

# Public Document Pack



## MOORLANDS PARTNERSHIP BOARD AGENDA

**Date:** Tuesday, 27 July 2021

**Time:** 10.00 am

**Venue:** Council Chamber, Moorlands House, Leel

19 July 2021

### PART 1

1. Apologies.
2. Notification of Substitute Members, if any.
3. To Approve the Minutes from the Previous Meeting. **(Pages 3 - 6)**
4. Disclosure of Interests:
  - Disclosable Pecuniary Interests:
  - Other Interests
5. Summary of Projects **(Pages 7 - 10)**
6. Financial Summary and Proposed Grant Awards **(Pages 11 - 16)**
7. Any Other Business.

### ANDREW STOKES CHIEF EXECUTIVE

#### Membership of Moorlands Partnership Board

Councillor M Bowen	Councillor J Davies
Councillor B Emery	Councillor E Fallows
Councillor M Gledhill	Councillor A Hart
Councillor I Lawson	Councillor L A Malyon
Councillor T Riley	Councillor D Shaw
Councillor H Sheldon MBE (Chairman)	Councillor S Walley

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## STAFFORDSHIRE MOORLANDS DISTRICT COUNCIL

### MOORLANDS PARTNERSHIP BOARD MEETING

#### Minutes

**TUESDAY, 16 MARCH 2021**

PRESENT: Councillor A Hart (Chair)

Councillors M Gledhill, Councillor I Plant, T Riley, H Sheldon MBE  
and Councillor S Wales.

APOLOGIES: Councillors M Bowen and P Wood.

**62 TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING.**

Due to technical difficulties experienced by Councillor Sheldon, the meeting was chaired by Councillor Hart (Vice-Chair).

**RESOLVED:** That the minutes of the meeting held on the 4<sup>th</sup> November 2020 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair, subject to, Councillor Gledhill's apologies being recorded for this meeting.

**63 DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS:**

Agenda No.	Member Declaring Interest	Nature of Interest
Items 4 & 5	Cllr Hart	Other – A member of Biddulph Town Council and had knowledge of the projects in Biddulph (supported by the MPB).
Items 4 & 5	Cllr Sheldon	Other – Chairman of Biddulph in Bloom which had received a grant from SMDC.
Items 4 & 5	Cllr Plant	Other – Ward Councillor and Treasurer of Cheadle in Bloom which had received grant funding from SMDC.
Item 4 & 5	Cllr Gledhill	Other – Ward Councillor for the projects in Leek (Victoria Buildings and 55 Chorley Street).

**64 SUMMARY OF PROJECTS AND UPDATE ON PROGRESS.**

The Board received a report on the current status of projects at:

## Moorlands Partnership Board - 16 March 2021

### **2015/16 OFFERS:**

#### Gazebo, Whitehough, Ipstones

Still waiting for doors to be installed and then the scheme would be complete. Officers recommended that if the works were not complete by 30 June 2021 the remaining grant of £1,000 was withdrawn.

### **2016/17 OFFERS:**

#### The Trough, Biddulph

Awaiting commencement.

### **2018/2019 OFFERS:**

#### Foxlowe, Leek

Works to repair the roof were complete and the final payment of grant had been made. The render repairs were also complete and payment of the grant had been made.

#### Leekbrook Interpretation Panels

The Leekbrook boards were with the designers and it was hoped to place the order with Leek Signs imminently.

### **2019/2020 OFFERS:**

#### Halls Road Community Notice Board, Biddulph

Notice boards were complete and in situ. Officers had requested photographs before payment of grant could be made.

#### 42 Crompton Road, Leek

No further update.

#### 55 Chorley Street

Works currently on site.

#### St Johns the Evangelist Church, Hollington

Works complete and grant paid

#### Kinglsey and Froghall Station Platform

The applicant was currently collating quotes for the work. Subject to availability of a suitable contractor they hope to commence works in approximately 3 months time.

#### Leekbrook Rail Track

No further update.

### **2020/2021 OFFERS:**

#### Gillow Heath Station

No update to report.

65 **FINANCIAL SUMMARY AND PROPOSED GRANT AWARDS.**

The Board received a report which contained a financial summary and sought Member's approval to allocate grant funding from the Moorlands Partnership Board in 2020/21. The budget for this year was £50,000.

This report allowed members to consider applications for environmental enhancement and heritage grants under the MPB for funding toward suitable projects within the district. To date the following awards had been made this financial year.

<b>Scheme</b>	<b>Budget £50,000 2020/21</b>
Cheddleton Station platform repairs	£4,000
Gillow Heath Station	£2,000
<b>Balance of funds</b>	<b>£44,000</b>
Total potential grant offers for this MPB meeting	
6 Russell Street	£3,650
<b>Remaining funds</b>	<b>£40,350</b>

The Finance Team had agreed to roll forward any unallocated funds to the subsequent 4 years funding of the MPB. That would equate to an enhanced budget of £60,350 in 2021/22 followed by a further 3 years with a £60,000 budget. However, the usual budget rules would apply and there would be no ability to carry forward any unused allocation.

Joanne Brooks (Regeneration Officer), also advised members that she had received a number of grant enquiries and that an application from Cheadle Cards, High Street in Cheadle was likely to be received in July 2021.

The Board discussed the possibility of an application for grant funding to be received for the repair of the summer houses at St Edwards Park in Cheddleton. A grant had previously been withdrawn for this project as the applicant was unable to demonstrate sufficient public access to the buildings. However, the new management were keen to proceed with the refurbishment and work with the Parish Council to address the issue around the public access. A Board member also confirmed that the summer houses were in public areas.

**RESOLVED:**

- 1) The Board **NOTED** the financial summary in 3.1 of the report and proposed enhanced funding for future years in paragraph 3.2.
- 2) Members **APPROVED** a 50% grant of £3,650 towards the repair of 4 sliding sash windows at the upper floor of 6 Russell Street, Leek at a cost of £7,300.

66 **ANY OTHER BUSINESS.**

The Chair thanked everyone for their attendance and the date of the next meeting (provisionally mid-July 2021), would be circulated to members in due in course.

**Moorlands Partnership Board - 16 March 2021**

The meeting closed at 11.00 am

\_\_\_\_\_Chairman \_\_\_\_\_Date

## STAFFORDSHIRE MOORLANDS DISTRICT COUNCIL

### Moorlands Partnership Board

27 July 2021

<b>TITLE:</b>	<b>Summary of Projects</b>
<b>PORTFOLIO HOLDER:</b>	<b>Councillor Sybil Ralphs MBE</b>
<b>CONTACT OFFICER:</b>	<b>Joanne Brooks – Regeneration Officer</b>
<b>WARDS INVOLVED:</b>	<b>Various</b>

#### **1. Reason for the Report**

- 1.1 To update and review progress on the grants already approved (in previous years) under the Moorlands Partnership Board.

#### **2. Recommendation**

- 2.1 That the update report is noted

#### **3. Executive Summary**

- 3.1 This report deals with progress to date on those projects, awaiting commencement, on site or, completed since the last meeting of the Moorlands Partnership Board.
- 3.2 This report is for information only but does offer Members an opportunity to comment on progress. The report will be presented with an accompanying power point presentation which displays images of each project.

#### **4. How this report links to Corporate Priorities**

- 4.1 This report concerns publicly funding the restoration and repair of historic properties or places that are either listed or an identified heritage asset. This, in turn, is related to the Council's corporate aim 3:
- To help create a strong economy by supporting further regeneration of towns and villages.

#### **5. Alternative Options**

- 5.1 There are no alternative options as this an update report on progress only.

## **6. Project updates and progress**

### **2015/16 OFFERS:**

#### Gazebo, Whitehough, Ipstones

Still waiting for doors to be installed and then the scheme will be complete. Officer have agreed with the applicant to extend remaining grant to 31 Dec 2021. If works are not complete by then the grant will be withdrawn.

### **2016/17 OFFERS:**

#### The Trough, Biddulph

Awaiting commencement. No update from Biddulph Town Council.

### **2017/2018 OFFERS:**

#### Funerary Monuments

Ongoing project - The most recently completed monuments are the Thomas Lovatt and Elizabeth Smith memorials at Alton. The following list is left to complete:

- Genders Memorial – Biddulph
- Railed enclosure – Horton
- Empson memorial – Kingsley

### **2018/2019 OFFERS:**

#### Leekbrook Interpretation Panels

The Leek Brook boards are complete, on site and the grant paid.

### **2019/2020 OFFERS:**

#### Halls Road Community Notice Board, Biddulph

Notice boards are complete and in situ. Officers have requested photographs before payment of grant can be made. Despite several emails to chase with Biddulph Town Council, no photographs have been submitted. Grant remain unpaid.

#### 42 Crompton Road, Leek

No further update to report.

#### 55 Chorley Street

Works complete and grant paid.

#### Kinglsey and Froghall Station Platform

Works complete and grant paid.

#### Leekbrook Rail Track

No further update to report.

## **2020/2021 OFFERS:**

### Gillow Heath Station

No update from Biddulph Town Council to report.

### 6 Russell Street, Leek

Works complete and request for additional funding (see details on separate report)

## **ANTICIPATED APPLICATIONS:**

### Cheadle Cards

Potential grant aid for new shopfront.

### Biddulph Florists

Potential grant aid for like for like replacement shopfront. Awaiting quotes.

## **7. Implications**

- 7.1 Community Safety – No implications at this stage.
- 7.2 Workforce – The Moorlands Partnership Scheme is administered by an officer within the Regeneration Team with assistance when required from the council's Conservation Officer.
- 7.3 Equality and Diversity/ Equality Impact Assessment - No implications at this stage.
- 7.4 Financial considerations - There are allocations within the capital programme for the Moorlands Partnership funding scheme. The projects outlined in this report have been met from approved budgets from previous years. The budget for this year 2021-2022 is £60,350.
- 7.5 Legal - Local authorities are empowered to give grants towards improvements in conservation areas under Section 57 of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990.
- 7.6 Climate Change – No Implications at this stage.
- 7.7 Consultation – Grant offers are made in consultation with and approved by the Moorlands Partnership Board. Where required, projects that require planning permission and listed building consent are subject to the normally statutory consultations.

**Neil Rodgers**  
**Executive Director (Place)**

**Web Links and  
Background Papers**

**Location**

**Contact details**

Joanne Brooks Regeneration Officer:  
joanne.brooks@highpeak.gov.uk

## STAFFORDSHIRE MOORLANDS DISTRICT COUNCIL

### Moorlands Partnership Board

27 July 2021

<b>TITLE:</b>	<b>Financial Summary and proposed grant awards</b>
<b>PORTFOLIO HOLDER:</b>	<b>Councillor Sybil Ralphs MBE</b>
<b>CONTACT OFFICER:</b>	<b>Joanne Brooks – Regeneration Officer</b>
<b>WARDS INVOLVED:</b>	<b>Leek East and Cheddleton Wards</b>

#### 1. Reason for the Report

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to seek Member's approval to allocate grant funding from the Moorlands Partnership Board (MPB) in 2020/21. The budget for this year is £60,350.

#### 2. Recommendation

- 2.1 Note the financial summary in 3.1 and recommend approval of the proposed options for allocating the MPB budget as set out in 3.3 and 3.4 below.
- 2.2 That Members approve an additional grant of £350 towards the additional costs to repair 4 sliding sash windows at the upper floor of 6 Russell Street, Leek at a cost of £700.
- 2.1 Approve an enhanced grant of £8,000 towards the repair and restoration of the summer houses on the St Edward's estate with eligible costs totalling £24,860 (VAT not applicable). The work will be subject to the standard grant scheme conditions and the following technical conditions:
- That the scope of works and a detailed repair specification is agreed in writing with the conservation officer and grants officer prior to the commencement of the works or manufacture of any components.
  - Colour schemes to be agreed with the conservation officer and grants officer.

#### 3. Executive Summary

- 3.1 This report allows members to consider applications for environmental enhancement and heritage grants under the MPB for funding toward suitable projects within the district.

3.2 Members will recall that given the extraordinary circumstances of last year, the finance team has agreed to roll forward any unallocated funds to the subsequent 4 years funding of the MPB. This results in an enhanced budget of £60,350 in 2021/22 followed by a further 3 years with a £60,000 budget. Members should note however that the usual budget rules apply and there is no ability to carry forward any unused allocation. If members recommend approval of the grant applications on this report then the table below represents the current financial position this year.

<b>Scheme</b>	<b>Budget £60,350 2021/22</b>
Total potential grant offers for this MPB meeting:	
6 Russell Street additional grant	£350
St Edward's summer houses	£8,000
<b>Remaining funds</b>	<b>£52,000</b>

3.3 There is a remaining budget of £52,000 to be awarded this year. This is a significant amount to be allocated within the remaining 8 months of this financial year and officers are concerned that there is sufficient interest and financial stability from applicants to ensure the allocation of the remaining funds. As a results, officers suggest the following options for Member's consideration:

- Increase the maximum grant award from £4,000 to £8,000 to encourage the take up of grants. Recently, a number of potential shopfront applications have not progressed as the maximum grant is insufficient to assist with the increased costs of repairing and reinstating traditional details.
- Increase the grant percentage from 50% to 75% to make the grant award a more attractive option and limit the financial contribution of the applicant.
- Offer 'one off' enhanced grant offers over and above the proposed new maximum to key strategic conservation projects. An example might be the Royal Oak at Cheadle or similar.
- Use the Town Centre Manager for the Moorlands – Lisa Hoyland to actively promote the scheme throughout the Moorlands.

3.4 Whilst the above changes will deliver additional interest in the medium and long term, there is a more immediate requirement to ensure the entire allocation of funds this year. To respond to this, officers suggest that the MPB approach Leek, Biddulph and Cheadle Town Councils and ask them to put forward a list of projects (including potential costs) that they can deliver and be funded within the remit of the grant scheme. Once projects and costs are reviewed approved by the MPB (November meeting) the funds can be allocated or transferred to the town councils for them to implement the schemes. There would need to be a requirement that the town councils keep officers updated on progress to ensure funds are spent within the required time frame and to ensure quality of the finished project.

#### 4. **How this report links to Corporate Priorities**

4.1 This report concerns publicly funding the enhancement, restoration or repair of historic properties or places that are either listed or an identified heritage asset. This, in turn, is related to the Council's corporate aim 3:

- To help create a strong economy by supporting further regeneration of towns and villages.

#### 5. **Alternative Options**

5.1 To not approve environmental and heritage grant awards under the Moorlands Partnership Board and not allocate the capital budget of £60,350 set aside for this grant scheme. As a result, the MPB would not be able to continue to financially assist a number of environmental and heritage projects throughout the district and secure the repair, restoration and enhancement of heritage features, places and buildings. NOT RECOMMENDED

5.2 To continue to approve environmental and heritage grant awards to suitable projects throughout the district and to ensure the allocation of the budget of £60,350 this year. As a result, the MPB can financially assist with projects that secure the repair, restoration or enhancement of heritage features, places and buildings and contribute towards the further regeneration of town and villages through Staffordshire Moorlands. RECOMMENDED

#### 6. **Implications**

6.1 Community Safety – No implications at this stage.

6.2 Workforce – The Moorlands Partnership Scheme is administered by an officer within the Regeneration Team with assistance when required from the council's Conservation Officer.

6.3 Equality and Diversity/ Equality Impact Assessment - No implications at this stage.

6.4 Financial considerations - There are allocations within the capital programme for the funding of the Moorlands Partnership scheme. The latest financial position states that there is £41,876 of outstanding works still to be claimed.

6.5 Legal - Local authorities are empowered to give grants towards improvements in conservation areas under Section 57 of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990.

6.6 Climate Change – No Implications at this stage.

6.7 Consultation – Grant offers are made in consultation with and approved by the Moorlands Partnership Board. Where required, projects that require planning permission and listed building consent are subject to the normally statutory consultations.

**Neil Rodgers**  
**Executive Director (Place)**

**Web Links and  
Background Papers**

**Location**

**Contact details**

Joanne Brooks  
Regeneration Officer  
joanne.brooks@highpeak.gov.uk

**7. PROPOSED GRANT AWARDS**

**7.1 6 Russell Street**

The applicant has now completed the works to repair and restore 4 sash windows along Russell Street in the Leek town centre. During the project additional works were required to accurately reinstate a number of small panes of missing bulls eye glass, and to install missing weights and pulleys to the bottom opening sash windows. The additional costs are anticipated to be in the region of £700.

The applicant has previously received a grant of £3650 towards the cost of eligible works totalling £7,300. The request for additional grant aid of £350 would represent the current maximum grant offer of £4,000. If the additional costs are lower than £700 the grant payment will be amended accordingly.

**Recommendations**

7.2 That members approve an additional 50% grant of £348 towards the cost of additional eligible works totalling £696.

**7.3 St Edward's Estate Summer Houses**

The former St Edward's Hospital is Grade II listed and has been converted into flats. The hospital was the former North Staffordshire Asylum built circa 1895. There are 6 summer houses within the grounds (1 is a double). These are not listed individually, but deemed listed as curtilage structures and are in poor condition. The current responsibility falls upon the residents of the park to pay for the repairs and without grant assistance this project may need to extend over several years. A grant from the MPB would accelerate the process and this would enable the current management company to promote the use of the summer houses to the wider parish and community.

Members may recall that a maximum grant award of £4,000 was made by the MPB and accepted by the management company in June 2017. The grant was later withdrawn by the MPB following concerns over the lack of public access and enjoyment of the summer houses.

There has been a recent change of directors on the management company and as such there are some fresh ideas for the use of the summer houses. As a part of this there is a renewed effort to link up and work with the parish

councils. One of the ideas being discussed is around using the summer houses for an annual fete for the Parish.

The works to repair the summer houses consist of the following:

- Timber and leadwork repairs to roofs including the reinstatement of missing finials.
- Window and timber frame repairs including the replacement of missing and broken glazing.
- Renew cast iron rainwater goods
- Redecoration

Two estimates have been received for the works the lowest of which totals £24,860 (Vat not applicable).

Given the significant costs involved in restoring the summer houses, their historic significance and the desire to increase public access, the MPB may wish to consider an enhanced grant of £8,000. Once restored, the summer houses can be used and enjoyed by the public but there is no income derived from their use and without some form of grant assistance their future viability is fragile.

### **Recommendations**

7.4 That members consider offering an enhanced grant of £8,000 towards the repair of the 6 summer houses on the St Edward's Estate. The work will be subject to the standard grant scheme conditions and the following technical conditions:

- That the scope of works and a detailed repair specification is agreed in writing with the conservation officer and grants officer prior to the commencement of the works or manufacture of any components.
- Colour schemes to be agreed with the conservation officer and grants officer.

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