

Heritage Lottery Fund Committee for Scotland

Summary report of the Committee for Scotland meeting held on 15 September 2011 in the New Lanark Mill Hotel, New Lanark from 9.00 a.m.

Present Seona Reid (Chair)
Ian Johnson
Eleanor McAllister
Willie Macleod
Mr Ross Noble
Simon Pepper
Katrina Thomson

The Committee convened on Wednesday 14 September 2011 to discuss the paper on HLF's next Strategic Plan.

1 Towards HLF's next strategy

CS 2011 (3) 1

Karen Brookfield Deputy Director for Strategy and Business Development reported on some recent Board decisions around forthcoming changes in the HLF grants portfolio, in particular:

From 3 October 2011 the policy on urgent acquisitions of portable heritage, that is heritage items and collections would change as HLF would no longer require a separate activity plan relating specifically to the item(s) purchased. The applicant would be required to tell HLF about the programmes they already ran and how they planned to integrate the acquisition into them.

Committee discussed the initial findings of the Strategic Plan 4 consultation.

The Committee meeting took place on Thursday 15 September 2011, starting at 9a.m.

1a Apologies for Absence

Oral

There were no apologies.

2 Chair's Report

Oral

The Chair thanked officers and particularly Eleanor Dickson for organising a very successful committee awayday and Lorraine Kika for arranging the project visits in this priority development area.

The Chair reported on recent HLF events and meetings attended. The Chair congratulated the team on achieving wide success for projects in Scotland at both the June and July Board meetings. Following the success of the two Scottish Landscape Partnership Schemes and on the basis of previously funded schemes, there might be opportunities to engage with the Minister for Environment and Climate Change.

3 Minutes of the last meeting on 16 June 2011 CS 2011 (3) 3

The minutes were agreed and signed by the Chair.

4 Matters arising from the minutes Oral

There were none.

5 Manager's Report & Overview CS 2011 (3) 5

Colin McLean, Head of Scotland, introduced the report.

Lews Castle: Officers reported noted that a second round application had recently been received for Lews Castle in Stornoway. It would be presented to the Board in November and to committee for comment via a recommendation between meetings beforehand.

Townscape Heritage Initiative: Members noted that two Scottish THI cases would be discussed at the September Board meeting, each seeking approval for a reduction in their approved purposes due to problems encountered by the projects during delivery which were linked to economic pressures facing the local authority grantees. These were Dysart THI (Fife Council) and Paisley THI (Renfrewshire Council).

Repair Grants for Places of Worship: Members noted that the next round of Repair Grants for Places of Worship would be presented to committee in December, bringing the decision date forward from March 2012. This was a pilot, as all the assessment would be done by HLF, reducing the assessment period to three months.

Communication and Outreach activity: HLF Scotland had launched a Facebook page. It was intended to use this as an advocacy and communication tool.

6 Scotland Budget CS 2011 (3) 6

Committee noted the available quarterly budget for the meeting and that they were able to support all second round applications which they considered met the appropriate quality threshold. There were no second round applications for decision in December but demand for second round applications in March 2012 was anticipated as being high.

The Committee noted that the value of first round applications on the day's agenda exceeded the available budget allocation. A reduced level of competition was expected for December. Where demand was uneven between meetings it was possible to review budget allocations in proportion to the levels of demand at each meeting.

7 Declarations of interest Oral

Ross Noble had reported a conflict for Item 18, Catrine Environmental Heritage Project as his son was the engineer involved in the project's delivery.

Simon Pepper reported a conflict in item 19 Mountain Woodland Restoration Project. Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH) were a partnership funder. He had no knowledge of the application but was a Board member for SNH.

Simon Pepper reported a conflict for item 23 Great Trossachs Forest Gateway Project. He had until 2009 been a member of the National Committee of the Forestry Commission Scotland (FCS). FCS was a project partner and owned some of the land involved in the project.

Katrina Thomson reported a potential conflict in item 27, STSTC: The Fyvie Castle Steadings Project as a former employee of the National Trust for Scotland (NTS) until 2009. NTS were a project partner. Committee agreed this did not constitute a conflict.

SP2 Case for discussion and decision

7a Cottier Project CS 2011 (3) 7a

DECISION: 1. AGREE CHANGE TO APPROVED PURPOSES
2. AGREE REDUCTION IN GRANT PERCENTAGE FROM 64% TO 60%
OF REVISED ELIGIBLE PROJECT COSTS

Four Acres Charitable Trust had received a grant of £1,878,000 (64%) from the Committee for Scotland in December 2003 towards the restoration of the A-listed former Dowanhill Parish Church and its interior for use as a theatre. The Church was now the home of the Cottier Theatre and Cottier's bar and restaurant. It was a Category A listed building and key landmark within an Outstanding Conservation Area. The building was of national importance and the interior was of international importance. The grantee now sought a reduced scheme of works whilst maintaining the level of original grant awarded. This resulted in a decreased grant percentage.

The Committee for Scotland 1) agreed to a change to the approved purposes and 2) agreed a reduction in grant percentage from 64% to 60%.

SP3 Board second round application for recommendation

The Committee discussed the following applications for presentation to the Board for decision.

7b Bees for Everyone: HG-09-04515 CS 2011 (3) 7b

Simon Pepper declared a potential interest as Scottish Natural Heritage was a partnership funder.

The Bumblebee Conservation Trust (BBCT) sought a grant of £340,000 (43% of eligible delivery costs) for a project which would be delivered across Scotland, England and Wales and which aimed to conserve bumblebee species and their habitats, whilst providing a wide range of participation and learning activities to a large number of people. The applicant had received a first round pass of £322,000 in March 2011.

SP3 Board first round application for recommendation and prioritisation

7c The Patrick Geddes Centre for Learning and Conservation: CS 2011 (3) 7 HG-11-00160

Scottish Historic Buildings Trust sought a first round pass of £2,803,700 including a development grant of £403,700 for a project which would restore and secure a sustainable future for A-listed Riddle's Court, a key medieval building in the heart of Edinburgh's Old Town World Heritage Site, through creating the Patrick Geddes Centre for Learning and Conservation.

7d The John Muir Award in England: HG-11-01829 CS 2011 (3) 7d

The John Muir Trust is seeking a first round pass of £347,400 (33%) including a development grant of £8,600(41%) to build on the success of the John Muir Award educational programme which was well established in Scotland and Wales, by supporting its implementation across England. The John Muir Trust was the UK's leading wild land conservation charity, founded in 1983 to safeguard the future of wild lands against development and to promote awareness and recognition of the value of such places

SP3 First round applications for discussion and decision

- **RPOW**

8 RPOW Overview

CS 2011 (3) 8

There were eight projects for decision at the meeting with a total grant request of £794,300 against an indicative budget of £787,000. It was therefore possible for the Committee to award grants to all projects recommended, if the applications were considered to be of an appropriate quality.

Committee noted that Officers had prioritised the applications against HLF's published priorities for and assessment criteria for the programme.

9 St Mary's Parish Church, Haddington: RP-10-07965

CS 2011 (3) 9

DECISION: FIRST ROUND PASS OF £145,000 INCLUDING DEVELOPMENT GRANT OF £20,000 (38% OF TOTAL ELIGIBLE DEVELOPMENT COSTS)

St Mary's Parish Church, Haddington sought a first round pass and development grant towards a programme of high level repairs to the A-listed building. The project would replace lead roofs, repair stonework and other urgent repairs to the landmark church.

Members noted the churches high heritage merit, strong people benefits and low project risk. Committee awarded a first round pass of £145,000 including development grant of £20,000 (38% of total eligible development costs).

10 Culross Abbey Church: RP-10-03972

CS 2011 (3) 10

DECISION: FIRST ROUND PASS OF £90,300

The A-listed Culross Abbey Church sought a first round pass towards a scheme of urgent repairs. The church and its location were of high heritage merit. The adjoining abbey ruins dated back to the 13th century and were designated as a Scheduled Ancient Monument. The project included essential repairs carried out to the fabric of the building to make it wind and watertight.

The Committee awarded a first round pass of £90,300.

11 St Margaret's Church Aberlour: RP-10-06019

CS 2011 (3) 11

DECISION: FIRST ROUND PASS OF £72,400 INCLUDING DEVELOPMENT GRANT OF £12,400 (75% OF TOTAL ELIGIBLE DEVELOPMENT COSTS)

St Margaret's Episcopal Church, Aberlour sought a first round pass and a development grant towards urgent high level repairs. The picturesque A-listed church was the only remaining building from the former Aberlour Orphanage. Urgent high level repairs would be carried out to stop water ingress.

The Committee awarded a first round pass of £72,400 (36%) including a development grant of £12,400 (75%).

12 St Mark's Church (Gate Fellowship): RP-10-05795

CS 2011 (3) 12

DECISION: FIRST ROUND PASS OF £62,200 INCLUDING DEVELOPMENT GRANT OF £10,300 (75% OF TOTAL ELIGIBLE DEVELOPMENT COSTS)

St Mark's Church (the Gate Fellowship) had requested a first round pass and a development grant. The project would repair the potentially dangerous spire and tower and address damage to masonry, rainwater goods and roofs.

The Committee awarded a first round pass of £62,200 including a development grant of £10,300 (75% of total eligible development costs).

- 13 High Kirk Dunoon: RP-10-05989 CS 2011 (3) 13**
DECISION: FIRST ROUND PASS OF £68,900 INCLUDING DEVELOPMENT GRANT OF £15,300 (62% OF TOTAL ELIGIBLE DEVELOPMENT COSTS)

The Church of Scotland General Trustees sought a first round pass including a development grant to carry out urgent repairs to the High Kirk, Dunoon.

The Committee awarded a first round pass of £68,900 including a development grant of £15,300 (62% of total eligible development costs).

- 14 Ferryhill Parish Church, Aberdeen: RP-10-06833 CS 2011 (3) 14**
DECISION: FIRST ROUND PASS OF £97,800 INCLUDING DEVELOPMENT GRANT OF £10,900 (75% OF TOTAL ELIGIBLE DEVELOPMENT COSTS)

The Congregational Board of Ferryhill Parish Church had requested a first round pass including a development grant towards a repair project for the church building. The project focused on repairs to the tower, spire and roofs of the B listed church.

The Committee awarded a first round pass of £97,800 including a development grant of £10,900 (75% of total eligible development costs).

- 15 Our Lady & St Andrews Church, Galashiels: RP-10-07960 CS 2011 (3) 15**
DECISION: FIRST ROUND PASS OF £125,000

The Archdiocese of St Andrews and Edinburgh sought a first round pass towards urgent repair works to secure the fabric of their B-Listed church, Our Lady and St Andrews Church in Galashiels. The project would repair and refurbish external stain glass windows and associated masonry to this regionally significant historic building.

The Committee awarded a first round pass of £125,000.

- 16 St Aidan's Church, New Kirk: RP-10-03484 CS 2011 (3) 16**
DECISION: FIRST ROUND PASS OF £132,700 INCLUDING DEVELOPMENT GRANT OF £11,700 (75% OF TOTAL ELIGIBLE DEVELOPMENT COSTS)

Broughty Ferry New Kirk sought a first round pass and a development grant towards a project that would repair and conserve the church building of B listed St Aidan's Broughty Ferry. The project consisted of stone work repairs and replacement, in particular to the building's spire.

The Committee agreed this was a project worthy of support and awarded a first round pass of £132,700 including development grant of £11,700 (75% of total eligible development costs).

- 17 Prioritisation Oral**

The Committee agreed all Repair Grants for Places of Worship projects were worthy of support and approved first round passes to all.

SP3 Second round applications for discussion and decision

18 Catrine Environmental Heritage Project: HG-09-00757
DECISION: AWARD GRANT OF £660,000 (17%)

CS 2011 (3) 18

Ross Noble left the room before discussion commenced

The Catrine Environmental Heritage Partnership (CEHP) sought a grant towards the repair and interpretation of Catrine's 18th century water power system which was originally built in order to supply water from the River Ayr via the village to the Catrine Cotton Works. The village of Catrine in East Ayrshire had one of the earliest cotton mills in Scotland, and the historic system was a Scheduled Ancient Monument, but also central to the biodiversity and social history of the area. This project would restore the physical features of the system and, once more utilising the water's power, electricity would be generated. The applicant had received a first round pass of £740,000 including a development grant of £90,000 in September 2009.

The Committee for Scotland agreed the project would deliver significant benefits, provide learning opportunities and a new community facility whilst also contributing to Catrine's wider regeneration and awarded a grant of up to £660,000 (17% of eligible delivery costs).

19 Mountain Woodland Restoration Project:
DECISION: AWARD GRANT OF £528,900 (21%)

Simon Pepper left the room before discussion commenced.

Highland Birchwoods (HB) requested an award to deliver a project, which through large scale planting would contribute to the re-establishment of mountain woodland, with the aim that these areas would eventually become self sustaining. Mountain woodland softened harsh, unnatural edges to commercial woodlands and was an important but scarce part of the Scottish landscape which hosted a range of rare species. Extensive provision for training places and learning events would be provided and would help build capacity within the sector and raise awareness amongst the public about the importance of these species and their impact on the landscape. A first round pass of £525,800 including a development grant of £25,800 had been awarded in November 2010.

Members noted the further development requirements listed in the paper and requested that the three planting sites should be confirmed and approved by HLF no later than the end of January 2012, and progress reported back to the Committee's March meeting.

20 Conservation and display of the Nigg Pictish Monument; HG-10-01100
DECISION: AWARD GRANT OF £119,800 (67%)

Nigg Old Trust sought a grant towards a project to re-display the Nigg Pictish Monument, within the old parish church, and significantly improve the interpretation. The former parish of Nigg lay at the northern entrance to the Cromarty Firth and extended up to the Tarbat Peninsula. In and around this area were a number of intricately carved monumental stone slabs dating from the 6th to the 9th centuries. They are the most visible remaining evidence of the Picts and the example at Nigg is considered to be one of the most impressive due to the quality of the design work and its near complete preservation. The applicant had received a first round pass of £131,900 including a development grant of £12,100 in March 2011.

The Committee for Scotland agreed this project offered potential to deliver good heritage benefits and awarded a grant of up to £119,800 (67% of eligible delivery costs).

21 Prioritisation

All three second round applications were supported.

SP3 First round applications – Heritage Grants

22 Dunoon Burgh Hall Project; HG-11-01091

DECISION: FIRST ROUND PASS OF £476,900 INCLUDING DEVELOPMENT GRANT OF £55,100 (38% OF TOTAL ELIGIBLE DEVELOPMENT COSTS)

Dunoon Burgh Hall Trust (DBHT) sought a first round pass and a development grant towards the conservation and repair to the B-listed Burgh Hall and the creation of a community arts facility. A programme of learning and participation opportunities would be provided.

The Committee for Scotland agreed this was a strong scheme which had potential to save and conserve an historic building and to bring it back to its original use as a community facility. They awarded a first round pass of £476,900 including development grant of £55,100 (38% of total eligible development costs) to this high priority project.

23 Great Trossachs Forest Gateways Project; HG-11-00362

DECISION: FIRST ROUND PASS OF £834,800 INCLUDING DEVELOPMENT GRANT OF £24,300 (75% OF TOTAL ELIGIBLE DEVELOPMENT COSTS)

Simon Pepper left the room before discussion commenced.

The Woodland Trust Scotland sought a first round pass and a development grant towards a further phase of works to conserve important habitats and wildlife, by restoring and conserving woodland pastures at Glen Finglas, native woodland at Inversnaid and habitat corridors within the Great Trossachs Forest. As well as protecting important natural heritage, the project would also improve physical and intellectual access to this significant landscape.

The Committee for Scotland agreed the project was a high priority for support and they approved a first round pass of £834,800 including development grant of £24,300 (75% of total eligible development costs).

24 Opening Up the Theatre Royal; HG-11-00488

DECISION: FIRST ROUND PASS OF £761,200 INCLUDING DEVELOPMENT GRANT OF £11,800 (94% OF TOTAL ELIGIBLE DEVELOPMENT COSTS)

Scottish Opera Ltd (SO) had requested a first round pass with a development grant towards the 'Opening Up the Theatre Royal' project. The A listed Theatre Royal dating back to 1895 had significant social history. This heritage project was presented as part of the overall redevelopment. Dedicated education and exhibition space would be created in the new building, facilitating a programme of heritage events. The project aimed to deliver a variety of learning opportunities for a range of audiences, from primary and secondary school pupils and university placements to local community groups.

The Committee for Scotland approved a first round pass of £761,200 including development grant of £11,800 (94% of total eligible development costs).

25 The Old Courthouse, Campbeltown Project; HG-10-06601

DECISION: REJECT

Strathclyde Building Preservation Trust (SBPT) has requested a grant of £470,000 (41%) including development funding of £42,000 (45%) towards a project that will repair and restore the Old Courthouse in Campbeltown. The site will become a small business hub and a programme of activities will explore its heritage which reflects social and architectural change in the West of Scotland.

The Committee for Scotland agreed the project was a high priority for support due to the urgency of the heritage need and the potential project benefits. The application was rejected in light of the available budget to be allocated at the meeting.

26 Discovering Dumfries & Galloway's Past; HG-10-07071
DECISION: REJECT

The University of Glasgow's Archaeology Department sought a first round pass of £147,000 including a development grant of £15,500 (42% of eligible development costs) towards a three year community archaeology project in Dumfries and Galloway. The project would focus on non-invasive geophysical archaeology; training volunteers to use high-tech but accessible equipment. The final year would see three small scale excavations to further inform the results of the non-invasive work.

The Committee noting the project presented an opportunity for high quality community engagement in an important area of Dumfries and Galloway's heritage agreed this was a medium priority for support. The project was rejected in light of the available budget at the meeting.

27 STSTC: The Fyvie Castle Steadings Project; HG-11-00852
DECISION: REJECT

The Scottish Traditional Skills Training Centre (STSTC) sought a first round pass of £880,800 including a development grant of £90,000 (35% of eligible development costs) towards the redevelopment of Fyvie Castle's Old Home Farm Steading into a heritage skills training centre.

The Committee agreed that in the light of the risks associated with project planning and long term viability, the application was a low priority for support and rejected the application.

28 Galloway House Gardens Development Project; HG-10-05078
DECISION: REJECT

Galloway House Gardens Trust sought a first round pass of £731,600 including a development grant of £82,600 (90% of eligible development costs) towards restoring key elements of a nationally important Designed Landscape and engaging the community with its Gardens and broader heritage. Located near Garlieston on the Machars Peninsula, Galloway House Gardens formed an integral part of a Designed Landscape on the Historic Scotland Inventory.

A number of areas of risk had been identified. The Committee for Scotland agreed that due to the concerns raised the application was not supportable.

29 Moffat Spa Hall; HG-11-00825
DECISION: REJECT

Moffat Town Hall Redevelopment Trust sought a first round pass of £505,400 including a development grant of £47,000 (53% of eligible development costs) towards a project which would restore the B Listed Town Hall and provide a sustainable use for the benefit of the local community.

The Committee for Scotland agreed the current project was premature, high risk and there were concerns about the projects long term sustainability. For these reasons the project was rejected.

30 Prioritisation

Simon Pepper left the room before prioritisation commenced.

The Committee had rejected *Galloway House Gardens Development Project* (item 28) and *Moffat Spa Hall* (item 29).

