

Heritage Lottery Fund Committee for the West Midlands Meeting on 22 September 2015

CWM 2015 (3)

Summary report of the meeting held on 22 September 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 (formerly Walker)
Alan Taylor
Tom Tew

1. Chair's report Oral

The Chair reported that since the last meeting he had:

- attended the 21 July Board meeting which had received a presentation about the Royal Society of Arts/HLF Research Project about Heritage Identity and Place. The results of the project would be published on 23 September 2015. He had given a presentation to the Board highlighting a number of projects in the West Midlands
- accompanied the new NHMF/HLF Chair, Sir Peter Luff on his visit to the region on 12 August 2015. Projects visited included Routes2Roots.

The Committee was reminded that the recruitment deadline for a new Chair and a new member from 1 April 2016 was 28 September 2015.

2. Declarations of Interest Oral

Alan Taylor declared conflicts of interest in St Giles Churchyard (item 15) as he knew the landscape architects and had seen their proposals.

Alan Taylor also mentioned that:

- he had attended an event organised by the Birmingham Assay Office (the applicant for item 6) to celebrate completion of the applicant's previous project. He confirmed that the current bid had not been discussed.
- whilst employed by English Heritage he was involved in preliminary enquiries about the White House Visitor Centre (item 8) but was never involved in any substantive discussion and was involved in early discussions about the All Saints Church – Joiners Square (item 13) project and knew the Church Support Officer who had helped prepare the bid.

The Committee was content that these connections did not constitute a conflict of interest.

Marion Blockley:

- declared a conflict of interest in The Roundhouse (item 19) as she was a member of the National Trust's Historic Environment Panel and was currently carrying out consultancy for the Canal & River Trust on a different project.
- mentioned that she had written the Conservation Management Plan for the 2011 Tamworth Castle project, the applicant for Staffordshire Hoard (item 9), and at one point was informally

mentoring the Head of Service. The Committee was content that sufficient time had now elapsed for these to no longer constitute a conflict of interest.

Alan Taylor and Marion Blockley declared conflicts of interest in the application for the Regeneration of the Wedgwood Institute - an innovative enterprise hub for Burslem (referenced in item 20).

3. Minutes of last meeting on 16 June 2015 **CWM 2015 (3) 3**

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

4. Matters arising from the Minutes **Oral**

Heritage Enterprise Training (item 13): Anne Jenkins, Deputy Director of Operations, undertook to speak to the Heritage Enterprise programme manager about hosting a training event on the programme in the West Midlands.

5. West Midlands Budget **CWM 2015 (3) 5**

Anne Jenkins, Deputy Director of Operations, 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 £908,033. Applications totalling £5,107,700 had been received. The Committee noted that it could support all second round applications providing they met the quality and value for money standards.
- first round pass budget for the meeting was £2,445,900. Applications totalling £3,756,600 had been received which meant that the Committee would have to prioritise the applications.

The Committee noted the pipeline of applications for the December meeting.

SF4 First round applications

- **Heritage Grants**

6. Silver Collection, Birmingham **CWM 2015 (3) 6**
Applicant: The Birmingham Assay Office

Project: To create a display area with interpretation, within the applicant's new home in the Jewellery Quarter Conservation Area, for its nationally important Silver and Coin Collection. The project would make this Collection of 2,000 items of silverware, jewellery and coins publicly accessible for the first time and improve the storage of the Collection. The project's wider aims were to widen audiences and encourage people to learn about both the heritage and future opportunities within the industry.

The Committee agreed that the project was a low priority for support and **REJECTED** the application for a first round pass of £289,600 including a development grant of £14,000 (41% of total eligible development funding) in the light of the concerns raised.

7. Withdrawn Item

8. White House Visitor Centre, Stourbridge **CWM 2015 (3) 8**
Applicant: The British Glass Foundation

Project: To fit-out a new museum and visitor centre in the former Newhouse furnace building within the former Stuart Crystal works in Stourbridge to hold Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council's (DMBC) nationally important glass collection which was currently held at Broadfield House Glass Museum. Newhouse was a Grade II listed building. The Collection comprised over 10,000 items spanning 400

years of glassmaking in the UK. Learning and participation opportunities would include a community archaeology project to uncover the remains of the White House Cone.

The Committee agreed that the project was a high priority for support and **AWARDED** a first round pass of £898,200 including a development grant of £118,000 (83% of total eligible development costs).

9. The Staffordshire Hoard: Battle and Tribute, Tamworth **CWM 2015 (3) 9**
Applicant: Tamworth Castle

Project: To create a permanent exhibition displaying more of the Staffordshire Hoard collection along with more objects from their own Anglo-Saxon collection. The project would explore the connections between the military objects in the Staffordshire Hoard, dating from around the 7th century, and the warrior culture of Anglo-Saxon Tamworth which was the capital of Mercia. A programme of learning and participation opportunities would be delivered.

The Committee agreed that the project was a high priority for support and **AWARDED** a first round pass of £519,600 including a development grant of £55,500 (80% of total eligible development costs).

10. The New Standard Works, Birmingham **CWM 2015 (3) 10**
Applicant: Ruskin Mill Land Trust

Project: To restore the derelict, Grade II listed Standard Works building located in Birmingham's Jewellery Quarter. The project was the second phase of a four phase masterplan to provide the building with a new use as a multi-use community facility. Capital works would include the restoration of the façade and the fit out of the Makers' studios, heritage gallery and workshop. An associated programme of learning and participation opportunities would be delivered. The first phase of works, funded outside of this project by the Education Funding Agency, would be completed by September 2015.

The Committee agreed that the project was a high priority for support and **AWARDED** a first round pass of £879,200 including a development grant of £39,800 (73% of total eligible development costs).

The Committee suggested that HLF undertake an evaluation of the long term effect of heritage led regeneration in the Jewellery Quarter.

11. Ball Mill Quarry Wildlife Reserve **CWM 2015 (3) 11**
Applicant: Wildgoose Rural Training

Project: To purchase the 30.2 hectare Ball Mill Quarry located at Church Farm, Grimley, Worcestershire. The applicant intended to relocate their business to the site and divide the site into two zones: i) a learning zone with new training and visitor facilities and office space ii) a habitat zone/wildlife reserve. Interpretation and a programme of learning and participation opportunities aimed at engaging the wider community with the site's natural heritage would be delivered.

The Committee agreed that the project was a medium priority for support and **REJECTED** the application for a first round pass of £1,170,000 including a development grant of £94,200 (84% of total eligible development funding) in the light of the concerns raised.

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

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

- White House Visitor Centre, Stourbridge (item 8), The Staffordshire Hoard: Battle and Tribute, Tamworth (item 9), The New Standard Works, Birmingham (item 10) were a high priority for support
- Ball Mill Quarry Wildlife Reserve (item 11) was a medium priority for support

- Silver Collection, Birmingham (item 6) was a low priority for support

The Committee awarded first round passes with development grants to the three high priority cases and rejected the medium priority and low priority cases.

- **Grants for Places of Worship**

13. Applications for Places of Worship in the West Midlands

CWM 2015 (3) 13

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.

The Committee made the following decisions:

Item	Project Title	Applicant	Decision
Second round application			
13i	Repair & Restoration of St Thomas More Roman Catholic Church Sheldon	St Thomas More Roman Catholic Church, Sheldon	AWARD GRANT OF £225,500 (88%)
First round applications			
13ii	Urgent repairs, stimulation of visitor numbers and heritage engagement	Parochial Church Council of the Church of St John the Baptist, Myndtown	FIRST ROUND PASS OF £233,100 INCLUDING DEVELOPMENT GRANT OF £20,600 (70% OF TOTAL DEVELOPMENT COSTS)
13iii	Urgent repair to stonework, rainwater channels and safe high access together with widened heritage relationships	St George's Church, Edgbaston	REJECT
13iv	All Saints Church Restoration Project	All Saints Church – Joiners Square	FIRST ROUND PASS OF £240,900 INCLUDING DEVELOPMENT GRANT OF £17,500 (76% OF TOTAL DEVELOPMENT COSTS)
13v	St Margaret's Church Betley – For our community today and the next generation	St Margaret's Church, Betley, Staffordshire	REJECT
13vi	St Michael & All Angels' Church bell tower cupola repair	Croft with Yarpole & Lucton Parochial Church Council	REJECT
13vii	Urgent repairs/conservation of masonry and overhauling of cast iron rainwater goods	St Peter's Church, Kineton (Church of England)	REJECT

SP3 Second round applications

- **Heritage Grants**

14. Jewellery Quarter Cemeteries, Birmingham Applicant: Birmingham City Council

CWM 2015 (3) 14

Project: To restore, refurbish and interpret the Grade II* Key Hill Cemetery and the Grade II listed Warstone Lane Cemetery located in Birmingham's Jewellery Quarter Conservation Area. A

programme of learning and participation opportunities aimed at raising awareness of the historical significance of the cemeteries and encouraging wider use of the sites as urban green spaces would be delivered.

The Committee **AWARDED** a grant of £1,387,300 (65% of total delivery costs).

SF4 Second round applications

- **Heritage Grants**

- 15. St Giles Churchyard Heritage Project** **CWM 2015 (3) 15**
Applicant: St Giles Parochial Church Council

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

Project: To improve, conserve and interpret the churchyard of the Grade II* listed St Giles Church in Newcastle under Lyme. The project aimed to transform a historic churchyard by removing a spoil heap, interpreting historic gravestones, creating a landscaped open space. A programme of learning and participation opportunities would include a trail to illustrate the area's social history from the earliest records to the present day.

The Committee **AWARDED** a grant of £720,500 (85% of total eligible delivery costs).

- 16. Princethorpe Woodlands Living Landscape: Linking our Woodlands** **CWM 2015 (3) 16**
Applicant: Warwickshire Wildlife Trust

Project: To purchase the 45 hectare Bubbenhall Wood and Wood Farm, located at the centre of Princethorpe Woodlands Living Landscape in Coventry. A management and maintenance plan to support and enhance the sites' biodiversity value and integrate the sites into the applicant's management plan for the wider Princethorpe Woodlands area would be implemented. A programme of learning and participation opportunities would also be delivered.

The Committee **AWARDED** a grant of £422,400 (55% of total delivery costs).

- 17. Lanchester Interactive Archive:
the story of one of Britain's greatest inventors** **CWM 2015 (3) 17**
Applicant: Coventry University

Project: To conserve and improve access to a collection of resources relating to Dr Frederick Lanchester (1868-1946). Dr Lanchester was a leading British engineer and inventor referred to as 'Britain's own Leonardo da Vinci'. The collection would be digitised, a web portal created and a 'Discovery Room' fitted-out in the University's Lanchester Library. A programme of outreach activities and events targeting schools, the local community and special interest groups would be delivered. The project would be delivered with support from the Lanchester Trust.

The Committee **AWARDED** a grant of £466,600 (73% of total delivery costs).

- **Heritage Enterprise**

- 18. Belong Heritage Gallery** **CWM 2015 (3) 18**
Applicant: CLS Care Services

Project: To acquire, restore and bring back into use the derelict Grade II listed former coach house located in Lower Street, Newcastle-under-Lyme. The restored building would provide 490sq.m of commercial space and accommodate the Belong Heritage Gallery which would host a range of facilities for residents and the local community. The project would form part of a larger commercial development of Belong Villages providing residential homes for the elderly. Interpretation of the building's heritage would be installed and a programme of learning and participation programme, including activities for people suffering from dementia, delivered.

The Committee **AWARDED** a grant of £1,789,400 (78% of eligible delivery costs).

- **Townscape Heritage Initiative**

- 18a. To promote and bring about heritage regeneration in the area of Birmingham's Jewellery Quarter around Vittoria Street** **CWM 2015 (3) 18a**
Applicant: The Jewellery Quarter Development Trust

Project: To conserve, enhance and regenerate activity in the Industrial Middle Character Area (Industrial Middle) of the Jewellery Quarter Conservation Area. The project focused on the dereliction, long-term vacancy and underuse of buildings that had become a dominant feature of this historically important area. The scheme included five high priority projects with a further four medium priority and one reserve project. All of the identified buildings were Grade II listed, with one exception which was Grade II* listed. A range of learning and participation opportunities would be delivered.

The Committee **AWARDED** a grant of £1,827,500 (90% of total delivery costs).

SF4 First Round Board applications for discussion and recommendation

- **Heritage Enterprise: September Board**

- 19. The Roundhouse, Birmingham** **CWM 2015 (3) 19**
Applicant: The Canal and River Trust, in partnership with the National Trust.

Marion Blockley declared a conflict of interest and left the room during the discussion of this item.

Project: To restore the former Grade II* listed stables (The Roundhouse) and gatehouses located in Sheepcote Street Wharf, adjacent to Birmingham's main canal to the north-west of the city centre. The building was included in Historic England's Buildings at Risk Register. The building and its 0.625 hectare site would be brought back into use as a business enterprise, heritage and outdoor recreation centre through cycling and canal tours. A programme of learning and participation opportunities would be delivered.

The Committee's views would be reported to the Board. The Board would determine the application in September 2015.

- **Heritage Grant: September Board**

- 19a. BioLinks 2, Shropshire** **CWM 2015 (3) 19a**
Applicant: The Field Studies Council

Project: To deliver a five year project to train and support 2,000 volunteers in identifying and recording the biological data of taxa (groups or categories of organisms considered to form a unit) where data was missing or deficient in current records. Project outputs would include 60 residential and 432 day courses and the creation of two atlases mapping the distribution of named groups of organisms. This cross territory project would be delivered in West Midlands, London (Greater and Central London) and the South East (Surrey and Buckinghamshire).

The Committee's views would be reported to the Board. The Board would determine the application in September 2015.

Papers for Discussion

- 20. West Midlands Overview Report** **CWM 2015 (3) 20**

Anne Jenkins, Deputy Director of Operations, presented the overview report for the period 4 June to 31 August 2015. Items highlighted included:

New Chair of the NHMF/HLF Board: On 12 August, Sir Peter Luff had visited the region as part of his familiarisation tour of the organisation. He had been favourably impressed by the projects he had visited and by the team.

#Routes2Roots: The event held on 10 September by Beatfreaks youth engagement company and HLF young Co-Creators and Ambassadors as part of the media campaign targeted at young people and heritage had been attended by over 100 young people. Of the 52 people who had completed evaluation forms 42% had indicated that they intended to make an application for HLF funding and two of the three follow-up development sessions were already fully booked.

Recommendations between meetings: The Committee would consider two applications to be determined by the Board in November 2015 as between meeting recommendations on 29 October 2015:

- Walsall Heritage Centre: Walsall Council sought a first round pass of £3,607,300 including a development grant of £220,200 (*not a grant of £3,587,300 as stated in the report*) to develop a new integrated heritage centre on the site of a former leather factory.
- Regeneration of the Wedgwood Institute - an innovative enterprise hub for Burslem: The Prince's Regeneration Trust sought a first round pass of £2,576,700 including a development grant of £423,000 (*not a grant of £2,567,700 as stated in the report*) to conserve the listed Wedgwood Institute and return the building to public use by supporting small businesses and providing training, business support and a community centre for the people of Burslem, Stoke-on-Trent.

The Committee noted the report.

21. Mid-term review of Strategic Framework 4 and next steps in development of 'Strategic Framework 5'

CWM 2015 (3) 21

The Committee received an update on plans for strategic planning and review in 2015-2016, focused around the Board's strategic discussions in September, October and February.

The Committee's views would be reported to the Board.

Papers for Information

22. Communications Report

CWM 2015 (3) 22

Felix Gott, Communications Account Manager, presented the communications report covering the period June 2015 to August 2015. In an update to the report, he informed the Committee that:

- he had spoken to the National Lottery's Promotion Unit about using one of the inspirational young people involved in the *Routes2Roots* campaign as a youth legend.
- the focus of communications activity during the next quarter would be projects in Birmingham's Jewellery Quarter.

The Committee noted the report.

23. Corporate Update

Oral

Anne Jenkins, Deputy Director of Operations, gave an update on corporate developments in the last quarter:

- Parks for People: The BIG Lottery Fund had agreed to extend their involvement in the programme until December 2017 and had agreed to provide an additional £2m per year for uplifts, if needed.

- The Heritage Index produced by Royal Society of Arts would be published on their website on 23 September 2015.
- The deadline for self-defined submissions to the consultation about devolution in England had passed.

The Committee noted the minutes of the Board meetings of June and July 2015.

24. Landscape Partnership Overview

CWM 2015 (3) 24

Landscape Partnerships was a UK-wide programme to support schemes led by partnerships of local, regional and national interests which aimed to conserve areas of distinctive landscape character throughout the UK.

The Committee noted that 14 applications with a total first round grant request of £31,476,900 had been received for a budget of £25m. There were no applications from the West Midlands.

25. Any other business

Oral

i) Diversity Event: Nottingham

Izzy Mohammed informed the Committee that he had been invited to speak at a HLF diversity event to be held in Nottingham.

ii) Head of Region

The Chair thanked Anne Jenkins for supporting the work of the region and the Committee until the new Head of Region, Vanessa Harbar, took up the post on 2 November 2015.

There was no other business.

The next meeting will be held on 8 December 2015 in the Birmingham Office.