

Summary report of the meeting of the Committee for the South East of England held on Tuesday 8 December 2015 in the London Office at 7 Holbein Place, London, SW1W 8NR.

Members Paul Hudson (Chair)
Alastair Fairley
Bill Ferris
Helen Jackson
Susan McCormack
Debbie Tann (present for items 4-40)

Apologies Roger de Haan (Trustee)

1. Welcomes **Oral**

Paul Hudson welcomed Kate Sawdy from BLF and Melanie Wong, who had recently joined the South East team as Team Assistant.

Committee discussed the following cases, their views would be reported to the Board:

SF4 First round Board case papers for discussion and recommendation

- **Parks for People**

2. Parks for People Overview **CSEE 2015 (4) 24**

Bridget Keegan introduced the overview report.

The Committee noted the overview.

3. Rediscovering Great Linford Manor Park, Milton Keynes; PP-14-02151 **CSEE 2015 (4) 18**

Milton Keynes Parks Trust Ltd sought a first round pass of £3,320,100, including development funding of £276,700 (86% of total eligible development costs) for a programme of works at the Great Linford Manor Park in Milton Keynes. The project would deliver landscape improvements, restoration of historic features, and volunteering and learning programmes to engage the local community with the park.

4. Staunton - a Regency landscape revealed; PP-15-00167 **CSEE 2015 (4) 18**

Hampshire County Council - Countryside Service sought a first round pass of £2,972,700, including development grant of £122,700 (74% of total eligible development costs) to expand the use of the Grade II* registered Staunton Park landscape and develop engagement with the neighbouring Leigh Park housing estate. The landscape and historic structures would be restored and interpreted and visitor facilities would be improved. Existing volunteering and training opportunities would be extended and facilities for supported volunteers and adults with learning disabilities would be improved.

5. Prioritisation of Parks cases **Oral**

Corporate Items

6. Chair's Report **Oral**

Paul Hudson thanked members for their attendance at project visits and openings.

The Committee noted the report.

7. Minutes of the meeting on 22 September 2015

CSEE 2015 (4) 7

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

8. Matters arising from the minutes

Oral

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

9. Declarations of Interest

Oral

Item 21 - Heathlands Reunited Debbie Tann declared a conflict of interest as the Chief Executive of the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust, which was a project partner.

Helen Jackson also declared a conflict of interest as a Trustee of the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust, which was a project partner.

Item 22 - The Future of St Barbe. Helen Jackson declared a conflict of interest as a Trustee of the Hampshire Cultural Trust, which was a project partner.

Item 13 - Brook Fusion. Bill Ferris noted that he had not been approached by Medway Council about this application in Chatham and that he had no knowledge of the proposed scheme. The Committee agreed that this did not constitute a conflict of interest.

Item 19 – Oxford’s Hidden Heritage. Susan McCormack noted a connection as a Director of the Ashmolean Museum. The Committee agreed that this did not constitute a conflict of interest.

There were no other declarations of interest.

10. Regional overview

CSEE 2015 (4) 10

Stuart McLeod introduced the overview paper and explained that he held regular meetings with Arts Council England, Historic England and Natural England, and that he met with other organisations periodically as necessary.

Maritime Heritage: The Committee noted that the South East region was leading on a review of how ship conservation projects were managed, drawing on the expertise of different teams from around the UK.

The Committee noted the overview report.

11. Budget Paper

CSEE 2015 (4) 11

Lucy Perry introduced the budget paper and updated the Committee on the delegated grant budget position. The region was currently underspent on Our Heritage and Transition Funding. Young Roots, Sharing Heritage and Start Up Grant budgets were on track to be spent by the end of the financial year.

There were eight first round applications, of which five were recommended for award, with a total first round pass request of £5,760,200, against an indicative first round pass budget of £3,060,650. 11 first round applications had been received for the March 2016 meeting, with a total first round pass request of £10,500,000.

The Committee noted the budget paper.

SF4 First round case papers for discussion and decision

- **Heritage Grants**

**12. Topham - Coalfield To Centenary - Restoration of unique steam locomotive
Bagnall 0-6-0ST works no. 2193 'Topham'; HG-12-08390 CSEE 2015 (4) 12**

Tunbridge Wells and Eridge Railway Preservation Society sought a first round pass of £369,300, including development funding of £38,500 (51% of total eligible development costs) to restore a 1922 steam locomotive 'Topham' for certified running order. This would enable the Spa Valley Railway to run a two train service, which would reduce gaps in the timetable and improve frequency for visitors.

The Committee rejected the application.

13. Brook Fusion; HG-15-03192 CSEE 2015 (4) 13

Medway Council sought a first round pass of £1,040,500, including development funding of £80,500 (50% of total eligible development costs) to undertake repair works at the Brook Theatre, Chatham. Facilities at the theatre would be improved, a Friends' Group established and cultural heritage and community engagement programmes would be delivered.

The Committee rejected the application.

14. National Paralympic Heritage Trust; HG-15-03539 CSEE 2015 (4) 14

WheelPower sought a first round pass to create a heritage centre on the site of Stoke Mandeville Stadium in Buckinghamshire to explore the heritage and history of the Paralympic movement. An accredited collection and heritage centre would be created, a virtual museum developed, eight satellite installations set up and learning, education and outreach programmes delivered.

The Committee agreed that the application represented a high priority for support and awarded a first round pass of £1,289,500, including development grant of £214,600 (73% of total eligible development costs).

**15. Sevenoaks Bradbourne Lakes Conservation & Restoration;
HG-15-03579 CSEE 2015 (4) 15**

Sevenoaks District Council sought a first round pass of £670,900, including development grant of £63,300 (74% of total eligible development costs) for a programme of conservation and restoration works to the Bradbourne Lakes in Sevenoaks. The lakes were the sole surviving features of a former 18th Century designed landscape. The lakes would be de-silted and historic water features would be restored. Druid monoliths at the site would be restored and re-instated. New audiences would be engaged with the site's heritage and a volunteering programme established.

The Committee rejected the application.

**16. Safeguarding Modern Craft: collections, archives, access;
HG-13-05204 CSEE 2015 (4) 16**

Crafts Study Centre sought a first round pass of £1,894,900, including development grant of £180,500 (84% of total eligible development costs) to reconfigure and expand the Crafts Study Centre museum in Farnham in order to increase storage and display space, improve visitor flow and enhance the retail offer. New displays and interpretation would be produced and new learning, volunteering and community engagement programmes delivered.

The Committee rejected the application.

17. Cleaning and conservation of wall paintings plus works to provide long term protection and presentation; HG-15-00027 CSEE 2015 (4) 17

Little Missenden Parish Church Council sought a first round pass to conserve, protect and interpret nationally significant medieval wall paintings in the Grade I listed church. The paintings would be cleaned, conserved and plasterwork restored. Improved heating, lighting and educational material would be installed within the church. Activity and volunteer programmes would be delivered.

The Committee agreed that the application represented a high priority for support and awarded a first round pass of £276,800, including development grant of £29,000 (75% of total eligible development costs).

18. Hermitage Stream River Restoration and Open Space Improvement Project; HG-15-00922 CSEE 2015 (4) 18

Groundwork South Trust Limited sought a first round pass of £1,801,600, including development funding of £115,000 (90% of total eligible development costs) to reinstate the riverbed along 0.3 miles of the Hermitage Stream, improve the footpath alongside the watercourse and restore and enhance the open space at Bushy Lease. Interpretation boards would be installed, a heritage trail would be developed and oral histories would be collected from local residents.

The Committee rejected the application.

19. Oxford's Hidden Histories; HG-15-02857 CSEE 2015 (4) 19

Oxford City Council sought a first round pass to create a new permanent gallery at Oxford Museum to tell the story of the City of Oxford. This would present collections that had not previously been on public display. The museum entrance would be remodelled to provide additional shop, storage and learning space. New office and flexible exhibition spaces would also be created. A comprehensive activity programme would include community engagement, family focussed and learning elements.

The Committee agreed that the application represented a high priority for support and awarded a first round pass of £1,628,100, including development grant of £142,000 (69% of total eligible development costs).

20. Prioritisation of first round items Oral

Having already rejected items 12, 13 and 18, and with reference to the available budget the Committee agreed to award first round passes to the three applications which had been identified as high priorities for support:

- Item 14 National Paralympic Heritage
- Item 17 Little Missenden Wall Paintings
- Item 19 Oxford's Hidden Histories

The Committee then agreed to rejected the following items

- Item 15 Sevenoaks Bradbourne Lakes
- Item 16 Safeguarding Modern Craft

SF4 Second round case papers for discussion and decision

21. Heathlands Reunited; HG-13-08866 CSEE 2015 (4) 21

Helen Jackson and Debbie Tann declared conflicts of interest and left the room for the discussion of this item

South Downs National Park Authority sought a grant to deliver landscape scale conservation work in the Wealden Greensands area of the South Downs National Park. The project would focus on the improvement of lowland heathland quality, creation of new habitats and the creation of corridor and stepping-stone habitat areas to facilitate species movement. An extensive programme of volunteer and stakeholder training and engagement would be delivered.

The Committee awarded a grant of £1,451,400 (61% of total eligible project costs).

22. The Future for St Barbe – Innovative, Inclusive, Resilient; HG-12-12790 CSEE 2015 (4) 22

Helen Jackson declared a conflict of interest and left the room for the discussion of this item

Lymington Museum Trust sought a grant for an extensive programme of works to remodel and revitalise the St Barbe museum and art gallery. Capital works would include alterations to improve accessibility and visitor flow within the museum and changes to the entrance and façade to make it more visible to passers-by. Retail, catering and meeting spaces would be created, as well as a new purpose build public archive facility. Local people and new audiences would be engaged with St Barbe through a programme of exhibitions, activities and education.

The Committee awarded a grant of £1,782,400 (77% of total eligible project costs).

23. Reading Abbey Revealed Project; HG-13-20031 CSEE 2015 (4) 23

Reading Borough Council Cultural Services sought a grant for a programme of urgent repair and conservation work of the Reading Abbey ruins and former gatehouse. Reading Abbey, founded by Henry I, had been one of medieval England's great monastic houses, but the ruins were currently in a dangerous state of disrepair, and the importance of the site was not widely appreciated. A comprehensive outreach, learning and development programme would accompany the capital works, to engage local people and raise awareness of Reading's medieval past.

The Committee awarded a grant of £1,777,500 (56% of total eligible project costs).

SP3 Second round application for decision

24. A City Museum for Milton Keynes; HG-12-05139 CSEE 2015 (4) 24

Milton Keynes Council sought a grant of £1,595,000 (21% of total eligible project costs) to create a sustainable museum that would tell the story of the town and its surroundings for the first time. The applicant would work with the Milton Keynes Museum Trust to create a new building to house two new galleries which would complement those in the existing museum. Interpretation would be refreshed, collections management improved and a new staff and volunteer structure established.

The Committee rejected the application.

- **Grants for Places of Worship**

25. GPOW Overview and Applications CSEE 2015 (4) 25

The Committee noted that second round uplifts would now be funded from a central budget, meaning these cost increases would not impact on the regional GPOW budget.

The Committee made the following decisions:

• Grants for Places of Worship				
First round applications for decision				
	Project	Applicant	Decision	GEMS
25a	Snodland All Saints' Church Urgent Repairs 2015	All Saints Church, Snodland	FIRST ROUND PASS OF £183,500 INCLUDING DEVELOPMENT GRANT OF £25,100 (71% OF TOTAL ELIGIBLE DEVELOPMENT COSTS)	GP-15-02809
25b	Re-Roofing Nave and repairs to stonework of 13th Century Grade 1 listed church	The Parochial Church Council of St George's Church Wrotham	FIRST ROUND PASS OF £161,800 INCLUDING DEVELOPMENT GRANT OF £19,600 (69% OF TOTAL ELIGIBLE DEVELOPMENT COSTS)	GP-15-03056
25c	Fabric Conservation and Heating Improvement Project	St Nicholas Church, Southfleet	FIRST ROUND PASS OF £156,400 INCLUDING DEVELOPMENT GRANT OF £21,500 (71% OF TOTAL ELIGIBLE DEVELOPMENT COSTS)	GP-14-07767
25d	Quinquennial repairs and expansion of use via new facilities	St Michael & All Angels, Offham	FIRST ROUND PASS OF £88,000 INCLUDING DEVELOPMENT GRANT OF £8,500 (56% OF TOTAL ELIGIBLE DEVELOPMENT COSTS)	GP-14-04333
25e	Classical Portico Restoration Project	Brighton Unitarian Church	REJECT	GP-15-01771
25f	Restoration of External Stonework to All Saints' Church Dogmersfield	All Saints' Church, Dogmersfield	REJECT	GP-15-03196
25g	Urgent fabric repairs to windows and masonry	St Mary the Virgin, Weston Turville	REJECT	GP-15-02317
25h	Urgent Restoration to Grade 1, 11th Century place of worship	St Mary's Church, Oxted	REJECT	GP-15-02812
Second round applications for decision				
25i	Niton Parish Church Stonework Repair Project – Weathertight and Safe	Niton Parish Church	AWARD GRANT OF £106,400 (62%)	GP-14-01016
25j	Repairs to chancel walls and roof of St Mary's Church, Long Crendon	St Mary's Church, Long Crendon	AWARD GRANT OF £191,700 (78%)	GP-13-09912

The Committee discussed the following applications, their views were reported to the Board:

SF4 First round Board case papers for discussion and recommendation

- **Heritage Grants**

26. Thames Heritage Boat Museum; HG-15-03545 CSEE 2015 (4) 26

Tamesis Trust sought a first round pass of £2,626,600, including development funding of £280,000 (80% of total eligible development costs) to build a new museum dedicated to the story of Thames navigation since 1800, in the grounds of Beale Park, near Reading. The new museum would display Thames vessels and equipment and house collections and archives. Volunteer facilities would be established and an activity programme delivered.

27. British Army Flying: Discovering stories of Courage, Comradeship and Innovation; HG-15-04446 CSEE 2015 (4) 27

The Museum of Army Flying sought a first round pass of £3,524,000, including development grant of £252,000 (80% of total eligible development costs) to expand and represent the Museum of Army Flying. Outdated interpretation and infrastructure would be replaced and an education centre established. New exhibition space would be created as well as a fully equipped conference facility for corporate hire. Comprehensive learning, research, oral history and volunteering programmes would be delivered.

28. Beacons of the Past - Hillforts in the Chilterns Landscape; HG-13-21169 CSEE 2015 (4) 28

Chilterns Conservation Board sought a first round pass of £745,800, including development grant of £50,200 (73% of total eligible development costs) for a cross-territory project to survey, conserve and interpret the Chilterns Iron Age hillforts. Work would include a large scale LIDAR survey of the Chilterns in the South East and East of England to reveal features in densely wooded areas, undertake conservation works at selected sites and provide both physical and digital interpretation.

29. Prioritisation Oral

SF4 Second round Board case papers for discussion and recommendation

30. D-Day 75: Transforming the D-Day Museum; HG-13-12170 CSEE 2015 (4) 30

Portsmouth City Council (Museums & Records Service) sought a grant of £4,044,500 (83% of total eligible project costs) for a comprehensive redevelopment of the D-Day Museum in Portsmouth. The visitor offer would be improved through new, up-to-date displays, improved infrastructure and collections management. New audiences would be engaged through a programme of activities and outreach work. The project would make a major contribution to, and be complete in time for the 75th anniversary of D-Day in 2019.

31. Heritage Centre Stage: Reawakening Brighton's Royal Estate – Phase One; HG-14-03814 CSEE 2015 (4) 31

Royal Pavilion Museums Brighton and Hove sought a grant for the first phase of works to restore, reinvigorate and establish an integrated visitor offer across the Brighton Royal Pavilion Estate. A programme of repairs, restoration and new build would be undertaken to improve the condition, legibility and accessibility of the entire estate. These physical works would be complemented by the

development of an overarching interpretation strategy and outreach, volunteering and activity programmes.

Papers for Discussion

32. Priority Development Area review **CSEE 2015 (4) 32**

Sarah Wicks, Development Manager introduced the review. The Committee agreed that they would like to continue with the current Priority Development Areas (PDAs) for the remainder of SF4. They suggested that the RSA Heritage Index might be used in the selection of the next set of PDAs.

33. SF5 Discussion **CSEE 2015 (4) 33**

Sue Bowers reported on recent Board meetings and the note circulated by email. The next Board strategy discussion would take place in February 2016. A consultation was planned for May/June 2016.

The Committee noted the report.

Papers for Information

34. Townscape Heritage Overview **CSEE 2015 (4) 34**

The Committee noted the report.

35. Minutes from the meeting of the Regional and Country Chairs on 13 October 2015 **CSEE 2015 (4) 35**

The Committee noted the minutes.

36. Review of Delegated Grants (July Board paper deferred to Sept Board) **CSEE 2015 (4) 36**

The Committee noted the report.

37. Report of the Equality Steering Group (July Board paper deferred to Sept Board) **CSEE 2015 (4) 37**

The Committee noted the report.

38. Communications Report **CSEE 2015 (4) 38**

The Committee noted the report.

39. Corporate Update **Oral**

The Committee noted the report.

40. Any other business **Oral**

There were no other items of business.

The next meeting will be held on 16 March 2016.