

Applications for North Neighbourhood Fund

Application No. 1

Funding Source	Neighbourhood Fund
Name of Project	The Castle
Lead Organisation	Hylton Castle Trust

Total cost of Project	Total Match Funding	Total NF Application
£155,591.90	£55,591.90	£100,000
Project Duration	Start Date	End Date
2 Years	July 2022	Summer 2024

Project Description

The full project description is detailed below:
(verbatim from application)

The Castle at Hylton Castle has recently undergone a significant restoration over the last three years which in summary included a steel structure being lifted into the existing walls, a roof covering and floors created, alongside windows being fitted. This has enabled the internal use of the Castle structure so residents and the wider visiting public can engage with this significant heritage asset, viewing the remaining historic structure while also reliving some of the historic past of the site and local area.

Capital works to the Castle structure are complete and full building control sign off was granted on 26th May, 2021. The second phase of site development aims to bring the expansive external grounds into the visitor offer. £110,000 has been secured from National Lottery Heritage Fund (NLHF) Covid-19 support fund to enable the installation of temporary fencing and a marquee to the rear area of the Castle site. The North Area Committee have also allocated £100,000 from the Neighbourhood Investment Capital Funds to support the installation of a permanent fence and the Event Space Project We have been working with Historic England and an Accredited Conservation Architect to gain agreement for Scheduled Monument Consent and this was granted in principal in early May 2022. In parallel to this, an application has been submitted to the Planning Department and is currently being consulted on through the relevant statutory processes.

This application to Neighbourhood Fund builds on that proposal and seeks to secure funds to enable the further exploration and first phase of renovations at St Catherine's Chapel, Hylton Castle. The Chapel sits in a detached location to the north-east of the castle gatehouse and is surrounded by mature trees. The chapel is at a higher ground level than the gatehouse, close to the northern boundary wall of the site.

The Chapel consists of a main Nave space, with large east window and high windows to both the north and south elevations. The entrance is located in the west wall with a high-level mullioned window above. The ground to the east is raised with a large concrete base inside the nave. There are blocked doorways to the north and south walls and piscine to the south

wall, along with other ambulatory openings. To both the north and south walls, towards the west end, there are double height arches giving access to the two double storey transepts. These are chamfered with lancet windows, still surviving, to the west on the southern transept.

Externally the west elevation is characterised by a large arch feature which contains a high-level stone mullioned window and an arched doorway below with squared quoins. Generally, the walls are constructed with large sandstone coursed blocks although there are areas of other walling. The Chapel currently stands as a roofless structure, with the Nave walls extending full height up to eaves level and including the apexes to both the gable walls, which are capped with stone water tables.

The Chapel is described in the listed building description as dating back to c1400 with alterations in c16 and repairs c18. A comprehensive priced condition survey has been completed by Doonan Architects and their consulting engineers to consider costs of restoration of the Chapel which include addressing areas of cracking, erosion, repointing mortar. The survey is currently being extended to include a study to determine the structural and cost implication of installing a roof and consider the options for the use of glass in the windows and roof structure to tie in with the history of glass in the City and discussions have already begun with the National Glass centre team to work together on this. This approach would make the building weather tight and enable power to be connected to the building.

The feasibility study will include providing sketches of structures and associated costs and will include the advice of a structural engineer and quantity surveyor. £5,000 plus VAT has been allowed in this proposal to enable the conservation architects to complete more comprehensive design information once the preferred options of repair and restoration have been agreed with such as Historic England, English Heritage and Sunderland City council. A further amount of £7,500 has been ringfenced to allow the accredited conservation architect to submit the required schedule monument approvals and to meet the planning permission requirements associated with the restoration works.

A budget allocation of £77,500 has been identified to contribute to the first phase of repair works which will include addressing cracks to the stonework, replacing mortar and filling gaps to remove water traps and water ingress into the stone and digging out and replacing degraded mortar. Some work is required to piece in stones to match the existing stones and point up the surrounding stones, install ties within bed joints across cracks to the buttresses, make good the mortar capping. The inner face of stones to the southern transept is severely eroded and will require 6 courses of stone to be carefully removed, the inner face cut back and be rebuilt. There is also a need to renew various areas of mullion and also tracery stone, and to inspect the stability of the remaining crest which potentially needs a steel bar inserting to support the coping. All works will be carried out in full consultation with Historic England and will be led by the Conservation Architect.

A budget allocation of £10,000 has been allocated to management costs, ecological and archaeological surveys. Hylton Castle Trust will apply to external bodies such as Arts Council, Historic England, National Lottery Heritage Fund to secure support to deliver phase two of the repairs which will include the installation of a roof and windows to the structure. The repaired Chapel will retain a further heritage asset in the City of Sunderland and will complement the offer available at the Hylton Castle site.

Project Costs:

Item and Description	Total Costs	Match Costs	NF Contribution
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Roof and window design drawings	£5,000		£5,000
Conservation Architect – planning and SMC	£7,500		£7,500
management costs, ecological and archaeological surveys	£10,000		£10,000
Repairs and restoration works	£133091.90	£55591.90	£77,500
Total	£155,591.90	£55591.90	£100,000Com

Recommendation

April Board recommended Approval as part of the area priority **Promote Heritage Assets and Deliver Heritage Activities**

Application No. 2

Funding Source	Neighbourhood Fund
Name of Project	Christmas at the Castle
Lead Organisation	Hylton Castle Trust

Total cost of Project	Total Match Funding	Total NF Application
£165,000	£65,000	£100,000
Project Duration	Start Date	End Date
2 Years	July 2022	Winter 2023

Project Description

The full project description is detailed below:
(verbatim from application)

The Castle at Hylton Castle has undergone a significant restoration over the last three years which in summary included a steel structure being lifted into the existing walls, a roof covering and floors created, alongside windows being fitted. This has enabled the internal use of the Castle structure so residents and the wider visiting public can engage with this significant heritage asset, viewing the remaining historic structure while also reliving some of the historic past of the site and local area. Capital works to the Castle structure are complete and full building control sign off was granted on 26th May, 2021.

The second phase of site development aims to bring the expansive external grounds into the visitor offer. £110,000 has been secured from National Lottery Heritage Fund (NLHF) Covid-19 support fund to enable the installation of temporary fencing, boundary fencing, fitted out marquee to the rear area of the Castle site and extended car parking provision matched to £100,000 Neighbourhood Capital Funding awarded June 2021 for the Hylton Castle Events Space Project.

This application to Neighbourhood Fund builds on that proposal and seeks to secure funds to enable development of the enclosure area and wider grounds by developing a Winter Spectacular in the grounds of Hylton Castle and Dene. This proposal will enable the development of the first phase of what will be an annual event to showcase an important North Sunderland heritage asset and provide residents with an opportunity to explore the outdoor environment and socialise in their community.

The display will be developed utilising the trees/woods at either side of the entrance to the site entering via a light tunnel for vehicles leading to a pedestrian only tunnel taking visitors through to the rear of the site. The trees to the roadside of the Castle will be illuminated and there will be a bespoke illumination scheme within the Chapel ruins. There will be a range of static and revolving projections in front of the Castle, and these will complement the external lighting system already in place at the site. To create the element of surprise the main focus of the phase one display will be to the rear of the castle. A submission has recently been agreed by Sunderland City Planning department with Historic England providing Scheduled Monument Approval process agreement to install 320 metres of temporary fencing in an arena style and providing a marquee structure within this.

A series of special features with high interactivity and providing stopping points for photo opportunities will be situated in the grounds to the rear of the site and may include such as Giant baubles which can be walked through, giant reindeer you can be pictured with. We will also incorporate some educational aspects to the display potentially being static musical instruments such as wood hanging from rope displays, giant xylophone made from metal etc.

The display will use floodlighting and festooning to create safe and well-lit walkways while shadowing some of the extensive areas of the site to create mystery. Volunteers will create a winter spotter of items that will be hidden around the spectacular to complement the smaller Christmas themed features which would be deployed in key areas to enhance the main displays but also these are very attractive to children of all ages.

It is proposed to purchase the illumination items and such as the festoon and tree lighting will be used all year round to support such as summer camps for young people. Purchasing also gives access to a wider range of items as the availability to lease is much restricted in choice.

The Trust intend to build on the illuminations experience year on year with the ultimate aim to create a regional visitor attraction, highlighting the heritage assets of Sunderland. Trustees will be discussing with Senior Council Officers how the event can tie in to the City Events offer following a trial with the Business Improvement District Halloween activities in 2021.

Project Costs:

Item and Description	Total Costs	Match Costs	NF Contribution
Key large scale spectacular items	£35,000		£35,000
Festoons/floodlighting and Castle projection aspects -	£10,000		£10,000
Smaller Christmas features	£ 3,000		£ 3,000
Light tunnels, small marquee hire for activities etc	£ 25,000		£ 25,000
Cables/extensions/consumables	£ 2,000		£ 2,000
Design and curation of scheme	£10,000		£10,000
Volunteer resources for musical equipment and displays	£10,000		£10,000
HCT Management and insurance costs	£ 5,000		£ 5,000
	£65,000	£65,000	

Events Marquee and enclosure (total cost and in kind)			
Total	£165,000	£65,000	£100,000

Recommendation

April Board recommended Approval as part of the area priority **Promote Heritage Assets and Deliver Heritage Activities**

Application No. 3

Funding Source	Neighbourhood Fund
Name of Project	Downhill Community Hub
Lead Organisation	Community Opportunities Ltd

Total cost of Project	Total Match Funding	Total NF Application
£113,928.23	£13,928.23	£100,000
Project Duration	Start Date	End Date
2 Years	July 2022	April 2024

Project Description:

The application has been developed by Community Opportunities and the full project description is detailed below:

(verbatim from application)

The Downhill Community Hub is based in the Redhill ward and has been subject to recent and ongoing remedial works supported by funding from the Neighbourhood Fund. This has enabled single glazed metal framed windows to be replaced with double glazed units, security to be improved and modernised, the crumbling tarmac entrance way has been dug out and reapplied and a dedicated upgraded entrance area has been created. The next phase of capital works will include improvements to the large on-site kitchen area, toilets and hall activity space.

Activities in the hub are being developed to respond to issues and ideas raised by residents through the recent Let's Talk public consultation exercise and will also contribute to achieving the strategic priorities set out in the City Plan. To date this includes after school clubs regularly attracting over 25 +children per session, holiday activity clubs attracting over 30 participants per session, regular activities for young people with disabilities and additional needs and targeted youth activities. A toddler group has recently commenced, and a small book, games and jigsaw share club is currently under development. Cooking sessions will be rolled, working in partnership with the community garden, when the next phase of refurbishments are complete.

This proposal seeks to enable the creation of a Hub Co-ordinators role for a two year period to take forward the next phase of delivery of services for the community. The Co-ordinator will work closely with the Redhill Raising Aspirations project to carry out a further consultation with residents in the area to ensure we have an understanding of services they would like to engage with. Previous consultation feedback suggested this would include utilising the extensive indoor and outdoor facilities to provide a range of environmental activities such as a community garden, home grown allotment ideas, children's scavenger hunts and picnics. The Hub will provide a base for the delivery of such as training, learning, employability support and will work in close partnership with the North REACT project expertise to deliver this and with the a a range of partners to facilitate introductory sports, leisure and health activities.

The Co-ordinator will set up a reference library at the reception area which will also house a 'swap shop' of books, jigsaws, games etc. We will set up an ICT drop in point and offer hands on help for people to apply digitally for such as their bus passes, book leisure activities and outings online and support residents to gain confidence in working within the digital world.

The centre is currently well used on an evening and the Co-ordinator will target extending the daytime use through establishing a luncheon club, exercise and sports sessions, social club sessions such as coffee morning, cooking classes and building up an archive of photos and memories of the Redhill ward over the years. We will offer dance classes and potentially such as brunch clubs and relaxation sessions. We will continue our work in partnership with the Covid Community Hubs and support individual residents in the community to access early intervention support in partnership with such as social care services.

The co-ordinator will be responsible for facilitating room rental for local groups, taking fees, operating the booking system and compiling funding applications for small pieces of project delivery and developing to secure funds to sustain the future of service delivery. We have allowed costs to cover in-centre cleaning and caretaking/repair requirements, activity resources and equipment and a contribution towards costs of rent, rates and utilities.

Project Costs:

Item and Description	Total Costs	Match Costs	NF Contribution
Hub Co-ordinator – salary and oncosts @ 21%- two years	£60,454.00	0	£60,454.00
Holiday and sickness cover	£8,138.00	0	£8,138.00
Cleaning, caretaking etc – 1.5 hours per week x 7 days	£6,936.93		£6,936.93
Activity Resources and Equipment inc office equip	£18,000	£ 6,000	£12,000.00
Contribution to rent, utilities, rates and repairs	£10,400		£10,400.00
Management and accounting	£10,000	£7,928.93	£ 2,071.07
Total	£113,928.93	£13928.93	£100,000

Recommendation

April Board recommended Approval as part of the area priority: **Support the Voluntary and Community Sector to Provide Additional Services and Extend Opening times with Local Community Venues as Well as Host Community Events, Activities and Nurture Family Learning**