for. Interest rates on loans shall be decided by the **Management General** Committee. A 'Form of Agreement' shall accompany all loans. No loan shall be for less than £250 or such a sum as shall be decided by the **Management General** Committee. Applications for a grant shall include a brief description of the proposal, estimated expenditure and financing available. A grant shall only be paid to defray actual expenses and proof of expenditure must be supplied.
6. Reports and accounts. The **Association General** Treasurer shall prepare accounts for the fund each year ending 31st December. The accounts shall be included within the body of the Association accounts. A report of the activities of the fund shall be presented to the **Association's Annual General Meeting. A.G.M.** by the Fund Committee.
7. Dissolution. In the event of the dissolution of the fund the accrued assets of the fund shall be paid into the General Fund of the Association.
8. Provision for changes to the code of practice. No amendment of; addition to; or deletion from this code of practice shall be made which would cause the Association to cease to be a charity at law. Propositions for changes shall be made at the Association's **Annual General Meeting. A.G.M.**

Decisions of the **Management General Committee**

20th May 2000: Rule 5. The interest rate for loans is nil for the first twelve months. Should the loan period be extended, interest will be charged at the rate that would have applied had the loan not been made.