

STAFFORDSHIRE MOORLANDS DISTRICT COUNCIL

**Moorlands Partnership Board
14 Nov 2018**

TITLE:	Current Status of Projects
OFFICER:	Executive Director

1. Recommendation

1.1 That the report is noted.

2. Summary

2.1 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.

2.2 This report is for information but it does offer Members an opportunity to comment on progress.

3 Background and Detail

Projects Update

2015/16 OFFERS

Gazebo, Whitehough, Ipstones

The applicant has installed the new leaded windows so just has the door to complete.

2016/17 OFFERS

67 Tape Street, Cheadle

Works delayed and will not commence until Oct 2019. At a previous meeting the board agreed to honour an extension to the grant offer to meet this date.

9 – 11 High Street Dilhorne

Works have now been completed satisfactorily and a final payment of £1,000 has been made.

Endon and Stanley Interpretation panels

Payment made and panels in situ.

The Trough – Biddulph

Awaiting commencement.

2017/2018 OFFERS

Leekbrook to Leek (Cornhill) heritage rail link

Planning permission has now been granted for the reinstatement of the rail link. Legal professionals have been appointed to provide advice to the Council regarding the Heads of Terms and these are being discussed between the Council and the Churnet Valley Railway (CVR). The full cost for construction of the line is circa £810,000. There is an 18-month construction period that would only commence once funding is confirmed. CVR will be responsible for raising the funding to cover the construction costs. CVR have been invited to make a full application for funding to EAFRD.

Leekbrook Station

Works have been completed to restore Leekbrook station waiting room. The building is an exact replica and received its official opening in October.

Cheddleton Station

The architect has now completed a set of plans and proposals for the repair and refurbishment of the building and is awaiting estimates. There will be a delay to the works due to the required bat survey, which cannot take place until May 2019.

Funerary Monuments

At the last meeting. Members were advised that the following monuments were priorities for repair:

5 Chest Tombs at Church of All Saints, Dilhorne;
4 Chest tombs at Church of All Saints, Dilhorne;
Prince Memorial Church of St Leonard, Ipstones;
Yates Memorial, Endon.

A contractor has been appointed to undertake the repair of the above 4 monuments at a cost of £7,456. The total budget for this project is £10,000. To date, the cost of the accredited architect is £3,965. This leaves a remaining budget of £6,035 for funerary repairs. Officers have secured a further £1,500 from the SMDC monuments and cemeteries budget. This will enable the above 4 to be repaired as one contract. A

grant enquiry to the Staffordshire Historic Churches Trust has been unproductive. Officers have approached the Parish Councils for funding but this has not proved successful. As such, the Council has sufficient funds to repair the above priorities but cannot fund any further works.

The architects need to obtain faculty approval for the repair works and this has proved to be protracted. It is hoped that the repairs works will commence shortly.

Biddulph Town Council Projects

Railings A57 – Deposit paid to Ironage Designs.

Gillow Heath Station - A small working group has been formed, and this has turned into a four phase project. Stage one will be moving the fence on the District Council land and installation of benches. Stage two would be restoring the edge of the platform. Stage three is the installation of signage and interpretation boards. Stage four is to repair the nearby footbridge, constructed using the old rails, which is one of only two in the country, the other being at Rudyard Lake.

Well at Tower Hill Road - Being kept tidy by the lengthman. Hopefully complete before the end of the year.

Biddulph Grange

The works to the leats are now complete and an interpretation panel has been completed and will be installed on site to illustrate and explain the landscape.

Cattle Market Cottage, Leek

Grant offer accepted but no further update to report.

Foxlowe, Leek

At the last committee meeting Members agreed a grant of £4,000 towards the repair of the Foxlowe Arts Centre in Leek. The Trustees have been successful in being awarded a grant from the HLF of £100,000. They are currently working with an accredited conservation architect to commence building work in spring 2019.

Big Mill, Leek

Preparation work started almost immediately following the offer of a grant towards the cost of placing a temporary sheet roof on the mill in June. The works consisted of clearing the site at the rear of the Mill, erecting an access tower scaffold and installing safety rails around the perimeter of the roof. Unfortunately, the owner's ecological consultant became concerned about the impact of the temporary sheet roofing on bat roosts in the building and advised works to stop pending discussions with Natural England. These discussions eventually concluded that the works can proceed without any adverse effects on bats. The sheets are of a bespoke design and have already been made. Their installation can now take place imminently.

Victoria Buildings, Leek

Officers have now had the condition survey back from CTD Architects regarding the above building. Officers will be writing to each owner with the results of the survey, anticipated costs for each owner and potential grant from the MPB.

The cost to repair the building is around £52,459 but this figure does not include preliminaries, contingencies, fees or VAT. The likely final figure could be around £90,000. The MPB has set aside £20,000 for the repair. Obviously, it would be sensible and cost effective if all the owners agreed to undertake the repairs at the same time.

4 Implications

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| 4.1 | Community Safety: | Nil. |
| 4.2 | Workforce: | Nil. |
| 4.3 | Equality and Diversity: | This report has been compiled in accordance with the Council's Diversity and Equality Policies. |
| 4.4 | Financial Considerations | This report deals with those projects for which funding has already been allocated. |
| 4.5 | Legal: | Nil. |
| 4.6 | Sustainability: | The repair and reuse of historic buildings is an important sustainability objective. |

Dai Lerner **Executive Director**

Background Papers

Project Applications
File 6366

Location

Regeneration Service

Contact

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Decision:

Reason:

Interests Declared: