

Heritage Lottery Fund Committee for the East Midlands Meeting on 15 September 2015

CEM 2015 (3) Minutes

Summary minutes of the meeting of the Committee for the East Midlands held on Tuesday 15 September 2015 at 10.00 a.m. in the Nottingham office.

Members: Heather Broughton
Mo Cooper
John Everitt
Geoff Nickolds
Atul Patel (Trustee) (Acting Chair)
David Stocker

Apologies: Jim Harker (Chair)

1. Chair's Report Oral

The acting Chair, Atul Patel, took the Chair in the absence of Jim Harker.

He thanked Vanessa Harbar for all her work as the Head of HLF East Midlands. It would be her last meeting before joining the West Midlands team as Head of Region.

The Chair welcomed Jonathan Platt as an observer. Jonathan had recently appointed as the new Head of Region in the East Midlands and would be joining the team in October.

2. Declarations of interest Oral

David Stocker mentioned that he had knowledge of a case which had been presented and discussed by the Lincolnshire DAC: St Clement's Church, Grainthorpe (item 12b). He also had participated in discussions around the Beonna Centre – All Saints, Benington (item 14) in his role on the DAC. He had no pecuniary or other interest in either case. The Committee considered that neither constituted a conflict of interests.

3. Minutes of the meeting on 19 June 2015 CEM 2015 (3) 3

Subject to one suggested amendment to item 19, the minutes were signed as an accurate record of the meeting.

4. Matters arising from the minutes Oral

There were none.

5. Regional overview CEM 2015 (3) 5

Vanessa Harbar, Head of HLF East Midlands, presented the overview.

6. Budget paper CEM 2015 (3) 6

Three second round applications had been received. There was sufficient budget to support all three projects should they meet the quality threshold.

Four first round applications had been received totalling £4,744,800 against a budget of £1,743,533. The Committee would need to prioritise the applications.

SF4 first round applications for discussion and decision

- **Heritage Grants**

7. Into the Valley, Rushden; HG-14-08103 CEM 2015 (3) 7

The Wildlife Trust for Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire and Northamptonshire sought a first round pass of £662,800 for a project at the Rushden Lakes (The Lakes) to engage new audiences with their local natural heritage. The site was currently unmanaged and suffered from anti-social behaviour, putting at risk its diverse species of animals, plants and invertebrates. The proposals would create a visitor centre with engaging forms of interpretation and develop an activity programme to be delivered by volunteers post project completion.

The Committee considered that the project represented a high priority for support and awarded a first round pass of £662,800.

8. Our Museum, Our Story, Our World, Leicester; HG-14-10067 CEM 2015 (3) 8

New Walk Museum (Leicester Arts and Museums) sought a first round pass of £1,999,400 including a development grant of £172,700 (77% of total eligible development costs) for a project to carry out the much needed revitalisation of New Walk Museum, making it more relevant to the diverse communities within Leicester. Two new galleries would be created and accessibility and orientation would be improved throughout the museum. The scheme would use collections, interpretation and activities to create a shared social space for dialogue, debate and active citizenship.

The Committee considered that the project represented a low priority for support and rejected the application due to concerns raised.

9. Rescuing Mrs Smith's Cottage: A unique slice of bygone Lincolnshire life; HG-15-00174 CEM 2015 (3) 9

North Kesteven District Council sought a first round pass of £737,500 including a development grant of £146,000 (78% of total eligible development costs) to carry out repairs to Mrs Smith's Cottage, a Grade II listed building in Navenby, currently used as a museum. The decorative scheme would be conserved, interpreted and reproduced, environmental controls would be installed and interpretation would be enhanced to bring the cottage to life. The material left by Mrs Smith including her diaries and photographs would be digitised and a series of activities would be delivered for schools, families and higher education students.

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

- **Heritage Enterprise**

10. The Engine Shed and Office Building, Northampton; HE-14-08868 CEM 2015 (3) 10

The University of Northampton Students' Union sought a first round pass with development funding to secure the long-term use of the derelict Grade II listed Engine Shed. The project would restore and develop the building to become the Students' Union (SU) building. The proposals would contribute to the regeneration of the brownfield site, secure public access to the building and promote links between students, businesses and local residents.

The Committee considered that the project represented a high priority for support and awarded a first round pass of £1,345,100 including a development grant of £26,400 (40% of total eligible development costs).

11. Prioritisation of first round items

Oral

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

- *Into the Valley, Rushden (item 7) and The Engine Shed and Office Building, Northampton (item 10)* represented a high priority for support.
- *Rescuing Mrs Smith's Cottage (item 9)* represented a medium priority for support.
- *Our Museum, Our Story, Our World, Leicester (item 8)* represented a low priority for support.

The Committee felt that the two high priority projects should be supported. The medium and low priority items were rejected in light of concerns raised and the available budget for the meeting.

- **Grants for Places of Worship**

12. Grants for Places of Worship Applications

CEM 2015 (3) 12

In the East Midlands, 6 applications were received with a grant request of £1,049,000 against a regional budget of £583,804. At the initial sift, it was agreed that St Mary's Church, Everdon and St Mary and All Saints Church, Fotheringhay were not considered to be of sufficient urgency to take forward to full assessment. Detailed technical advice had been provided by Historic England and HLF had assessed how well outcomes for communities had been met for the remaining four churches. Additional budget was agreed to support the four places of worship deemed to be the highest priority.

12a	St Peter's Highfields Repair Project	St Peter's Church, Highfields, Leicester	FIRST ROUND PASS OF £188,800 INCLUDING DEVELOPMENT GRANT OF £29,900 (54% OF TOTAL ELIGIBLE DEVELOPMENT COSTS)	GP-15-01380
12b	St Clements Church restoration project: exploring the heritage	St Clements Church, Grainthorpe, Louth, Lincolnshire	FIRST ROUND PASS OF £243,000 INCLUDING DEVELOPMENT GRANT OF £16,400 (61% OF TOTAL ELIGIBLE DEVELOPMENT COSTS)	GP-13-00379
12c	St Thomas Beckett PCC	St Thomas Beckett, Church, Tugby, Leicestershire	FIRST ROUND PASS OF £181,300 INCLUDING DEVELOPMENT GRANT OF £10,700 (34% OF TOTAL ELIGIBLE DEVELOPMENT COSTS)	GP-15-00816
12d	St Thomas Church Tower Repairs, Chesterfield	St Thomas Church, Brampton, Chesterfield	FIRST ROUND PASS OF £100,300 INCLUDING DEVELOPMENT GRANT OF £3,900 (30% OF TOTAL ELIGIBLE DEVELOPMENT COSTS)	GP-14-03488
12e	Fotheringhay Church Heritage Project – Building For The Future	St Mary and All Saints Fotheringhay, Northamptonshire	REJECT	GP-15-00563
12f	Repairs to windows in South Aisle, St Mary's Daventry	St Marys Church, Everdon, Daventry	REJECT	GP-14-09097

SF4 second round applications for discussion and decision

- **Heritage Grants**

13. Justice: Past, Present & Future, Nottingham; HG-13-01453

CEM 2015 (3) 13

The Galleries of Justice Museum sought funding to improve physical and intellectual access to the museum and its collections to engage with a new, diverse 21st century audience. Volunteers would be trained in collection management to support the digitisation of the museum's nationally significant collections. New interpretation would be developed and new learning routes would help visitors better understand the buildings and its collections.

The Committee for the East Midlands awarded a first round pass of £939,300 including a development grant of £69,800 (95% of total eligible development costs) in September 2013. An uplift of £77,000 (9%) was sought related to the inclusion of non-recoverable VAT, inflationary increases for building works and additional building costs to comply with fire regulations.

The Committee for the East Midlands awarded a grant of £946,500 (94% of total eligible delivery costs).

14. The Beonna at All Saints Church, Benington; HG-11-07012

CEM 2015 (3) 14

Benington Community Heritage Trust sought funding to conserve, adapt and refurbish the Grade I listed, redundant All Saints Church for reuse as a heritage and community centre. New facilities would be created including a lobby, kitchen, meeting room and toilets and new interpretation and signage would be installed. Local heritage would also be interpreted and a programme of learning and participation opportunities delivered.

The Committee for the East Midlands awarded a first round pass of £1,730,300 including a development grant of £119,200 (81% of total eligible development costs) in March 2013. An uplift of £259,200 (16%) was sought in response to HLF advice to reduce the sustainability risk through increased staffing.

The Committee for the East Midlands awarded a grant of £1,870,300 (81% of total eligible delivery costs).

- **Heritage Enterprise**

15. Bridgford Hall Renovation, Nottingham; HE-14-00123

CEM 2015 (3) 15

Rushcliffe Borough Council sought funding to find a suitable and viable end use for Bridgford Hall, a Grade II listed property in West Bridgford, Nottinghamshire as an aparthotel. Capital works would include the conservation, repair and refurbishment of the Hall. The project would also return the ground floor of the building to its original use as the Registration Office for the south of Nottinghamshire. An associated programme of activities would be delivered in partnership with local heritage groups.

The Committee for the East Midlands awarded a first round pass of £1,495,500 including a development grant of £78,400 (65% of total eligible development costs) in December 2014.

The Committee for the East Midlands awarded a grant of £1,417,100 (65% of total eligible delivery costs).

- **Townscape Heritage**

16. Swadlincote Townscape Heritage Scheme; TH-13-06238 CEM 2015 (3) 16

South Derbyshire District Council sought a grant for a three year project to promote the regeneration of Swadlincote's historic town centre. The scheme would focus on repair and restoration works to historic properties, shops and public spaces within the town's conservation area. Proposals would include bringing back vacant and underused upper floors above occupied shops into residential use and public realm improvements. A complementary activity programme to engage the community would include guided walks, schools' sessions, building maintenance days and specialist talks.

The Board awarded a first round pass of £422,200 including a development grant of £8,200 (94% of total eligible development costs) in January 2014.

The Committee for the East Midlands awarded a grant of £411,600 (74% of total eligible delivery costs).

SF4 first round Board applications for discussion and decision

- **Heritage Grants**

17. British Horological Institute - Saving Time Phase 1; HG-14-08327 CEM 2015 (3) 17

The British Horological Institute sought a first round pass of £2,852,600 including a development grant of £160,300 (46% of total eligible development costs) for a project to establish Upton Hall as a sustainable training facility and heritage attraction. This first phase scheme would focus on addressing heritage at risk including the stable block and glasshouse, repairs and renovation of parts of Upton Hall and increasing public engagement. Capacity for horological training would be increased significantly and a programme of activities would be delivered.

This was a resubmission of a project rejected by the Board in November 2014 in light of the available budget.

The Committee for the East Midlands considered the project represented a high priority for support. The Board would determine the outcome in September 2015.

- **Landscape Partnerships**

18. Landscape Partnership Overview CEM 2015 (3) 18

The Overview was noted.

19. Nenescape: Revealing the hidden stories of the Nene Valley; LP-15-00984 CEM 2015 (3) 19

The River Nene Regional Park CIC sought a first round pass of £2,816,300 including a development grant of £198,200 (64% of total eligible development costs) for an ambitious scheme to address significant threats to natural, built and cultural heritage of the area. The main focus of the project would be to transform a working landscape into a recreational space. Access and interpretation to the area would be improved for visitors and training and apprenticeships in heritage skills would be delivered.

Overall, the Committee for the East Midlands considered that the project represented a high priority for support. The Board would determine the outcome in October 2015.

Items for discussion/information

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

CEM 2015 (3) 20

The Committee discussed the paper.

21. Communications Report

CEM 2015 (3) 21

Tom Williams, Communications Manager, presented the report.

The report was noted.

22. Corporate Update

Oral

Anne Jenkins reported that joint funding for the Parks for People programme with Big Lottery Fund had been extended until 2018 with £20m of funds secured.

HLF's work with the RSA on the Heritage Index would be published on 23 September.

The outcome of the Spending Review would be announced in November.

23. Any other business

Oral

There was none.

The next meeting would be held on 1 December 2015.