

# Heritage Lottery Fund: Committee for South East England

CSEE 2016 (2)

**Minutes of the meeting of the Committee for South East England held on 22 June 2016 at 9.30 a.m. in the London Office at 7 Holbein Place, London, SW1W 8NR.**

## Members:

- Maria Adebawale-Schwarte (Chair)
- Andrew Blessley
- Roger De Haan
- Bill Ferris
- Helen Jackson

## Apologies:

- Susan McCormack
- Debbie Tann

## Committee Business

### 1. Welcomes

The Chair welcomed staff from the Big Lottery Fund and Andrew Blessley, who like the Chair was attending his first meeting.

### SF4 First round Board case papers for discussion and recommendation

#### 2. Parks for People Overview

CSEE 2016 (2) 2

The Committee noted the overview.

#### 3. Revealing, Reviving and Restoring the Grounds of Great Linford Manor, Milton Keynes

CSEE 2016 (2) 3

Applicant: Milton Keynes Parks Trust Ltd

Request: First round pass of £3,483,000 including a development grant of £321,200 (82% of total eligible development costs)

Project: To restore the park's historic landscape and water features, improve park entrances and wayfinding signage. Works to the park would be complimented by a range of activities for the local community, including vulnerable groups such as people with dementia.

The Committee for South East England and Big Lottery Fund representative considered that the project represented a high priority (1 of 2) for support. The joint Board would determine the application in June.

#### 4. Faversham Recreation Ground

CSEE 2016 (2) 4

Applicant: Swale Borough Council

Request: First round pass of £1,719,800 including a development grant of £117,800 (81% of total eligible development costs)

Project: To restore the integrity of Faversham Recreation Ground, countering the overall decline of its historic buildings and infrastructure with improved horticulture, biodiversity and facilities, repair the external facades and raised terrace of the Grade II listed Gardener's Lodge and loggias, restore the Pavilion to provide activity space and public facilities, and employ a Community Engagement Officer who will lead on volunteering activity, outreach and supporting a new Friends' group.

The Committee for South East England considered the project a high priority and the Big Lottery Fund representative considered the project a medium priority. Overall, they considered that the project represented a high priority (2 of 2) for support. The joint Board would determine the application in June.

## **5. Prioritisation of Parks Cases**

**Oral**

The Committee prioritised the parks cases as:

- *Item 3. Revealing, Reviving and Restoring the Grounds of Great Linford Manor, Milton Keynes:* high priority 1 of 2
- *Item 4. Faversham Recreation Ground:* high priority 2 of 2

## **SF4 Second round Board case paper for discussion and recommendation**

### **6. From Mills to Mawson - Uncovering the hidden heritage of Kearsney Abbey & Russell Gardens**

**CSEE 2016 (2) 6**

Applicant: Dover District Council

Request: £3,115,000 (84%)

Project: To restore significant built and natural heritage features at Kearsney Abbey and Russell Gardens through capital and activity programmes and by developing local community involvement in managing the parks. There would also be access improvements between the two sites and the restoration of Grade II listed structures including Kearsney Abbey Billiards Room, bridges, pavilions and boundary walls.

First round decision: The joint HLF and BIG Board awarded a first round pass of £3,389,400 including a development grant of £274,100 (90% of total eligible development costs) in June 2014.

The Committee for South East England and Big Lottery Fund representative considered that the project represented a high priority for support. The joint Board would determine the application in June.

## **Corporate Items**

*Big Lottery Fund representative left the meeting.*

### **7. Chair's Report**

**Oral**

The Chair reported on recent visits they had made.

### **8. Minutes of the meeting on 16 March 2016**

**CSEE 2016 (2) 8**

The minutes were agreed as a true and accurate record of the previous meeting, subject to typographical errors being corrected.

## **9. Matters arising from the minutes**

Oral

There were none.

## **10. Minutes of the meeting of Regional & Country Chairs on 12 April 2016**

CSEE 2016 (2) 10

The Committee noted the minutes.

## **11. Declarations of Interest**

Oral

Bill Ferris declared an interest in *item 29. Kent Mining Museum* as he was part of an advisory steering group to the museum.

Item 34. Roger de Haan informed the Committee that he had supported the Royal Horticultural Society in the past. The Committee agreed that this did not constitute a conflict of interest.

## **12. Regional Overview**

CSEE 2016 (2) 12

Stuart McLeod presented the paper. The Committee noted the report.

## **13. Review of Delegated Decisions**

CSEE 2016 (2) 13

The Committee noted the report. Members were positive about the process through which delegated decisions were awarded and thanked staff for their work during the year.

## **14. South East Operating Plan for 2016-17**

CSEE 2016 (2) 14

The Committee noted the paper.

## **15. Communications Plan for 2016-17**

CSEE 2016 (2) 15

Tom Williams presented the paper. HLF had launched 'changing lives', a series of videos and stories about the positive impact involvement in HLF-funded projects had on people's lives. Members were supportive of this initiative.

## **16. South East Annual Review of 2015**

CSEE 2016 (2) 16

The Committee noted the paper.

## **17. Budget Paper**

CSEE 2016 (2) 17

There were nine first round applications, with a total first round pass request of £12,435,000, against a suggested budget of £3,250,000 for the meeting, based on an equal division of the budget between the four meetings.

The Committee noted that the grants budget was sufficient to fund the three second round applications, if they were satisfied that the quality threshold had been met.

## **SF4 first round applications for discussion and decision: Heritage Grants**

### **18. A Race Against Time: Rediscovering the De La Warr promenade heritage, East Parade, Bexhill**

CSEE 2016 (2) 18

Applicant: Rother District Council

Request: First round pass of £997,200 including a development grant of £66,700 (94% of total eligible development costs)

Project: Centres on an area of seafront promenade in the Sussex coastal town of Bexhill-on-Sea. The project would aim to raise awareness and understanding of the town from its development during the Victorian and Edwardian periods to current day. Capital works to the promenade would be complimented by a range of activities which would be developed through engagement with a range of community groups and seafront users.

The Committee considered the project a low priority and rejected it in light of available budget.

### **19. Dickens' Chalet - the final chapter**

**CSEE 2016 (2) 19**

Applicant: Medway Council

Request: First round pass of £953,000 including development grant of £71,600 (61% of total eligible development costs)

Project: To restore and preserve the internationally important Dickens' Chalet and gardens. The project would dismantle and restore the chalet and move it to the Lower Gardens. Capital works would be complimented with a range of activities such as an annual creative writing competition, a performance schedule in the space outside of the chalet and an outreach programme for schools.

The Committee considered the project a low priority and rejected it in light of available budget.

### **20. Runnymede Explored**

**CSEE 2016 (2) 20**

Applicant: National Trust, London and South East

Request: First round pass of £1,736,500 including development grant of £126,800 (89% of total eligible development costs)

Project: Would recreate the historic single estate of Runnymede and Ankerwycke. The project would create a new visitor welcome and orientation area, deliver a new 800m interpretation trail, and improve the quality of routes for walkers, cyclists, buggies and wheelchairs. The project would raise the profile of the heritage and create a sustainable infrastructure whilst arresting the decline of the landscape.

The Committee considered the project a high priority and awarded a first round pass of £1,736,500 including development grant of £126,800 (89% of total eligible development costs)

### **21. Engaging Ashford: The Fountain of Delight**

**CSEE 2016 (2) 21**

Applicant: Ashford Borough Council

Request: First round pass of £1,404,800 including a development grant of £67,900 (82% of total eligible development costs)

Project: Restore, promote and celebrate the Grade II\* Hubert Fountain in Victoria Park, Ashford. The project would include conservation and renovation works, public realm improvements to the areas surrounding the fountain, and public engagement in partnership with museum and voluntary sector partners. Engagement would include learning materials for schools, exhibitions at Ashford Museum, celebration events and public walks and talks. The project would also develop new management and maintenance strategies.

The Committee considered the project a low priority and rejected it in light of available budget.

## **22. British Army Flying: Discovering stories of Courage, Comradeship and innovation**

**CSEE 2016 (2) 22**

Applicant: The Museum of Army Flying

Request: First round pass of £1,700,500 including development grant of £182,500 (75% of total eligible development costs)

Project: Aims to revitalise the Museum of Army Flying. Existing spaces would be reconfigured to meet current standards in visitor experience, accommodate improved displayed and support future income generation. There would be new interpretation at the gallery as well as a range of activities such as a programme of talks and presentations, a research and oral history project, the revamp and expansion of volunteering and family focused initiatives.

The Committee considered the project a high priority for support and awarded a first round pass of £1,700,500 including development grant of £182,500 (75% of total eligible development costs)

## **23. Rediscovering Walmer Pleasure Grounds**

**CSEE 2016 (2) 23**

Applicant: English Heritage

Request: First round pass of £1,483,800 including a development grant of £113,800 (61% of total eligible development costs)

Project: Aims to restore the pleasure grounds of Walmer Castle, revealing a hidden period of its history. Historical landscaping would be restored and access improved to the entire western half of the garden. A children's play trail would be created through woodland which would incorporate the story of Walmer Castle. There would also be nature trails and engagement areas for children, as well as improved access for disabled visitors including the creation of a new path to create a circular accessible route.

The Committee considered the project a high priority for support, but rejected it in light of the available budget.

## **24. Creating Inspirational Access to 50 Years of Cultural Heritage at Modern Art Oxford**

**CSEE 2016 (2) 24**

Applicant: Modern Art Oxford

Request: First round pass of £1,505,100 including a development grant of £220,000 (85% of total eligible development costs)

Project: Aims to transfer, catalogue, conserve and improve access to the applicant's archive collection of 70,000 items. This work would be complimented by weekend workshops for local children, a series of talks and seminars, oral history recordings and a community curator's group show.

Overall, the Committee considered the project a low priority for support and rejected it in light of the available budget.

## **25. Beacon Wood Heritage Experience**

**CSEE 2016 (2) 25**

Applicant: Groundwork South Trust Limited

Request: First round pass of £664,200 including development grant of £71,100 (95% of total eligible development costs)

Project: Would focus on the natural and industrial heritage of Beacon Wood Countryside Park. The project would offer increased access through extended habitat management, improvements to pathways and the provision of disabled access. There would also be a heritage trail, a community learning programme and the construction of a multi-use visitor centre and an outdoor classroom space for activity based learning.

The Committee considered the project a medium priority for support and rejected it in light of the available budget.

## **26. Mayflower Theatre Regeneration**

**CSEE 2016 (2) 26**

Applicant: Mayflower Theatre

Request: First round pass of £1,989,900 including development grant of £219,100 (70% of total eligible development costs)

Project: To improve and enhance theatre facilities. There would be large scale refurbishment of the Grade II listed auditorium including access improvements, an extension to create a studio, green room and additional office space and an activity plan including heritage open days, volunteering and fundraising.

The Committee rejected the application due to the concerns raised.

## **27. Prioritisation and feedback of first round items**

**Oral**

The Committee agreed to award first round passes to the following applications which had been identified as high priorities for support:

- Item 20. Runnymede Explored
- Item 22. British Army Flying

The Committee rejected the remaining applications.

## **SF4 second round application for discussion and decision: Heritage Grants**

### **28. Soulbury Three Locks Pumping Station**

**CSEE 2016 (2) 28**

Applicant: Canal & River Trust

Request: Award grant of £390,100 (59%)

Project: Would restore a Grade II listed former pumping house on Aylesbury Vale District Council's 'At Risk' register, for use by a local blacksmith and provide facilities for volunteer lockkeepers. Alongside capital works there would be evening talks on the history of the building, volunteer opportunities to document the restoration work.

First round decision: The Committee awarded a first round pass of £105,700, including development funding of £8,000 (24% of total eligible development costs) in June 2015.

Uplift: £292,500 (299%) due to the applicant underestimating the extent of the restoration work and external landscaping required.

Expert advice was supportive.

The Committee awarded a grant of £390,100 (59%).

### **29. Kent Mining Museum**

**CSEE 2016 (2) 29**

*Bill Ferris left the room for the item.*

Applicant: Hadlow College

Request: Award grant of £1,317,200 (54%)

Project: Would establish the first museum dedicated to Kent's mining heritage in a new visitor centre currently under construction at Betteshanger Country Park. For the first time a significant collection of objects, archives and people's memories would be brought together to tell the social history of Kent's coal mining heritage. As well as capital works there would be an extensive, mixed programme of on-site and outreach activities aimed primarily at the local community and especially families on low incomes.

First round decision: The Committee awarded a first round pass of £1,499,800 including development funding of £215,000 (85% of total eligible development costs)

Uplift: £32,400 (3%) due to additional work identified during the development phase.

The Committee awarded a grant of £1,317,200 (54%)

#### **SF4 second round application for discussion and decision: Grant Increases**

##### **30. Eastgate House – Revised Project Proposal**

**CSEE 2016 (2) 30**

Applicant: Medway Council

Request: Grant increase of £139,500 to make a total grant of £1,420,600 as a result of unforeseen receivership of the lead contractor.

Second round decision: The Committee awarded a grant of £1,281,100 (59%) in December 2012.

Project: Restore the Grade I listed Eastgate House, and to conserve and transform it into a mixed use heritage, arts and cultural facility. Eastgate House occupied a prominent position on Rochester High Street, but was currently open to the public only rarely because of the need for major restoration works. The project would conserve the fabric of the house and open it up to the public. Learning and volunteering opportunities would be delivered.

Expert advice was supportive.

The Committee awarded a grant increase of £139,500 to make a total grant of £1,420,600.

##### **31. The Pugin and St Augustine education, research and visitor centre, Ramsgate**

**CSEE 2016 (2) 31**

Applicant: The Trustees of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Southwark Diocesan Trust

Request: Grant Increase of £230,700 to make a total grant of £827,200 as a result of the increase in prices against the agreed fixed price tender and an increase in costs for both historic and new build elements.

Second round decision: The Committee awarded a grant of £596,500 in June 2015.

Project: The restoration of the historic church and the improvement of public engagement with, and understanding of, the work of AWN Pugin and the role of St Augustine in establishing Christianity in England. Public access and visitor facilities would be improved and interpretation would be provided at the church. The visitor offer would include new interpretation, guided tours and a range of activities.

Expert advice was supportive.

The Committee awarded a grant Increase of £230,700 to make a total grant of £827,200.

## Grants for Places of Worship

### 32. Grants for Places of Worship overview and applications

CSEE 2016 (2) 32

The Committee made the following decisions:

Project Name	Applicant	DECISION
Urgent repairs to the Tower, North Porch and Drains of St Edburg's Church, Bicester	St Edburg's Church, Bicester	FIRST ROUND PASS OF £200,500 INCLUDING DEVELOPMENT GRANT OF £19,500 (83% OF TOTAL ELIGIBLE DEVELOPMENT COSTS)
Complete roof repairs, to wind and weather proof the building and prevent further internal damage	St Winfrid's Church, Totton	FIRST ROUND PASS OF £204,700 INCLUDING DEVELOPMENT GRANT OF £34,000 (74% OF TOTAL ELIGIBLE DEVELOPMENT COSTS)
St Mary's Church Frittenden – roof and masonry repairs and new work to improve accessibility	St Mary's Church, Frittenden	FIRST ROUND PASS OF £144,000 INCLUDING DEVELOPMENT GRANT OF £12,900 (55% OF TOTAL ELIGIBLE DEVELOPMENT COSTS)
Halting Deterioration of Iconic, Regency Brighton Unitarian Church Classic Portico	Brighton Unitarian Church	FIRST ROUND PASS OF £210,600 INCLUDING DEVELOPMENT GRANT OF £14,900 (61% OF TOTAL ELIGIBLE DEVELOPMENT COSTS)
St Mary's Church, Oxted – Urgent restoration at imminent risk of fabric loss to Grade 1 building	St Mary's Church, Oxted	FIRST ROUND PASS OF £46,900 INCLUDING DEVELOPMENT GRANT OF £4,200 (35% OF TOTAL ELIGIBLE DEVELOPMENT COSTS)
St Mary's Church, Chartham, restoration project	St Mary's Church, Chartham	REJECT
Roof and drainage repairs at St Peter and St Paul's Church, Thruxton	St Peter & St Paul's Church, Thruxton	REJECT
Urgent fabric repairs and improvements to internal facilities of a Grade 2 listed church	St Catherine's Church, Towersey	REJECT
Chancel Roof Repairs and Restoration of Plastered Ceiling	St Mary's Shaw-cum-Donnington	REJECT



## **SF4 First Round Board application for discussion and recommendation (July Board)**

### **33. Command the Campaigns: unlocking the heritage of the Royal Engineers**

**CSEE 2016 (2) 33**

Applicant: Royal Engineers Museum

Request: First round pass of £3,625,900 including development grant of £213,100 (67% of total eligible development grants)

Project: Aims to bring together the museum, library and archive collections of the Royal Engineers Museum which are currently held across two different locations. The storage conditions were poor and the material not easily accessible to the public. The project would move REMLA's object store to a recently renovated building close to the museum, build a new mezzanine floor in the main building to house the library and archive, and create new displays in the existing WW1 and WW2 galleries.

The Committee for South East England considered that the project represented a medium priority (2 of 2) for support. The Board would determine the application in July.

### **34. RHS Garden Wisley**

**CSEE 2016 (2) 34**

Applicant: Royal Horticultural Society

Request: First round pass of £4,812,200 including development grant of £212,000 (25% of total eligible development costs)

Project: Would develop the historic Grade II\* Wisley Garden as a major flagship hub for horticulture. The bid would create the first national Centre for Horticultural Science and Learning. Alongside capital works there would be a 4 year programme of activities which would include temporary exhibitions, digital tours through apps, education and learning materials, 6 horticultural apprentices and 8 graduate work placements.

The Committee for South East England considered that the project represented a high priority (2 of 2) for support. The Board would determine the application in July.

### **35. Bucks County Museum - Widening our Horizons**

**CSEE 2016 (2) 35**

Applicant: Buckinghamshire County Museum Trust

Request: First round pass of £4,377,300 including development grant of £323,600 (69% of total eligible development funding).

Project: Would transform the offer at Buckinghamshire County Museum by creating more coherent and accessible gallery spaces. Capital works would be complimented by a range of activities such as a programme of traditional craft and natural history workshops, large scale subject-based fairs and in-gallery object based activities targeted at school age and lifelong learners. An outreach programme would also engage local schools, increase the museum's social media presence and extend the museum's geographical reach through off-site activities.

Overall, The Committee recommended the project as a medium priority (1 of 2) for support. The Board would determine the application in July.

### **36. Kelmscott and Morris: Past, Present and Future**

**CSEE 2016 (2) 36**

Applicant: Society of Antiquaries of London

Request: First round pass of £4,664,600 including a development grant of £334,800 (78% of total eligible development costs)

Project: Would explore the impact that Kelmscott had on William Morris and his enduring worldwide legacy. The project would open up more of the site to the public, introduce a learning programme, create new educational facilities, improve amenities for visitors and staff and enhance the setting of the Manor and surrounding natural environment.

The Committee for South East England considered that the project represented a high priority (1 of 2) for support. The Board would determine the application in July.

### **37. Prioritisation**

**Oral**

The Committee prioritised the Board cases as follows:

- Item 36. Kelmscott and Morris: Past, Present and Future: high priority 1 of 2
- Item 34. RHS Garden Wisley: high priority 2 of 2
- Item 35. Bucks County Museum - Widening our Horizons: medium priority 1 of 2
- Item 33. Command the Campaigns: unlocking the heritage of the Royal Engineers: medium priority 2 of 2

### **Papers for Information**

#### **38. Communications Report**

**CSEE 2016 (2) 38**

The Committee noted the report.

#### **39. Corporate Update (*Minutes of the March, April and May Board meetings will circulated separately via email*)**

**CSEE 2016 (2) 39**

The Committee noted the update.

#### **40. Business Plan 2016-17 (*via email*)**

**CSEE 2016 (2) 40**

The Committee noted the report. Any other business

**Oral**

There was none.

**The next meeting will be held on 21 September 2016.**