

Heritage Lottery Fund Committee for the West Midlands Meeting on 28 February 2017

CWM 2017 (1)

Minutes of the meeting of the Committee for West Midlands held on 28 February 2017 at 10:00 am in the Birmingham Office, 3rd Floor, Grosvenor House, 14 Bennetts Hill, Birmingham, B2 5RS

Members:

- Sue Beardsmore (Chair)
- Marion Blockley
- Rachel Chiu
- Jude Pilgrim
- Alan Taylor - *items 1-16*
- Tom Tew (Trustee)

Apologies

- Izzy Mohammed
- Alison Wedgwood

1. Welcome and Chair's Report

The Chair noted apologies from Alison Wedgwood and Izzy Mohammed.

The Chair provided the Committee with an update on activities and events she had attended since the last meeting.

2. Declarations of interest

Marion Blockley declared the following interests:

Item 16 – *BCLM: Forging Ahead – creating a world-class visitor attraction in the Black Country* – as she had worked with the Development Director of BCLM five years ago when she was Project Manager for the Friends of Ditherington Flaxmill Maltings but had no involvement in the project or BCLM. The Committee were content that this did not constitute a conflict.

Item 18 – *Springs of Rivers* – as she had been interviewed by the applicant for interpretive consultancy for another Severn Rivers project but had no connection with Springs of Rivers. The Committee were content that this did not constitute a conflict.

Item 19 – *Roundhouse Birmingham* - as she was currently working for the Canal and Rivers Trust as a consultant on another HLF funded-project at Marple, Stockport but she had no direct connection with the Roundhouse Project. The National Trust were a project partner and she was a member of the National Trust Historic Environment Panel. The Committee were content that neither interest constituted a conflict.

Reports

3. Minutes of last meeting on 22 November 2016

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

4. Matters arising from the Minutes

There were none.

5. West Midlands Overview Report

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Vanessa Harbar presented the report, providing an overview of recent developments. The Committee noted:

- Three applications had been received for Great Place from Stoke, Hereford and Coventry. The decision meeting would take place in March.
- Seven Kick the Dust applications had been received and the decision meeting would take place in June. Organisations had been encouraged to work together on applications.

6. West Midlands Budget

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The Committee noted the paper.

Three Heritage Grant first round cases had been received totalling £2,471,700 against a budget of £4,014,300. There was sufficient budget to fund all applications if Committee considered the projects to be of high quality and that any risks were acceptably managed.

SF4 First Round applications for discussion and decision: Heritage Grants

7. Cloister Project, Hereford Project

CWM 2017 (1) 7

Applicant: Hereford Cathedral Perpetual Trust

Request: First round pass of £1,034,600 including a development grant of £131,600 (73% of total eligible development costs)

Project: To undertake conservation, refurbishment and urgent repair work to the College Cloisters of Herefordshire Cathedral, repairing the eastern range and conserving the historic fabric. Facilities would be improved and walkways repaired to increase access. An activity-based education and learning programme would be delivered for the wider public, complimenting the planned works and increasing engagement and understanding of the significance of the buildings and social history. Capital works would include the demolition of a 20th century brick extension, conservation works, reinstatement of a missing chimney stack, works to the floors and landscaping improvements. Archaeological investigations would take place alongside the works.

The Committee agreed the project as a high priority for support and **AWARDED** a first round pass of £1,034,600 including a development grant of £131,600 (73% of total eligible development costs).

8. Rejuvenating Allesley Park Walled Garden

CWM 2017 (1) 8

Applicant: Coventry City Council

Request: First Round Pass of £447,000 including a development grant of £19,100 (73% of total eligible development costs)

Project: To conserve Allesley Park Walled Garden and sympathetically develop it to attract and educate visitors about its history and horticulture. Capital works would include repairs to walls, the restoration of old path networks, installation of interpretation benches and the construction of a wisteria pergola. New volunteers would be sought and a programme of training would be delivered. A horticultural website would be developed and would include educational materials.

The Committee agreed the project as a low priority for support and **REJECTED** the application due to the concerns raised.

9. Ball Mill Quarry Wildlife Reserve

CWM 2017 (1) 9

Applicant: Wildgoose Rural Training

Request: First round pass of £900,100 including a development grant of £94,400 (69% of total eligible development costs)

Project: To conserve and manage a 36 acre wetland as a nature reserve, and to build a visitor centre on 6 acres of adjacent agricultural land. A programme of activities would be delivered to engage the wider community and interpretation would be installed to raise awareness of the natural and industrial heritage of the area. The applicant worked with adults with learning difficulties and young people that had been excluded from mainstream education.

The Committee agreed that the project was a high priority for support and **AWARDED** a first round pass of £900,100 including a development grant of £94,400 (69% of total eligible development costs).

10. Prioritisation of and feedback on first round items

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

- Item 7 - *Cloister Project, Hereford Project* and Item 9 *Ball Mill Quarry Wildlife Reserve* were high priorities for support.
- Item 8 - *Rejuvenating Allesley Park Walled Garden* was a low priority for support.

The Committee agreed to award first round passes to both high priority applications. The remaining application was rejected due to the concerns raised.

11. Applications for Places of Worship in the West Midlands

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Three first round applications with a grant request of £429,100 were received against a regional budget of £476,000.

At the initial sift Historic England advised that one of the schemes did not focus on works that were urgently needed within the next two years. These cases were not taken forward for further assessment.

The remaining two cases had undergone a full assessment. Historic England had provided detailed technical advice to establish the urgency of the repair works. HLF assessment had also looked at how well the applications met outcomes for communities. These two factors were used to arrive at an overall priority for the batch.

There were insufficient funds to support all cases and the Committee made the following decisions.

Item	Project Title	Applicant	Decision
16.1	St Mathew's Marstow, Urgent Structural Repairs and Re-ordering	St Matthew's Church, Marstow	AWARD A FIRST ROUND PASS OF £101,000 INCLUDING DEVELOPMENT GRANT OF £11,000 (74% OF ELIGIBLE DEVELOPMENT COSTS)

Item	Project Title	Applicant	Decision
16.2	St Laurence Alvechurch high level repairs	St Laurence Church, Alvechurch	AWARD A FIRST ROUND PASS OF £127,500 INCLUDING A DEVELOPMENT GRANT OF £13,500 (63% OF TOTAL ELIGIBLE DEVELOPMENT COSTS)
16.3	The development of the St Michael's campus	The PCC of St Michael's, Budbrooke	REJECT

The Committee noted that four Round 2 applications had been decided at delegated Batch level by the Head of Region since the last committee meeting:

- GP-15-00893 - PCC of the Church of St John the Baptist, Myndtown.
Awarded a grant of £201,400 (79%)
- GP-14-09104 - St Chad's Church, Shrewsbury.
Awarded a grant of £207,000 (79%)
- GP-14-02611 - St Mary's Church, King's Pyon PCC.
Awarded a grant of £107,100 (69%)
- GP-15-03742 – Goodrich Church, Hereford.
Awarded a grant of £149,500 (81%)

SF4 Second round grant applications for discussion and decision: Heritage Grants

12. Herefordshire Life Through a Lens: Exploring Herefordshire's heritage from the 1950s – 1980s through Photographer Derek Evans

CWM 2017 (1) 12

Grantee: Catcher Media Social

Request: A grant of £328,300 (70% of total eligible delivery costs)

Uplift: £13,600 (4%).

Project: A three-year project re-appraising the work of photographer Derek Evans's work for its aesthetic, historical and social value. Key images from the archive would be used to explore and reinterpret Herefordshire traditions and history. The collection of images would be preserved and digitised. Volunteers would be recruited and paid internships would be created. Oral history interviews would be conducted and heritage films would be made and screened for communities around the county. A range of educational activities would be delivered.

First round pass: The Committee had awarded a first round pass of £342,900, including a development grant of £28,200 (68% of total eligible development costs) in June 2015.

The Committee **AWARDED** a grant of £328,300 (70% of total eligible delivery costs).

13. The New Standard Works

CWM 2017 (1) 13

Grantee: Ruskin Mill Land Trust

Request: A grant of £928,600 (77% of total eligible delivery costs)

Uplift: £89,200 (11%)

Project: The third phase of the restoration of a Grade II listed former factory building in Birmingham's Jewellery Quarter. The project would enable the building to function as a multi-use community facility. Capital works included preservation and restoration works to the building façade, creation of a heritage lounge/visitor centre and two jewellery makers' workshops. A five-year programme of heritage and history-related activities would be delivered for visitors and the local community. Two new staff posts would be created to deliver community engagement and a volunteer programme.

First round pass: The Committee had awarded a first round pass of £879,200 including a development grant of £39,800 (73% of total eligible development costs) in September 2015.

The Committee **AWARDED** a grant of £928,600 (77% of total eligible delivery costs).

14. The Philip Astley Project – Celebrating the Father of Modern Day Circus

CWM 2017 (1) 14

Grantee: Staffordshire University

Request: A grant of £167,000 (68% of total eligible delivery costs)

Uplift: £28,700 (21%)

Project: Focused on Philip Astley, a pioneer and considered "the father of modern circus" the project would research his life and legacy. Resources packs would be developed and an exhibition of objects relating to Astley and the circus would be created in partnership with the Victoria & Albert Museum. Engagement activities would take place in Newcastle-under-Lyme including a town trail and quiz to enable families to take part and learn about his life and legacy. A range of circus and community workshops would be developed.

First round pass: The Committee had awarded a first round pass of £166,900 including a development grant of £28,600 (70% of total eligible development costs) in March 2016.

The Committee **AWARDED** a grant of £167,000 (68% of total eligible delivery costs).

SF4 First Round Board applications for discussion and recommendation: Major Grants (April Board)

15. Major Grants Overview

CWM 2017 (1) 15

The Committee noted the report and the competitive nature of the batch.

16. BCLM: Forging Ahead – creating a world-class visitor attraction in the Black Country

CWM 2017 (1) 16

Applicant: Black Country Living Museum

Request: First round pass of £9,800,000 including a development grant of £400,000 (33% of total eligible development costs)

Project: To expand and significantly improve the visitor experience, growing the historic site by a third, creating a new historic development set in the 1940s-60s with the translocation, recreation and replication of 18 historic buildings and the amount of the Museum's Designated Collection on display would be doubled. A new Visitor Centre would be built to improve the visitor welcome and

connect the museum into a cohesive visitor destination with Dudley's other attractions. A dedicated Learning Centre would be created and a new STEAM learning programme developed.

The Committee recommended the application to the Board as a **HIGH PRIORITY** for support.

SF4 First Round Board applications for discussion and recommendation: Heritage Grants (March Board)

17. Lifelong Learning from Ledbury's Heritage

CWM 2017 (1) 17

Applicant: Ledbury Places Ltd

Request: First round pass of £2,526,700 including a development grant of £121,800 (63% of total eligible development costs)

Project: To restore the Grade II* listed Old Grammar School (OGS) and the Grade II listed Barrett Browning Institute (BBI) and bring the buildings back into full community use. The BBI would become a multi-use community space, meeting rooms and office space for community use, education and training and let-able office accommodation. The upper floor of the OGS would be converted into a bespoke holiday let to generate income, while the ground floor would continue to be focussed on interpretation in the Heritage Centre. A range of training and education activities would be delivered to extend participation in and understanding of Ledbury's heritage.

The Committee recommended the application to the Board as a **MEDIUM PRIORITY** for support.

SF4 Second Round Board applications for discussion and recommendation: Heritage Grants and Heritage Enterprise (March Board)

18. Springs of Rivers

CWM 2017 (1) 18

Grantee: Severn Rivers Trust

Request: A grant of £2,729,400 (75% of total eligible delivery costs)

Uplift: N/A

Project: To carry out practical works to 200km of the River Teme and its wider catchment to help improve the condition of the river and its habitats through linked habitat restoration projects. The project would train apprentices in practical conservation techniques, catchment management and community engagement. A series of activities would be delivered, including community training events and guided walks.

First round pass: The Board awarded a first round pass of £3,076,600 including a development grant of £205,400 (69% of total eligible development costs) in May 2015.

The Committee recommended that the application be deferred by the Board to enable the applicant to provide further information on project costs and funding.

19. Roundhouse Birmingham – an innovative blend of historical discovery, outdoor activities and urban enterprise

CWM 2017 (1) 19

Grantee: Canal & River Trust

Request: A grant of £2,468,800 (74% of total eligible delivery costs)

Uplift: £470,600 (24%)

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.

First round pass: The Board awarded a first round pass of £2,223,600 including a development grant of £225,400 (78% of total eligible development costs) in September 2015.

The Committee recommended the application to the Board as a **HIGH PRIORITY** for support.

20. Restoring the Marches Mosses

CWM 2017 (1) 20

Grantee: Shropshire Wildlife Trust

Request: A grant of £786,200 (17% of total eligible delivery costs)

Uplift: £11,400 (1%)

Project: To acquire and restore 41ha of land in Whixall (including industrially contaminated land) and manage it as lowland bog. The land would form part of over 1500ha of mosses and peatbogs in an existing Nature Reserve, Whixall Moss, which had multiple natural heritage designations. The Moss was one of three lowland raised peat bogs remaining in the UK. Physical and intellectual access would be improved and learning and participation opportunities delivered.

First round pass: The Board awarded a first round pass of £880,600 including a development grant of £105,800 (96% of total eligible development costs) in July 2015.

The Committee recommended the application to the Board as a **HIGH PRIORITY** for support.

Papers for Information

21. Corporate Update

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The Committee noted the report.

22. Communications Report

CWM 2017 (1) 22

The Committee noted the report.

23. Any other business

There was none.

The next meeting will be held on 06 June 2017 in the Birmingham Office.