

Heritage Lottery Fund Committee for the North East Meeting on 24 November 2015

CNE 2015 (4)

Minutes of the meeting of the Committee for the North East held on 24 November 2015 starting at 10.00 a.m. in the Newcastle Office.

Members Chris Mullin (Chairman)
Lindsay Allason-Jones
Susan Antrobus
Richard Evans
Stacy Hall
Richard Morris (Trustee)
Niall Hammond

1. Welcomes **Oral**

Chris Mullin, Chair of the Committee for the North East, welcomed everyone.

SF4 first round Board applications for discussion and recommendation

- **Parks for People**

2. Parks for People Overview **CNE 2015 (4) 2**

The Committee noted the report.

3. Hirst Park Revival; PP-14-07993 **CNE 2015 (4) 3**

Northumberland County Council sought a first round pass of £2,389,200 including a development grant of £139,300 (90% of total eligible development costs) to restore Hirst Park, improve infrastructure and facilities and reconnect the local community with the park's heritage through the delivery of an activities project. The project would include the refurbishment of the old depot buildings to create a horticultural community and training facility. Works to the park would include the restoration of the original entrance features, installation of a water splash park, outdoor fitness equipment, new seating areas, interpretation, street furniture, cycle racks and signage.

The Committee for the North East and Big Lottery Fund considered the project a **HIGH PRIORITY** for support.

4. Chair's report **Oral**

The Chair provided the Committee with an update on his activities in the region.

5. Declarations of Interest **Oral**

There were none.

6. Minutes of last meeting on 10 September 2015 **CNE 2015 (4) 6**

The minutes were approved and signed as an accurate record of the meeting by the Chair

7. Matters arising from the minutes **Oral**

There were none.

8. North East Regional Overview **CNE 2015 (4) 8**

Ivor Crowther, Head of HLF North East, presented the Overview.

He reported that he had attended a devolution event held by the North East Combine Authority (NECA) at County Hall Durham on 9th November 2015.

Ivor reported that the North East had experienced success at Board level with BrightWater Landscape Partnership and Revitalising Redesdale R1 receiving awards since the last Committee meeting.

9. North East Budget **CNE 2015 (4) 9**

Five first round applications had been received totalling £3,988,924 against a budget of £864,350. There were insufficient monies to support the applications and therefore the Committee would need to prioritise.

- **SF4 first round applications for discussion and decision**
Heritage Grants

10. Living Wild at Kielder; HG-15-01733 **CNE 2015 (4) 10**

Kielder Water & Forest Park Development Trust sought a first round pass including development funding to redevelop Kielder Water & Forest Park. New nature hubs would provide information in a variety of ways to assist self-discovery, supported by a programme of year-round events and activities to aid deeper learning across the Park and adjacent local communities. The project would identify, train and support nature champions capable of maximising the potential of Kielder's wildlife to reconnect people with the nature of the park. The project would also develop skills in young people and boost the local economy, encouraging more visitors and longer stays.

The Committee considered that the application represented a medium priority for support and **AWARDED** a first round pass of £341,500 including a development grant of £17,700 (60% of total eligible development costs).

11. Tynemouth Outdoor Pool – restoration of a 1920s Lido; HG-15-01884 **CNE 2015 (4) 11**

Friends of Tynemouth Outdoor Pool sought a first round pass of £721,000, including a development grant of £117,400 (95% of total eligible development costs) to restore the derelict outdoor swimming pool at Tynemouth at the southern end of Longsands beach to its original purpose as an outdoor swimming facility. The project would bring the pool back into use with temporary toilets and changing facilities only. A second phase project not involving HLF would deliver more permanent facilities including community spaces, a gym and a café.

The Committee considered the project a low priority for support and **REJECTED** the project in light of concerns raised and the available budget.

12. Ave! Epiacum; HG-15-03266 **CNE 2015 (4) 12**

Epiacum Heritage Ltd sought a first round pass of £673,100 including development grant of £117,400 (58% of total eligible development costs) to improve visitor infrastructure at Epiacum Roman Fort and engage people with the site's heritage. A visitor centre would be constructed based on the vernacular architecture and archaeological record of an Iron Age settlement on the

site. Two roundhouses would provide space for exhibitions, workshops, learning activities and visitor facilities. Volunteers would be involved in the design and construction of these buildings, gaining skills in heather thatching, wattle and daub, green woodworking and in the installation of low impact plumbing, heating and electrical services. Interpretation would be developed in the form of self-guided trails, exhibitions, and sculptures.

The Committee **REJECTED** the application in light of concerns raised.

13. The Senora Restoration and Training Project; HG-15-03331 CNE 2015 (4) 13

The Senora Trust sought a first round pass of £255,300, including development grant of £81,800 (64% of total eligible development costs) to restore the historic yacht Senora. The motor sailer would be fitted with a new deck, sails and rigging that is sensitive to the yacht's original appearance. An overhauled engine would also be installed, along with charter compliant safety equipment and Radio, GPS and navigation systems. 12 trainees would achieve a Level 3 NVQ in Marine Construction, Systems Engineering and Maintenance through training activities and participation in the restoration programme.

The Committee considered the project a low priority for support and **REJECTED** the project due to concerns raised and in light of available budget.

- **Heritage Enterprise**

14. Otterburn Hall Renovation & Refurbishment; HE-15-01896 CNE 2015 (4) 14

Otterburn Hall C.I.C sought a first round pass of £1,998,000, including development grant of £193,000 (83% of total eligible development costs) to repair and restore the Grade II Listed Otterburn Hall, returning its hotel function whilst providing training and education for local residents, supporting employment and promoting local heritage to increase tourism.

The Committee agreed that the project was a **HIGH PRIORITY** for support, but since the application was significantly above the available budget for the meeting, the application was **REFERRED TO THE BOARD**. The Board would determine the application in January 2016.

15. Prioritisation of first round HG and HE items Oral

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

- *Living Wild at Kielder* (item 10) represented a medium priority for support
- *Tynemouth Outdoor Pool - restoration of a 1920s Lido* (item 11) and *The Senora Restoration and Training Project* (item 13) represented a low priority for support
- *Ave! Epiacum* (item 12) should be rejected.

After further discussion, the low priority applications were rejected due to the concerns raised.

Otterburn Hall Renovation & Refurbishment (item 14) was considered a high priority for support, but was referred to the Board as the application was significantly above the available budget for the meeting.

- **Townscape Heritage**

16. Townscape Heritage Overview CNE 2015 (4) 16

Ben Greener presented the report.

17. Church Street Conservation Area Revival; TH-14-08322 CNE 2015 (4) 17

Hartlepool Borough Council sought a first round pass of £1,176,400 including a first round pass of £40,100 (80% of total eligible development costs) to repair and restore the historic architecture and character of Church Street, one of the principle streets in West Hartlepool. The works proposed to properties would include: roof and stonework repairs, rendering of external walls, shop front repairs and other works to assist in bringing vacant buildings back in to use. The project would capitalise on the investment that is being made to develop an Innovation and Skills Quarter and establish a new campus for Cleveland College of Art and Design in the area.

The Committee considered the project a **HIGH PRIORITY** (1 of 3) for the North East.

18. The rejuvenation and improvement of Loftus town; TH-14-08964 CNE 2015 (4) 18

Loftus Heritage Group sought a first round pass of £1,980,000 including a first round pass of £111,500 (83% of total eligible development costs) for a three year community led project to preserve and restore the heritage of Loftus and act as a catalyst for the town's regeneration. The project would include the repair and conservation of a number of historic buildings, with works proposed including the replacement of unsympathetic shop fronts and the reinstatement of architectural details and structural works to roofs and gutters. Public realm works would repair the thread of sandstone walls that run through the town centre and to reconfigure and restore the market square to provide a space for community activity.

The Committee considered the project a **MEDIUM PRIORITY** (1 of 3) for the North East.

19. Bishopwearmouth Townscape Heritage; TH-15-00001 CNE 2015 (4) 19

Sunderland City Council sought a first round pass of £1,998,700 including a first round pass of £70,100 (90% of total eligible development costs) to restore the late Victorian and early Edwardian buildings in the Bishopwearmouth Conservation Area. The scheme would focus on 24 buildings in need of repair in the northern half of the Bishopwearmouth Conservation Area, including two Grade II* Listed and 10 Grade II Listed buildings. Learning projects would use community archaeology, building surveying and village atlas concepts to interrogate the site's heritage.

The Committee considered the project a **HIGH PRIORITY** (2 of 3) for the North East.

20. Stockton Town Centre North; TH-15-00030 CNE 2015 (4) 20

Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council sought a first round pass of £1,999,900 including a development grant of £101,200 (90% of total eligible development costs) to conserve and repair the northern gateway into Stockton Town Centre. The project would build on an existing THI scheme. Conservation and repair works would focus on structural issues that would make building watertight. Other external works would seek to reverse modern and additions and reinstate historic features to the buildings.

The Committee considered the project a **HIGH PRIORITY** (3 of 3) for the North East.

21. Historic Quarter Townscape Heritage Phase 2; TH-15-00859 CNE 2015 (4) 21

Middlesbrough sought a first round pass of £1,112,000 including a development grant of £70,400 (93% of total eligible development costs) to restore the fabric and frontages of mainly Victorian buildings in the vicinity of Middlesbrough's railway station. Capital works would focus on the external facades of buildings, with some limited roof repairs. Works would address cracked stonework, deteriorating doors and windows, blocked gutters and downpipes, missing roof tiles and threatened ornamental features, as well as removing inappropriate or defunct signage.

The Committee considered the project a **MEDIUM PRIORITY** (2 of 3) for the North East.

22. Northumberland Square THI Scheme; TH-15-03263**CNE 2015 (4) 22**

North Tyneside Council sought a first round pass of £1,021,600 including a development grant of £88,600 (88% of total eligible development costs) to reinvigorate Northumberland Square and its surrounding buildings through a programme of repair and reinstatement of architectural features, and improvements to the public realm. These physical works would be complemented by a range of activities to engage the local community in heritage skills and the history of the area. The works proposed to properties would include: roof, wall, window and chimney repairs, the repair of reinstatement of architectural features and removal of inappropriate materials and design.

The Committee considered the project a **MEDIUM PRIORITY** (3 of 3) for the North East.

23. Prioritisation of TH items**Oral**

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

- *Church Street Conservation Area Revival* (item 17), *Bishopwearmouth Townscape Heritage* (item 19) and *Stockton Town Centre North* (item 20) represented a high priority for support.
- *The rejuvenation and improvement of Loftus town* (item 18), *Historic Quarter Townscape Heritage Phase 2* (item 21) and *Northumberland Square THI Scheme* (item 22) represented a medium priority for support.

Reflecting on the high priority items, the Committee felt that *Church Street Conservation Area Revival* (item 17), represented the highest priority for support from the North East, followed *Bishopwearmouth Townscape Heritage* (item 19) and then *Stockton Town Centre North* (item 20)

Grants for Places of Worship**24. Applications for Places of Worship in the North East****CNE 2015 (4) 24**

In the North East, four first-round applications were received with a grant request of £445,100 against a regional budget of £221,135. At the initial sift, advice from Historic England indicated that one application was comparatively less urgent than others in the batch and no further assessment was undertaken for this case.

The remaining three applications underwent full assessment and Historic England provided detailed technical advice to establish the urgency of the repair works. HLF assessment also looked at how well the applications met outcomes for communities. These two factors were used to arrive at an overall priority for the batch.

The Committee took the following decisions:

Item	Project Title	Applicant	Decision
24a	Replacement of Crumbling Stonework in a Pillar between 2 vaulted roof supporting arches	St Mary's Church, Easington Village	FIRST ROUND PASS OF £65,400 INCLUDING DEVELOPMENT GRANT OF £17,200 (83% OF TOTAL ELIGIBLE DEVELOPMENT COSTS).
24b	St Anne's Renewal Project	St Anne's Church, Bishop Auckland	REJECT

24c	Reordering of the Church of St Thomas the Martyr	St Thomas the Martyr Church, Newcastle upon Tyne	FIRST ROUND PASS OF £117,600 INCLUDING DEVELOPMENT GRANT OF £11,700 (77% OF TOTAL ELIGIBLE DEVELOPMENT COSTS)
24d	Essential External Stonework and Rainwater Goods Repair/Replacement	St James' United Reform Church, Newcastle upon Tyne	REJECT

SF4 second round application for decision

- **Landscape Partnerships**

25. Derwent Valley Landscape Partnership: The Land of Oak and Iron; LP-13-02358 **CNE 2015 (4) 25**

Groundwork North East sought funding to promote and enhance the heritage within The Land of Oak and Iron in the Derwent Valley. The area was characterised by an abundance of natural resources that had resulted in a long history of industrial heritage, creating an interwoven legacy of national significance. The project aimed to engage more local people and visitors, engendering ownership and facilitating sustainability.

The Committee for the North East **AWARDED** a grant of £2,234,200 (65%).

Papers for discussion

26. Priority Development Area review **CNE 2015 (4) 26**

Rachel Ward presented the report. The review was presented for information as further research was to be undertaken before being presented to the Committee in March.

Papers for information

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| 27. Communications Report | CNE 2015 (4) 27 |
| 28. Review of Delegated Grants (September Board paper) | CNE 2015 (4) 28 |
| 29. Report of the Equality Steering Group (September Board paper) | CNE 2015 (4) 29 |
| 30. Corporate Update | Oral |
| 31. Minutes from the meeting of the Regional and Country Chairs on 13 October 2015 | CNE 2015 (4) 31 |

The items were noted.

32. Any other business **Oral**

There was none.

The next meeting would be held on 10 March 2016.