

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

Funding Source	Neighbourhood Fund
Name of Project	Raising the Roof
Lead Organisation	Fulwell Community Library

Total cost of Project	Total Match Funding	Total NF Application
£74,000	£55,750	£18,250
Project Duration	Start Date	End Date
2 Months	April 2021	May 2021

ALL PROJECT DETAIL TAKEN VERBATIM FROM APPLICATION**Project Description:**

Fulwell Community Library has over 100 volunteers helping to deliver the services provided from the venue including:

- A community café is now established and welcoming visitors to the venue. Prices are kept low and the café has been expanded to almost twice the size to accommodate a growing number of customers.
- Access to computers is available for those carrying out employment searches. Following the withdrawal of the printer from late March a new computer system has been installed making the library the most up to date in the City.
- Volunteers are providing a children story time session within the venue. This consists of stories for primary school children. Also running is a Rhyme time for babies and toddlers and a young mothers group.
- A local art group is exhibiting in the library and any sales achieved will result in a percentage donation to the library. The library also runs an Art Group many of who were new to art but have developed to the point where they have exhibited in the City
- The Community Library has joined the Sea Road and Fulwell Traders group in order to establish links with local traders and support the development of the local area. This led to the provision of a Christmas Tree and further illuminations in the area.
- A Community Choir is established and meets on a weekly basis and has 80 members. Many of these are from hard to reach individuals who come in company with friends.
- A local Ukulele group meet in the library and have 20 members
- Craft sessions are delivered to the local community with both a textile group and Knit and Natter where beginners are welcome.
- A Readers Group and a separate Writers Group meet in the library.
- Holistic sessions available for those interested.
- A monthly Quiz session is held
- Regular events such as afternoon teas, drama productions, talks, I-pad sessions and beetle drives are held among other activities.

The services and activities are accessed by all members of the community from young to old and from all areas of the North. In addition the library has become a focal point for those that are socially isolated by providing companionship and a safe, accessible and welcoming space for those with disabilities.

Due to the Covid Pandemic the Library has followed all guidelines and delivered the following:

- Book Deliveries within Sunderland North to Socially Isolated and a click and collect service.
- Worked in partnership with Friends of Fulwell with the delivery and collection of Activity Packs. Also can call on them for help with deliveries.
- Carried out major refurbishment project to improve our offering.
- Upgraded computer systems to state of the art Windows10 and 6 core processors, 22-inch monitors and a XEROX printer which is much more versatile than its predecessor.
- Gardening Project which is entering its final phase with numerous plants awaiting insertion. This has seen the boundary fence replaced and access to the public enhanced with two new gates and benches awaiting installation.
- Significant partner in Sea Road & Fulwell Traders Christmas Lighting and the Christmas Tree as well as helping with the cameras now fitted on Sea Road with plans for more. The library has helped the Traders access funding towards these ventures as well as underwriting the cost.
- Engaged Seaburn Rotary Club in various activities such as bulb planting and raising money.
- Encourage local authors and work with them including Glenda Young and Nancy Revell who are both on the national Best Seller lists on a regular basis and Sheila Quigley until her untimely death.

In order to continue the offer to the community the building needs to be fit for purpose and a warm, welcoming environmental for all. At the last door servicing the mechanic advised the front door had opened over 29,000 times since the last service even reducing by 30% this still leaves almost 50,000 visitors. The roof is now at the end of its life with leaks in several places and needs to be replaced by carrying out the following:

- Removal of the skylights on the roof which are in most cases not working and seized up.
- Strip the roof and fit a DPM rubber solution with a projected life of 30 years guaranteed. The roof will be boarded with Marine Ply.
- Installation of insulation which at present is non-existent in order to reduce utility bills with anticipated reduction of 20%.
- Fit a solar PV system which has a back-up battery. At its 7Kw rating it has been determined that it can run the electric system for 3 hours at full rating which will help over the winter. On days of low sunlight the battery, if depleted can recharge from lower cost overnight electricity. It is expected this system can save the library £600+ on electricity almost half of current usage.

Project Monitoring and Management:

The project will be monitored by regular board meetings by the Fulwell Community Library CIC and a member of the Board will be nominated to be project lead to liaise with the contractors.

Budgets will be managed via our financial recording, within accountancy spreadsheets in line with the CIC structure and invoices will be provided as evidence. We use a VT spreadsheet compatible with accountancy practices and employ an accountant to submit our Corporation Tax returns.

All budgets will be monitored to ensure a competent job is done.

Financial Breakdown:

Item and Description	Total Costs	Match Costs	NF Contribution
Replace roof	62,500	50,000	12,500
Install Solar System	11,500	5750	5750
Total	74000	5750	18250

If approved the following conditions are recommended:

- **Evidence Provided of Landlords Consent**
- **Evidence of Match Funding to be Provided**

Recommendation – Approve

The Neighbourhood and Community Board recommend approval of this project, which delivers to the North Area Investment Delivery Plan Priority of **Support the voluntary and community sector to provide additional services and extend opening times within local community venues as well as host community events, activities and nurture family learning**

Application No. 2

Funding Source	Neighbourhood Fund
Name of Project	Wagon Shed Development Plans
Lead Organisation	The Fans Museum

Total cost of Project	Total Match Funding	Total NF Application
£11,384	£0	£11,384
Project Duration	Start Date	End Date
2 Months	April 2021	May 2021

ALL PROJECT DETAIL TAKEN VERBATIM FROM APPLICATION

Project Description:

Over the last 3 years we have secured the future of our Grade 2* listed building and created the Fans Museum, already a much-loved local institution, and a place, not only for football fans, but for everyone with an interest in the history of working people in our city, and an oasis for local residents, people with disabilities and the isolated and lonely. The next stage of our project is to grow the facilities at the Fans Museum to increase the number of visitors, volunteers and jobs, and to contribute positively to the regeneration of this area. Our key next phase projects include:

- The addition of a second wagon shed giving more space for a wide range of heritage related activities and volunteering (the specific focus of this project).
- The restoration of the railway bridge and opposite platform to create a much needed pedestrian link and to provide a highly visible focus to the museum.
- Increased activities for school aged children and older people ensuring all day use of the building once Covid restrictions are lifted.
- A micro-brewery with a vision to create skilled employment and high-quality local produce.

We have been awarded 50% or up to a maximum of £60,000 from Sunderland City Council on a match funding basis to cover half the cost of the capital works for the wagon shed. We are keen to ensure that this element of the project can raise its match funding and that it is properly connected to our larger vision. Our immediate need is for £11,384 to cover the costs of developing more detailed architectural plans for the site and a topographic survey, employing a bid writer to raise the match funds for the capital works, and design and print costs to ensure that we are communicating effectively with potential funders, local residents and stakeholders about our plans. This grant will act as a key catalyst for us to bring money from outside Sunderland to enable the Fans Museum to reach its potential. Our aim is to highlight what we could do with the site and what it would mean to the local community and its stakeholders. In just one year of operations before Covid, the Fans Museum generated amazing local support and reach with minimal public funding. Our ambition is to come out of Covid with an amazing story, a more diverse offering, a great story of our heritage and people of all ages and all abilities attending on a daily basis. The Fans museum will bring together soccer stars of the past and present, children, tourists and people who once worked in the mines and shipyards.

Our plans to improve the current building, bridge and opposite platform fit exactly with the wider ambitions of the city for the surrounding area including the proposals for Riverside and

will help to ensure that older residents and those struggling in the likely K-shaped economic recovery from Covid are included in the growth of the city and its ambition.

In order to deliver the Wagon Shed project there are a number of initial costs which the Fans Museum needs to cover. In normal circumstances we would have met these costs from the income from our activities however the Covid pandemic has forced the Museum to be closed for almost the whole of the last year, depriving us of almost all regular income. We are therefore asking the Neighbourhood Funds for funding for the critical preliminaries, without which the project cannot proceed. The Fans Museum has already covered some initial costs, such as £700 for weed removal to enable an effective drone survey of the site. The initial costs we are looking to cover are: for a pre assessment element, that will be the starting point of the full project, we have another 3 possibly 4 elements of Architect drawings as well as more Digital offerings and more Design and Print, as well as many other surveys to be carried out, ground contamination, utility surveys, drainage surveys, structural surveys. We have not asked for any financial support previously, these costs are literally our starting point so we can then engage with the community and the city planning authority to enable us to show a unique visual and interactive offering of what we want to bring to the destination.

The fundraising element of this bid will cover the costs of researching which funders we can approach for this project, producing a case for support for the project, and making some initial applications. We are unable to provide a detailed list at this stage of which funders we will apply to, as establishing that list is part of the work. However we anticipate that it will include a number of well-known national funders (e.g. National Lottery Heritage Fund, Clore Foundation, Foyle Foundation, Esme Fairbairn Foundation) as well as more and regional local funders with an interest in community and/or heritage projects (e.g. Barbour, Vardy, Cookson). We will also consider applications to the various landfill tax credit providers (e.g. Biffa, FCC) and undertake a business case analysis on the possibility of utilising repayable finance from a social investor such as the Key Fund. Our preferred contractor for this work is Think Philanthropy, whose Director, Andrew Evans, is already working with Sunderland City Council on the Vibrancy strategy and has an extensive knowledge of funders with an interest in cultural, community and heritage projects in the area.

Through the consultation process funded by this grant we will involve other groups, such as Hetton 200, other railway and locomotive model groups (we are in contact with three such groups presently) and Network Rail to engage with and promote the project. This will drive footfall to the building, and help us recruit additional volunteers to support is in developing the full site to create a true full day experience. We believe our progress so far to be quick and efficient (we received a 35-year lease on the building and the offer of 50% funding for the capital works for the project on 22nd January) and this funding will enable us to keep that sense of momentum and engage the local community with our passion and desire to put Southwick and the North Side truly on the map.

The refurbishment of the listed spaces in a derelict area will present all those travelling on the Metro and Trains a view that will really create the word Gateway, and building the positive responses we will not only attract acknowledgements from our residents across the city, but those who will travel to see what we are creating. Enabling the footbridge to be restored and the opposite platform will be a great asset for our city

Partnerships:

Sunderland Football Club - Since setting up the Fans Museum we have been Integral to many aspects of support to the football club, being the starting process of the Fan Zone as

well as creating many charity fundraising nights at the SOL for many local charities. We have created something dynamic that is getting recognition from all other football clubs now and this will only grow when we can open up for many other heritage factors.

Sunderland University - The Fans Museum have been involved with many events for the University, creating days that International Students have loved and then shared their experiences back home to their families from different countries. We aspire to keep creating such amazing events that will enable students to look at Sunderland as their first choice, knowing they have a destination on their doorstep unlike another.

St Peters Church - Being steeped with history and having a huge link with the Fans Museum (we have a number of foundation stones from St Peters built into the Fans Museum) we can guarantee we will be embracing more to support St Peters. We will ensure we drive a footfall element to the church and to engage with our unique approach in doing so.

Sunderland College - Having supported the College now for three years by having work experience students, we have been informed we are a venue that many students want to choose to gain extra life experience as well as work experience. We plan to create more opportunities for students at the Fans Museum and will continue our partnership with the College.

Sunderland Council - The Fans Museum has covered many events to support SCC including the Mayor's Ball, Unison, Mens Health Days, even down to members of staff leaving parties. We see a very strong bond in what we have created and the knowledge that the building we are in will always be owned by Sunderland City Council.

Schools - We have supported schools from day 1, going into schools whilst we were still mobile to now seeing school parties visit us. We know when the holidays are here, we get a large number of children visiting. We find being the attraction we are, it is easy for all family members to have the common approach of loving football and how we engage with our Interaction is again something very unique.

Care Schemes – We have worked with children to make them aware of Dementia by taking them into care homes and hospitals to work alongside ourselves to let them understand what the world of Dementia is about. Post-Covid we will be emphasising the impacts of Isolation and Loneliness, something we have been pushing since March 2020 with daily videos of footballers telling their stories.

Vaux - We have a collection of over 2,500 items in our collection that will keep the heritage of Vaux brewery alive, as well as having Frank Nicholson involved. We see our plans for a micro-brewery not just to rekindle past history and engaging with the thousands that worked at Vaux, but also to provide jobs and an interactive attraction people can participate in.

Hetton Colliery Railway – We are looking to engage with this organisation and other locomotive enthusiasts.

Sir Peter Hendy, Chairman of **Network Rail** has provided us with a letter of support and we will partner with Network Rail on all the railway facing aspects of the site.

Project Monitoring and Management:

Michael Ganley will oversee the delivery of this element of the project. He will liaise and work with all parties involved to ensure completion of the design package ready for it to be launched and presented. Michael Ganley has over 25 years previous construction and building experience. He has lots of experience of project and risk management, and all proposed contractors will provide detailed work plans. Evidence can also be seen on what the Fans Museum has achieved thus far.

Our budget is based on quotations provided by experts we would like to work with on this project. Before signing any contracts we will obtain additional quotations for each area of expenditure to check we are receiving best value.

Financial Breakdown:

Item and Description	Total Costs	Match Costs	NF Contribution
Topographic Survey	1,320		1,320
Architects Fee	3,900		3,900
Bid Writing	3,564		3,564
Digital Design	1,800		1,800
Design & Print	800		800
Total	11,384		11,384

If approved the following conditions are recommended:

- Details of Board members – name and if applicable organisation representing
- Evidence of 3 or more Directors on CIC
- Evidence of All Required Documents submitted to Companies House
- Evidence of Lease in Place

Recommendation – Approve

The Neighbourhood and Community Board recommend approval of this project, which delivers to the North Area Investment Delivery Plan Priority of **Promote Heritage Assets and Deliver Heritage Activities**