

# Heritage Lottery Fund Committee for the North West Meeting on 2 June 2015

CNW 2015 (2)

## Summary report of the meeting held on 2 June 2015 9.30 a.m. at the Netherwood Hotel, Grange-over-Sands.

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

**Apologies**                      Bill Maynard

**Big Lottery Fund**              Lindsay Marsden

Tiffany Hunt, Chair of the North West Committee, welcomed Lindsay Marsden to the Parks for People part of the meeting. She also welcomed Sue Bowers to her first meeting as Deputy Director of Operations.

Apologies had been received from Bill Maynard who was unwell. The Chair wished him a speedy recover on behalf of the Committee.

### 1.        **Declarations of interest**

**Oral**

Tiffany Hunt mentioned that

- She was a previous employee of the National Trust who were the applicant for item 20, the Fell Foot Project. She had no direct involvement with the project.
- A former colleague was employed by the Woodland Trust, the applicant for item 17, the Smithills Estate.
- The National Trust had minor involvement in item 24, Conserving Coniston & Crake.

The Committee were content that none of these constituted conflicts of interests.

Humphrey Welfare mentioned that he was a Trustee of the Churches Conservation Trust (CCT), the application for item 19, St James Heritage and Hope. St James was vested in the CCT until 2010. The Committee were content that this did not constitute a conflict of interests.

Humphrey also mentioned that he had joined the Diocese of Carlisle's Advisory Committee for the Care of Churches. Committee Members agreed to monitor future GPOW applications and deal with them as appropriate.

Virginia Tandy noted that she was on the Advisory Council for the Granada Foundation who had been identified as a potential partner for item 21, the People's Music Archive. The Committee were content that this did not constitute a conflict of interests.

- **Parks for People**

## **SF4 second round cases for discussion and recommendation – June Board**

*The Committee decided to discuss the first round parks before the second rounds.*

### **2. Parks for People Overview CNW 2015 (2) 2**

The Committee noted the Overview.

### **3. Peel Park, Salford; PP-13-06497 CNW 2015 (2) 3**

Salford City Council sought a grant of £1,572,800 (63%) for a five year project to make Peel Park a more welcoming and accessible green space. Original Victorian path and planting layouts would be reinstated, public access would be improved and the public profile of the park enhanced. Disabled access improvements including paths, walkways, ramping and accessible toilets would be installed. A variety of training and volunteering opportunities would be delivered to engage the local community.

The HLF Board and BIG England Parks for People Committee awarded a first round pass of £1,408,500 including development funding of £54,400 (61% of total eligible development costs) in December 2013. An uplift of £ 218,700 (16%) was sought due to a number of cost increases.

Expert advice was supportive.

The HLF North West Committee and the Big Lottery Fund representative recommended the project as a **HIGH** priority for support.

### **4. Winckley Square Gardens; PP-13-00258 CNW 2015 (2) 4**

Groundwork Lancashire West and Wigan sought a grant of £942,600 (76%) to restore and interpret the gardens of Winckley Square in Preston city centre. The project would improve the condition of the gardens and improve access, encouraging wider use of the space. A series of works to trees and shrubs would improve biodiversity and reinstate views across the gardens. A programme of events and activities would be delivered to engage local people with the square's heritage.

The HLF Board and Big England Parks for People Committee awarded a first round pass of £894,200 including development funding of £25,200 (67% of total eligible development costs) in December 2013. An uplift of £73,600 (8%) was sought due to an increased scope of educational and community activities.

Expert advice was supportive.

The HLF North West Committee and the BIG Lottery Fund representative recommended the project as a **HIGH** priority for support.

## **SF4 first round cases for discussion and recommendation – June Board**

### **5. Restoration of Fairhaven Lake and Gardens; PP-14-03043 CNW 2015 (2) 5**

Fylde Borough Council sought a first round pass of £2,152,400 including a development grant of £176,900 (75%) to restore Fairhaven Lake and Gardens. Proposals would desilt the marine lake and restore footpaths, replant trees and shrubs in accordance with original park designs, reinstate formal garden areas and restore key historic buildings. A programme of associated activities would be provided including public lectures, RSPB-run natural heritage activities and community archaeology projects.

This was a resubmission of an application rejected by the Board in 2010.

The HLF North West Committee and Big Lottery Fund representative recommended the project as a **MEDIUM** priority for support.

**6. Thompson Park Burnley; PP-13-21749 CNW 2015 (2) 6**

Burnley Borough Council sought a first round pass of £860,100 including a development grant of £52,600 (72%) towards a three-year project to restore Thompson Park in the centre of Burnley. The project would restore recreational facilities, the formal gardens, upgrade the children's play area and renovate the park pavilion to provide a community space. Access would be improved through improvement to paths and creating a car park for disabled visitors. A programme of training opportunities would also be delivered.

The HLF North West Committee and the Big Lottery Fund representative recommended the project as a **HIGH** priority for support.

**7. Prioritisation (if necessary) Oral**

There was no need to prioritise the parks applications.

**8. Chair's Report Oral**

Tiffany Hunt, Chair of the Committee for the North West, had attended a number of meetings and events:

- HLF Board meeting in April where she had provided an overview of activity in the North West.
- The meeting of Regional and Country Chairs in May had been very successful.
- A visit to the Lion Saltworks in Cheshire which George Osborne had also attended.

Finally, the Chair thanked Virginia Tandy for her works as the North West Committee Trustee over the past six years. It was her final meeting as a member.

**9. Minutes from the meeting held on 3 March 2015 CNW 2015 (2) 9**

The minutes were agreed as an accurate record of the meeting, subject to a typographic error on page two.

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

An update was provided on Ashton Old Baths, item 7.

Item 13, Conservatory Restoration in Corporation Park had been rejected at the last Committee meeting. A meeting had been arranged with the Council to cover both the rejected application and the wider issue of restructuring of parks.

**11. North West Overview CNW 2015 (2) 11**

Sara Hilton, Head of HLF North West, presented the Overview.

The new NHMF Chair, Sir Peter Luff, would be visiting the North West at the end of July. A programme of project visits would be arranged by the Chair and Head of Region.

## 12. North West Budget

CNW 2015 (2) 12

Two second round applications had been received, one of which was a fast track application. There was sufficient budget to support both applications if they met the quality threshold.

Ten first round applications had been received totalling £10,619,700 against a first round pass budgeted of £2,650,000 which meant that cases would need to be prioritised.

*The Committee reordered the agenda in order to take the first round applications at this point. They moved on to item 17.*

## 13. North West Annual Report 2014-2015

CNW 2015 (2) 13

Sara Hilton presented the annual report, providing a review of the work of the North West team during the year.

Members noted that casework had risen in 2014-15, resulting in an increase in workload for staff. This would need careful monitoring going forward.

The Chair congratulated the team on a successful year on behalf of the Committee.

### 13a. Annual review of delegated decisions

CNW 2015 (2) 13a

The Committee noted the review.

## SF4 second round applications for discussion and decision

- Townscape Heritage

## 14. Alston Moor: Celebrating Our Past into Our Future - a community vision; TH-13-00831

CNW 2015 (2) 14

Alston Moor Partnership (AMP) sought a grant for a Townscape Heritage scheme focused around the Alston Conservation Area. The scheme would conserve 11 properties on Front Street and Market Place and would deliver a programme of public realm works to maintain the area's character. A programme of activities would be delivered to engage local people with the heritage and foster a sense of shared ownership. A strategy would also be developed to increase tourism to support the local economy.

The Board awarded a first round pass of £1,369,700, including development funding of £69,700 (72% of total eligible development costs) in January 2014.

The Committee for the North West felt the scheme represented good value for money and **AWARDED** a grant of £1,300,000 (75%).

- Heritage Grants

## 15. Warwick Bridge Corn Mill - turning the wheels for the future; HG-13-07745

CNW 2015 (2) 15

The North of England Civic Trust (NECT) sought a grant to purchase and restore Grade II\* listed 'at risk' Warwick Bridge Corn Mill and bring it back to use as a fully operational flour mill, artisan bakery and a hub for NECT's heritage training and outreach activity in Cumbria. An associated programme of events and activities would be delivered and a training programme including repair and maintenance courses, building recording, architectural photography and three paid training placements would also be offered.

The Committee for the North West awarded a first round pass of £1,395,000 including a development grant of £98,900 (77%) in June 2014. An uplift of £83,100 (6%) was sought.

The Committee **AWARDED** a grant of £1,379,300 (67%).

**16. Women's Football Collection *fast track*; HG-14-10371 CNW 2015 (2) 16**

The National Football Museum (NFM) sought a grant to purchase a unique collection of women's football memorabilia and incorporate it into its public engagement programme including the display and learning offer. The application had been fast-tracked to second round due to the urgency to secure the collection.

Expert advice was supportive.

The Committee **AWARDED** a grant of £189,700 (95%).

**SF4 first round applications for discussion and decision**

- **Heritage Grants**

**17. Smithills - A Vision for a Resilient Landscape; HG-14-03017 CNW 2015 (2) 17**

The Woodland Trust (WT) sought funding to complete the acquisition of Smithills estate from the Esmee Fairbairn Foundation and carry out a five year project to restore its natural habitats and initiate more effective management of the landscape. The project would create better access to Smithills and re-engage the local community through a programme of learning, engagement and volunteering activities.

The Committee for the North West considered that the project represented high priority for support and **AWARDED** a first round pass of £1,896,700 including a development grant of £69,000 (53%).

**18. spACE at Hare Hill House; HG-14-04250 CNW 2015 (2) 18**

MoorEnd Development Trust sought a first round pass of £479,200 including a development grant of £48,600 (63%) to preserve Hare Hill House. The project would deliver a series of capital repairs to the house, establishing it as a heritage resource and a community arts and enterprise centre. A new visitor experience would be created to engage the community with their local heritage and provision of office and studio space would help ensure its financial sustainability. Opportunities for volunteers would also be provided.

The Committee felt that the project represented medium-low priority for support and **REJECTED** the application in light of their concerns and the available budget for the meeting.

**19. St James Heritage and Hope; HG-14-08585 CNW 2015 (2) 19**

St James in the City PCC sought a first round pass of £1,958,100 including a development grant of £127,000 (81%) to restore St James, a Grade II\* listed semi-derelict church in Toxteth, Liverpool and reconfigure it to create a number of spaces for heritage activity, community use and worship. A volunteering programme would enable local people to be involved and trained in all aspects of running the centre, including delivering activity, catering and administration.

This was a resubmission of an application rejected by the Board in May 2014.

The Committee felt that the project represented medium priority for support and **REJECTED** the application in light of their concerns and the available budget.

**20. The Fell Foot Restoration Project; HG-14-08019**

**CNW 2015 (2) 20**

The National Trust (North West) sought a first round pass of £632,000 without a development grant to restore the historic elements of Fell Foot including the boathouses and historic landscape to open up the whole site to the public, telling its story for the first time. The scheme would conserve the heritage of the site, improve the visitor experience and increase participation. A programme of associated activities would be delivered.

This was a resubmission of an application rejected by the Committee for the North West in September 2014.

The Committee for the North West felt that the project represented high priority for support but **REJECTED** the application in light of the available budget.

**21. People's Music Archive: Reimagining Liverpool and Britain's Music Heritage; HG-14-05084**

**CNW 2015 (2) 21**

The University of Liverpool sought a first round pass of £1,279,300 including a development grant of £181,300 (89%) for a project that would enable the Popular Music Archive to be conserved and accessed for the first time. Selected material would be surveyed, catalogued and digitised to stop deterioration. A permanent digital online archive would be created alongside an application to enable the public to search and upload their own content. An extensive programme of engagement activities exploring its unique contents would be developed.

Overall, the Committee for the North West felt that the project represented low priority for support and **REJECTED** the application in light of concerns raised.

**22. Organ Refurbishment; HG-14-05309**

**CNW 2015 (2) 22**

Parochial Church Council of St. Aidan, Rochdale sought a first round pass of £274,400 without a development grant to fully restore the Father Willis organ in St. Aidan's Church, Rochdale. Once restored, the organ would be used to support the delivery of a range of public events.

The Committee for the North West felt that the project represented low priority for support and **REJECTED** the application in light of concerns raised.

**23. Preserving the past, recording the present, recording the future: Congleton's new community museum; HG-13-05752**

**CNW 2015 (2) 23**

Congleton Museum Trust sought a first round pass of £1,999,900 including a development grant of £330,600 (87%) to enable Congleton Museum Trust to significantly develop their visitor offer and improve their facilities. The project would see the redevelopment of Bradshaw House, a Georgian mansion in Congleton, which would become the new site for the Congleton Museum. A programme of activities and opportunities for training would be delivered.

The Committee for the North West felt that they could not support the application as presented and **REJECTED** the application.

**24. Conserving Coniston & Crake: Caring for Water from Mountain to Shore; HG-14-03230**

**CNW 2015 (2) 24**

South Cumbria Rivers Trust sought funding to deliver habitat improvements, training and community activities across the Coniston Water and Crake Catchment. The project would improve water-quality, habitat and biodiversity and assist the survival of endangered Biodiversity Action Plan species. Training would be provided for over 250 volunteers in ecology, habitat management and conservation with opportunities for formal qualification.

The Committee for the North West considered that the project represented high priority for support and **AWARDED** a first round pass of £851,300 including a development grant of £102,100 (82%).

**25. Recording Naturally - Wildlife Recording in the Digital Age;  
HG-14-06925**

**CNW 2015 (2) 25**

Tameside MBC sought a first round pass £209,300 including a development grant of £22,700 (90%) to develop an online wildlife recording tool which would be used by wildlife recorders to collect and submit records of the natural heritage and wildlife of Greater Manchester. The tool would then be made available to other Local Record Centres and societies nationwide.

The Committee for the North West **REJECTED** the application.

- **Heritage Enterprise**

**26. Frodsham Foundation - The Good Shed; HE-14-08411**

**CNW 2015 (2) 26**

The Good Shed sought a first round pass of £1,039,500 including a development grant of £33,200 (73%) to restore the Good Shed, creating a function social and local business hub. The project would restore the building, making it suitable for occupation and construct a new extension to be used for services including a café, central information point and 17 studio spaces for small businesses. Training opportunities for school students and young people would be delivered.

The Committee for the North West **REJECTED** the application.

**27. Prioritisation of first round cases**

**Oral**

During the case by case discussions, the Board agreed that:

- *Smithills - A Vision for a Resilient Landscape (item 17), The Fell Foot Restoration Project (item 20) and Conserving Coniston & Crake: Caring for Water from Mountain to Shore (item 24)* represented high priority for support
- *St James Heritage and Hope (item 19)* represented medium priority for support
- *spACE at Hare Hill House (item 18)* represented medium-low priority for support
- *People's Music Archive: Reimagining Liverpool and Britain's Music Heritage (item 21) and Organ Refurbishment (item 22)* represented low priority for support
- *Preserving the past, recording the present, recording the future: Congleton's new community museum (item 23), Recording Naturally - Wildlife Recording in the Digital Age (item 25) and Frodsham Foundation - The Good Shed (item 26)* should be rejected as recommended.

The medium and low priority cases were also rejected in light of the available budget.

During discussion of the three high priority items, *Conserving Coniston and Crake* and *Smithills – A Vision for a Resilient Landscape* were identified as the highest priority for support and awarded first round passes. *Fell Foot Restoration Project* was rejected in light of the available budget for the meeting.

- **Grants for Places of Worship**

**28. GPOW Overview and Applications**

**CNW 2015 (2) 28**

The Committee was asked to consider a grant increase of £20,800 for Church of the Ascension, Lower Broughton. The request for a grant increase had resulted from the discovery of a previously undetected structural fault whilst approved capital works were being undertaken. Two second-

round applications totalling £122,900 were also received with uplift requests above the delegated authority threshold.

The Committee awarded three grants as below:

28a.	Church of the Ascension, Lower Broughton	PCC Church of the Ascension Lower Broughton, Salford	AWARD GRANT INCREASE OF £20,800 (11%)	GP-12-12620
28b.	Brierfield Methodist Church, Pendle	Brierfield Methodist Church	AWARD GRANT OF £183,500 (77%)	GP-13-08380
28c.	Greek Orthodox Church of the Annunciation	Greek Orthodox Church of the Annunciation, Manchester	AWARD GRANT OF £240,500 (61%)	GP-13-05587

Nine first-round applications with a grant request of £1,960,000 were received. After the grant increase and two second round projects were awarded, the remaining budget for the meeting was £862,760.

Historic England advice provided technical advice to establish the urgency of the repair works. Assessment also looked at how well the application met HLF outcomes for communities.

The following decisions were taken based on this information:

28d.	Dukinfield Old Chapel, Tameside	Dukinfield Old Chapel, Tameside	FIRST ROUND PASS OF £380,200 INCLUDING DEVELOPMENT GRANT OF £33,400 (49%)	GP-14-04082
28e.	St Michael & All Angels Church, Middlewich	St Michael and All Angels Church, Middlewich, Cheshire	FIRST ROUND PASS OF £234,200 INCLUDING DEVELOPMENT GRANT OF £26,500 (79%)	GP-14-07652
28f.	Union St United Reformed Church, Oldham	Union St United Reformed Church, Oldham	AWARD FIRST ROUND PASS OF £240,900 INCLUDING DEVELOPMENT GRANT OF £29,100 (70%)	GP-14-06473
28g.	St Catharine's Church, Wigan	St Catharine's Church, Wigan	REJECT	GP-14-00866
28h.	St Anne's Church, Liverpool	St Anne's Church, Liverpool	REJECT	GP-14-08372
28i.	Chorley St George Church Restoration Project	Chorley St George COE Church	REJECT	GP-13-20457
28j.	St Peter's Church	St Peter's Church, Macclesfield	REJECT	GP-14-09205



28k.	Holy Trinity Church, Stalybridge	Holy Trinity Church, Stalybridge	REJECT	GP-14-09043
28l.	Church of St Xavier, Liverpool	Church of St Xavier, Liverpool	REJECT	GP-14-09534

**Papers for information**

**29. Communications Report**

**CNW 2015 (2) 29**

Laura Bates, Communications Manager, presented the report.

**30. Communications Plan 2015-2016**

**CNW 2015 (2) 30**

**31. North West Operating Plan 2015-2016**

**CNW 2015 (2) 31**

**32. Corporate Update**

**Oral**

**33. Minutes of the Country and Regional Chairs on 12 May 2015**

**CNW 2015 (2) 33**

**34. Annual Review of Delegated Decisions**

**CNW 2015 (2) 34**

The items were noted.

**35. Any other business**

**Oral**

There was none.

**The next meeting would be held on 8 September 2015.**