

Heritage Lottery Fund Committee for the North East Meeting on 12 March 2015

CNE 2015 (1) Minutes

Minutes of the meeting of the Committee for the North East held on 12 March 2015 starting at 10.00 a.m. in the Newcastle Office.

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

Apologies Trai Anfield
Richard Morris (Trustee)

1. Declarations of Interest **Oral**

There were none.

2. Chair's report **Oral**

The Chair, Chris Mullin, welcomed Carole Souter, Chief Executive and Colin Bailey, Director of Finance and Corporate Services to the meeting. He also welcomed James Tynan, a student placement, to the meeting.

Chris reported that he had attended the Board meeting in January and provided a brief presentation with highlights from the North East.

3. Minutes of last meeting on 4 December 2014 **CNE 2015 (1) 3**

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

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

There were none.

5. North East Regional Overview **CNE 2015 (1) 5**

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

Ivor updated the Committee on a number of Board level successes including The Sill and two Townscape Heritage projects in January.

6. North East Budget **CNE 2015 (1) 6**

Two second round applications totalling £1,448,000 had been received against a budget allocation of £694,100. There were insufficient funds to cover all grant requests, however permission had been given to overspend should the applications meet the quality threshold.

Three first round pass applications were received with a total request of £2,287,900 against a budget of £2,473,200. There were sufficient monies in the budget to support the applications.

SF4 second round applications for discussion and decision

- **Heritage Grants**

7. An Innovative Exploration Of Blyth's Ship Building and Antarctic Heritage from the 1800s; HG-12-11383

CNE 2015 (1) 7

Blyth Tall Ship sought a grant for a project to help establish itself as a sustainable and nationally significant maritime centre to lead the field in accessible traditional maritime skills training. Proposals would elevate Blyth as the historic starting point of Antarctic discovery and act as a focal point for traditional boat organisations to share best practice. Two large East Coast vessels of traditional construction would be restored and a traditional wooden brigantine would be acquired. The project would preserve traditional ship and boat building skills through trainee placements and apprenticeships. A programme of educational activities and exhibitions would also be delivered.

The Committee awarded a first round pass of £798,900 including a development grant of £99,700, 76% of eligible development costs in December 2013. An uplift of £78,000 (11%) was sought to allow for costs not included at first round including contingency, insurance, legal fees and an increased marketing budget.

The Committee **awarded** a grant of £777,200 (80%).

8. Restoration of Roker pier, lighthouse and tunnel; HG-12-12369

CNE 2015 (1) 8

The City of Sunderland Council sought funding towards the restoration of Roker lighthouse and pier tunnel. Conservation work would involve stabilisation of the tunnel, re-establishing access to the original entrance, repairing the floor, drains and walls, stabilising existing fixtures and fittings and restoring entry to the lighthouse. Guided tours of the lighthouse and tunnel would be provided, with audio-visual installations inside the tunnel and guides to tell the history of the lighthouse. An associated programme of events would be delivered including creative courses, health activities, wildlife talks and fish festivals.

The Committee awarded a first round pass of £473,800 including a development grant of £53,200 (80% of total eligible development costs) in September 2013. An uplift of £124,800 (30%) was sought in response to concerns regarding the effectiveness of volunteer and activity coordination and marketing plans.

The Committee **awarded** a grant of £545,400 (64%).

SF4 first round applications for discussion and decision

- **Heritage Grants**

9. The Durham Miners Resource centre; Records and Banners Project; HG-12-10112

CNE 2015 (1) 9

Durham Miners Association sought a first round pass of £1,870,600 including a development grant of £64,900 (93%) for a two and a half year project to create a Mining Resource Centre in the headquarters of the Durham Miners Association at Red Hills, Durham. Archival material currently stored in the cellar of Red Hill would be rationalised and restored with significant items being transferred to the Murray Library at the University of Sunderland. A banner collection would be conserved and catalogued and a website developed to showcase the collection. An education, events and exhibition programme would be delivered.

The Committee **rejected** the application due to concerns raised.

10. 150th anniversary of Newbiggin by the Sea's life saving Rocket House, 1866-2016; HG-14-05039

CNE 2015 (1) 10

Newbiggin Heritage Partnership sought funding for a project to restore Newbiggin's Rocket House to make it more accessible for visitors and school children to appreciate its heritage and understand the role of the local Volunteer Life Saving Brigade. Works would include improvements to stonework, roof, windows and doors. A range of interpretation focusing on the role of Newbiggin's Volunteer Life Saving Brigade and demonstrating how the Rocket House functioned for over 100 years. A programme of education activities would be delivered.

The Committee **awarded** a first round pass of £171,400 including development grant of £26, 300 (63%).

11. Replacement for 'A new era of public engagement'; HG-14-07462 CNE 2015 (1) 11

Newbiggin by the Sea Genealogy Project sought a first round pass of 245,900 including a development grant of £34,200 (63%) for a project to build on Newbiggin Genealogy Project's existing family history resource and services by establishing a sustainable volunteer-run facility at Newbiggin's proposed new library. Proposals would deliver a wartime research project and explore new interpretation and audience engagement opportunities.

The Committee **rejected** the application due to concerns raised.

12. Prioritisation of first round items 9 to 11

Oral

There was no need to prioritise first round items.

- Grants for Places of Worship**

13. Applications for Places of Worship in the North East

CNE 2015 (1) 13

In the North East, three first round applications with a grant request of £513,100 were received against a regional budget of £215,900. At the initial sift, English Heritage advice was that one scheme did not demonstrate that the works applied for were urgently needed within the next two years. This case was recommended for rejection (item 13c). The remaining two cases (items 13a and 13b) were taken to full assessment and detailed technical advice was provided by English Heritage. 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 made the following decisions.

13a	To secure the future of Alnham Church as a place of worship and community asset	St Michael Church	FIRST ROUND PASS OF £141,800 INCLUDING DEVELOPMENT GRANT OF £23,100 (71% OF TOTAL ELIGIBLE DEVELOPMENT COSTS)
13b	St Anne's Restoration Project	St Anne's Church, Bishop Auckland	REJECT
13c	St Andrews Church, Hartburn - Critical repairs and relaunch as key historical site in Northumberland	St Andrews Church, Hartburn	REJECT

SF4 second round Board applications for discussion and recommendation

- **Heritage Grants: March Board**

14. Middlesbrough Town Hall Restoration and Refurbishment; HG-12-11863

CNE 2015 (1) 14

Middlesbrough Council sought a grant of £3,702,600 (53%) to restore and redevelop the Grade II* listed Middlesbrough Town Hall, enabling the building be better used as a hub for community engagement, learning and activity. Important historical features would be restored and the visitor offer would be significantly improved with increased access to heritage features. A programme of activities would include a schools programme exploring the building's architectural, civic and cultural heritage, a heritage skills training scheme for adult learners and research and oral history interviews.

The Board had awarded a first round pass of £3,999,200 including development grant of £299,400 (95%) in July 2013.

The Committee considered that the project represented **high priority** for support. The Board would determine the application in March 2015.

15. Capability Brown Festival; HG-13-08210

CNE 2015 (1) 15

The Landscape Institute sought a grant of £911,100 (55%) to celebrate the tercentenary of Lancelot 'Capability' Brown's birth in 2016. The project aimed to tell the story of Capability Brown's creative achievements, impact on the landscape and his legacy, and to present Brown's landscapes as a national heritage collection for the first time. Project outputs would include the development of a database, hosted by the Parks and Gardens UK website, as the authoritative resource for historic parks and gardens including all Capability Brown sites. The project would be delivered across all English regions and Wales to signpost and inform visitors about other local sites.

The Board had awarded a first round pass of £905,200 including development grant of £139,200 (51% of total eligible development costs) at the meeting in January 2014. An uplift of £145,100 (19%) reflected the applicant's improved understanding of its audience development proposals and the management demands of this ambitious project.

The Committee considered that the project represented **high priority** for support. The Board would determine the application in March 2015.

SF4 first round Board applications for discussion and recommendation

- **Heritage Enterprise and Heritage Grants: March Board**

16. The Conservation and Enhancement of the Central Lodge at Stewart Park, Middlesbrough as a Land Based Education Facility; HE-13-05324

CNE 2015 (1) 16

Askham Bryan College sought a first round pass of £3,059,600 including a development grant of £155,600 (74%) for a project to bring back the Grade II Central Lodge and Stable Block back into use as a centre for high quality land-based education, complementing the previously HLF funded works within Stewart Park. Works to the exterior would include the repair and replacement of defective areas of the roof including work to slates, ridge tiles, valleys, chimneys and belfry spire. The scheme would provide the building with an economically sustainable future.

The Committee considered that the project represented **high priority** for support. The Board would determine the application in March 2015.

17. Connecting communities to their local heritage; HG-14-07768 CNE 2015 (1) 17

Civic Voice in partnership with the Institute of Historic Building Conservation (IHBC), North of England Civic Trust (NECT) and the Architectural Heritage Fund (AHF), with the support of English Heritage sought a first round pass of £2,690,700 including a development grant of £95,700 (81%) towards a four-year English cross-territory project to survey 75% of all of the Grade II assets in England. The project would be supported by a large number of volunteers.

The Committee considered that the project represented **low priority** for support. The Board would determine the application in March 2015.

18. The history and heritage of the National Union of Students; HG-13-10719 CNE 2015 (1) 18

The National Union of Students sought a first round pass of £445,900 including a development grant of £45,000 (93%) towards a project which aimed to identify, collect, catalogue, preserve and make available important archives relating to the UK's student movement. The project would build an alumni group of former NUS student officers and staff. Members would have the opportunity to maintain contact with NUS and its activities, donate material to the archive, provide oral history recordings and take part in a mentoring scheme between former and current student officers.

The Committee considered that the project represented **medium priority** for support. The Board would determine the application in March 2015.

18a. Rambert at 90 CNE 2015 (1) 18a

Rambert Dance Company and Rambert Trust Ltd sought a first round pass of £339,400 including a development grant of £31,800 (66%) towards a project to celebrate the 90th anniversary of the Rambert Dance Company through a touring exhibition and activity project in support of their 2016/17 tour. An exhibition covering Rambert and its history would be developed and displayed at the Lowry, Salford to include materials such as photographs, programmes and costumes held in the Rambert archive.

The Committee considered that the project represented **medium priority** for support. The Board would determine the application in March 2015.

Item for discussion

19. Business planning and strategy update Oral

Colin Bailey introduced the update.

Carole Souter updated the Committee on the Listed Places of Worship grants programme. The Board would take the decisions in March. Members noted that GPOW applications had not reduced in volume due to LPOW.

Papers for information

- | | |
|---|------------------------|
| 20. Major Batch Overview | CNE 2015 (1) 20 |
| 21. Communications Report | CNE 2015 (1) 21 |
| 22. Minutes of recent Board meetings | CNE 2015 (1) 22 |

The Committee noted the papers.

23. Any other business

Oral

The Committee noted that three cases had been received in the North East which would need to be discussed as recommendations between meetings in advance of the May Board meeting.

The next meeting will be held on 11 June 2015.