

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

CNW 2015 (4)

Summary report of the meeting held on 24 November at 9.45 a.m. in the Manchester office.

Members Tiffany Hunt (Chair)
 Jim Dixon (Trustee)
 Steve Garland
 Bill Maynard
 Humphrey Welfare

Apologies Aileen McEvoy
 Ivan Wadeson

1. Welcomes and apologies **Oral**

Tiffany Hunt, Chair of the Committee for the North West, welcomed Tom Williams to the meeting. It was his first meeting as Communications Manager. She also welcomed Sara Crofts, Head of Historic Environment, to the meeting. The Chair congratulated Laura Ward on her promotion to Senior Grants Officer.

Ivan Wadeson and Aileen McEvoy had sent apologies to the meeting.

2. Chair's Report **Oral**

The Chair reported that she had attended the

- meeting of Regional Chairs in October.
- RSA's 'Heritage Question Time' event in Manchester. Sara Hilton had been on the panel.
- ground-breaking for the Windermere Steamboat Museum.

3. Minutes from the meeting held on 8 September 2015 **CNW 2015 (4) 3**

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

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

The Committee expressed their delight that the Pendle Hill Landscape Partnership (LP) had received a first round pass at the October Board meeting. They considered that it was important to encourage Landscape Partnerships from the North West as this was a priority for the Board. A LP workshop had been organised in North Wales which the North West team were contributing to, as it was likely to attract potential applicants from Cheshire.

5. North West Overview **CNW 2015 (4) 5**

Sara Hilton, Head of HLF North West, presented an overview of activities in the region.

6. North West Budget **CNW 2015 (4) 6**

Four first round Heritage Grant applications totalling £3,048,800 had been received against a first round pass budget of £1,946,750. The Committee would need to prioritise which projects to support.

Three second round applications totalling £3,156,000 had been received and the four development grant requests totalled £236,800. The grants budget for the meeting was £3,567,350 and therefore second round applications could be supported should they meet the quality threshold and be considered good value for money.

7. Declarations of interest

Oral

Ivan Wadeson was not in attendance but prior to the meeting had declared an interested in The Reader at Calderstones (item 21), noting that he was a Board member of the applicant organisation, The Reader Organisation.

He also mentioned that he was a former employee of the Audience Agency who had carried out research for the National Football Museum project (item 20). However, the work was undertaken after he had left the organisation. The Committee considered that this did not constitute a conflict of interests.

Tiffany Hunt mentioned a connection to the Fell Foot Project (item 10). She was an employee of the National Trust North West until 2010 but had no direct association with the project current project. The Committee were content that this did not constitute a conflict of interests. She also mentioned that Padiham - Crafting the Future (item 16) and Field to Fork (item 22) had National Trust connections. The Committee were content that neither represented a conflict of interest.

Humphrey Welfare noted a connection to Rivington Terraced Gardens (item 27). A partnership was planned with All Soul's Bolton for one of the activities. He was a Trustee of the Churches Conservation Trust which owned the church; however the CCT had no involvement in such activities. The Committee considered that this did not constitute a conflict of interests.

SF4 first round applications for discussion and decision

- **Heritage Grants**

8. Carnegie-Crosby - A 3rd Space for the Community; HG-13-20443 CNW 2015 (4) 8

South Sefton Development Trust (SSDT) sought a first round pass of £1,393,400 including a development grant of £122,500 (78% of total eligible development costs) to restore and upgrade the Grade II listed Carnegie library building in Crosby as a community facility hosting a wide range of activities. A programme of capital works, including repairs to the roof and external walls and doors, would ensure the long term sustainability of the building. An associated series of heritage projects to increase knowledge of local history and training would be delivered for staff and volunteers.

The Committee for the North West considered that the project represented a medium priority for support and **rejected** the scheme due to concerns raised and in light of the available budget.

9. Conservation & Presentation of Eskdale Corn Mill; HG-14-08014 CNW 2015 (4) 9

Eskdale Mill & Heritage Trust sought a first round pass with development funding for a four year project to repair and restore the Grade II* listed Eskdale Water Mill and associated buildings in Eskdale, Cumbria. Current working elements of the mill machinery would be maintained to demonstrate the process of milling corn by water power and interpretation would be improved with increased opportunities for engagement and learning. A volunteer programme would be developed and appropriate training delivered.

The Committee for the North West considered that the project represented a high priority for support and **awarded** a first round pass of £787,500 including a development grant of £67,000 (88% of total eligible development costs).

10. The Fell Foot Project; HG-15-02364

CNW 2015 (4) 10

The National Trust (North West) sought a first round pass to restore the historic elements of Fell Foot to recreate the original vision of its owner Colonel Ridehalgh, opening up the whole site to the public and telling its story for the first time. The project would conserve five historic boathouses, repair the Gasometer Cottage to create a visitor interpretation point and restore the historic path network to alleviate drainage issues and reopen original vistas. The scheme would also launch a new volunteer programme.

The Committee for the North West considered that the project represented a high priority for support and **awarded** a first round pass of £638,000 without development funding.

11. My Bluecoat; HG-14-09032

CNW 2015 (4) 11

The Bluecoat sought a first round pass with development funding to bring together the three archives relating to the history of the Bluecoat building in Liverpool and create a website to house the collated information in time to celebrate the building's 300-year anniversary in 2017. A detailed audit of the full archive material would be undertaken and selected material digitised.

The Committee for the North West considered that the project represented a high priority for support and **awarded** a first round pass of £229,900 including development grant of £47,300 (70% of total eligible development costs).

12. Prioritisation of first round HG cases

Oral

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

- *Conservation and Preservation of Eskdale Corn Mill (item 9), The Fell Foot Project (item 10) and My Bluecoat (item 11)* represented a high priority for support
- *Carnegie-Crosby (item 8)* represented a medium priority for support

Of the high priority cases, *My Bluecoat* and *The Fell Foot Project* were deemed to be the highest priority for the Committee and the Committee awarded first-round passes to these projects. Members discussed the concerns and merits of *Eskdale Corn Mill* and questioned whether the development phase could be delivered to cost and the timescale. However, they felt the project represented good value for money and awarded a first round pass.

Carnegie-Crosby was rejected in light of concerns raised and the available budget.

- **Townscape Heritage**

13. Townscape Heritage Overview

CNW 2015 (4) 13

Richard Fowler, Senior Grants Officer, presented the overview.

Four first round applications had been received in the North West. They would be presented to the Committee for their recommendation before decision at the Board meeting in January.

The Committee noted the overview.

14. Stockport's Old Town Heritage Project; TH-14-09384

CNW 2015 (4) 14

Stockport Metropolitan Borough Council sought a first round pass of £1,870,600, including a development grant of £50,500 (79% of total eligible development costs) for a five year scheme to deliver works to key properties in part of the 'Old Town' area of Stockport and associated public realm improvements. The scheme would create a vibrant retail, cultural and residential destination around the Underbanks and Market Place, targeting the most at risk and vacant buildings and sites

to increase footfall, investment and spend in the area. A series of heritage activities would be delivered including five trainee placements.

The Committee considered that the project represented a **medium priority** for support. The Board would determine the application in January 2016.

15. Tyldesley Town Centre Townscape Heritage; TH-15-01502 CNW 2015 (4) 15

Wigan Council sought a first round pass of £938,000 including a development grant of £33,000 (55% of total eligible development costs) focusing on building repairs and restoration to four high priority properties and 28 medium priority properties, with associated public realm works to regenerate the historic market town. Proposals would focus on the replacement of inappropriate shop fronts and signage, the removal of roller shutters, and the reinstatement of historic features with traditional materials. The scheme would also deliver heritage engagement and training activities.

The Committee considered that the project represented a **high priority (2 of 2)** for support. The Board would determine the application in January 2016.

16. Padiham - Crafting the Future; TH-15-03152 CNW 2015 (4) 16

Burnley Borough Council sought a first round pass of £1,448,700 including a development grant of £48,200 (71% of total eligible development costs) for a five year scheme focused on the retail core of the Padiham Conservation Area. The scheme had identified 13 high priority target properties clustered in four distinct blocks to maximise regenerative and heritage potential. The project would also include public realm improvements, with upgraded paving, traffic-calming measures and rationalised street signage and furniture. Activities to engage people and communities with the heritage would also be delivered.

The Committee considered that the project represented a **high priority (1 of 2)** for support. The Board would determine the application in January 2016.

17. Rows Revitalised; TH-15-01636 CNW 2015 (4) 17

Cheshire West and Chester Council sought a first round pass of £2,000,000 including a development grant of £253,800 (72% of total eligible development costs) for a project focusing on the four main streets making up the centre of medieval Chester, characterised by the historic gallery walkways known locally as the 'Rows', accessed via steps from street level. The five year scheme would attempt to halt the physical and economic decline of the Rows through a programme of targeted repairs, access improvements and repairs to the Rows fabric. The project would engage local people and visitors to Chester with the heritage of the Rows through targeted activities and interpretation. Training opportunities would be offered for young people.

The Committee considered that the project should be **rejected**. The Board would determine the application in January 2016.

18. Prioritisation of first round TH cases Oral

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

- *Tyldesley Town Centre* (item 15) and *Padiham - Crafting the Future* (item 16) represented a high priority for support
- *Stockport's Old Town Heritage Project* (item 14) represented a medium priority for support
- *Rows Revitalised* (item 17) should be rejected.

Reflecting on the high priority items, the Committee felt that *Padiham - Crafting the Future* represented the highest priority for support from the North West.

- **Grants for Places of Worship**

19. GPOW Overview and Applications

CNW 2015 (4) 19

In the North West, eight first-round applications were received with a grant request of £1,450,800 against a regional budget of £771,146. At the initial sift, advice from Historic England indicated that three applications (19f-h) were comparatively less urgent than others in the batch and no further assessment was undertaken for these cases.

The remaining five applications (19a-e) 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:

19a.	Holy Trinity Church Roof Repairs and Heritage Celebration Programme	Holy Trinity and Christ Church, Stalybridge	FIRST ROUND PASS OF £250,000 INCLUDING DEVELOPMENT GRANT OF £16,700 (75% OF TOTAL ELIGIBLE DEVELOPMENT COSTS)
19b.	St. George's Church, Everton - Phase 2 Urgent Roof Repair Works	St George's Church, Everton	FIRST ROUND PASS OF £200,900 INCLUDING DEVELOPMENT GRANT OF £27,200 (82% OF TOTAL ELIGIBLE DEVELOPMENT COSTS)
19c.	Chorley St George Restoration Project	St George's Church, Chorley	FIRST ROUND PASS OF £126,900 INCLUDING DEVELOPMENT GRANT OF £11,000 (67% OF TOTAL ELIGIBLE DEVELOPMENT COSTS)
19d.	Urgent stone repairs to tower, internal plaster reinstatement together with new activities	Holy Trinity Church, Blackpool	REJECT
19e.	Urgent stone repairs to fractured/dangerous window masonry, lychgate repairs and new wheelchair ramp	St John the Evangelist, Thornham	REJECT
19f.	Restoration and interpretation of the chapel of Birkenhead Parish, Birkenhead Priory's Chapterhouse	Birkenhead Priory Parish Church	REJECT
19g.	Christ Church Ainsworth Structural Repairs & Community Access	Christ Church, Ainsworth	REJECT
19h.	Repairs to church tower masonry and improvements of local heritage interpretation	St Luke's Church, Great Crosby	REJECT

SF4 second round applications for discussion and decision

- **Heritage Grants**

20. Memories of '66; HG-14-02760

CNW 2015 (4) 20

The National Football Museum sought funding for a project focused on public memories of the 1966 FIFA World Cup. The project would collect, document and interpret memories and experiences of those living in the English cities and towns that hosted matches and the fans who travelled to the games during the World Cup. The scheme would produce an enhanced collections

archive, a ten month exhibition at the museum and deliver a series of talks, workshops and school visits. A concurrent ten month exhibition at Wembley Stadium would also be delivered, focusing on stories and artefacts relating to Wembley as the host venue for England's 1966 World Cup games and the final.

The Committee awarded a first round pass of £193,100 including a development grant of £3,100 (86%) in March 2015. An uplift of £112,500 (59%) was sought due to a number of additions including an exhibition at Wembley, enhanced interactivity of exhibits and capacity of the website along with additional security provision for high value items.

The Committee for the North West **awarded** a grant of £302,500 (56% of total eligible delivery costs) subject to grant conditions outlined in the paper.

21. The Reader at Calderstones; HG-12-10140

CNW 2015 (4) 21

The Reader Organisation sought funding to restore the Mansion House and Calderstones at Calderstones Park, Liverpool. The scheme aimed to encourage people living with and at risk of developing long term health conditions to take part in reading and heritage learning activities. Works to the Mansion House would include restoration of original features, removal of unsympathetic alterations, major roof repairs and access improvements including provision of a lift. Digital outputs would include a tablet based archive of photos, documents and videos, an interactive park map and oral history recordings giving visitors the opportunity to record their memories.

The Committee for the North West awarded a first round pass of £1,977,100, including development funding of £115,200 (32% of total eligible development costs) in March 2014. A small uplift of £17,300 (1%) was requested.

The Committee for the North West **awarded** a grant of £1,879,200 (38% of total eligible delivery costs) subject to grant conditions outlined in the paper.

22. Field to Fork; HG-13-05955

CNW 2015 (4) 22

Cheshire East Council sought funding to restore Tatton Dale Farm and improve the interpretation and learning offer at the site to maximise its full potential as an educational resource. The 18th-century buildings, which were currently used as a petting farm, would be opened up and restored and used to display new interpretation exploring the farm's agricultural and technological heritage. This remodelling would contribute to a wider strategy to attract more visitors to Tatton Park to improve its sustainability. An activity programme would engage new audiences including schools, deprived communities, BAME groups and members of the public with physical and mental health issues.

The Committee for the North West awarded a first round pass of £693,300, including development funding of £76,600 (80% of total eligible development costs) in December 2013. An uplift of £357,600 (58%) was sought due to a number of cost increases including repairs to eight additional farm buildings, a new barn and site wide interpretation which had been significantly underestimated at first round.

The Committee for the North West **awarded** a grant of £974,300 (58% of total eligible delivery costs).

- **Townscape Heritage**

23. Northwich Town Centre; TH-13-01962

CNW 2015 (4) 23

Cheshire West and Chester Council sought funding for a scheme based on Witton Street and High Street, within the Northwich Conservation Area. The scheme would remove the conservation area

from the Historic England's Heritage at Risk register. Work would focus on restoring the historic features of the town centre, repairing and restoring its unique buildings, and bringing vacant properties back into use. A programme of activities would be delivered to engage the local community.

The Board awarded a first round pass of £839,000 including development funding of £29,000 (42% of total eligible development costs) in January 2014.

The Committee for the North West considered that the project continued to offer good value for money and **awarded** a grant of £839,000 (59% of total eligible delivery costs).

- **Landscape Partnership**

24. Rusland Horizons; LP-12-11807

CNW 2015 (4) 24

The Lake District National Park Authority sought funding for a Landscape Partnership based around the Rusland Valley; one of the densest areas of ancient woodland in England. The landscape provided a rich habitat for a variety of species, as well as containing many site of industrial archaeological significance. The scheme would re-introduce appropriate management of the landscape, restore and reconnect areas of natural habitat and deliver an apprenticeship scheme to ensure the future sustainability of essential woodland skills.

The Board awarded a first round pass of £1,421,600, including development funding of £68,500 (77% of total eligible development costs) in October 2013.

The Committee for the North West **awarded** a grant of £1,353,100 (81% of total eligible delivery costs).

SF4 first round Board applications for discussion and recommendation

- **Parks for People (December)**

25. Parks for People Overview

CNW 2015 (4) 25

The Committee noted the report.

26. Restoration of the Mount Garden, Fleetwood; PP-14-05283

CNW 2015 (4) 26

Wyre Borough Council sought a first round pass of £1,812,800 including development grant of £130,200 (87% of eligible development costs) to restore and improve the Mount Garden, providing high-quality public green space in a deprived area of Lancashire. The scheme would restore and fit out the pavilion for use as an education and exhibition space with increased physical access. Lost features including entrance gates, pebble wall and landscaping features would be replaced and improved lighting and new street furniture installed. A programme of activities, volunteering and training would be delivered.

The Committee for the North West and Big Lottery Fund representative agreed that the project represented a **medium priority** for support. The Board would determine the application in December.

SF4 second round Board applications for discussion and recommendation

- **Parks for People (December)**

27. Rivington Terraced Gardens; PP-12-08571

CNW 2015 (4) 27

Groundwork Lancashire West and Wigan (GCLM), along with Rivington Heritage Trust (RHT) and United Utilities (UU) sought a grant of £3,414,100 (80%) to restore the registered Rivington

Terraced Garden for the local community. Historic structures would be repaired and stabilised including the Lever Bridge, Pigeon Tower, archways and stone staircases. Public access would be enhanced, interpretation improved and a programme of volunteering and training opportunities would be delivered.

The HLF Board and BIG England Parks for People Committee awarded a first round pass of £3,428,400, including a development grant of £63,700 (60% of total eligible development costs) in June 2013. An uplift of £49,400 (1%) was requested due to minor cost variances from first round.

The Committee for the North West and Big Lottery Fund representative agreed that the project represented a **high priority** for support. The Board would determine the application in December.

28. Rhyddings Park, Oswaldtwistle; PP-13-06272 CNW 2015 (4) 28

Newground Together and Hyndburn Borough Council sought a grant of £1,389,300 (66%) for a programme of capital works to restore key features at the park, many of which were in urgent need of attention. The sundial and Japanese lantern would be repaired and restored, and footpaths, access points and signage would be enhanced. The coach house would be converted for community usage and a series of activities and training would be delivered.

The HLF Board and BIG England Parks for People Committee awarded a first round pass of £1,461,900, including development funding of £102,400 (87% of total eligible development costs) in December 2013. An uplift of £29,808 (2%) was sought consisting of a newly introduced inflationary allowance and enhanced contingency.

The Committee for the North West and Big Lottery Fund representative considered that the project represented a **high priority** for support. The Board would determine the application in December.

- **Heritage Grants (January)**

29. Reimagining Wordsworth; HG-15-03409 CNW 2015 (4) 29

The Wordsworth Trust sought a first round pass of £4,750,000 including a development grant of £655,200 (80% of total eligible development costs) to transform the hamlet of Town End, Grasmere into an exceptional visitor experience and site for inclusive learning, creativity and community activity, exploring the literary and cultural heritage of the Wordsworths and the Romantic period. A series of volunteering and training opportunities would be developed.

The Committee for the North West considered that the project represented a **high priority** for support. The Board would determine the application in January 2016.

30. *Withdrawn item*

Papers for information

31. Communications Report CNW 2015 (4) 31

Tom Williams, Communications Manager, presented the item.

He reported that briefings and key messaging would be produced once the outcome of the Spending Review was known.

The North West region had received a good spread of coverage including the announcement of a Landscape Partnership scheme at Pendle Hill and upcoming Industrial Heritage Conference in Manchester.

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| 32. Corporate Update | Oral |
| 33. Minutes from the meeting of the Regional and Country Chairs on 13 October 2015 | CNW 2015 (4) 33 |
| 34. Review of Delegated Grants | CNW 2015 (4) 34 |
| 35. Report of the Equality Steering Group | CNW 2015 (4) 35 |

The Committee noted the items.

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| 36. Any other business | Oral |
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There was none.

The next meeting would be held on 11 March 2016.