

Heritage Lottery Fund Committee for the East Midlands Meeting on 29 November 2018

CEM 2018 (4)

Minutes of the meeting of the Committee for East Midlands held on 29 November 2018 at 10.00 a.m. in the Nottingham office.

Members:

- Jim Harker (Chair)
- Heather Broughton
- Mo Cooper
- Jim Dixon (Trustee)
- John Everitt
- Geoff Nickolds

Committee Business

1. Welcomes and apologies

Oral

The Chair, Jim Harker, welcomed the Committee to the meeting.

2. Chair's Report

Oral

Jim Harker updated the Committee on his work since the last meeting. He had attended the meeting of Country and Regional Chairs and had discussions with Sir Peter Luff, NHMF Chair, and Jonathan Platt, Head of HLF East Midlands, regarding Shaping our Future Business. He hoped that meaningful consultation would be undertaken by the Executive team and thanked the team for their hard work during a time of change.

He had attended a number of meetings in the region including discussions with Weedon Depot and St Crispin's Leather Museum.

3. Minutes of the meeting on 13 September 2018

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

4. Matters arising from the minutes

Oral

There were none.

5. Corporate Update

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Anne Jenkins introduced the Corporate Update including an overview of HLF's business transformation work, *Shaping our Future Business*. The work would allow HLF to be more streamlined and consistent in delivering the Strategic Funding Framework (SFF) and in support of the sector, taking on recommendations from the tailored review. The work would benefit HLF's customers through greater partnership working, better engagement, and better links to data and insight whilst retaining local teams.

An independent governance review would take place in early 2019. Three interim English committees would be created to operate from April 2019 for a 12 month period. All English

committee members would be invited to submit an expression of interest to be a part of these committees. The country committees would continue to exist in the same format.

6. East Midlands Overview Report

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Jonathan Platt, Head of HLF East Midlands, and Jeremy Fenn, Casework Manager, provided an overview of projects in the region.

The Development team highlighted that they had received a high number of enquiries due to the current programmes closing. Events were being planned in Derby and Boston in March 2019 to mark the end of these areas as priority development areas and a further event was being planned in Corby which would form a new priority area.

Mo Cooper mentioned that she was a member of the Friends of Nottingham Archive group who were mentioned in the Overview.

7. East Midlands Budget

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Two second round applications had been received, but noted that reduction of about 20% needed to be made across the year. In this case both were fundable if the Committee considered that they were of a high enough standard and represented very good value for money.

Three first round applications had been received totalling £1,907,400 against a budget of £1,065,500.

8. Declarations of Interest

Oral

Geoff Nickolds declared an interest in item 13 (Upland Skies: Birds of Prey in the Peak District & Sheffield). He had been a member of the Peak National Park Authority until 2015 and chaired the Peak Park Birds of Prey initiative until resigning in March 2018. Although Geoff did not know the details of this particular project, he was actively engaged in the reduction of the persecution of birds of prey in the Peak District.

Jim Dixon mentioned a connection with the same project. He had left his role at the Peak National Park Authority four years earlier, but occasionally wrote about the issue in his column in The Times. As such it was felt that this did not represent a conflict of interest.

SF4 Second round applications for discussion and decision

9. The King and Miller to Kingfisher, Sutton in Ashfield; HG16-00909

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Grantee: Grant of £871,300 (56%)

Request: Ashfield District Council

Project: A three-year project focussing on the heritage of the River Maun mill industry. The scheme would create a heritage trail linking Sutton in Ashfield to Mansfield, showing the links between natural and built heritage. De-silting and future proofing work would ensure the ongoing use of King's Mill Reservoir and public engagement with heritage would be promoted with a focus on healthy lifestyle activities.

The Committee for the East Midlands awarded a first round pass of £992,600 including development grant of £121,300 (69% of total eligible development costs) in September 2016.

The Committee for the East Midlands considered that the project represented a high priority for support and **AWARDED** a grant of £871,300 (56%).

10. Hidden Heritage Secret Streams: Rediscovering the Rivers of the Upper Rother Catchment; HG-17-00967

CEM 2018 (4) 10

Grantee: Don Catchment Rivers Trust

Request: Grant of £451,700 (58%)

Project: To improve, protect and promote the natural, cultural and industrial heritage of the Upper River Rother catchment area, in North East Derbyshire over a period of 3 years. 700m of straightened River Rother would be restored to its natural meander. 170 volunteers would be recruited to improve and restore natural habitats across the catchments area by planting trees, laying hedgerows, tackling invasive vegetation and litter picking. Local communities would be engaged through a Citizen Science project, collecting, recording and analysing species and habitats data.

The Committee for the East Midlands awarded a first round pass of £533,600 including development grant of £57,300 (66% of total eligible development costs) in November 2017.

The Committee for the East Midlands considered the project represented a high priority for support and **AWARDED** a grant of £451,700 (58%).

11. Prioritisation of second round items (if necessary)

Oral

The applications were both considered a high priority for support and the Committee awarded grants to both projects.

SF4 first round applications for discussion and decision

12. Our Church, Our Cossington; Our Story, Our Future; HG-18-01156

CEM 2018 (4) 12

Applicant: Cossington PCC

Request: First round pass of £679,700 including development grant of £103,900 (93%)

Project: To bring the Church back into the heart of community life by making it more welcoming, and with the space needed to act as the village hub. Proposals will see repair works carried out to the Church fabric and monuments, internal re-ordering, and additional activity space, created by a single storey extension to the north aisle.

The Committee for the East Midlands agreed that the application represented a low priority for support and **REJECTED** the application in light of concerns raised.

13. Upland Skies: Birds of Prey in the Peak District & Sheffield; HG-17-05942

CEM 2018 (4) 13

Geoff Nickolds declared an interest in the project and left the room before discussion commenced.

Applicant: Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB)

Request: First round pass of £729,600, including development grant of £91,900 (91%)

Project: A partnership project to engage communities in the Dark Peak and urban areas of Sheffield to raise awareness, value and protect Birds of Prey, contributing to a thriving population of birds including Hen Harrier, Peregrine, Merlin, Goshawk and Owls.

The Committee for the East Midlands agreed the application represented a high priority for support and **AWARDED** a first round pass of £729,600, including development grant of £91,900 (91% of eligible development costs).

14. Restoring the Rich History of Mounts Baths; HG-17-08718

CEM 2018 (4) 14

Applicant: Northampton Leisure Trust

Request: First round pass of £498,100 including development grant of £30,000 (65%)

Project: To restore and reinstate the traditional Turkish Spa Rooms at Mounts Baths to their original 1930s design, as well as deliver a programme of accompanying activities, training and interpretation.

The Committee for the East Midlands agreed the application represented a low priority for support and **REJECTED** the application in light of concerns raised.

15. Prioritisation of first round items

Oral

The Committee considered that Upland Skies (item 13) represented the highest priority for the region and awarded a first round pass to the project.

Our Church, Our Cossington (item 12) and Restoring the Rich History of Mounts Baths (item 14) were identified as a low priorities for support and were rejected in light of concerns raised and the available budget.

SF4 second round Board applications for discussion and recommendation

16. Sudbury Gasworks: Rescued and Restored; HG-16-01810

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Grantee: Sudbury Gasworks Restoration Trust Ltd

Request: Grant of £1,273,500 (68%)

Project: To restore the Grade II listed gasworks and ensure its sustainable future through a programme of repairs and reconstruction. A sensitive new-build loggia and extension on the footprint of the former gas holder would be created and the circular main hall would function as a community hub and to accommodate weddings and other large functions. The stories of local people and the heritage of the building would be interpreted and a range of activities would be delivered.

The Committee for the East Midlands awarded a first round pass of £1,390,300 including development grant of £116,800 (59% of total eligible development costs) in September 2016.

The Committee for the East Midlands recommended the project to the Board as a **HIGH PRIORITY** for support.

SF4 First round Board applications for discussion and recommendation

17. Treescapes: Rising from the Ashes; HG-18-01242

CEM 2018 (4) 17

Applicant: The Woodland Trust

Request: First round pass of £4,959,900 including development grant of £573,500 (57%)

Project: To increase public awareness of the significance and loss of the ash tree. The scheme would engage landowners, managers and the public in restoration measures across seven areas

of the UK where ash is the dominant tree. An archive would be created and community work would record and celebrate the natural and cultural heritage of the trees.

The Committee for the East Midlands recommended the project to the Board as a **LOW PRIORITY** for support.

Items for information

18. Communications Report

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19. Parks for People Overview

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20. East Midlands mid-year review

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The Committee noted the items.

21. Any other business

Oral

The March meeting would be the final meeting of the Committee for the East Midlands and would include project visits.

The next meeting would be held on 14 March 2019.