

## **GLOUCESTER DIOCESAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

### **TABLE TOMBS FUND – GUIDANCE NOTE TO APPLICANTS**

The table tombs fund was established in 1961 by Dame Joan Evans, and the DAC manage and agree all applications to the fund via their regular pattern of meetings.

Gloucestershire has about 50% of all the Grade I and Grade II\* churchyard memorials in England, and though the number of illegible tombs is not known, it is likely to run into several thousand, particularly if you include the far more numerous Grade II listed structures as well. These fine memorials are found in all parts of the diocese, but are concentrated particularly in the Vale (eg Berkeley, Elmore, Standish etc) and in the Cotswolds.

Dependent upon their condition, table tombs may cost between £500 and £1,500 each to repair and due to the modest size of the grant fund, we tend to help on smaller projects e.g. one or two tombs needing work, and may fund say 30% of the cost. For larger scale projects where a large number of memorials are proposed for repair in one go, larger funding bodies such as the Heritage Lottery Fund will need to be approached for assistance with the project, since the Table Tombs Fund will only be able to offer a token degree of support.

Grants may be made from the income of the Trust Fund towards maintenance and repair of stone or slate table tombs and their surrounding ironwork in any churchyard in the Diocese of Gloucester provided that such tombs shall be of a date prior to 1850.

For the avoidance of doubt, the term “table tomb” includes all upright three dimensional memorials such as pedestals, ‘tea-caddies’ and Greek Revival sarcophagi.

The Advisory Committee cannot consider any application until:

- 1 the detailed proposals from the stonemason/conservator have been submitted and approved by the DAC, and
- 2 the application form has been satisfactorily completed.

Any grant offered cannot be paid to the PCC without prior issue of the necessary faculty, **and** evidence that the work has been satisfactorily completed. Please let us know once work is complete and if photographic evidence can be provided or an appointment made for a member or officer from the DAC to review the work, we should be able to arrange for funds to be released to the PCC swiftly.

Grants not taken up within 18 months will automatically be cancelled, although where there is a genuine intention to proceed with the work, sympathetic consideration will be given to reinstating the grant, subject to funds being available.

**NB: When complete, this form should be sent to:**

**DAC Secretary, Church House, College Green, Gloucester GL1 2LY**