

# Heritage Lottery Fund: Committee for the West Midlands

## Meeting on 27 February 2018

CWM 2018 (1)

**Minutes of the meeting of the Committee for the West Midlands held on 27 February 2018 at 10:00 a.m. at the Birmingham Office, Grosvenor House, 14 Bennetts Hill, Birmingham, B2 5RS**

### Members:

- Sue Beardsmore (Chair)
- Marion Blockley
- Rachel Chiu
- Izzy Mohammed
- Jude Pilgrim
- Alan Taylor
- Tom Tew (Trustee)

### Apologies:

- Alison Wedgewood

### Committee Business

#### 1. Welcome and Chair's Report

Oral

The Chair welcomed Verity Soons who would be representing the Secretariat Team at meetings going forward.

The Chair provided an update on her activities since the last meeting, highlighting her attendance at:

- Meeting with Vanessa and Highbury Hall Chair – reiterating what the Committee had described about the competitive environment and the need to develop.
- Black Country Living museum with Peter Luff
- Invited to Annual Meeting of Birmingham University.
- A meeting at the Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery who would be receiving 'Dippy', the iconic Diplodocus cast usually held at the Natural History Museum for temporary display.

The Chair regretted that she had been unable to attend the East Midlands awards ceremony due to unforeseen circumstances.

#### 2. Declarations of Interest

Oral

The following conflicting interests were declared and as such members would not be present in discussions for those applications;

- Alan Taylor – Ingestre Organgery- A sustainable restoration project (HG-15-00672) – Long involvement with the applicants and more recently handled planning application for Stafford Borough Council
- Marion Blockley – The plateways of Churnet Valley (HG-17-04443) - 5 years ago carried out a detailed survey of the area for Staffordshire County Council and English Heritage.

The following interests were declared and were not deemed conflicting. The members would remain present for the discussion;

- Jude Pilgrim – The Anstice- Great Building, Great History, Great Future (HG-17-05165)
- Marion Blockley –Regeneration of the Wedgwood Institute: An innovative enterprise hub for Burslem (HE-14-07346)
- Alan Taylor - Regeneration of the Wedgwood Institute: An innovative enterprise hub for Burslem (HE-14-07346)

### **3. Minutes of the meeting on 21 November 2017**

**CWM 2018 (1) 3**

The minutes were agreed as a true record of the meeting and signed by the Chair. The spelling of Tom Tew's name would be amended to ensure it was correct.

### **4. Matters arising from the minutes**

There were none.

### **5. West Midlands Overview Report**

**CWM 2018 (1) 5**

Vanessa Harbar presented the report and the Committee noted;

- An increase in applications for resilient heritage funding had been seen and two were in the pipeline for March.
- Work on the priority development areas continued as did sharing information about changes to funding during the transition year and consultation.
- Tom Tew gave an update on the Board presentation from Hull's City of Culture Team. which highlighted how HLF funding had enabled heritage to be celebrated within the programme.

The Committee were asked to formally approve an amendment to the grant percentage from 38% to 68% for Queen Street Gateway Townscape Heritage Scheme.

The Committee **APPROVED** the change of grant percentage.

### **6. Communications Report**

**CWM 2018 (1) 6**

The Committee noted the report.

### **7. West Midlands Budget**

Seven first round Heritage Grant applications had been received with a total request of £7,310,100 against a budget of £1,954,100. The Committee noted that prioritisation would be needed.

Three second round Heritage Grant applications (one deferred from June) had been received with a total request of £2,978,500. The Committee noted that the applications were fundable providing that they were high quality cases delivering good value for money

### **Grants for Places of Worship**

### **8. GPOW Overview and case papers**

**CWM 2018 (1) 8**

The Committee noted the overview paper and that there had been two second round applications decided at delegated batch level by the Head of Region since the last Committee meeting:

- GP-15-08357 - St Dubricius Church. Awarded a grant of £118,000 (67%)

- GP-16-02957 - Repair and History of Holy Trinity Church Preston Wynne. Awarded a grant of £220,900 (68%)

The Committee considered the application for;

- Repair and Regeneration of St Michael's Church, Brampton Abbots (GP-15-03687) – Grant £215,600 (61%) including and uplift of £22,100 (11%).

The Committee for West Midlands agreed to award the grant with the uplift.

## **SF4 first round applications for discussion and decision: Heritage Grants**

### **9. The Lock-Up; HG-17-00385**

**CWM 2018 (1) 9**

Applicant: West Midlands Police

Request: First Round Pass of £1,108,700 including development grant of £145,400 (61% of total eligible development costs)

Project: Project in a PDA in the centre of Birmingham to repurpose a grade 2 listed Victorian cellblock. The project would enable the story of West Midlands policing heritage to be told by opening the cellblock as a visitor attraction to a varied audience and enabling them to engage with a variety of new interpretations, volunteering opportunities and educational and outreach programmes. The project would see the rejuvenation of the building with renewed access into the building, work to protect original structures and the development of exhibitions as well as preservation of artefacts and digitisation of records.

The Committee for West Midlands agreed the application represented a HIGH priority for support and **AWARDED** a first round pass of £1,108,700 including development grant of £145,400 (61% of total eligible development costs).

### **10. The plateways of Churnet Valley; HG-17-04443**

**CWM 2018 (1) 10**

*Marion Blockley had declared a conflict for item 10 and was not present for the discussion*

Applicant: Staffordshire Wildlife Trust Ltd

Request: First Round Pass of £783,800 including development grant of £128,100 (71% of total eligible development costs)

Project: A project to share the story of the Churnet Valley Plateways through regeneration and restoration to protect surviving elements of historic iron railways and related structures. Work would allow the openly accessible area to be explored by visitors without further, irreparable, damage being caused and benefit biodiversity, wildlife connectivity and help to develop a sense of community.

The Committee for West Midlands agreed the application represented a medium priority for support and **REJECTED** the application due to the concerns raised and budget available for the meeting.

### **11. West Midlands Tails of Amphibian Discovery (T.O.A.D); HG-17-02488**

**CWM 2018 (1) 11**

Applicant: The Froglife Trust

Request: First round pass of £824,200 including development grant of £44,100 (93% of total eligible development costs)

Project: A programme of habitat conservation works for 10 sites to help preserve the UK's declining toad population. A varied activity programme would include volunteering and training opportunities in addition to exhibitions and educational programmes in local communities at 56 different sites, to educate and raise awareness of the need for conservation.

The Committee for West Midlands agreed the application represented a medium priority for support and **REJECTED** the application due to the concerns raised.

### **12. The Anstice- Great Building, Great History, Great Future; HG-17-05165**

**CWM 2018 (1) 12**

Applicant: Madeley Town Council

Request: First Round Pass of £1,494,400 including development grant of £133,900 (54% of total eligible development costs)

Project: A five year project to restore and reopen to the public a unique Grade II Listed building in the heart of Madeley providing a much needed community hub in a deprived local community. Work would see original features restored and retained where possible and open the building to a wide range of community uses including housing the local library, creation of commercial units, and the development of the Madeley Heritage Hub to engage with the local community.

The Committee for West Midlands agreed the application represented a high priority for support but **REJECTED** the application due to strong competition and funds available for the meeting.

### **13. Evesham Abbey Conservation Project; HG-17-05201**

**CWM 2018 (1) 13**

Applicant: Evesham Abbey Trust

Request: First Round Pass of £881,800 including development grant of £93,500 (35% of total eligible development costs)

Project: Repair and conserve the ruined walls and doors, carry out an archaeological assessment of the former site of Evesham Abbey and run activities. This is a distinct phase of future plans to turn the former nave and cloistral areas, into a public garden. As part of a Scheduled Ancient Monument and featuring on the England Heritage at Risk register, the project would allow protection of an ancient site of significant heritage value. The project would provide not only a new community space for public use but also opportunities for education, volunteering and other public engagement including exhibitions, art displays, tours, a schools programme amongst other engagement opportunities.

The Committee for West Midlands agreed the application represented a high priority for support and **AWARDED** a first round pass of £881,800 including development grant of £93,500 (35% of total eligible development costs).

### **14. Forward St Barnabas; HG-17-04455**

**CWM 2018 (1) 14**

Applicant: St Barnabas Church, Brampton Bryan

Request: First Round Pass of £290,000 including development grant of £26,000 (67% of total eligible development costs)

Project: To carry our urgent repairs and renovations to give the church a more stable and sustainable future. Investment would see the likely removal of the church from the At Risk Register through repairs to the roofing, stonework, structural cracks, metalwork and flooring. The additional of new visitor facilities such as heating, lighting and toilet facilities and heritage

exhibitions and related activities would encourage and allow better engagement with and use of the church from the community for a wider range of activities.

The Committee for West Midlands agreed the application represented a medium priority for support and **REJECTED** the application based on the concerns raised.

#### **15. Thomas Telford @ Wappenshall Wharf; HG-17-04180**

**CWM 2018 (1) 15**

Applicant: The Shrewsbury and Newport Canals Trust

Request: First round pass of £1,927,200 including development grant of £38,400 (76% of total eligible development costs)

Project: To restore historically significant Grade II Listed 19<sup>th</sup> century canal warehouses, one of which was designed by Thomas Telford, into exhibition and visitor spaces. The spaces would provide education and interpretation to visitors to learn about the history of the area, the waterways and Thomas Telford himself. The space would provide a meeting place for the local community as well as an innovative and engaging visitor experience and a new café.

The Committee for West Midlands agreed the application represented a low priority for support and **REJECTED** the grant based on the concerns raised.

#### **16. Prioritisation and feedback for first round applications**

**Oral**

Marion Blockley stepped out during initial prioritisation due to her earlier declared interest for The Plateways of Churnet Valley. Following agreement of the outcome for that application as rejection she re-joined the meeting to discuss the remaining high priority applications.

A consensus was reached to award a first round pass and development grant to the two highest priority projects. The Committee provided feedback to Officers for the applications which were unsuccessful on this occasion.

The Committee discussed feedback for Church applications more generally, considering the level of support available for these organisations and their transition from GPOW to HG applications.

#### **SF4 second round applications for discussion and decision: Heritage Grants**

#### **17. Ingestre Organgery- A sustainable restoration project; HG-15-00672**

**CWM 2018 (1) 17**

*Alan Taylor had declared a conflict for item 17 and was not present for the discussion*

Grantee: Friends of Ingestre Orangery

Request: A grant of £1,018,500 (66% of total eligible delivery costs)

Uplift: £510,300 (100%)

Project: To restore and preserve a Grade II Listed orangery and build a new extension to provide a new community building and interpret the heritage of the buildings and wider estate. Activities would range from hard hat tours and filming of the restoration through to schools engagement, research projects and exhibitions and heritage walks and courses. Income generating activities and new access routes would contribute to the long term sustainability of the site.

The Committee for West Midlands awarded a first round pass of £557,100 including a development grant of £48,900 (69% of eligible development costs) in December 2015.

The Committee for **AWARDED** a grant of £1,018,500 (66%)

**18. White House Cone Museum of Glass; HG-15-01744**

**CWM 2018 (1) 18**

Grantee: British Glass Foundation

Request: A grant of £980,000 (74% of total eligible delivery costs)

Uplift: £199,800 (26%)

Project: To display an internationally renowned glass collection within an existing building in a former crystal works which would be redesigned to make the best use of exhibition space available and increase access. The project would seek to protect the artefacts and make them available to a much broader audience through newly designed interpretation and activity plans and the utilisation of relationships and proximity to other glass heritage sites nearby.

The Committee for West Midlands had awarded a first round pass of £898,200 including a development grant of £118,000 (83% of eligible development costs) in September 2015.

The Committee for West Midlands **AWARDED** a grant of £980,000 (74%)

**19. Heritage of the RSC's Costume Workshop; HG-16-01551**

**CWM 2018 (1) 19**

Grantee: Royal Shakespeare Company

Request: A grant of £950,000 (33% of total eligible delivery costs)

Uplift: n/a

Project: Three year project to restore and enhance two Grade II Listed buildings in the centre of the theatre complex in Stratford. Original features of historically important buildings would be reinstated and preserved whilst non-listed buildings currently interfering with the aesthetic and functionality of original buildings would be removed and the site redeveloped. Improved access and interpretation plans would allow significantly greater engagement with a much wider audience.

The Committee for West Midlands awarded a first round pass of £950,000 including a development grant of £0 (0% of eligible development costs) in June 2017.

The Committee for West Midlands **AWARDED** a grant of £950,000 (33%)

*Tom Tew left the meeting early due to unforeseen circumstances and was not present for the remainder of discussions*

**SF4 first round Board applications for discussion and recommendation: Heritage Grants and Heritage Enterprise (March Board)**

**20. Moreton Hall Restoration and Hotel Training School; HE-17-05174**

**CWM 2018 (1) 20**

Applicant: Warwickshire College

Request: First round pass of £4,113,700, including development grant of £582,100 (89% of total eligible development costs)

Project: The project is to restore a currently unusable and fire damaged Grade II listed Edwardian house to its former glory. Following significant fire damage in 2008, some works were carried out to the building in 2009 to ensure it was structurally sound and watertight. The project would seek

to enable the reopening of the building to the public as a boutique hotel with a hospitality training school incorporated. As the centrepiece of the Moreton Morrell estate and built in 1907 the regeneration of the house would support employment, training and apprenticeships in the local community whilst encouraging sustained tourism to the area via the hotel and gardens. It would be recreated as a public heritage resource with gallery and interpretation delivered alongside a robust activity plan to share the history of the building and estate.

The Committee for West Midlands recommended the application as a **HIGH PRIORITY (1 of 2)** to the Board. A decision would be made at the March Board meeting.

## **21. Project Unlock; HG-17-02138**

**CWM 2018 (1) 21**

Applicant: Lord Leycester's Hospital

Request: First round pass of £2,418,900, including development grant of £314,100 (85% of total eligible development costs)

Project: To open Lord Leycester's Hospital, a key medieval site, to the public as a new visitor experience in Warwick. Established in 1571 and made up of multiple buildings the project would see this 450 year old institution opened to the public with renewed access to previously closed areas and with newly developed activity, accessibility and interpretation plans to engage a more diverse audience. Investment would see considerable renovations and restorations take place to the buildings and enable a number of artefacts demonstrating the history of the site, which are currently in storage, to be displayed for public viewing.

The Committee for West Midlands recommended the application as a **HIGH PRIORITY (2 of 2)** to the Board. A decision would be made at the March Board meeting.

### **21a. Prioritisation and feedback for first round applications**

**Oral**

The Committee had voted both applications as high priority and after further discussion considered this to remain correct.

## **SF4 second round Board applications for discussion and recommendation: Heritage Grants and Heritage Enterprise (March Board)**

### **22. Regeneration of the Wedgwood Institute: An innovative enterprise hub for Burslem; HE-14-07346**

**CWM 2018 (1) 22**

Grantee: United Kingdom Historic Building Preservation Trust

The Committee noted that the application was **WITHDRAWN**.

### **23. Charterhouse Heritage Park Phase 1, Coventry; HG-14-06252**

**CWM 2018 (1) 23**

Grantee: Historic Coventry Trust

Request: A grant of £4,329,800 (53%)

Uplift: n/a

Project: To renovate, adapt and open to the public a unique Grade I Listed Scheduled Monument of great significance in the centre of Coventry which would become a key venue for the City of Culture 2021. Paintings would be protected and restored and it would become a new heritage attraction with a strong visitor offer to sustain the site in the long term. Poor accessibility would be

addressed and development of the community garden would be undertaken to increase access routes and reinstate heritage features.

The Board awarded a first round pass of £4,729,800 including a development grant of £400,000 (82% of eligible development costs) in January 2015.

The West Midlands Committee agreed that the application would be recommended to the Board as a **HIGH PRIORITY** if a positive result regarding the acquisition of partnership funding was received. Without this, a **LOW PRIORITY** should be recommended. A decision would be made at the March Board meeting.

## **SF4 second round applications for discussion and decision: Townscape Heritage**

### **24. Townscape Heritage Overview**

**CWM 2018 (1) 24**

The Committee noted the report.

### **25. The Burges Quarter Townscape Initiative; TH-15-03109**

**CWM 2018 (1) 25**

Grantee: Coventry City Council

Request: A grant of £1,824,900 (53%)

Uplift: n/a

Project: To revive and regenerate an area of the city containing significant heritage dating to medieval times and which is a designated Conservation at Risk area. It would restore a number of frontages in one of the few remaining intact parts of the city to survive the war and post war redevelopments, uncovering medieval and pre-war historical elements which were not currently apparent. A number of other developments would also take place to create a more aesthetically pleasing and welcoming environment and deliver a range of Heritage based activities for engagement.

The Board awarded a first round pass of £1,997,000 including a development grant of £172,000 (89% of eligible development costs) in January 2016.

The Committee for West Midlands **DEFERRED** the decision for three months due to concerns raised.

## **Papers for information**

### **26. Corporate Update**

**CWM 2018 (1) 26**

The Committee noted the report.

### **27. Major Grants Overview**

**CWM 2018 (1) 27**

The Committee noted the report.

### **28. Any other business**

**CWM 2018 (1) 28**

There was none.

**The next meeting will be held on 5 June 2018**