

Applications for Coalfield Neighbourhood Fund**Application No. 1**

Funding Source	Neighbourhood Fund
Name of Project	Philadelphia Power Station Condition Survey
Lead Organisation	Community Opportunities (SNCBC)

Total cost of Project	Total Match Funding	Total NF Application
	£0	£8,300
Project Duration	Start Date	End Date
	April 2021	September 2021

Project Description:

Community Opportunities propose to lead a project to understand the condition of a local building with heritage significance, specifically the Old Power Station, Philadelphia, Houghton-le-Spring, DH4 4UG. The building is a large former power station constructed from solid brickwork, masonry walls, an insitu concrete lower ground floor, a suspended reinforced concrete and steel upper ground floor and with a dual pitched roof on steel trusses covered with profiled steel sheeting. The building dates from around 1914 and has been vacant and subject to a range of anti-social behaviour and theft for most of its recent past and is currently being leased to provide storage facilities for a regional heritage bus group.

The building will be surveyed using a combination of drone footage and external ground level inspection by Doonans Architects who will lead the inspection and will include BT Bell Consulting Engineers. Their comments will be incorporated within the report which alongside the written report will include photographic records, sketch plans etc. The work to be carried out is of a specialist nature and Doonans have experience of carrying out similar works to a range of heritage sites in Sunderland but also nationally and regionally and are familiar with co-ordinating a team of specialists to produce the condition report.

We will liaise with the Owner and current tenants of the site to enable the Conservation Architect, Surveyors, and relevant contractors to visit and complete works and will hold inception and update meetings to enable the final report document to be compiled. The condition survey report will enable then inform the appropriate next steps and will form the basis of funding applications for future financial support.

The purpose of the condition survey is to understand the capital works requirement to the building with a view to examining whether it may provide a venue for a community heritage attraction in the longer-term. The survey will provide the detail of the scope of capital repairs that will be required to the building structure to make it habitable for wider purposes than storage. This project therefore links with the Coalfield Work Plan Priority: to Preserve and Celebrate Local Heritage and links with the Vibrancy workstream of the Sunderland City Plan.

Recommendation

The Neighbourhood and Communities Board recommend approval of this project, which delivers to the Coalfield Area Investment Delivery Plan Priority of Preserve and Celebrate Local Heritage.

Application No. 2

Funding Source	Neighbourhood Fund
Name of Project	Laptop Loan Scheme
Lead Organisation	Sunderland City Council on behalf of four schools

Total cost of Project	Total Match Funding	Total NF Application
	£0	£40,000
Project Duration	Start Date	End Date
	April 2021	September 2021

Project Description:

The Coalfield Area Committee Work Plan identifies the need to support local young people who may not have access to relevant or suitable IT equipment to complete their studies. Students are more and more reliant on home working and without access to equipment may struggle to complete tasks or participate in online learning. It has been identified that although the DfE has provided a limited number of devices for children and young people eligible for pupil premium or free school meals, there are far more pupils in need than devices available. Alongside this cohort of pupils are large numbers of children and young people who do not fall into the 'disadvantaged' category but do not have access to relevant equipment for many reasons. Therefore Members have been keen to explore how a wider range of pupils can be supported.

In addition to the two secondary schools based in the Coalfield Area (Hetton and Kepier), it has been identified that many pupils with a DH4 or DH5 post code attend Biddick and St Roberts Schools in Washington. Therefore, the project has been discussed with all four schools to ascertain need and process for the proposed scheme.

Key features of the project include:

- Pupils must live in the Coalfield area to be eligible
- Each school will have responsibility for the purchase, management and distribution of the laptops. Retaining ownership of the equipment
- Each school will ensure that the correct and relevant software and security systems are installed on each laptop and ensure that acceptable use policies are in place with parents and pupils
- Each school will identify pupils who would benefit most from the equipment and ensure that if they do not have access to the correct device they will be a priority for the scheme
- Priority will be given to exam year pupils, where possible
- Each school will monitor and evaluate use and benefit
- Recognition will be given to Coalfield Sunderland Area Committee and Sunderland City Council
- The laptops will be owned by each of the schools with any future administration, updates and repairs being the responsibility of that school
- Each school will report, to us, the benefits the project has brought to their school, and more importantly, the pupils

Each school has submitted indicative costs for purchase and preparation of a laptop which would enable all pupils to access programmes relevant to their studies,

compatible with school systems, and installation of software and security programmes. Costs per device range from £330 to £450.

Each school has indicated that any financial support towards purchasing laptops would be appreciated and be of great benefit to individual pupils. To make a real difference it is recommended that £40,000 is awarded to this project, and allocated on a pro-rata basis depending on the number of pupils from the Coalfield area

- Hetton School £10,000
- Kepier £16,800
- Biddick £5,600
- St Roberts £7,600

Recommendation

The Neighbourhood and Communities Board recommend approval of this project, which delivers to the Coalfield Area Investment Delivery Plan Priority of Support Digital Learning.

Application No. 3

Funding Source	Neighbourhood Fund
Name of Project	Community Loco
Lead Organisation	Hetton Colliery Railway 200 Trust (HCR200)

Total cost of Project	Total Match Funding	Total NF Application
	£3,279	£15,000
Project Duration	Start Date	End Date
	June 2021	June 2022

Project Description

It is proposed to create a community structure to commemorate 200 years since the opening of the Hetton Railway, the intention is to create a sculpture using fabricated steel, coloured glass and light. A simplified 3d steel frame will be fabricated, using drawings of the original engine, to provide a steel skeleton of the locomotive. Paper templates will be taken of the open faces and these will be used to cut 350 glass tiles. The tiles will then be taken to workshop sessions in schools of 2 to 2½ hours. Each session would comprise a brief history of the Hetton Colliery Railway and its international importance. Work will be carried out with participants to create their own glass panel inspired by the history, learning and key themes. Ceramic techniques will be used to fuse the glass, giving each panel texture. When all of the tiles have been completed they will be fired in a glass kiln to form larger panel sections, which will be fitted to the steel frame of the locomotive to form the body panels of the sculpture, which will have LED lighting fitted. The completed work, approximately 4.5 feet long by 3.5 feet high by 2 feet wide, will be displayed at a local venue, such as the former Elemore Golf Club or the Hetton Centre.

Students and parents will learn of the international importance of the Hetton Colliery Railway. It will celebrate and commemorate the heritage of the Hetton Colliery Railway which, when it opened on the 18th of November 1822, was to be a landmark event of international importance in the development of railways. The railway ran from Hetton to the Staithes at Sunderland, the development of railways would follow at pace with the acclaimed Stockton to Darlington railway opening in 1825 and the

Liverpool to Manchester in 1830. George Stephenson designed the Hetton Colliery Railway and it was built by his brother Robert. George would become known as the Father of Railways, this was the start of momentous changes leading to the Victorian rail building revolution, which changed the world. An unveiling event will also be arranged.

Recommendation

The Neighbourhood and Communities Board recommend approval of this project, which delivers to the Coalfield Area Investment Delivery Plan Priority of Preserve and Celebrate Local Heritage.

NF Alignment Proposal 1

Funding Source	Neighbourhood Fund
Name of Project	Stephenson Trail
Lead Organisation	Stephenson Trail Task Group
ALIGN	£50,000

Coalfield Area Committee Delivery Plan refers to the fact that the Stephenson Trail was opened on the 18 September 1822 and Area Committee want to look at opportunities to improve the visual appearance, its usability and raise awareness about its purpose to preserve and celebrate local heritage. In addition, Members want to host a celebration event in partnership with the East and West Area Committees, which the trail runs through, at the turn of its 200th 'birthday' in September 2022.

The Stephenson Trail starts at Hetton le Hill Community Golf Course and ends at the River Wear. The trail is 11 miles long and takes approximately five hours to walk it from start to end. Further information about the Trail can be view via this weblink: https://www.sunderland.gov.uk/media/19367/The-Stephenson-Trail/pdf/The_Stephenson_Trail.pdf?m=636410807640400000

The November 2020, Area Committee endorsed the nominations to appoint three Councillors from the Coalfield area to attend a Multi Area Task Group, which is a joint initiative with the East and West Sunderland Area Committees.

In January 2021 the inaugural Task Group meeting was held with representatives from the Coalfields, East and West Sunderland Area Committees, Council Services, Hetton Colliery Railway 200 Trust and Sustrans. A vibrant discussion was held, with suggestions coming from all attendees which assisted in the development of an Action Plan with ideas and actions being formed under the following headings.

- a) Information boards and signage
- b) Sculptures along the trail/ Iconic art at beginning and end
- c) Environmental improvements (cutting down vegetation etc..)
- d) Enhance cycle route options
- e) Walking maps/guides
- f) Educational programme
- g) Install rest spots
- h) Raise awareness of route
- i) Promote historic importance
- j) Promote health benefits/encourage use

k) Hold celebration event/s in Summer 2022

To enable the Task Group to be proactive members are requested to consider supporting a request to align £50,000 to enable the delivery of the Action Plan, with further detail of funding proposals being presented to a future meeting. Potential project ideas identified to date, include:

- Interpretation boards
- Waymarkers
- Sculptures
- Iconic art works
- Digital trail
- Environmental improvements
- Cycle / walking route improvements
- Maps and guides
- Celebration events
- Educational programme

Recommendation

The Neighbourhood and Communities Board recommend alignment of funding to this project, which delivers to the Coalfield Sunderland Area Investment Delivery Plan Priority of Preserve and Celebrate Heritage

NF Alignment Proposal 2

Funding Source	Neighbourhood Fund
Name of Project	Bloom and Love Where You Live
Lead Organisation	Sunderland City Council
ALIGN	£20,000

Coalfield Area Committee Delivery Plan outlines plans to enhance 'Gateways' to the area and install flower tubs and barrier troughs (where feasible) in key locations. The Neighbourhood and Communities Board will develop the detail of each project which will include the purchase, planting, watering, maintenance and future upkeep of a number of planted floral schemes in the area. The locations agreed, to date, are Easington Lane around the memorial clock, and Shiney Row shopping area.

Recommendation

The Neighbourhood and Communities Board recommend alignment of funding to this project, which delivers to the Coalfield Sunderland Area Investment Delivery Plan Priority of Bloom Activity