

Heritage Lottery Fund Committee for the East Midlands Meeting on 8 March 2016

CEM 2016 (1) 3

Summary report of the meeting of the Committee for the East Midlands held on Tuesday 8 March 2016 at 10.30 a.m. at the Nottingham office.

Members:

- Jim Harker (Chair)
- Mo Cooper
- John Everitt
- Geoff Nickolds
- Atul Patel (Trustee)
- David Stocker

Apologies:

- Heather Broughton:

Committee Business

1. Chair's Report

Oral

The Chair welcomed Eilish McGuinness, Director of Operations, to the meeting. She was attending in place of Anne Jenkins. Heather Broughton had sent her apologies to the meeting.

Ros Kerslake had been appointed as the new Chief Executive of the Heritage Lottery Fund and would be taking up the role in the summer.

Since the last meeting, David Stocker, Geoff Nickolds and John Everitt had all been reappointed for further terms of three years.

2. Declarations of Interest

Oral

John Everitt noted that his previous employer, the Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust, were a partner organisation for The Monkey and the Millers Wheel (item 14). The Committee considered that this did not constitute a conflict of interest.

David Stocker mentioned:

- that he had prior knowledge of Boston Stump Inspiring Journeys (item 8), through his role with the Lincoln Diocesan Advisory Committee. A number of these meetings considered the scope of the works to be included within the HLF application.
- under the GPOW Overview (item 16) he had prior knowledge of three projects; St Edith's Church, Raising the roof at Burgh-le-Marsh and St. Denys, Aswarby, through his membership of the Lincoln Diocesan Advisory Committee. The projects had been discussed by the Committee.

He had no pecuniary interests in these projects and the Committee felt that these did not constitute conflicts of interest.

Geoff Nickolds noted that he was a Council Member for the National Trust, a partner organisation for the Sudbury Gasworks (item 11) project. He also noted a connection to the Pollinating the Peak (item 12) case which had arisen on the back of the Moors for the Future scheme which he had chaired. The Committee considered that neither constituted conflicts of interest.

3. Minutes of the meeting on 1 December 2015

CEM 2016 (1) 3

The minutes were signed as an accurate record of the meeting.

4. Matters arising from the minutes

Oral

There were none.

5. Regional overview

CEM 2016 (1) 5

Jonathan Platt, Head of HLF East Midlands, presented an overview of activities and projects in the region.

The Committee noted the success of Boston as a priority development area. There had been a high level of applications and some excellent projects, however the biggest success had been the establishment of the Boston Heritage Forum which would continue to promote heritage across Boston.

6. Budget paper

CEM 2016 (1) 6

Eight first round applications were received totalling £8,145,500 against a budget of £1,384,000. There were insufficient monies to support all applications and therefore they would need to be prioritised.

One second round application had been received. There were sufficient monies to support the application, if members were satisfied that the project met the quality threshold and offered value for money.

SF4 first round applications for discussion and decision: Heritage Grants

7. Newark Castle Gatehouse Restoration

CEM 2016 (1) 7

Newark and Sherwood District Council sought a first round pass of £777,400 including a development grant of £82,400 (72% of total eligible development costs) for a project to repair and restore the remains of Newark Castle, introduce a new roof, windows and flooring and interpret the site. The scheme would ensure the future of an important heritage asset currently at risk. New audiences would be engaged through an enhanced schools programme and opportunities for volunteers.

The Committee for the East Midlands considered that the project represented a medium priority for support and rejected it due to concerns raised and in light of the available budget.

8. Boston Stump Inspiring Journeys - Moving Stories project

CEM 2016 (1) 8

The Parish County Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Boston sought a first round pass of £1,117,900 including a development grant of £142,600 (71% of total eligible development costs) for a project to conserve and repair 'The Stump', the western tower of St Botolph's Church, Boston. The scheme would also increase the use and accessibility of the Parish Library, develop interpretation throughout the church and develop an online and digital presence. A programme of heritage activities would be delivered.

The Committee for the East Midlands considered that the project represented a high priority for support, but rejected the application in light of the available budget.

9. Wirksworth St Mary's Railings and Plinth Restoration Project

CEM 2016 (1) 9

Derbyshire Dales District Council sought a first round pass of £848,500 including a development grant of £77,200 (62% of total eligible development costs) for an 18 month project to conserve, repair and replace the Grade II listed wrought iron railings surrounding St Mary's Churchyard in Wirksworth and their stone plinth. Educational tours of the site, talks and visits for students and hands on experiences of restoration techniques would be provided as part of the scheme.

The Committee for the East Midlands considered that the project represented a low priority for support and rejected the application due to the concerns raised.

10. The Transformation of St Wilfrid's, Barrow upon Trent

CEM 2016 (1) 10

The Parochial Church Council St Wilfrid's Church sought a first round pass of £1,037,900 including a development grant of £90,200 (80% of total eligible development costs) to restore, enhance and transform the Grade I listed St Wilfrid's Church and enhance the building's suitability for wider community use. Volunteers would be engaged in research, archaeology, interpretation, guiding and maintenance and management of the building.

The Committee for the East Midlands considered that the project represented a medium priority for support and rejected the application due to concerns raised and in light of the available budget.

11. Sudbury Gasworks: Rescued and restored to access our heritage and serve the community once again

CEM 2016 (1) 11

Sudbury Gasworks Restoration Trust Ltd sought a first round pass of £1,497,100 including a development grant of £135,000 (64% of total eligible development costs) to restore the Gasworks, provide visitors with an understanding of the process of gas production and how the building had functioned. The gas house structure and site of the 1874 estate gasworks would be repaired and conserved and a new building would be created to function as a community hub to accommodate weddings and other large functions. An associated programme of activities and events would be provided.

The Committee for the East Midlands considered that the project represented a high priority for support, but rejected it in light of the available budget for the meeting.

12. Pollinating the Peak

CEM 2016 (1) 12

Bumblebee Conservation Trust sought a first round pass with development funding for a project focusing on improving the populations and habitats of wild bees and other insect pollinators, with a particular focus on the Blaeberry Bumblebee, within the Derbyshire County Council Peak District boundaries. A series of activities would be delivered to address the current lack of understanding of bumblebees in the area and put into place initiatives to improve the sustainability and growth of this species.

The Committee for the East Midlands considered that the project represented a high priority for support and awarded a first round pass of £872,200 including a development grant of £152,300 (75% of total eligible development costs).

13. Rescuing Mrs Smith's Cottage: A unique slice of bygone Lincolnshire life

CEM 2016 (1) 13

North Kesteven District Council sought a first round pass with development funding for a project to secure the future of Mrs Smith's Grade II listed cottage. The museum had been purchased by NKDC with a HLF grant and opened as a museum in 1999 following Mrs Smith's death. Repairs would be carried out to the cottage and decorative scheme would be conserved, interpreted and reproduced. Access would be improved to the visitor centre and a new shop and reception area would be created. The material left by Mrs Smith including her diaries and photographs would be digitised and a series of activities would be delivered for schools, families and higher education students.

The Committee for the East Midlands considered that the project represented a high priority for support and awarded a first round pass of £591,300 including a development grant of £187,500 (80% of total eligible development costs).

14. The Monkey and the Millers Wheel, Ashfield

CEM 2016 (1) 14

Ashfield District Council sought a first round pass of £1,404,500 including a development grant of £110,500 (70% of total eligible development costs) focussing on the heritage of the River Maun mill industry. The scheme would create a heritage trail linking Sutton in Ashfield to Mansfield, repair and restore the Kings Mill Viaduct and the remains of the former Dobson's Mill building. 5,000m³ of silt would be removed from the Kings Mill Reservoir to enable a clear water depth of 1.7m. The project would also include reed bed planting, hedgerow restoration and grassland planting, and access improvement works to footpaths and cycle routes.

The Committee for the East Midlands considered that the project represented a medium priority for support, but rejected the application due to concerns raised and in light of the available budget.

15. Prioritisation

Oral

During the case by case discussions, the Committee considered that:

- *Boston Stump Inspiring Journeys* (item 8), *Sudbury Gasworks* (item 11) and *Rescuing Mrs Smith's Cottage* (item 13) represented a high priority for support
- *Newark Castle Gatehouse Restoration* (item 7), *The Transformation of St Wilfrid's* (item 10), *Pollinating the Peak* (item 12) and *The Monkey and the Millers Wheel* (item 14) represented a medium priority for support
- *Wirksworth St Mary's Railings and Plinth Restoration Project* (item 9) represented a low priority for support

Rescuing Mrs Smith's Cottage was considered to be the highest of the high priority projects and a first round pass with development grant was awarded. *Pollinating the Peak* achieved a slightly lower score, but with regards to the budget for the day the Committee awarded a first round pass with development funding.

SF4 first round applications for discussion and decision: Grants for Places of Worship

16. Grants for Places of Worship Applications

CEM 2016 (1) 16

In the East Midlands, seven first round applications with a grant request of £1,513,800 were received against a regional budget of £700,889. At the initial sift, Historic England and HLF considered that three applications should not be taken forward to full assessment as they were not considered to be of sufficient urgency (16e-g). The remaining four cases underwent full assessment; Historic England provided detailed technical advice to establish the urgency of the repair works and consideration was also given to how well the applications met outcomes for communities.

Four second round applications with uplift requests above the delegated threshold were also received.

The Committee took the following decisions:

Item	Project Title	Applicant	DECISION
16a	Completing Repairs and Developing our Community	The Parochial Church Council of St Thomas Church, Derby	FIRST ROUND PASS OF £225,700 INCLUDING DEVELOPMENT GRANT OF £13,000 (65% OF TOTAL ELIGIBLE DEVELOPMENT COSTS)
16b	Phase 1 Thimbleby Church Restoration: tower, belfry, spire	The Parochial Church Council of St Margaret's Church, Thimbleby, Lincolnshire	FIRST ROUND PASS OF £215,000 INCLUDING DEVELOPMENT GRANT OF £20,200 (72% OF TOTAL ELIGIBLE DEVELOPMENT COSTS)
16c	Urgent Spire & Roof Repairs: Exploring the Heritage of George Bass	St Denys Parish Church, Aswarby, Lincolnshire	FIRST ROUND PASS OF £237,400 INCLUDING DEVELOPMENT GRANT OF £22,900 (76% OF TOTAL ELIGIBLE DEVELOPMENT COSTS)
16d	Raising the roof at Burgh-le-Marsh!	St Peter and Paul Parish Church, Burgh-le-Marsh, Lincolnshire	FIRST ROUND PASS OF £242,900 INCLUDING DEVELOPMENT GRANT OF £28,700 (67% OF TOTAL ELIGIBLE DEVELOPMENT COSTS)
16e	Roof Repair and Restoration and Heritage Arts Project	The Parochial Church Council or St. Marys Church, Newark on Trent, Nottinghamshire	REJECT
16f	Quinquennial building works. Installation of community facilities	All Saints Church, Rotherby, Leicestershire	REJECT
16g	Urgent repair works and installation of a replacement heating system	The District Church Council of All Saints Church, Ragdale, Leicestershire	REJECT

16h	Edale Church Roof Repairs, and History and Heritage Project	Edale PCC	AWARD GRANT OF £139,900 (79%)
16i	Marston-on-Dove Church Tower Project	St Mary's Church, Marston on Dove, PCC	AWARD GRANT OF £194,400 (76%)
16j	St. Peters Tower Repairs and Heritage Project - Tilton on the Hill, Leicestershire	St. Peter's Church, Tilton on the Hill Parish County Council	AWARD GRANT OF £189,100 (80%)
16k	St. Edith's Church - Conserve the Past and Protect the Future	St. Edith's Grimoldby Parish County Council	AWARD GRANT OF £184,300 (76%)

SF4 second round applications for discussion and decision: Heritage Grants

17. Moving Forward - developing a new audience for Barrow Hill Roundhouse, Chesterfield

CEM 2016 (1) 17

Barrow Hill Engine Shed Society sought funding to develop the site and services on offer at the Barrow Hill Roundhouse and transform it into a nationally important working museum and heritage attraction. Through repairs and a modest new build, the project would provide better facilities to attract broader audiences. A programme of learning, training and skills activities for volunteers in heritage maintenance works, conservation management and visitor engagement would also be provided.

The Committee had awarded a first round pass of £1,203,400, including development funding of £96,400 (65% of total eligible development costs) in September 2014. An uplift of £63,600 (6%) was now sought due to the inclusion of a consultant to support the application, increased preliminaries, increased inflation and the inclusion of a conservation workshop. Expert advice was supportive.

The Committee awarded a grant of £1,170,600 (84%).

SP3 Grant increase for discussion and decision: Heritage Grants

18. Dronfield Hall Barn heritage project

CEM 2016 (1) 18

The Dronfield Heritage Trust sought a grant increase towards the conservation and refurbishment of the Grade II* Dronfield Hall Barn. The Committee for the East Midlands had awarded a grant of £1,038,400 (55%) in March 2014. The project had created a new extension to the barn to provide an archive, heritage learning centre and visitor facilities. The grant increase request had resulted from an unavoidable inflationary increase due to construction delays and the impact was compounded by an increase in costs at tender stage. £114,510 of additional match funding had been secured, value engineering exercise undertaken and income streams had been developed to minimise the grant increase request. Expert advice was supportive.

The Committee for the East Midlands awarded a grant increase of £161,900 to make a total grant of £1,200,300 (55% of total project costs).

Items for discussion

19. Priority Development Areas update

CEM 2016 (1) 19

The Committee agreed that Erewash and Gedling would be additional priority development areas for the region for the remainder of the strategic framework.

20. Priority Development Areas and Indices of Multiple Deprivation 2015

CEM 2016 (1) 20

Jonathan Platt introduced the paper which set out how Heritage Index data related to recently published Indices of Multiple Deprivation in the East Midlands and sought the Committee's views on how this might influence Priority Development moving forward.

The Committee recognised that the areas with fewer heritage assets and activities and more deprivation were in the most need because they were also the least likely to engage with heritage. However, members asked that they be provided with more information about the level of investment each area had received prior to finalising their conclusions.

Items for information

21. Major Grants Overview

CEM 2016 (1) 21

The Committee noted the report.

22. Business planning and strategy update

Oral

Eilish McGuinness, Director of Operations, provided an update on business planning and strategy. The Board had discussed strategy at their meeting in February and how best to address the needs of the sector. There would be a major focus on resilience going forward and skills for the sector. The Catalyst Endowment programme would run again in 2016-17 and a young people's initiative would be implemented next year.

23. Communications Report

CEM 2016 (1) 23

The Committee noted the report.

Jonathan Platt mentioned that guidance would be issued by Communications relating to the restricted period associated with the local government elections and the European Referendum.

24. Corporate Update

Oral

The Committee noted the update.

25. Any other business

Oral

There was none.

The next meeting would be held on 14 June 2016.