

Heritage Lottery Fund Committee for the West Midlands Meeting on 1 March 2016

CWM 2016 (1) 3

Minutes of the meeting held on 1 March 2016 at 11:00a.m. in the College Hall, Hereford Cathedral, 5 College Cloisters, Cathedral Close, Hereford, HR1 2NG

Present:

- Les Sparks (Chair)
- Sue Beardsmore
- Marion Blockley
- Ian Grosvenor
- Izzy Mohammed
- Jude Pilgrim
- Alan Taylor
- Tom Tew
- Alison Wedgwood

Also Present:

- Sir Peter Luff
- Rachel Chiu

Committee Business

1. Chair's report

Oral

The Chair:

- welcomed HLF's Chair, Sir Peter Luff, who was attending the meeting as an observer;
- welcomed Rachel Chiu, who was joining the Committee on 1 April, as an observer;
- thanked the cathedral staff for offering the facility, and reminded Members that after lunch there would be a tour of the Cathedral, and the Committee awayday tomorrow would visit Hereford Waterworks Museum and Grange Court.

2. Declarations of Interest

Oral

There were none.

3. Minutes of last meeting on 8 December 2015

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

4. Matters arising from the Minutes

Oral

None.

5. West Midlands Overview Report

CWM 2016 (1) 5

Vanessa Harbar, Head of West Midlands, presented the overview report.

6. West Midlands Budget

CWM 2016 (1) 6

Vanessa Harbar, Head of Region, presented the budget paper.

A schedule of applications for the June 2016 meeting was tabled. She reported that in future submission dates and paper deadline cycles would be synchronised and the Committee would receive this forward schedule in the budget paper.

SF4 First round applications for discussion and decision: Heritage Grants

7. The Wigmore Interpretive and Heritage Centre

CWM 2016 (1) 7

Project: To re-order and adapt the Church of St James in the North Herefordshire village of Wigmore. The aim is to provide a sustainable future for this important Grade I listed church by creating an Interpretive and Heritage Centre within as a community facility which also enhances the local tourism offer.

It was a two-phase project with phase one being the focus of this application, and it featured both a programme of capital works (internal and external) and a programme of activities.

In the light of concerns raised, the Committee agreed to **REJECT** the application for a first round pass of £715,700, including a development grant of £144,800 (90% of total eligible development costs).

8. Restoration and raising awareness of the historic pipe organ

CWM 2016 (1) 8

Project: the proposed project aimed to undertake capital repairs to restore the 1860 Henry 'Father' Willis organ at the Church to full working order and develop new opportunities to engage the community with the heritage of the organ and the surrounding area.

In light of concerns raised, the Committee **REJECTED** the application for a first round pass of £218,100, without a development grant.

9. The Philip Astley project

CWM 2016 (1) 9

Project: the project would focus on Philip Astley, widely regarded as a pioneer and the "father of the modern circus". 2018 would be the 250th anniversary since his creation of the circus ring and the modern circus borne out of equestrian entertainment events with other performers of the day introduced between the acts. A highly regarded showman in the 18th and early 19th centuries, he opened 18 circuses across Europe. The project would include developing a resource pack on his life and legacy, making archive material available to the public for the first time, an exhibition in partnership with the Victoria and Albert (V&A) museum and a series of activities, resources and workshops.

The Committee agreed the project as a high priority for support and **AWARDED** a first round pass of £166,900, including development grant of £28,600 (70% of total eligible development costs).

10. Prioritisation and feedback for first round applications

Oral

As only one application was supportable, and there was sufficient budget, prioritisation was not required.

Grants for Places of Worship

11. Applications for Places of Worship in the West Midlands

CWM 2016 (1) 11

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, ten first round applications with a grant request of £1,453,900 were received against a regional budget of £673,156. At an initial sift, Historic England agreed with HLF that four applications should not be taken forward to full assessment as they were considered not to be of sufficient urgency. Two of those were subsequently withdrawn in order that the applicants could apply for the LPOW programme, leaving eight to be considered by the Committee.

Four Second Round applications had been decided at delegated Batch level by Head of Region since the last Committee meeting. Officers also reported that the second round application in delivery that had requested a grant increase (GP-12-11940- The Church of St Michael and All Angels, Knighton-on-Teme, was not ready to be considered by the Committee as there had been a delay in confirming the amount of grant increase requested, and instead would be determined by a Decision Between Meetings.

The following decisions were made on the SF4 First Round applications:

Item	Project Title	Applicant	DECISION
11a.	Essential and urgent repairs and maintenance and creation of a 'Community and Heritage Area'	Goodrich Church, Herefordshire	FIRST ROUND PASS OF £168,600 INCLUDING DEVELOPMENT GRANT OF £15,300 (75% OF TOTAL ELIGIBLE DEVELOPMENT COSTS)

11b.	Urgent repair and refurbishment of St Mary's Church Staunton on Wye, for greater community use	St Mary Staunton on Wye Parish County Council St Mary	FIRST ROUND PASS OF £159,600 INCLUDING DEVELOPMENT GRANT OF £13,900 (75% OF TOTAL ELIGIBLE DEVELOPMENT COSTS)
11c.	Chancel Project: Conservation and Repairs to Chancel Windows; Choir Vestry and Former Organ Chamber Reordering	Parish County Council St.Mary Magdalene Albrighton Wolverhampton	REJECT
11d.	St Nicholas, Peopleton. Repair of west nave & adjacent north walls including stonework to windows	Friends of St Nicholas Church, Peopleton	FIRST ROUND PASS OF £100,800 INCLUDING DEVELOPMENT GRANT OF £6,100 (57% OF TOTAL ELIGIBLE DEVELOPMENT COSTS)
11e.	Shrewsbury Abbey - Saints and Stones - a 21st Century Experience	Parish County Council of the Church of the Holy Cross, Shrewsbury	FIRST ROUND PASS OF £250,000 INCLUDING DEVELOPMENT GRANT OF £33,100 (75% OF TOTAL ELIGIBLE DEVELOPMENT COSTS)
11f.	Dubricius Church, Hentland:Conservation of JP Seddon's polychromatic decorative scheme and associated repairs	Parochial Church Council of Hentland & Hoarwithy	REJECT
11g.	Restoration and development of Thomas Telford's finest church for use by the wider community	St Mary Magdalene PCC, Bridgnorth	REJECT
11h.	Fabric repairs and improvements to the Assemblies of the First Born Church	Assemblies of the First Born Church of God, Birmingham	REJECT

Note:

11g and 11h were rejected on the grounds of an initial sift where Historic England agreed with HLF that they should not be taken forward to full assessment as they were considered not to be of sufficient urgency.

11c and 11f were rejected in light of the available budget.

Heritage Grants and Heritage Enterprise: March Board

12. Transforming the Wolverhampton Royal Hospital into a vibrant city centre campus for Wolverhampton City College

CWM 2016 (1) 12

Project: The project would revitalise a mid-nineteenth century, Grade II listed former hospital building that had been derelict for 19 years. Opening as a college campus building in a deprived area of Wolverhampton, providing vocational training, an enterprise hub, dining and conferencing facilities it would support local business, boost employability, and encourage community use. It was part of a wider campus development and was reliant on funding for an associated £15M new build.

The Committee recommended this application for a first round pass of £4,980,900, including development grant of £420,900 (89% of total eligible development costs) to the Board as a **MEDIUM** priority for support.

Major Projects: April Board

13. Major Project Overview

CWM 2016 (1) 13

Vanessa Harbar presented an overview of the Major projects scheduled to be considered by the Board in April. The Committee noted the overview.

14. Unlocking the Severn for People and Wildlife

CWM 2016 (1) 14

Project: The project would be the biggest of its kind in Europe, a five year project to improve the UK population status of the twaite shad, (Alosa Fallax) by removing barriers to migration along the entire River Severn and lower River Teme and aiming to re-open the River Severn and Teme to all fish species for migration. The scheme would be delivered by a broad partnership including the Canal & River Trust (CRT), Environment Agency (EA) and Natural England (NE)

The Committee recommended this application for a first round pass of £10,810,300, including development grant of £233,100 (25% of total eligible development costs) to the Board as a **HIGH** priority for support.

Papers for Discussion

15. Business planning and strategy update

Oral

Anne Jenkins provided feedback from the February Board meeting which had focused on strategy.

The Chair highlighted the scope for the new youth initiative to build on successful work in the region on youth engagement, including Routes to Roots.

The Committee noted the update.

16. Review of Priority Development

CWM 2016 (1) 16

Vanessa Harbar presented a report on the review of Priority Development Areas (PDAs).

Papers for Information

17. Communications Report

CWM 2016 (1) 17

The Committee noted the overview report. They particularly welcomed coverage of HLF's 21 years in Coventry as a result of the Board meeting there, and around Routes to Roots.

18. Corporate Update

CWM 2016 (1) 18

The Committee had received minutes under separate cover and noted the update.

19. Any other business

Oral

Les Sparks confirmed that as it was his last meeting, he would be handing over the chair to Sue Beardsmore. He expressed his best wishes to her for an enjoyable tenure and hoped she would be as well supported by the committee as he had been.

There was no other business.

The next meeting will be held on 7 June 2016 in the Birmingham Office.