

Heritage Lottery Fund: Committee for the North West Meeting on 24 November 2016

CNW 2016 (4)

Minutes of the meeting of the Committee for the North West held on Thursday 24 November at 9.45 a.m. at the Manchester Office.

Members:

- Tiffany Hunt (Chair)
- Jim Dixon (Trustee)
- Aileen McEvoy
- Ivan Wadeson
- Humphrey Welfare
- Stephen Welsh

Apologies:

- Nigel de Noronha
- Steve Garland

Committee Business

1. Welcomes and apologies

Oral

The Chair, Tiffany Hunt, welcomed:

- Nathan Lee to his first full Committee meeting as Head of Region.
- Dan Head and Ana Osborne to their first meetings as Grants Officers in the North West.
- Vicky Wilford on her first meeting as Communications Manager for the region. She had recently returned from maternity leave.
- Jonathan Platt, Head of HLF East Midlands to the meeting as an observer.

She highlighted that Sharon Jones from Big Lottery Fund would be attending the meeting for the Parks for People items.

Steve Garland and Nigel de Noronha had both sent apologies.

2. Chair's Report

Oral

The Chair reported that:

- Ros Kerslake. HLF's new Chief Executive, would be visiting the region in December. She had also attended the meeting of Country and Regional Chairs in October.
- She had attended the British Museum Trustees dinner at Whitworth Art Gallery and the reopening of Saddleworth Museum after its refurbishment with Nathan Lee.

3. Minutes from the meeting held on 8 September 2016

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

4. Matters arising from the minutes

Oral

Item 4: The development team had undertaken work on applicant statistics and had produced information for Committee.

Item 6: Regarding Heritage Grant applications, the team reported that the pipeline was looking stronger.

5. North West Overview

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Nathan Lee, Head of HLF North West, presented an overview of the region.

He offered the Committee his first opinions of the organisation, in particular the skilled and welcoming North West team who had made his transition into the role so much easier. The Chair thanked the team and Sue Bowers, Deputy Director of Operations, for handling the smooth transition between Heads of Region.

Board cases: Cradle to the Grave - the NHS at 70 was rejected at the Board meeting in September. At the Landscape Partnerships meeting in October, Westmorland LP was awarded a first round pass, however, Fellfoot Forward, another high priority case, just missed out. The Lister Steps had been awarded their second round award at the Board meeting in November.

A grant increase request for The Monastery, Manchester would be taken to December Board. This had previously been a Committee level case, however, the grant increase request meant that the total grant request was now over £2million and would need to be presented to the Board. The Committee emphasised their support for this important project.

6. North West Budget

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Five first round Heritage Grant applications had been received totalling £3,522,800 against a budget of £5,829,100 which meant that first round cases would not be in competition with each other.

One second round application had been received. The case could be funded if Committee were content that it was high quality and would deliver good value for money.

7. Declarations of interest

Oral

Steve Garland, who was not present at the meeting, had declared an interest in item 15, The Carbon Landscape. He reported that he was the Chair of the Lancashire Wildlife Trust, the applicant.

Nigel de Noronha, who was also not present, had declared an interest in item 11, 'Coming in from the Cold'. He had worked closely with the applicant on a number of projects and was currently evaluating one of their HLF grants. Stephen Welsh also noted a connection with the applicant as he was currently working on a HLF funded project with them. The Committee considered that this did not constitute a conflict of interests.

SF4 first round applications for discussion and decision: Heritage Grants

8. Revealing the Hidden Heritage, Blackburn Cathedral; HG-16-00878

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Applicant: Blackburn Cathedral

Request: First Round Pass of £1,995,600, including Development Grant of £188,800 (81%)

Project: The second of three major capital projects planned for Blackburn Cathedral. The crypt and undercroft would be redeveloped to provide multi-use conferencing, exhibition, education and community space. Interpretation would be enhanced and disabled access would be improved to the lower ground floor. An associated programme of activities would be delivered.

The Committee considered that the project represented a high priority for support and **AWARDED** a first round pass of £1,995,600 including a development grant of £188,800 (81%).

9. Chapel Organ Restoration; HG-15-08433

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Applicant: Rossall School

Request: First Round Pass of £231,500 including Development Grant of £2,700 (49%)

Project: A 20 month project to repair and restore a Harrison & Harrison pipe organ to full working condition. The Rossall Chapel Heritage Group (RCHG) would be created to oversee the project and to develop a programme of engagement activities including a series of recitals following completion of the restoration.

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

10. The Space Centre Thomas Mawson Garden Preservation Project; HG-15-06438

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Applicant: Creative Support Ltd

Request: First Round Pass of £729,100 including Development Grant of £49,800 (93%)

Project: To restore the hidden heritage of a Thomas Mawson garden and create limited, permanent and visual interpretation of its history. The scheme would include repairs and restoration to a terrace and gravel paths and reinstatement of a summer house roof. The project would improve access to the gardens for those with mobility issues and provide new outdoor seating and woodland sensory equipment. A programme of activities and volunteering opportunities would be provided.

The Committee considered that the project represented a low priority for support and **REJECTED** the application.

11. 'Coming in from the Cold' - Raising the Profile of BME Communities in the Archive; HG-16-00568

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Applicant: Ahmed Iqbal Ullah Education Trust

Request: First round pass of £380,800 including development grant of £31,100 (81%)

Project: A three year project to support South Asian and East European community groups in Greater Manchester to develop and deliver heritage projects including oral history, film making and archiving. The scheme would help address the current underrepresentation of both communities within local collections by supplementing the collections held by the Ahmed Iqbal Ullah Race Relations Resource Centre.

The Committee considered that the project represented a high priority for support and **AWARDED** a first round pass of £380,800 including a development grant of £31,100 (81%).

12. Morecambe Heritage Centre; HG-16-02558

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Applicant: Morecambe Heritage

Request: First round pass of £185,800 including development grant of £46,700 (85%)

Project: To enable Morecambe Heritage to operate its existing heritage centre on Morecambe Promenade at a higher capacity, allowing it to increase its opening hours and the extent to which it engages the public. New staff would be employed, educational space would be created and an oral histories collection would be developed to enhance the existing collections. Marketing would be improved to raise the profile of the centre and increase visitor numbers.

The Committee considered that the project represented a low priority for support and **REJECTED** the application due to concerns raised.

Prioritisation

During the case by case discussions, Blackburn Cathedral (item 8) and Coming in from the Cold (item 11) were identified as high priority for support. They were awarded first round passes.

Chapel Organ Restoration (item 9), The Space Centre Thomas Mawson Garden Preservation Project (item 10) and Morecambe Heritage Centre (item 12) were rejected due to concerns raised.

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

13. Grants for Places of Worship Overview

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Laura Ward, Casework Manager, presented the GPOW overview.

In the North West, 11 first-round applications with a grant request of £2,250,100 were received against a regional budget of £1,205,600. At the initial sift, Historic England advised that five applications appeared to be less urgent. No further assessment was undertaken and they were recommended for rejection (13g-k).

The remaining six cases (13a-f) 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.

Items 13a-d were considered the highest priorities for support and awarded first round passes. The two remaining first round cases (13e-f) were considered medium value for money and discussed on their merits.

The Committee took the following decisions:

Item	Project title	Applicant	Decision	Project reference
13a.	Restoration of the Georgian ceiling of St Peter's Congleton	St Peter's Congleton	FIRST ROUND PASS OF £203,700 INCLUDING DEVELOPMENT GRANT OF £15,200 (67% OF TOTAL ELIGIBLE DEVELOPMENT COSTS)	GP-15-07904
13b.	High Level Repairs and Dry Rot Remediation	Christ Church Toxteth Park Parochial Church Council	FIRST ROUND PASS OF £239,900 INCLUDING DEVELOPMENT GRANT OF £25,200 (88% OF TOTAL ELIGIBLE DEVELOPMENT COSTS)	GP-16-02577
13c.	Tower masonry repairs and improvement of rainwater disposal from adjacent roof	St James Church, New Brighton	FIRST ROUND PASS OF £250,000 INCLUDING DEVELOPMENT GRANT OF £29,700 (74% OF TOTAL ELIGIBLE DEVELOPMENT COSTS)	GP-15-08082
13d.	Restoration of an iconic church and community use as a performance venue	Holy Trinity Church Southport	FIRST ROUND PASS OF £245,800 INCLUDING DEVELOPMENT GRANT OF £6,500 (35% OF TOTAL ELIGIBLE DEVELOPMENT COSTS)	GP-16-02754
13e.	Urgent stone arch repairs and reroofing with new activities to open up the church	St Helens Parish Church, Merseyside	FIRST ROUND PASS OF £229,400 INCLUDING DEVELOPMENT GRANT OF £33,400 (95% OF TOTAL ELIGIBLE DEVELOPMENT COSTS)	GP-16-02125
13f.	St Bartholomew Open Door Heritage and Amenity Project	Thurstaston PCC	REJECT	GP-15-05500

Item	Project title	Applicant	Decision	Project reference
13g.	Safeguarding Stretton's Striking Heritage at St. Matthew's Church	St. Matthew's Church, Stretton, Cheshire	REJECT	GP-16-02254
13h.	Conservation, Upgrading and Heritage Interpretation Project	St Clement, Urmston	REJECT	GP-15-07537
13i.	Replacement of a dangerous heating system	St Mary's Church, Handbridge	REJECT	GP-16-02838
13j.	Stonework and Repointing at St. Thomas Church	Parish of St. Thomas, Werneth, Oldham	REJECT	GP-15-03027
13j.	The Community Church in the North West of England, Southport	The Community Church in the North West of England	REJECT	GP-16-02354

SF4 second round applications for discussion and decision: Heritage Grants

14. My Bluecoat; HG-16-00878

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Applicant: The Bluecoat

Request: Award Grant of £210,000 (69%)

Uplift: An uplift of £27,400 (15%) was sought to more accurately reflect costs of equipment, volunteer expenses, professional fees and more realistic allowances for staff salaries and contingency.

Project: To bring together three archives relating to the history of Liverpool's Bluecoat building, currently held by Bluecoat, Blue Coat School and Liverpool Record Office. A detailed audit of the full archive of material from the early 18th century would be undertaken and selected material would be digitised. A website would be created to house the collated information and populate it with new material, stories and recordings. A year long programme of changing exhibitions would focus on various heritage themes.

The Committee awarded a grant of £210,000 (69%).

SF4 second round applications for discussion and decision: Landscape Partnerships

15. The Carbon Landscape; LP-13-06172

CNW 2016 (4) 15

Applicant: Lancashire Wildlife Trust

Request: Award Grant of £1,997,700 (62%)

Project: A five year scheme to restore a derelict landscape, ensuring its connectivity and resilience. The proposals would reconnect people with their landscape by improving access, increasing learning and volunteering opportunities. Works would be carried out to five flagship sites to create 120ha of high quality priority habitats and physical access improvements to 20km of routes including a 'Carbon Trail' with signposting and interpretation.

The Committee awarded a grant of £1,997,700 (62%)

SF4 first round Board applications for discussion and recommendation: Townscape Heritage

16. Townscape Heritage Overview

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Richard Fowler, Senior Grants Officer, presented an overview of the scheme.

17. Southport Townscape Heritage Project - Restoration and Regeneration; TH-14-08082

CNW 2016 (4) 17

Applicant: Sefton MBC

Request: First round pass of £1,566,000 including development grant of £66,600 (69%)

Project: A scheme focused around Southport's Lord Street and Promenade Conservation Areas to renovate up to 41 properties. Capital works would predominantly relate to shop front repairs and reinstatement and vacant floor space would be brought back to use. Proposals would help reverse the recent decline in Southport's heritage and act as a catalyst for regeneration and transformation of its historic landscape. A community engagement programme would be developed and delivered.

The Committee for the North West recommended the project to the Townscape Heritage delegated decision panel as a **HIGH PRIORITY (1 of 2)** for support.

18. Brierfield: A Townscape Revival; TH-16-02816

CNW 2016 (4) 18

Applicant: Borough Council of Pendle

Request: First round pass of £1,566,000 including development grant of £34,000 (89%)

Project: A scheme focused on Brierfield town centre to revive the townscape and heritage buildings and stimulate a cultural renaissance in the town. The scheme encompasses 29 target properties of heritage merit with proposed works relating to building, shop front and traditional signage repair and restoration. Significant public realm works would include improvements to pedestrian connections to Brierfield Mills, the cast iron railway bridge, paving and hard and soft landscaping to the setting of Brierfield Cenotaph. A skills programme would include training in traditional conservation and maintenance.

The Committee for the North West recommended the project to the Townscape Heritage delegated decision panel as a **LOW PRIORITY** for support.

19. Rediscovering the Underbanks, Stockport's Old Town; TH-16-00021

CNW 2016 (4) 19

Applicant: Stockport Metropolitan Borough Council

Request: First round pass of £1,842,200 including development grant of £53,000 (77%)

Project: A five-year scheme to restore key properties in part of the 'Old Town' area of Stockport town centre and associated public realm improvements to create a vibrant retail, cultural and residential destination around the Underbanks and Market Place. The scheme would target the most at risk and vacant buildings and sites and would improve the distinctive public realm. A programme of activities would be delivered to tell the story of the traditional High Street.

The Committee for the North West recommended the project to the Townscape Heritage delegated decision panel as a **HIGH PRIORITY (2 of 2)** for support.

20. Earlestown: renaissance of a planned grid iron town located at the world's first railway junction; TH-16-02117

CNW 2016 (4) 20

Applicant: St Helens Council

Request: First round pass of £1,723,100 including development grant of £72,900 (90%)

Project: A project of architectural repairs, shop front improvements, upper floor access enhancements and public realm works in the Earlestown Conservation Area of St Helens. The station would be refurbished and returned to business or recreational use and the pedestrianised surface of Market Street, leading from the Station to the Market Square and Town Hall would be re-laid to reinstate pavements fringes. A programme of events and activities would be delivered including heritage walks, historic building maintenance courses and outdoor fitness classes.

The Committee for the North West recommended that the project to the Townscape Heritage delegated decision panel as a **LOW PRIORITY** for support.

21. Tyldesley Townscape Heritage; TH-16-03263

CNW 2016 (4) 21

Applicant: Wigan Council - Environmental Services Department

Request: First round pass of £1,246,800 including development grant of £33,000 (55%)

Project: To repair and restore buildings to help regenerate the historic market town of Tyldesley. The scheme would restore the late 18th century Grade II listed Top Chapel and the Marklands Building and would focus on the replacement of inappropriate shop fronts and signage and reinstatement of historic features with traditional materials. Heritage engagement and training activities would also be delivered.

The Committee for the North West recommended the project to the Townscape Heritage delegated decision panel as a **MEDIUM PRIORITY** support.

SF4 first round Board applications for discussion and recommendation: Parks for People

22. Parks for People Overview

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The Committee noted the Overview.

23. Reviving the Mount; PP-15-08550

CNW 2016 (4) 23

Applicant: Wyre Borough Council

Request: First Round Pass of £2,197,600 including Development Grant of £142,900 (87%)

Project: A second and larger phase in a programme of restoration works at Mount Garden. The scheme would focus on two buildings in the park; restoring the pavilion, replacing lost features and fitting it out as an education and exhibition space and bringing the entrance lodge building into community use. Planting would be reintroduced and lost features such as pebble walls and landscaping features would be replaced. An associated programme of heritage activities and volunteering would be delivered.

The Committee for the North West and Big Lottery Fund representative considered that the project represented a **HIGH PRIORITY (2 of 2)** for support.

24. Fairhaven Gardens and Lake Restoration Project; PP-16-01513

CNW 2016 (4) 24

Applicant: Fylde Borough Council

Request: First Round Pass of £1,652,200 including development grant of £165,500 (67%)

Project: To restore Fairhaven Lake and Gardens, carrying-out works to the lake, restoring key historic buildings and undertaking landscaping works. The pavilion café would be restored to its original form, removing inappropriate extensions to expose original features. The scheme had been planned alongside a fully-funded project to build a new coastal defence around Fairhaven to prevent coastal erosion jeopardising the existence of the park and nearby housing. A number of enhancements would be carried out within the HLF project including the creation of a look-out, improving ground topography and assisting in the formation of a lake-side path. An associated programme of activities would be delivered.

The Committee for the North West considered that the project represented a **HIGH PRIORITY (1 of 2)** for support. The Big Lottery Fund representative considered that the project represented a **MEDIUM PRIORITY** for support.

SF4 second round Board applications for discussion and recommendation: Parks for People

25. Thompson Park, Burnley; PP-13-21749

CNW 2016 (4) 25

Applicant: Burnley Borough Council
Request: Award Grant of £861,100 (72%)

Uplift: An uplift of £53,600 (7%) was sought due to greater cost certainty established during development, an increase in allowance contingency and a change in the brief to reflect the input of public consultation, particularly around the pavilion, boathouse café and play.

Project: A three-year project to restore and enhance the visitor experience at Thompson Park, Burnley. The pavilion would be restored for use as a visitor centre and community space, the boathouse would be converted into a café and the boating lake and paddling pool would be repaired. Facilities including toilets and a play area would be enhanced and disabled access would be improved through the scheme. A tree and shrub management programme would be implemented and a comprehensive activity and volunteer training programme delivered.

The Committee for the North West and Big Lottery Fund representative considered that the project represented a **HIGH PRIORITY** for support.

Papers for information

26. Communications Report

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Vicky Wilford, Communications Manager, introduced the Communications Report.

The Greater Manchester Fire Service Museum opening had received good coverage locally and a delegated grant for War Widows Stories had been announced, coinciding with Remembrance-tide. The story had featured on Women's Hour and had been received well.

Nathan Lee's appointment as Head of HLF North West had received good local coverage in Manchester and he was planning on writing a blog documenting his first few months in the post.

The Committee noted that the Changing Lives campaign had been really positive and received excellent feedback.

27. Corporate Update	CNW 2016 (4) 27
28. Minutes of the meeting of Country and Regional Chairs on 11 October 2016	CNW 2016 (4) 28
29. Annual Report of the Equality Steering Group	CNW 2016 (4) 29
30. Overview of Single Round Grants and Delegated Decision Making	CNW 2016 (4) 30

The Committee noted the items.

31. Any other business

Oral

There was none.

The next meeting will be held on 16 March 2017.