

# Heritage Lottery Fund Committee for the West Midlands Meeting on 8 December 2015

CWM 2015 (4) Minutes

**Minutes of the meeting held on 8 December 2015 at 10:00a.m. in the Birmingham Office, 3rd Floor, Grosvenor House, 14 Bennetts Hill, Birmingham, B2 5RS**

**Present:** Les Sparks (Chairman)  
Sue Beardsmore  
Marion Blockley  
Ian Grosvenor  
Izzy Mohammed  
Jude Pilgrim  
Alan Taylor  
Tom Tew

**Attending** Manisha Patel, Big Lottery Fund representative (items 3 and 4)  
Alison Wedgwood

## 1. Chair's report

**Oral**

The Chair:

- welcomed Vanessa Harbar to her first meeting as Head of Region
- welcomed Alison Wedgwood who was attending as an observer as part of her induction prior to joining the Committee on 1 April 2016
- welcomed Manisha Patel, Big Lottery Fund's representative, who was attending for the Parks for People discussions

The Chair congratulated Sue Beardsmore on her appointment to the position of Chair from 1 April 2016.

## 2. Declarations of Interest

**Oral**

Alan Taylor declared conflicts of interest in:

- Claymills Victorian Pumping Station (item 9) as he had worked with the applicants for over 15 years while at English Heritage and still offered informal advice on the project
- Ingestre Orangery (item 10) as he had worked with the applicants at an earlier stage of the project whilst at English Heritage and has been supporting them over another planning matter in the area during 2015.

Alan Taylor also mentioned that he:

- knew the landscape architects and some of the local volunteers involved in the Pump Room Gardens (item 4). He confirmed that he had not discussed the application with them
- had previously managed the Historic England support officer who had helped compile the application for St Edmund King and Martyr PCC, Dudley (GPOW Item 14). He confirmed that he had no knowledge of the proposals.

The Committee was content that neither of these connections constituted a conflict of interest.

## SF4 Second round applications for discussion and recommendation

- **Parks for People: December Board**

### 3. **Parks for People Overview**

**CWM 2015 (4) 3**

*Parks for People* was a UK wide bi-annual programme. In England the programme was jointly funded by Heritage Lottery Fund / Big Lottery Fund. For this batch of applications, nine first round applications had been received. There were no first round applications and one second round application from the West Midlands.

The Committee noted the overview.

### 4. **Pump Room Gardens, Warwick Restoring their Heritage to Health; PP-13-05908**

**CWM 2015 (4) 4**

Warwick District Council sought a grant of £995,600 (68% of eligible delivery costs) to restore the 2.2 hectare, Grade II listed Pump Room Gardens in the centre of Royal Leamington Spa to its former 19th century splendour. The Gardens formed part of a connected chain of parks along the River Leam, collectively known as the Spa Gardens. Capital works would include the restoration of key Regency features, land drainage to address waterlogging problems and restoration of the 1889 bandstand. An associated programme of learning and participation opportunities would be delivered.

The HLF Board and BLF England Parks for People Committee had awarded a first round pass including development funding in December 2013. Project costs had increased due to an increase in capital costs, contingency, inflation and project management fees. The applicant had increased its contribution to partnership funding by £197,000. An uplift of £143,445 was sought to cover the remaining shortfall.

The HLF Committee and BLF representative agreed and recommended the project as a **HIGH PRIORITY** for support. The HLF Board and BLF England Parks for People Committee would determine the application in December 2015.

### 5. **Minutes of last meeting on 22 September 2015**

**CWM 2015 (4) 5**

The minutes were approved and signed as a true and correct record subject to the inclusion of Marion Blockley in the list of attendees.

### 6. **Matters arising from the Minutes**

**Oral**

- **Item 8. White House Visitor Centre, Stourbridge; HG-15-01744**

In response to enquiries about the potential impact of the potential closure of Dudley Museum, Officers confirmed that the project would be closely monitored and regular updates requested.

### 7. **West Midlands Overview Report**

**CWM 2015 (4) 7**

Vanessa Harbar, Head of West Midlands, presented the overview report for the period 22 September to 26 November 2015.

#### i) **Development Work**

The Committee noted that the Development Team's youth engagement activities were resulting in good quality applications.

#### ii) **Staff Training**

Jude Pilgrim was thanked for arranging a successful Coppice Training day at Park Wood, Malvern for the team.

The Committee noted the report.

## 8. West Midlands Budget

CWM 2015 (4) 8

Vanessa Harbar, Head of Region, presented the budget paper which set the context for the Committee's decision taking for the 2015/2016 financial year.

The Committee noted that for this meeting the:

- notional grants budget was £2,100,000. There were no second round applications and four SF4 first round development grants totalling £108,700.
- notional first round pass budget for the meeting was £2,520,350. Applications totalling £2,353,300 had been received.

The Committee noted the tabled pipeline of applications for the March 2016 meeting.

The Committee noted the additional background information from the Director of Finance about the mid-year review of programme budgets and the end of year arrangements which had been circulated with the papers.

### SF4 First round applications for discussion and decision

- Heritage Grants

## 9. Claymills Victorian Pumping Station; HG-14-02853

CWM 2015 (4) 9

Applicant: Claymills Pumping Engines Trust Ltd

*Alan Taylor declared a conflict of interest and left the room during the discussion of this item.*

Project: To primarily construct a new visitor centre on the site of a Grade II\* listed, Victorian Steam Pumping Station, located near Burton on Trent. The centre would provide educational/study space and improved visitor facilities and an opportunity to improve interpretation. The overall aim was to improve the sustainability of the Pumping Station.

The Committee agreed the project as a low priority for support. In the light of concerns raised, the Committee **REJECTED** the application for a first round pass of £1,225,600 including a development grant of £47,600 (48% of total eligible development costs).

## 10. Ingestre Orangery - A Sustainable Restoration Project; HG-15-00672

CWM 2015 (4) 10

Applicant: Friends of Ingestre Orangery

*Alan Taylor declared a conflict of interest and left the room during the discussion of this item.*

Project: To restore the Grade II listed Ingestre Orangery as a heritage centre with community space at the rear in a new structure termed a 'pod'. The Orangery was the only unrestored building in the Ingestre Conservation Area. Interpretation would cover the Chetwynd family, the use of the Orangery and the other buildings on the estate, and the people who lived and worked there. A programme of associated learning and participation opportunities would include archival research, and a new heritage walk through Ingestre's Capability Brown designed landscape.

The Committee agreed the project as a high priority for support and **AWARDED** a first round pass of £557,100 including a development grant of £48,900 (69% of total eligible development costs).

## 11. The Send-off - Shropshire Remembers; HG-15-02438

CWM 2015 (4) 11

Applicant: Shropshire Council

Project: To commemorate the centenary of the last two years of the First World War including the armistice, and the life and death of Wilfred Owen, one of the most famous war poets,. Project outputs

would include an online resource with information about the men who served during the War with the King's Shropshire Light Infantry, Shropshire Royal Horse Artillery and Shropshire Yeomanry. The project would culminate in an event on the centenary of Wilfred Owen's death in November 2018 at Oswestry, Owen's birthplace. A programme of learning and participation activities would be delivered.

The Committee agreed that the application was a low priority for support. In the light of concerns raised, the Committee **REJECTED** the application for a first round pass of £280,900 including a development grant of £8,000 (73% of total eligible development costs).

**12. Holy Trinity Parish Church  
the jewels in Sutton Coldfield's crown; HG-14-10022** **CWM 2015 (4) 12**  
Applicant: Holy Trinity Parish Church of Sutton Coldfield

Project: To provide new opportunities for people to engage with and learn about the heritage of the Grade I listed Holy Trinity Church located in Sutton Coalfield and to enhance the visitor experience. Capital works would include the construction of a new visitor entrance, the repair of a notable window in the west of the church and repair of the ceiling under the tower painted by C.E Bateman in the Arts and Crafts style. A programme of learning and participation opportunities would be delivered.

The Committee agreed that the application was a low priority for support. In the light of concerns raised, the Committee **REJECTED** the application for a first round pass of £289,700 including a development grant of £4,200 (81% of eligible development costs).

**13. Prioritisation of and feedback on first round items** **Oral**

*Alan Taylor declared a conflict of interest and left the room during the discussion of this item.*

During the case by case discussions, the Committee had agreed that:

- *Ingestre Orangery - A Sustainable Restoration Project* (item 10) was a high priority for support
- *Claymills Victorian Pumping Station* (item 9), *The Send-off - Shropshire Remembers* (item 11) and *Holy Trinity Parish Church - the jewels in Sutton Coldfield's crown* (item 12) were a low priority for support.

The Committee awarded a first round pass with development funding to *Ingestre Orangery - A Sustainable Restoration Project* (item 10) and rejected *Claymills Victorian Pumping Station* (item 9), *The Send-off - Shropshire Remembers* (item 11) and *Holy Trinity Parish Church - the jewels in Sutton Coldfield's crown* (item 12).

- **Grants for Places of Worship**

**14. Applications for Places of Worship in the West Midlands** **CWM 2015 (4) 14**

The Grants for Places of Worship scheme was a targeted, UK wide programme to support the urgent structural repair needs of listed places of worship. The programme also aimed to support congregations by involving more people from their wider communities in caring for, using and understanding the heritage of the buildings.

In this batch of applications, six first round applications with a grant request of £924,300 were received against a regional budget of £469,595.

Five second round applications with uplifts had been received during the quarter. Two had been approved under the delegated authority of the Head of Region. The three remaining were presented to the Committee for decision because they were either above the delegated authority threshold or included a re-scoping of the project:

- St Georges Church, Rodington (GP-13-20850) sought a grant award of £146,000 (71%) including an uplift on the first round award of £46,100 (46%) due to increased capital works

- Pershore Abbey (GP-13-10967) sought a grant award of £72,600 (75%) including an uplift of £1,000 (1%) due to an increase in costs following the tender process. *See note of annotation below*
- Holy Trinity Church, Coventry (GP-13-07768) sought a grant of £223,900 (77%) including an uplift of £4,000 (2%). Due to tender costs being higher than anticipated the project had been re-scoped to ensure the grant request was within the programme's upper limit of £250,000.

The Committee made the following decisions:

Item	Project Title	Applicant	Decision	Project number
<b>SF4 Second round applications</b>				
14a.	Roof and Refurbish 2014-2015	St Georges Church, Rodington	AWARD GRANT OF £146,000 (71%)	GP-13-20859
14b.	Pershore Abbey Urgent Roof Repairs to Protect Historic Ploughshare Ceiling	Pershore Abbey	AWARD GRANT OF £72,600 (75%)  <i>Note of annotation: The amount of the award was reduced from £86,500 (89%) after the meeting as it emerged that the GPOW paper had not been updated following a reduction in the grant amount because the grantee had not included Listed Places of Worship VAT scheme payments in the matched funding.</i>	GP-13-10967
14c.	Improving our Welcome	Holy Trinity Church, Coventry	AWARD GRANT OF £223,900 (77%)	GP-13-07768
<b>SF4 First round applications</b>				
14d.	Repair and regeneration of 'Bottom Church' - Dudley St Edmund King and Martyr; Phase One	St Edmund King and Martyr PCC, Dudley	FIRST ROUND PASS OF £174,300 INCLUDING DEVELOPMENT GRANT OF £16,000 (70% OF TOTAL ELIGIBLE DEVELOPMENT COSTS)	GP-15-01151
14e.	Urgent Structural repairs to St Mary's Church Atherstone	Parochial Church Council of St Mary's Atherstone	FIRST ROUND PASS OF £250,000 INCLUDING DEVELOPMENT GRANT OF £13,700 (58% OF TOTAL ELIGIBLE DEVELOPMENT COSTS)	GP-15-02923
14f.	Renewing 135 year old roofing of St Alban the Martyr Church, Highgate, Birmingham	St Alban's Church, Highgate	REJECT	GP-15-03127
14g.	Waterproofing works and roof repairs	Brockmoor St John's	REJECT	GP-15-02184

14h.	St Andrew's Church, Ombersley - Repair of East Windows	St Andrews Church Ombersley	REJECT	GP-15-02139
14i.	Urgent repair work to high level structural stonework including parapets, coping stones & associated works	St. Andrews Parish Church, Shifnal	REJECT	GP-15-07169

The cases marked:

- 14f) and g) were rejected in the light of the available budget
- 14h) and i) were rejected due to insufficient urgency compared to others in the batch.

#### **SF4 First round applications for discussion and recommendation**

- **Townscape Heritage: January Board**

#### **15. Townscape Heritage Overview**

**CWM 2015 (4) 15**

Sara Crofts, Head of Historic Environment, presented the overview. Townscape Heritage was an annual programme with a budget of £14m. For this batch 22 first round applications had been received. There was one application from the West Midlands. It was confirmed that the Board had decided to discuss individually all the high and medium priority projects rather than adopt an alternative decision-making process whereby a batch of recommendations for award would be proposed by an advisory panel.

The Committee noted the overview.

#### **16. The Burges Quarter Townscape Initiative; TH-15-03109**

**CWM 2015 (4) 16**

Applicant: Charterhouse Coventry Preservation Trust

Project: To enhance three streets of The Burges area of Coventry, one of the oldest parts of this medieval city, through building conservation, gap site redevelopment, economic revival and community education. Public realm works would include opening-up parts of the River Sherbourne (at the rear of the area) for public access and community activities. A programme of learning and participation opportunities would be delivered.

The Committee recommended that this application for a first round pass of £1,997,000 including a development grant of £172,000 (89% of total eligible development costs) was a **HIGH PRIORITY** for support. The Board would determine the application in January 2016.

- **Heritage Grants: January Board**

#### **17. The Beautiful Burial Ground; HG-14-09080**

**CWM 2015 (4) 17**

Applicant: Caring for God's Acre

Project: To identify and record the heritage of burial grounds located in the West Midlands, East of England, South East and Wales with a view to improving management, interpretation, protection and designation. This cross territory, partnership project aimed to inspire, engage and support local people and communities in learning, researching and surveying the heritage of their local burial grounds. Project outputs would include a burial site database recording biological data.

The Committee recommended this application for a first round pass of £614,400 including a development grant of £17,700 (56% of total eligible development costs) as a **HIGH PRIORITY** for support. The Board would determine the application in January 2016.

## Papers for Information

### 18. Communications Report

CWM 2015 (4) 18

The Committee noted the report.

### 19. Corporate Update

Oral

Anne Jenkins, Deputy Director of Operations, highlighted:

- the changes to Strategic Framework 4 (SF4) arising from the Board's discussions in October, as detailed in the additional information circulated with the papers. Proposals would be worked-up and returned to the Board for further discussion in February 2016. The Committee was pleased to see the references to involving young people in the work of regional and country committees
- the Government's decision to re-open the Listed Places of Worship programme with a budget of £25m.

The Committee noted the minutes of the Board meetings of September and October 2015 which had been circulated via email.

### 20. Regional and Country Chairs minutes of 13 October meeting

CWM 2015 (4) 20

The Committee noted the minutes.

### 21. Overview of Single Round Grants and Delegated Decision Making (Board paper September meeting)

CWM 2015 (4) 21

The Committee noted the annual report.

### 22. Annual Report of the Equality Steering Group (Board paper September meeting)

CWM 2015 (4) 22

The Committee noted the annual report.

### 23. Any other business

Oral

- March Meeting and Awayday

The next meeting of the Committee would be held in Hereford not, as stated on the agenda, in the Birmingham office. The meeting would be followed by an awayday on 2 March 2016.

Sir Peter Luff, NHMF Chair, would attend the meeting.

There was no other business.

**The next meeting will be held on 1 March 2016 in Hereford.**