

Heritage Lottery Fund Committee for East of England Meeting on 16 March 2017

Summary report of the meeting of the Committee for East of England held on Thursday 16 March at the Higgins Art Gallery and Museum, Castle Lane, Bedford, MK40 3RP 10.30am.

Committee:

- Helen Wilson (Chair)
- Sue Davies
- Steve Miller
- Carole Reilly
- Phil Rothwell
- Philip Venning
- Joff Whitten

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

1. Declarations of Interest

Oral

Steve Miller in his capacity as Head of Norfolk Museums Service (NMS) and Acting Assistant Director, Community and Environmental Services (Cultural Services) for Norfolk County Council reported a declaration with

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- Trailing the Heritage (item 11): Norfolk County Council had provided a letter of support
- Mancroft Appeal 300 (item 13): Norfolk Museums Design & Conservation teams had been contacted regarding the project but had had no further involvement.

Steve Miler reported a conflict with:

- Diss Heritage Triangle (item 9): Norfolk County Council were providing partnership funding and
- St Georges Guildhall (item16) Norfolk Arts Service was providing match funding and the Museums Service was advising on the overall project.

Philip Venning reported that he had a close friend in Forestry Commission who were applicants for Trailing the Hidden Heritage (item 11), but had not discussed the application.

2. Chair's report

Oral

The Chair welcomed everyone to the Higgins Art Gallery and Museum in Bedford, and thanked Abby Eastwood for making all of the arrangements.

The Chair reported on recent project visits and events attended in the region including

- a stakeholder event had been held in the recently opened HLF funded Palace House Newmarket on 2 March.

- A visit to Bungay Castle to shadow a development visit which had proved very useful and interesting

The Chair thanked Joff Whitten for delivering a peer to peer session about The Bridge after lunch.

3. Minutes of last meeting on 8 December 2016

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Committee agreed the minutes. These were signed by the Chair

4. Matters arising from the minutes

Oral

Officers provided an update on developments since the last meeting, Board level decisions and on post-rejection meetings including:

- Parks for the People applications: Castle Park (item 19) had received a first round pass and development grant and Great Yarmouth Venetian Waterways had received a grant award of £1,773,600. One Heritage Grant application, Bats in Churches had received a first round pass £3,802,700 and development grant of £291,600

There were no other matters arising.

5. East of England Regional Overview

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Robyn Llewellyn, Head of Region, drew attention to key areas within the report including:

- Strategic Framework 4 programmes (SF4) : there had been a number of special SF4 midway programmes including Skills for the Future, Heritage Endowment, Great Place Scheme and Kick the Dust. Robyn reported on applications received for the East of England thanked the team for their hard work
- the restricted period would commence on 27 March and would impact on committee announcements.
- following the free visit offered by Gainsborough House to The National Lottery players, Norfolk Museums Service's Gressenhall Farm and Workhouse offered free entry to National Lottery players on the first open day of the season. Publicity so far had been very positive.
- Grants for Places of Worship: The Board had agreed in February that future funding for repair to places of worship would be delivered solely through the *Our Heritage* and *Heritage Grants* programmes. This would bring our funding for places of worship more closely into line with our overall strategic framework with its aim to achieve positive and lasting benefits for both heritage and people. The new approach also responded to the insights coming out of the work of the ongoing English Churches and Cathedrals Sustainability Review and the sector discussions about the GPOW programme that were carried out as part of the SF4 mid-point review.
- Second round applications: there were three Heritage grants applications for discussion at the meeting.
- Great Place decisions: *Making Waves Together – reimagining the seaside towns of Lowestoft and Great Yarmouth*; had been successful. Considered a strong bid, it had succeeded in a highly competitive batch of applications. Two other bids received in the East of England had been rejected.
- Electronic papers: Committee agreed to receive the completion reports electronically in future. Officers discussed the potential for receiving all committee papers electronically. Joff Whitten had been trialling this. The preference was for the agenda and case papers to

remain hard copy and for other papers to be mailed electronically. There was also an issue regarding equipment. This would need to be available to committee members to receive any further papers electronically.

- Completed projects; Committee agreed these were useful summaries. Philip Venning queried whether it would be possible to flag up lessons learned from completed projects in a concise way. Officers would give some further thought to how this might be possible.

6. East of England Operating Plan

CEE 2017 (1) 6

Robyn Llewellyn introduced the plan.

Committee noted:

- This was the first time a standardised template had been used; it had been a request from the Audit and Risk Committee
- The plan included the new Corporate values, voted for by the staff at their staff conference in November 2016
- the Corporate priorities which would need approval by the Board in March
- the reduced <£2m budget which would mean the committee would have less than £2million indicative budget available at each committee meeting
- the plan would build on work already underway with BAME groups and with youth organisation;
- the focus on *National Lottery* branding and National Lottery players. Any speeches at project openings or events, would always need to reference thanks to The National Lottery Players. This was something the East of England Committee always noted.

Committee agreed:

- the new style plan was informative provided sufficient information to enable them to carry out their role as committee members.

7. East of England Budget

CEE 2017 (1) 7

Robyn Llewellyn reported that the 2016-17 annual budget for the region was £8,800,000. At this meeting, there was one first round request of £334,800 against a remaining budget of £1,060,800.

There were four second round cases for decision and one grant increase. All were fundable providing the Committee considered the proposals were of sufficiently high quality and delivering good value for money.

Officers circulated a list of applications for June committee meeting.

Committee noted the Heritage Grants programme outcomes.

SF4 first round applications for discussion and decision: Heritage Grants

8. Harwich Haven - Surrender and Sanctuary

CEE 2017 (1) 8

Applicant: New Heritage Solution Company Interest Company

Request: First round pass of £334,800 including a development grant of £15,000 (82% of total eligible development costs)

Project: To explore and focus on the heritage of Harwich Haven through two specific events: the surrender of German U-boats in 1918 and the arrival of the Kindertransport in 1938. The project aimed to create early interest in the project through a logo design competition for schools and colleges, and development of a project website and active social media presence; to carry out landscape research: map the Haven to understand its geography, working in partnership with organisations such as the British Library, Harwich Haven Authority, Trinity House and English Heritage. Archive research, field recording and ancient and modern mapping techniques will be used

The Committee for the East of England agreed the project was a high priority for support and **AWARDED** a first round pass of £334,800 including a development grant of £15,000 (82% of total eligible development costs).

SP3 Grant increase applications: Heritage Grants

9. Diss Heritage Triangle and Diss Corn Hall Built for Exchange

CEE 2017 (1) 9

Steve Miller left the room before discussion commenced

Grantee: Diss Town Council in partnership with Diss Corn Hall

Request: Grant increase of £214,000 to make a total grant of £1,870,400 (55%)

Project: to refurbish and extend the Grade II listed Corn Hall, enhance the streetscape of the triangle of roads in the historic centre of town and create a new public wildlife garden at the back of the Town Hall leading to a new boardwalk and viewing platform on the Mere. The Committee had awarded a grant of £1,768,400 (54%) in September 2014.

The Committee for the East of England agreed to **AWARD** a grant increase of £214,000 to make a total grant of £1,870,400 (55% of eligible delivery costs).

SF4 Second round applications: Heritage Grants

10. Wisbech General Cemetery. Preservation and renovation of chapel and monuments

CEE 2017 (1) 10

Grantee: Wisbech Society and Preservation Trust Ltd

Request: Grant of £303,800 (86%)

Uplift: £50,000 (20%) during development community and stakeholder consultation took place resulting in increased costs due to a much strengthened activity plan and project coordinator post established

Project: Restore the Grade II listed chapel and carry out wider conservation work to the cemetery including the landscape, monuments and gravestones. It would create a flexible facility for the community and would deliver a wide range of activities to engage local people. The Committee for the East of England had approved a first round pass of £276,700 including a development grant of £23,700 (90% of eligible development costs) in March 2016.

The Committee for the East of England **AWARDED** a grant of £303,800 (86% of eligible delivery costs).

11. Trailing the Hidden Heritage of High Lodge

CEE 2017 (1) 11

Grantee: Forestry Commission England

Request: Grant of £610,300 (82%)

Uplift: £119,200 (24%)

Project: Create a 4.2km trail around 8 heritage features: Downham Warren Lodge Site; Warren Perimeter Banks; Gunflint Mines; Horseshoe Pit; Trapping Banks; Estate Plantation Banks; Marl Pit; Medieval Tracks; and burial mounds. The path would be suitable for families, less experienced cyclists and people with health limitations and disabilities. Interpretation would be designed to reach a wide range of people. An activity programme would deliver a range of volunteering and learning opportunities. The Committee for the East of England had awarded a first round pass of £564,800 including a development grant of £73,700, 73% of eligible development costs.

The Committee for the East of England **AWARDED** a grant of £610,300 (82% of delivery costs).

12. Resorting to the Coast

CEE 2017 (1) 12

Grantee: Essex County Council

Request: Award grant of £316,400 (88%)

Uplift: £63,500 (25%)

Project: To bring together various local groups to celebrate the seaside heritage of coastal resorts in Tendring, with the ultimate aim of increasing tourism, restoring local pride, changing perceptions, and delivering economic benefits. The project focused on seaside and resort heritage of the Tendring coastal towns of Harwich, Dovercourt, Clacton, Walton-on-the-Naze, Frinton and Jaywick. A programme of activities would be delivered bringing the seaside heritage of the towns to life. The Committee for the East of England had approved a first round pass of £297,600 including a development grant of £44,700, 95% of eligible development costs in December 2015.

The Committee for the East of England **AWARDED** a grant of £316,400, 88% of eligible delivery costs.

13. Mancroft Appeal 300: Bellringing - Heritage – Future

CEE 2017 (1) 13

Grantee: St Peter Mancroft Parochial Church Council

Request: Grant of £260,200 (52%)

Uplift: £37,000 (17%)

Project: Establish the Mancroft Ringing Discovery Centre (MRDC) in Grade I listed St Peter Mancroft, to serve as the only and first location in the country for people to learn both about the heritage of change ringing and how to ring. The project would reinstate the historic ringing gallery where the bells hung until the 1880s. The story of Norwich's ringing history would be shared through interpretation. An activity programme would be delivered and training opportunities provided for volunteers. The Committee for the East of England had approved a first round pass of £254,900 including a development grant of £31,700, 50% of eligible development costs in March 2016.

The Committee for the East of England **AWARDED** a grant of £260,200 (52%)

14. Grants for Places of Worship Applications

CEE 2017 (1) 14

In the East of England, initially 14 first round applications with a grant request of £2,509,400 had been received.

Committee noted that 9 first round applications had undergone full assessment, and all presented a strong case for investment.

Committee agreed to

- Award a grant of £192,200 (77%) to St Andrews Church
- Reject five applications not taken to further assessment and All Saints Threxton
- Approve first round passes to 8 applications totalling £1,621,300.

The Committee took the following decisions:

Item	Title	Applicant	Decision
14a.	Urgent Structural Repairs and New Interpretation at St Andrews Church, Great Dunham	St Andrews PCC, Great Dunham GP-15-02579	AWARD GRANT OF £192,200 (77%)
14b.	St Mary's East Walton Restoration	PCC of St Mary East Walton GP-16-02952	FIRST ROUND PASS OF £204,200 INCLUDING DEVELOPMENT GRANT OF £26,200 (83%)
14c.	Repairing Our Lady Star of the Sea and Opening the Doors	Roman Catholic Diocese of East Anglia GP-15-08549	FIRST ROUND PASS OF £246,900, INCLUDING DELIVERY GRANT OF £25,400 (77%)
14d.	Aslacton Church repairs	Aslacton Parochial Church Council GP-16-05350	FIRST ROUND PASS OF £60,300 INCLUDING DEVELOPMENT GRANT OF £10,600 (83%)
14e.	Weaving together church and community at Cawston St Agnes	PCC St Agnes Church, Cawston, Norfolk GP-16-03550	FIRST ROUND PASS OF £246,300, INCLUDING DEVELOPMENT GRANT OF £28,200(78%)
14f.	Emergency repairs at high level to St Michael's Church Tower preserving Shefford's historic landmark	PCC of St Michael and All Angels Shefford GP-16-01352	FIRST ROUND PASS OF £240,200 INCLUDING DEVELOPMENT GRANT OF £19,300(52%)

Item	Title	Applicant	Decision
14g.	Starston Church: keeping the water out and bringing the community in	PCC of St Margaret, Starston GP-16-04171	FIRST ROUND PASS OF £250,000 INCLUDING DEVELOPMENT GRANT OF £28,000(76%)
14h.	Essential repairs to tower staircase and opening up the North Porch	PCC, St George's Church, Tombland, Norwich GP-16-03947	FIRST ROUND PASS OF £193,600, INCLUDING DEVELOPMENT GRANT OF £29,400 (77%)
14i.	Saving St. Botolphs church in Barford for the extended use by its community	Barford Church GP-16-04846	FIRST ROUND PASS OF £179,800 INCLUDING DEVELOPMENT GRANT OF £19,500 (79%)
14j.	All Saints, Threxton: saving the round tower	PCC All Saints, Threxton GP-16-03562	REJECT
14k.	Discovering Great Hautbois - A Lost Medieval World	St Theobald and St Mary, Coltishall with Great Hautbois Parochial Church Council GP-15-08128	REJECT
14l.	Repairs to Transept roofs and associated stonework	St John the Baptist with Our Lady and St Lawrence GP-16-04890	REJECT
14m.	Repairs, Resources, Reinvention: Reinforcing Bardwell church's place at the centre of our community.	SS Peter and Paul, Bardwell GP-15-04264	REJECT
14n.	The Parish Church of St. Andrew, Wickhampton, Norfolk - Tower Restoration & Development Works	St Andrew, Wickhampton GP-16-05518	REJECT
14o.	Emergency repairs at high level to St Michael's Church Tower preserving Shefford's historic landmark	St Michael and All Angels, Bunwell GP-16-02430	REJECT

SF4 First round March Board applications for discussion and recommendation

Committee discussed the following applications. Their views would be reported to the Board.

15. Scouting the Past, Inspiring the Future - Creating a museum of UK Scouting

CEE 2017 (1) 15

Applicant: The Scout Association

Request: First round pass of £3,688,800 including a development grant of £621,100 (65% of total eligible development costs)

Project: To create a new national museum of the Scouting Movement with new public facilities at their headquarters at Gilwell Park in Essex and deliver a programme of UK-wide activities. The project would include permanent and temporary exhibition space, purpose built collections store, dedicated space for heritage volunteers and researchers, a central outdoor space for people to attend large scale learning and engagement performances and events. A learning and engagement programme would support both formal and informal learners from early years to adults and a UK-wide programme of engagement would be delivered.

16. St George's Guildhall Heritage and Cultural Hub

CEE 2017 (1) 16

Steve Miller left the room before discussion commenced.

Applicant: King's Lynn & West Norfolk Borough Council in partnership with Alive Leisure: Norfolk Museums Service and the Building Crafts and Conservation Foundation

Request First round pass of £2,996,500 including a development grant of £189,300 (71% of total eligible development costs)

Project: Repair, adapt and extend the Grade I listed Guildhall for multiple community and cultural use as a theatre and associated facilities, art gallery and a training centre for a Heritage Building and Craft Conservation course. An activity programme would be delivered aimed in particular at children, older people, people with low socio-economic status and people with a disability.

17. Prioritisation

Oral

The Committee prioritised the applications.

SF4 Second round March Board application for discussion and recommendation

18. Back from the Brink: saving England's most threatened species

CEE 2017 (1) 18

Grantee: Natural England

Request: Award grant of £4,627,400 (61%)

Project: A conservation project to save species on the brink of extinction. This integrated national programme would save 20 species likely to be extinct by 2020, and benefit over 200 other threatened species. The three broad aims were, conserving threatened species, working together and inspiring a movement. A four year programme of nature conservation and engagement would pool the expertise of 8 formal project partners, supported by others. A wide ranging programme of

activities would be delivered. The Board had awarded a first round pass of £4,560,000 including development funding of £151,800 (70% of total eligible development costs) in November 2015

Uplift: £219,200 (5%)

Papers for discussion

19. Corporate Update

CEE 2017 (1) 19

Committee noted the update.

Anne Jenkins, Deputy Director of Operations drew attention to:

Board business in 2017/18: The Board had begun to introduce measures designed to streamline business, reduce the time demands on trustees, and create a better balance between governance, strategic and grant giving responsibilities.

Strategic Framework: Consultation on our fifth strategic framework (SF5) had begun with a series of 12 'vision' workshops involving National Lottery players discussing what should be HLF's focus and priorities for the heritage good cause income. At the February Board trustees considered developing the vision for SF5.

Tailored Review: this review commenced towards the end of February.

20. Presentation

Oral

Joff Whitten introduced committee and staff to his work at the Bridge in Norfolk, part of a national network of 10 Bridge organisations, funded by Arts Council England. This used the experience and expertise within the organisations to connect children and young people, schools and communities with art and culture.

Papers for information

21. Communications Report

CEE 2017 (1) 21

Committee noted the report.

22. Major Batch overview

CEE 2017 (1) 22

Committee noted the overview.

23. Any other business

Oral

There was no other business

The next meeting will be held on 22 June 2017.