

Heritage Lottery Fund: Committee for the South West Meeting on 20 September 2016

CSW 2016 (3) Minutes

Minutes of the meeting of the Committee for the South West held on 20 September at 10:00 a.m. in the Pearson Education Centre at Exeter Cathedral.

Members:

- Stephen Boyce (Chair)
- Phil Collins
- Tamsin Daniel
- Sue Minter
- Wilbert Smith
- Evelyn Stacey
- Sarah Staniforth

Apologies

- David Heathcoat-Amory (NHMF Trustee)

Committee Business

1. Welcome and apologies

Apologies were noted from David Heathcoat-Amory.

2. Chair's Report

Oral

The Chair highlighted his key activities since the last meeting:

- A number of site visits, including the Bristol Old Vic
- A number of events, including the cheque presentation at the Tank Museum and the exhibition opening at Salisbury Cathedral for the Aspire project

The Chair expressed thanks to Tamsin Daniel for arranging a worthwhile trip to Cornwall involving a number of project visits.

3. Declarations of Interest

Oral

Evelyn Stacey declared a conflict of interest in *All the Moor Butterflies* (item 14) as she was a member of the Exmoor National Parks Authority Board, which was a partner in the project. She would leave the room for the discussion of the item.

Wilbert Smith declared a conflict of interest in *Cranborne Chase LPS* (item 21) as his employer, East Dorset District Council, was a partner in the project. He would leave the room for the discussion of the item.

Sarah Staniforth declared an interest in four projects:

- Item 10 - *Building Resilient Woodlands in the South West*
- Item 14 - *All the Moor Butterflies Conserving the South West's threatened moorland butterflies and moths*
- Item 22 - *Quantock Hills Landscape*

- Item 23 - *Bathscape*

The National Trust, who employed her as a consultant, was a partner in each project however she had not had any personal involvement with any of the projects. Committee were content they did not represent conflicts.

Sarah Staniforth also declared an interest in two applications for Grants for Places of Worship from churches in Gloucestershire: St Stephen's Church, Cinderford (item 16.H) and St Peter's Church, Windrush (item 16.I). as she was a member of the Gloucester Diocesan Advisory Committee. She had not had personal contact with either church and Committee were content this did not represent a conflict of interest.

Phil Collins declared an interest in four projects:

- Item 10 - *Building Resilient Woodlands in the South West*
- Item 14 - *All the Moor Butterflies Conserving the South West's threatened moorland butterflies and moths*
- Item 22 - *Quantock Hills Landscape*
- Item 23 – *Bathscape*

The National Trust was a partner in each application, who had been his employer until March 2016. Committee were content that this did not represent a conflict of interest.

4. Minutes of the last meeting on 21 June 2016

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The minutes were agreed as a true record of the meeting.

5. Matters arising from the minutes

Oral

There were none.

Committee noted the outcomes for the South West cases that had gone to Board.

6. South West Regional Overview

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Nerys Watts provided an overview of activities in the South West region since the last Committee meeting.

Committee noted that the Great Places scheme had garnered a high level of interest and that the deadline for expressions of interest to be received was 06 October 2016.

7. South West Budget

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Julie Cooper provided an overview of the paper, noting that five first round Heritage Grant applications had been received totalling £3,670,100 against a budget of £1.9million. The round would be competitive and Committee would be required to prioritise.

SF4 First round applications for discussion and decision – Heritage Grants

8. The Heart of Westonbirt

CSW 2016 (3) 8

Applicant: The Holfords of Westonbirt Trust

Request: First round pass of £993,000 including development grant of £73,000 (71% of total eligible development costs)

Project: A 3-year project to transform access and restore the built features of Westonbirt Gardens which are in urgent need of repair. Target audiences for the project were younger children and

families, schools and senior adults. Capital works would reinstate lost and missing heritage details. A programme of activities and events would be delivered. 60 volunteers would be recruited and trained to work in the garden. A variety of interpretation would be put in place.

Committee agreed that the project was a medium priority for support and **AWARDED** a first round pass of £993,000 including development grant of £73,000 (71% of total eligible development costs)

9. Purchase and registration of chalk grassland priority habitat at Coombe Bissett, Wiltshire

CSW 2016 (3) 9

Applicant: Wiltshire Wildlife Trust

Request: First round pass of £848,200 including development grant of £34,100 (95% of total eligible development costs)

Project: The purchase of an area of land near Salisbury, Wiltshire, and restore it to chalk grassland, a declining habitat that supports a number of priority plant and animal species. A three-year programme of learning, volunteering and community engagement opportunities would be delivered. A range of interpretation materials would be created and capital works undertaken to make the site more accessible and improve visitor facilities.

Committee agreed that the project was a high priority for support and **AWARDED** a first round pass of £848,200 including development grant of £34,100 (95% of total eligible development costs).

10. Building Resilient Woodlands in the South West

CSW 2016 (3) 10

Applicant: Plantlife International

Request: First round pass of £504,400 including development grant of £69,800 (80% of total eligible development costs)

Project: A three-year partnership project to deliver conservation, education and volunteer activities focussing on Atlantic woodlands in Devon, Somerset and Cornwall to help secure a future for the rich but declining populations of rare lower plants. Conservation management would be delivered at 6 sites and a public engagement programme delivered.

Committee agreed that the project was a medium priority for support and **REJECTED** the application in the light of the concerns raised. A resubmission would be welcomed.

11. Tolpuddle Old Chapel Trust – Saving the Martyrs' Legacy

CSW 2016 (3) 11

Applicant: Tolpuddle Old Chapel Trust

Request: First round pass of £393,000 including development grant of £63,700 (65% of total eligible development costs)

Project: To address the repair needs of the Grade II* listed former Methodist chapel, bringing the building into public use, creating a quiet place for visitors. Capital works would repair and restore the chapel and install new heating and lighting. A new extension would be built providing a space for schools and community groups. A range of interpretation would be developed and new learning opportunities delivered.

Committee agreed that the project was a high priority for support and **AWARDED** a first round pass of £393,000 including development grant of £63,700 (65% of total eligible development costs)

12. Pewsham's hidden past – the story of a lost canal

CSW 2016 (3) 12

Applicant: Wilts & Berks Canal Trust

Request: First round pass of £931,500 including development grant of £81,500 (57% of total eligible development costs)

Project: To restore the Pewsham Locks site on the Wilts and Berks canal, in partnership with Chippenham Town Council, and tell the story of the canal through a new exhibition at the Museum. On-site interpretation would be developed and installed, and a programme of visits, walks and activities would be created for the local community. A Learning and Engagement Officer would be appointed. A schools programme would be delivered and a range of training opportunities made available for volunteers and participants.

Committee agreed that the project was a medium priority for support and **REJECTED** the application in the light of the concerns raised. A strengthened resubmission would be welcomed.

13. Prioritisation of first round items

During the case by case discussions, the Committee considered that:

- *Purchase and registration of chalk grassland priority habitat at Coombe Bissett, Wiltshire* (item 9) and *Tolpuddle Old Chapel Trust – Saving the Martyrs' Legacy* (item 11) were high priorities for support
- *The Heart of Westonbirt* (item 8); *Building Resilient Woodlands in the South West* (item 10) and *Pewsham's hidden past – the story of a lost canal* (item 12) were medium priorities for support.

Committee agreed to award first round passes to the high priority cases.

Committee discussed the merits of the three remaining medium priority cases in light of the budget available. Committee agreed that concerns with *The Heart of Westonbirt* (item 8) around partnership working and community engagement plans could be addressed during the development phase. A first round pass was awarded.

The two remaining medium priority applications were rejected.

SF4 Second round applications for discussion and decision – Heritage Grants

14. All the Moor Butterflies - Conserving the South West's threatened moorland butterflies and moths

CSW 2016 (3) 14

Evelyn Stacey declared a conflict of interest and left the room for the discussion of the item.

Grantee: Butterfly Conservation

Request: A grant of £318,100 (66% of total eligible delivery costs)

Project: A three-year landscape-scale partnership project to conserve Britain's most threatened Priority Lepidoptera species across 3 South West Moorlands. A range of participation, training and engagement activities would be delivered to raise awareness of the species among landowners, volunteers and the general public. The application was a partnership led by the applicant and

including the National Trust, Dartmoor National Park Authority, Exmoor National Park Authority, Cornwall AONB, Natural England, South Penquite Farm and the Environment Agency.

First round pass: Committee awarded a first round pass of £338,800 including a development grant of £22,700 (52 % total eligible development costs) in November 2014.

Committee **AWARDED** a grant of £318,100 (66% of total eligible delivery costs).

15. Restoration of Dawes Twine Works to create a functioning C19th Twine Works

CSW 2016 (3) 15

Grantee: Coker Rope and Sail Trust

Request: A grant of £404,000 (67% of total eligible delivery costs)

Project: To complete the restoration of Dawes Twine Works for use as an educational, tourist, heritage and community facility. A new building would provide a presentation/activity space, reception/shop and toilet facilities.

First round pass: Committee had awarded a first round pass of £296,000 including a development grant of £32,600 (52% of eligible development costs)

Committee **AWARDED** a grant of £404,000 (67% of total eligible delivery costs)

16. Grants for Places of Worship applications

CSW 2016 (3) 16

11 first round applications with a grant request of £1,912,300 had been received against a regional budget of £750,000.

At the initial sift, Historic England agreed that five cases were very urgent, but the remaining six cases were not considered to be as immediately urgent and it was agreed that these six cases would not be taken forward to further assessment.

The five urgent cases underwent full assessment and Historic England provided detailed technical advice to establish the urgency of the repair works, also considering whether repair work could be phased. HLF assessment has also looked at how well the applications met outcomes for communities. These factors have been used to arrive at an overall priority for the batch.

At detailed assessment Historic England confirmed that all five cases were still in urgent need of repair. The total grant requested by these five was £1,119,000, significantly over the budget of £750,000 and Committee would need to prioritise.

Committee made the following decisions:

Item	Project Title	Applicant	Decision
16.A	Leigh on Mendip Church Repair & Community Heritage Hub	Leigh on Mendip with Downhead PCC	FIRST ROUND PASS OF £227,800, INCLUDING DEVELOPMENT GRANT OF £25,100 (53% OF TOTAL ELIGIBLE DEVELOPMENT COSTS)
16.B	Urgent Roof and Ceiling Repairs to improve community building use	St Margaret's Church, Northam	FIRST ROUND PASS OF £250,000, INCLUDING DEVELOPMENT GRANT OF

Item	Project Title	Applicant	Decision
			£25,600 (69% OF TOTAL ELIGIBLE DEVELOPMENT COSTS)
16.C	St Pancras Church roof repairs 2016	St Pancras Church, Pancrasweek Devon EX22 7Js	FIRST ROUND PASS OF £248,800, INCLUDING DEVELOPMENT GRANT OF £25,000 (56% OF TOTAL ELIGIBLE DEVELOPMENT COSTS)
16.D	St Dunstan Restoration	Bournemouth Poole Orthodox Christian Foundation	FIRST ROUND PASS OF £161,200, INCLUDING DEVELOPMENT GRANT OF £25,400 (63% OF TOTAL ELIGIBLE DEVELOPMENT COSTS)
16.E	Creation of community space for the village of Isle Brewers	Isle Brewers PCC and Village community of Isle Brewers	REJECT
16.F	Essential spire and tower repair works to St Mary the Virgin Church, Par	St Mary the Virgin Church, Biscovey, Par	REJECT
16.G	Holy Trinity Church Nave Roof and Tower Masonry Restoration	Holy Trinity Church Milton Damerel	REJECT
16.H	St Stephen's Church, Cinderford: Urgent Building Fabric Repairs and Community Project	The Parish of St Stephen's Cinderford with Bilson Mission	REJECT
16.I	Repair and renovation of 12th century church	St Peter's Church, Windrush	REJECT

Item	Project Title	Applicant	Decision
16.J	St Sampson's Church, Cricklade: Urgent Building Fabric Repairs and Community Project."	PCC of Cricklade	REJECT
16.K	Fix the floor	St Johns Glastonbury	REJECT

Committee noted there had been three Round 2 churches decided at delegated Batch level by Head of Region since the last Committee meeting.

- GP-14-06454 St Petroc's Church, Padstow (Grant of £175,000)
- GP-13-10843 Emmanuel Church, Weston-Super-Mare (Grant of £160,000)
- GP-14-09090 Repairs to the Tower of the Cathedral in the Forest (Grant of £111,600)

SF4 first round Board applications for discussion and recommendation (September) – Heritage Grants and Heritage Enterprise

17. Bristol's Victorian Magistrates Court Restoration and Regeneration Project

CSW 2016 (3) 17

Applicant: Creative Youth Network

Request: First round pass of £4,406,000 including development grant of £316,000 (61% of total eligible development costs)

Project: To restore the Grade II listed Old Magistrates Court in central Bristol and convert the spaces for mixed use to support the on-going work of the Creative Youth Network, providing financial security. The historically significant parts of the building would be fully conserved and restored for use as a multipurpose venue space, enabling public access. Other less historically significant spaces would be restored and adapted for use as office space and other commercial purposes. An interpretation scheme would be developed and the restoration would be used as an exemplar training project for young people.

Committee recommended the application to the Board as a **HIGH** Priority. Board would determine the application in September 2016.

SF4 second round Board applications for discussion and recommendation (September) – Heritage Grants and Heritage Enterprise

18. The Archway Centre: Roman Baths Learning Centre and World Heritage Site

CSW 2016 (3) 18

Grantee: Bath and North East Somerset Council

Request: Award grant of £3,375,800 (69%)

Project: A project to create the Archway Centre, which would interpret Bath's significance as a World Heritage Site, directing visitors to other key locations in the city. The provision of learning services at the Roman Baths would also be transformed, with the former Bath City Laundry buildings would be conserved and adapted for this use. Previously hidden underground areas of the Baths complex would be opened up for visitors and interpreted.

First Round award: Board had awarded a first round pass of £3,544,800 including a development grant of £168,100 (77% of total eligible development costs)

Committee recommended the application to the Board as a **HIGH** Priority. Board would determine the application in September 2016.

19. Protecting and Sharing the heritage of Britain's oldest theatre

CSW 2016 (3) 19

Grantee: Bath and North East Somerset Council

Request: A grant of £2,264,200 (81%)

Project: The third phase of a major renovation of the entire theatre complex, which would protect, celebrate and animate the history of the theatre. The architectural integrity of the Coopers Hall would be restored, returning the building to its original Georgian configuration and dimensions. Work would be undertaken in partnership with the University of Bristol and the Bristol Records Office to catalogue and conserve the archives and the materials would inform the interpretation plans. A combination of displayed items and digital interpretation would create a layered approach, attractive theatre audiences and other new heritage audiences. New posts would be created to support the project.

First Round pass: Board had awarded a first round pass of £2,473,400 including a development grant of £209,200 (84% of total eligible development costs) in July 2015

Committee recommended the application to the Board as a **HIGH** Priority. Board would determine the application in September 2016.

SF4 first round Board applications for discussion and recommendation (October) – Landscape Partnerships

20. Landscape Partnerships Overview

CSW 2016 (3) 20

Committee noted the report.

21. Cranborne Chase LPS

CSW 2016 (3) 21

Wilbert Smith declared a conflict of interest and left the room for the discussion of the item.

Applicant: Cranborne Chase and West Wiltshire Downs AONB

Request: First round pass of £1,782,000 including development grant of £105,400 (71% of total eligible development costs)

Project: Three programmes of work, Natural Landscapes, Historic Landscapes and Cultural Landscapes, would be supported by a volunteer and youth programme. The landscape focuses on the traditional heart of the Cranborne Chase, the Medieval Royal hunting ground, the chalk river

valley in the north of the area and the downland of the Chase. This was the third application for this project.

Committee recommended the application to the Board as a **HIGH Priority (1 of 2)**. Board would determine the application in October 2016.

22. Quantock Hills Landscape

CSW 2016 (3) 22

Applicant: Quantock Hills AONB Service

Request: First round pass of £2,105,900 including development grant of £85,400 (89% of total eligible development costs)

Project: A five-year scheme of 23 projects that would focus on the farmland fringe, parkland landscape, orchards, woodlands and the historic role of the large estates on the area. The scheme would also explore the cultural and natural heritage of the Quantock Hills.

Committee recommended the application to the Board as a **MEDIUM Priority**. Board would determine the application in October 2016.

23. Bathscape – revitalising our landscape for people, communities and heritage

CSW 2016 (3) 23

Applicant: Bath and North East Somerset Council

Request: First round pass of £1,832,000 including development grant of £176,800 (77% of total eligible development costs)

Project: To reconnect people and communities with Bath's unique landscape setting. 27 projects were proposed across 4 themes: Conserving and restoring; Therapeutic Landscapes; Access; Learning, Training and Skills. The landscape was the setting surrounding the City of Bath World Heritage Site, largely visible from with Bath and lying across the southern edge of the Cotswold AONB.

Committee recommended the application to the Board as a **HIGH Priority (2 of 2)**. Board would determine the application in October 2016.

Prioritisation

Wilbert Smith declared a conflict of interest and left the room for the ranking of the high priority cases.

Committee agreed the ranking of the two high priority applications as follows:

- High priority 1 of 2 - *Cranborne Chase LPS* (item 21)
- High priority 2 of 2 - *Bathscape – revitalising our landscape for people, communities and heritage* (item 23)

Papers for Information

24. Corporate Update

CSW 2016 (3) 24

Committee noted the paper.

25. Communications Report

CSW 2016 (3) 25

Committee noted the report.

26. Any other business

CSW 2016 (3) 26

The Chair noted he would be attending the Country and Regional Chairs meeting on 11 October 2016 and requested that Committee members let him know of any items they would like raised at the meeting.

The **next meeting** will be held on **6 December 2016**.