

Heritage Lottery Fund Committee for the North West Meeting on 23 September 2014

CNW 2014 (3) Minutes

Minutes of the meeting of the Committee for the North West held on 23 September at 9.30 a.m. in Conference room 3a, Blackpool Council Offices, Bickerstaffe House, Blackpool, FY1 3AH

Members Tiffany Hunt (Chair)
Steve Garland
Bill Maynard
Aileen McEvoy
Virginia Tandy (Trustee)
Ivan Wadeson
Humphrey Welfare

Report

1. **Declarations of interest**

Oral

Steve Garland declared an interest in item 26, The Carbon Landscape, as he was the Chair of the Lancashire Wildlife Trust, the applicant.

Regarding item 8, Winckley Square, Steve mentioned that he did some work for the Preston Museums Partnership from November 2013 - June 2014. He noted that his work was not connected with the project, but the partnership contract was managed by Preston City Council. The Committee agreed that this did not represent a conflict of interest.

He also noted that he had been involved in some local fundraising for Bolton-le-Sands church (item 19, GPOW Overview), but had no official involvement in the scheme. The Committee agreed that this did not represent a conflict of interest.

Tiffany Hunt noted that she was a former employee of the National Trust; the applicant for item 14, the Fell Foot Project. She had left the organisation four years ago and had no knowledge of the project. The Committee agreed that this did not represent a conflict of interest.

Tiffany also mentioned that the Director of Ness Gardens (item 13) was a former member of her staff at the National Trust. The Committee agreed that this did not represent a conflict of interest.

2. **Chair's Report**

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Tiffany Hunt, Chair of the Committee reported on a number of items and meetings that she had attended since the last meeting.

- She had attended a meeting of the Country and Regional Chairs on 29 July which had been Dame Jenny Abramsky's last meeting as Chair of the NHMF.
- Ancoats Dispensary had been awarded a first round pass at the Board meeting in July.
- Reviews of the GPOW and Heritage Enterprise grant programmes were being undertaken by HLF staff. Committee Members agreed that it would be valuable to have the opportunity for Members to discuss the reviews at their meeting in December.
- The Heritage Exchange event in July had been a great success, providing a valuable forum for sharing ideas about heritage. The event had received excellent feedback.

3. Minutes from the meeting held on 17 June 2014

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The minutes were noted.

4. Matters arising from the minutes

Oral

There were none.

5. North West Overview

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Sara Hilton presented the overview. She reported that Carole Souter, Chief Executive, had visited a number of community-led projects in Liverpool including Rotunda, Everton Library and the Florence Institute.

She also noted that the Board would determine the outcome of the Collecting Cultures programme in September.

6. North West Budget

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The annual budget for the North West was £13,840,000 for 2014-15.

The Committee noted that for this meeting the indicative grants budget was £2,940,333. Applications totalling £5,090,400 had been received. Due to reduced budget request across the organisation, there were sufficient funds to support all second round projects if the applications met the quality threshold.

The Committee noted that for this meeting the indicative first round pass budget was £2,712,533. Applications totalling £4,762,400 had been received and therefore Committee would need to prioritise the applications.

SP3 second round cases for discussion and decision

7. Accrington Town Centre and Accrington Pals Centenary THI; TH-12-06590

DECISION: AWARD GRANT OF £1,500,000 (75%)

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Hyndburn Borough Council sought a grant of £1,500,000 (75%) for a THI scheme located in Accrington, East Lancashire. Proposals would focus on Blackburn Road, an arterial route characterised by independent retail, composed predominantly of late 19th and early 20th century buildings. The area would be reinvigorated by the reinstatement of historic architectural features, restoring of stonework and original features and shop front reinstatement. The scheme would contribute towards realising the aims of the Accrington Area Action Plan (AAP), the promotion of the town as a heritage destination and the borough's wider regeneration initiatives. A new public space outside the Market Hall would be created in memory of the Accrington Pals Regiment.

The Board awarded a first round pass of £1,525,000 including a development grant of £25,000 (71% of total eligible development costs) in March 2013.

The Committee were supportive of the application and awarded a grant of £1,500,000 (75%).

8. Winckley Square THI; TH-12-02644

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DECISION: AWARD GRANT OF £945,000 (74%)

Preston City Council sought a grant of £945,000 (74%) for a THI scheme located in the Winckley Square Conservation Area in Preston City Centre, focusing on Winckley Square and Cannon Street. The area had suffered from a lack of investment, increase in vacant buildings and a decline in the quality of the public realm. The scheme would boost economic activity, increase daytime visitors

and promote the area for tourism as part of Preston's historic core. Works would include structural repairs and replacement of architectural features such as traditional windows and decorative ironwork.

The Board awarded a first round pass of £986,600 including a development grant of £41,600 (75% of total development costs) in March 2013.

Overall, the Committee were supportive of the application and awarded a grant of £945,000 (73%).

9. Into the Future, Saddleworth Museum; HG-11-08217 CNW 2014 (3) 9
DECISION: AWARD GRANT OF £1,046,000 (87%)

Saddleworth Museum and Art Gallery and Community Resource sought funding towards the redevelopment of Saddleworth Museum and Art Gallery and Community Resource in Uppermill, Saddleworth. The project would repair and refurbish the museum building in order to safeguard its collections, provide more appropriate display and interpretation facilities, improve accessibility and create new flexible learning spaces. A programme of collection conservation and community engagement opportunities would be delivered.

The request included an uplift of £146,000 (16%) due to an increase in capital costs and associated fees across repair and conservation, new build and other physical works. The Committee for the North West awarded a first round pass of £949,000 including a development grant of £49,000 (77% of total eligible development costs) in November 2012.

The Committee were supportive of the application and awarded a grant of £1,046,000 (87%).

SF4 second round cases for discussion and decision

10. Greater Manchester's Heritage Trees; HG-12-08422 CNW 2014 (3) 10
DECISION: AWARD GRANT OF £645,900 (80%)

Community Forest Trust sought funding for a four year project to research, identify and record heritage trees across five districts of Greater Manchester and make the information widely accessible to the public through an interactive website. The proposals would engage locals and new audiences through a series of campaigns and participation activities and deliver an associated programme of volunteering and training opportunities including web data research, woodland and orchard management, tree care and disease awareness.

The Committee for the North West awarded a first round pass of £740,600 including development funding of £92,000 (65% of total eligible development costs) in June 2013.

Overall, the Committee were supportive of the application and awarded a grant of £645,900 (80%).

11. Lady Lever Art Gallery; HG-13-00365 CNW 2014 (3) 11
DECISION: AWARD GRANT OF £1,262,400 (50%)

National Museums Liverpool (NML) sought a grant to transform the condition, display and visitor experience of the internationally significant collections at the Lady Lever Art Gallery. The project would restore and redisplay the South End galleries, restoring original architectural features. A programme of formal and informal education and community programmes would be delivered and a series of work placements, internships and volunteering opportunities would also be created.

The Committee for the North West awarded a first round pass of £1,411,800, including a development grant of £149,400 (50% of total eligible development costs) in September 2013.

The Committee were supportive of the application and awarded a grant of £1,262,400 (50%).

12. Ashton (Old) Baths; HE-13-05388
DECISION: DEFER

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Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council sought a grant of £1,712,000 (56%) to restore the Grade II* listed Ashton Old Baths to create an enterprise hub with provision of flexible office and studio space. The proposals aimed to remove the building from English Heritage's 'Heritage at Risk' Register. Proposals would undertake conservation and repair works to the building's internal and external fabric, retaining original features and historical layers of paint and signage. The project would increase engagement through open days held at the site and volunteering and apprenticeship opportunities would be created.

The Committee for the North West awarded a first round pass of £1,666,100 including a development grant of £159,600 (85% of total eligible development costs) in December 2013. An uplift of £205,500 (14%) was requested due to an increased conservation deficit and an increase in capital costs relating to the change of approach for the internal intervention.

Members felt the project had good potential, but at present did not feel they had the appropriate information to take a decision on the application.

The Committee deferred the decision.

SF4 first round cases for discussion and decision

13. Welcome Friend, Welcome Stranger, Welcome One and all to Ness Botanic Gardens; HG-13-06187
DECISION: REJECT

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Ness Botanic Gardens sought a first round pass of £1,717,300 including a development grant of £235,000 (78% of total eligible development costs) to transform their internationally important grade II listed gardens. The project would dramatically extend the visitor offer by creating a new iconic glasshouse and converting two potting sheds into an education and interpretation hub. A new learning programme including apprenticeships and outreach activities in schools would create new opportunities along with a new training programme for staff and volunteers.

The Committee rejected the application.

14. Fell Foot Project; HG-13-08680
DECISION: REJECT

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The National Trust (North West) sought a first round pass of £491,000 without a development grant to transform Fell Foot, a popular but under-resourced park on the shores of Lake Windermere. A number of buildings would be restored and designed landscape and planting schemes would be reinstated to improve the visitor offer. Access would be improved through a new entrance to the site, a visitor interpretation centre and new areas of the park would be opened up to the public. An associated programme of training opportunities would be provided for volunteers and staff including conservation and park management, community development and leadership.

Overall, the Committee considered that the application represented a low priority for support. They rejected the application due to concerns raised.

15. Murgatroyd's Brine Pump and Middlewich Salt Trail; HG-13-12597
DECISION: REJECT

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Middlewich Town Council sought a first round pass of £917,200 including a development grant of £99,900 (86% of total eligible development costs) to restore and conserve Murgatroyd's Brine

Pump, a key feature of the salt industry in Middlewich, making it publicly accessible. Proposals would also create a new education and interpretation space to provide a base for volunteers, and school groups. Volunteers would become involved in landscaping, restoration interpretation and archive work and a programme of community engagement activities would be provided including an open day and schools workshops.

This was a resubmission of an application rejected in March 2012.

Overall, the Committee considered that the application represented a low priority for support. They rejected the application due to concerns raised.

16. Track of the Ironmasters; HG-13-10714 CNW 2014 (3) 16
DECISION: FIRST ROUND PASS OF £739,900 INCLUDING A DEVELOPMENT GRANT OF £49,700 (66% OF TOTAL ELIGIBLE DEVELOPMENT COSTS)

Sustrans sought a first round pass of £739,900 including a development grant of £49,700 (66% of total eligible development costs) for a three year project to enhance the industrial, social and natural heritage of the 'Track of the Ironmasters' cycle paths in West Cumbria. The project would repair historic industrial features, improve wildlife habitats along the routes and record people's memories of the area. New interpretation would be provided for the cycle routes including display panels, route maps, mobile phone applications and geocaches. In addition, new signage, seating and bins would be installed. Two apprentices would be employed through the project to undertake conservation work and further training opportunities would be offered including dry stone walling, hedge-laying and lime-based pointing.

A previous application had been rejected in September 2013. Members noted that further development work had been undertaken since the previous submission.

The Committee considered that the application represented a high priority for support and awarded a first round pass of £739,900 including a development grant of £49,700 (66% of total eligible development costs).

17. The Cumbrian Victorian Locomotive Experience; HG-13-21839 CNW 2014 (3) 17
DECISION: FIRST ROUND PASS OF £897,000 INCLUDING A DEVELOPMENT GRANT OF £38,500 (67% OF TOTAL ELIGIBLE DEVELOPMENT COSTS)

The Locomotive Conservation and Learning Trust (LCLT) and Stainmore Railway Company sought a first round pass of £897,000 including a development grant of £38,500 (67% of total development costs) to secure the future of the only remaining J21 class Victorian locomotive (number 65033). The project would return the locomotive to steam for the first time in 30 years which, in conjunction with a newly created interpretation space, would create a major exhibit at Kirkby Stephen East railway station. An activity programme would be delivered including school visits, engagement with youth organisations and talks and open days.

This was a resubmission of a project previously rejected in March 2014. The J21 (65033) had also been the subject of three other rejected HLF applications; once by the East of England Committee and twice by the Board.

The Committee considered that the application represented a high priority for support and awarded a first round pass of £897,000 including a development grant of £38,500 (67% of total eligible development costs).

18. Prioritisation of first round items Oral

During case by case discussions, the Committee considered that:

- *Cumbrian Victorian Locomotive* and *Track of the Ironmasters* represented high priority for support.

- *Fell Foot and Murgatroyd's Brine Pump* represented low priority for support.
- *Ness Botanic Gardens* should be rejected.

Cumbrian Victorian Locomotive and Track of the Ironmasters were awarded first round passes.

Fell Foot, Murgatroyd's Brine Pump and Ness Botanic Gardens were rejected due to concerns raised and lack of funds.

- **Grants for Places of Worship**

19. GPOW Overview and Applications

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In the North West, eleven first round applications with a grant request of £2,541,700 were received against a regional budget of £1,430,700.

The Committee awarded grants to four projects (19a-19d) and rejected three projects (19e-g) as they did not meet programme priorities.

19a	St Philip & St James Church, Alderley Edge	Cheshire East St Philip & St James Church, Alderley Edge	FIRST ROUND PASS OF £286,100 INCLUDING DEVELOPMENT GRANT OF £15,100 (21% OF THE TOTAL ELIGIBLE DEVELOPMENT COSTS)	GP-13-22315
19b	St Peter, Paul & Philomena's Church, Wallasey	Wirral St Peter, Paul & Philomena's Church, Wallasey	FIRST ROUND PASS OF £250,000 INCLUDING DEVELOPMENT GRANT OF £39,800 (87% OF THE TOTAL ELIGIBLE DEVELOPMENT COSTS)	GP-14-01327
19c	St Bride's with St Saviours Church, Toxteth	DCC of St Bride's with St Saviour's Church within the Parish of St Luke in the City	FIRST ROUND PASS OF £249,800 INCLUDING DEVELOPMENT GRANT OF £28,800 (95% OF THE TOTAL ELIGIBLE DEVELOPMENT COSTS)	GP-13-21065
19d	Waterhead Parish Church, Oldham	Waterhead Parish Church	FIRST ROUND PASS OF £200,900 INCLUDING DEVELOPMENT GRANT OF £22,200 (72% OF THE TOTAL ELIGIBLE DEVELOPMENT COSTS)	GP-13-08429
19e	St Catherine's Church, Horwich Bolton	St Catherine's Church Horwich	REJECT	GP-13-08999
19f	St Stephen & All Martyrs, Oldham	PCC St Stephen & All Martyrs	REJECT	GP-14-01565
19g	St Thomas Parish Church, Musbury, Rossendale	St Thomas Parish Church, Musbury	REJECT	GP-13-04690

19h	St Paul's Church, Norden, Rochdale	St. Paul's Church, Norden, Rochdale	REJECT	GP-13-11758
19i	Holy Trinity Church, Bolton-le-Sands	Holy Trinity Church Bolton le Sands	REJECT	GP-13-22141
19j	St Mary's & All Saints Church, Whalley	Mary's & All Saints Church	REJECT	GP-14-01267
19k	St John the Evangelist Church, Failsworth	PCC of St John Evangelist, Failsworth, Manchester	REJECT	GP-14-01831

SP3 second round Board case for discussion

20. People, Ponds and Water; HG-11-04953

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Freshwater Habitats Trust (previously known as Pond Conservation) sought funding towards a three year volunteer and learning programme to enhance and protect 'Flagship and Priority Ponds' in England and Wales. The ponds supported populations of two-thirds of all UK freshwater species including over 100 Priority Species. The project had three strands: monitoring, improving and protecting up to 70 important freshwater sites, the collection of data about trends in freshwater conditions and species from at least 1,000 priority ponds to be undertaken by volunteers and a public participation survey to raise awareness about pollution and threats to freshwater habitats.

The Board awarded first round pass of £965,100 including a development grant of £64,100 (95%) in March 2013. An uplift of £443,500 (49%) was sought due to increased project costs and refinement of planned activity.

The Committee made a recommendation to the Board.

SF4 second round Board case for discussion

21. CITIZAN; HG-13-08845

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Museum of London Archaeology sought a grant of £1,416,000 (89%) to create an infrastructure, website and a network of volunteers to record, monitor and celebrate threatened archaeological sites around England's coast and on the foreshores of tidal estuaries. An outreach programme and learning opportunities would also be delivered. The project was based on and would work with similar projects in the home countries and the Thames Discovery Programme in London.

The Board had awarded a first round pass with development funding in January 2014. An uplift of £64,900 (5%) was sought due to increases in data collection, staffing, publicity and outreach costs.

The Committee made a recommendation to the Board.

SF4 first round Board cases for discussion

22. Finsley Gate Restoration Scheme; HE-14-02633

CNW 2014 (3) 22

The Canal and River Trust sought a first round pass of £2,327,300 including a development grant of £262,500 (89% of total development costs) to restore Finsley Gate, a group of six unoccupied buildings within the Weaver's Triangle area of Burnley. Once restored, the buildings would be used commercially for enterprises including a boat hire and repair service, café/restaurants, education and learning space and function suites. An associated programme of interpretation and learning opportunities would be delivered focusing on the history of the site and its importance in the development of Burnley.

A previous application had been rejected by the Board in March 2014.

The Committee made a recommendation to the Board.

23. Film for All – Preserving and Presenting the UK's Moving Image Heritage; HG-14-00802

CNW 2014 (3) 23

The Yorkshire Film Archive, in partnership with 12 other archives, sought a first round pass of £4,290,200 including development funding of £169,000 (85%) for a nation-wide project to preserve and digitise film collections across the UK and encourage people to 'interact' with this film heritage. Preservation works would be prioritised and save 3,000 films from loss. A programme of public outreach, engagement and audience participation including public screenings would be delivered.

The Committee made a recommendation to the Board.

24. Capturing our Coast: Marine citizen science making a difference; HG-14-02824

CNW 2014 (3) 24

Newcastle University sought a first round pass of £1,364,700 including a development grant of £2,200, 90% of total eligible development costs towards a three year Citizen Science project to identify and quantify the abundance and distribution of marine species on a national scale. The scheme would provide opportunities for the public to participate in organised research efforts including the gathering, processing and interpreting of scientific data across the UK.

The Committee made a recommendation to the Board.

25. Landscape Partnerships Overview

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The overview was noted.

26. The Carbon Landscape – Restoring Great Manchester Wetlands to the Community; LP-13-06172

CNW 2014 (3) 26

Steve Garland left the room before discussion commenced.

The Lancashire Wildlife Trust sought a first round pass of £2,210,600 including a development grant of £212,800 (68% of total eligible development costs) for a project to ensure a step-change and more coordinated approach in the restoration of the Great Manchester Wetlands, characterised by open water, fen, wet grassland, wet woodland and lowland raised bog. The area was known as the Carbon Landscape as carbon was the key unifying feature of the landscape. The scheme would provide capital habitat restoration works at several sites. The scheme would also create a 20km 'Carbon Trail' across the landscape, linking up key sites providing interpretation and developing facilities and access at two key gateways for the trail. An associated programme of training and volunteer opportunities would be provided including apprenticeships in land management and engagement activities.

The Committee made a recommendation to the Board.

27. South West Peak – Landscape at a Crossroads; LP-13-06061 CNW 2014 (3) 27

The Peak District National Park Authority sought a first round pass of £2,563,600 including a development grant of £154,300 (62% of total eligible development costs) to preserve the distinctive landscape of the South West Peak Landscape Partnership, enhance threatened ecosystems and re-instate natural systems which slow the flow of water and improve its quality in a major watershed. The South West Peak (SWP) had a distinct landscape of marginal small-holdings flanking moorland core, supporting habitats and species of European importance, increasingly under threat of intensification and neglect. The scheme aimed to preserve this distinctive landscape, enhance threatened ecosystems and re-instate natural systems which slowed the flow of water and improved its quality in a major watershed.

The Committee made a recommendation to the Board.

28. Skills and Employment - a new future for Hopwood Hall and Chapel; HE-14-04278 CNW 2014 (3) 28

Hopwood Hall College (HHC) sought a first round pass of £4,256,900 including a development grant of £256,900 (64% of total eligible development costs) to restore the listed and at risk Hopwood Hall and Chapel to sustainable use. Medieval Hopwood Hall would be converted into a 22 room boutique hotel with a restaurant and spa facilities while the former Chapel would be transformed to a wedding, events and conference centre. The project offered potential for skills development, including training opportunities for a total of 900 individuals including hospitality, horticulture and business and marketing students. Members of the public, construction staff and HHC maintenance staff would be given access to heritage skills training.

The Committee made a recommendation to the Board.

29. Walton Estate: Cultivating Heritage, Skills and Enterprise; HG-14-03289 CNW 2014 (3) 29

Warrington Borough Council sought a first round pass of £3,084,400 including a development grant of £246,800 (52% of total eligible development costs) for a four year project to repair and restore a historic cluster of buildings within Walton Hall Estate, creating a hub for learning and training. A programme of learning opportunities will be provided for college students, disabled and socially excluded young people over five years. A strengthened volunteer programme and apprenticeship scheme will also be delivered.

The Committee made a recommendation to the Board.

30. Prioritisation of items 28 and 29 Oral

31. Our Catchment Heritage; HG-13-07482 CNW 2014 (3) 31

The Environment Agency, in partnership with the Freshwater Biological Association, sought a first round pass of £1,463,400 including a development grant of £162,100 (73% of total eligible development costs) to deliver a UK wide project to catalogue, digitise and make the historic natural heritage archives/collections of 44 environmental non-Government organisations (eNGOs) publicly available online. During the development stage pilot work would be undertaken with 4 eNGOs; Scottish Ornithologists Club, Atlantic Salmon Trust, Cumbria Wildlife Trust and Devon Wildlife Trust. A programme of learning and participation opportunities would also be delivered.

The Committee made a recommendation to the Board.

32. Your Sculpture: Connecting UK Communities with their sculpture heritage; HG-14-03615

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The Public Cataloguing Foundation (in partnership with BBC, Public Monuments and Sculpture Association, Oxford University's Visual Geometry Group and Culture Street) sought a grant of £2,947,400 including a development grant of £109,700 (78% eligible) to audit and photograph the world-class national collection of sculpture held in public collections and by public bodies across the UK, comprising works from any country of origin from the last 1000 years including antiquities. A new interactive *Your Sculpture* website would be created as part of their new *Your Art* platform and a programme of engagement and activities delivered. The project would build on the successful *Your Paintings* project.

This was a resubmission following rejection by the Board in May 2014 due to insufficient funds. The level of funding sought had reduced by over £750k.

The Committee made a recommendation to the Board.

Papers for information

33. Communications Report

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The Committee noted the paper.

34. Report on NHMF/HLF Board Business

CNW 2014 (3) 34

The Committee noted the paper.

35. Minutes of Country and Regional Chairs' meeting on 29 July 2014

CNW 2014 (3) 35

The Committee noted the paper.

36. Committee training and development

CNW 2014 (3) 36

The Committee noted the paper.

37. Any other business

Oral

The Committee thanked Bob Bewley for his support and advice over the years and wished him well in his new venture. Thanks were also expressed to Owen Roberts, North West Office Manager, for organising an excellent meeting and away day.

The next meeting would be held on 9 December 2014.