

STAFFORDSHIRE MOORLANDS DISTRICT COUNCIL

MOORLANDS PARTNERSHIP BOARD MEETING

Minutes

WEDNESDAY, 30 MARCH 2022

PRESENT: Councillor A Hart (Vice-Chair)

Councillors M Bowen, B Emery, E Fallows, M Gledhill, L A Malyon,
T Riley, D Shaw, P Turner and S Wales

APOLOGIES: Councillors H Sheldon MBE, I Lawson and Walley

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

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting held on 1 December 2021 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

80 **DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS:**

Agenda No.	Member Declaring Interest	Nature of Interest
Agenda Item 4 – Summary of Projects (St Edward’s Summer Houses)	Cllr Wales	Other – A member of St Edward’s Park Management Company and Leek Town Council.
Not specified	Cllr Hart	Other – A member of Biddulph Town Council.
Agenda Item 5 – Proposed Grant Awards	Cllr Malyon	Other – Applications for St Mark’s Church, Foxt, St Leonard’s Church, Ipstones and Ipstones Boundary Post were in her Ward and the applicants were known to her.
Agenda Item 5 – Proposed Grant Awards	Cllr Gledhill	Other – Application for 19 Hugo Street was opposite his house.
Not specified	Cllr Emery	Other – A member of Leek Town Council.

81 **SUMMARY OF PROJECTS**

The Board received a report which provided an update and reviewed progress on the grants already approved (in previous years) under the Moorlands Partnership Board.

Project updates and progress

2016/17 OFFERS:

Biddulph Town Council Projects

The Trough, Gillow Heath Station and Halls Road Community Notice Board. The noticeboard would be erected in April. Licences were being obtained to do the work at Gillow Heath Station. The Trough repair was delayed slightly waiting confirmation of a contractor.

2017/2018 OFFERS:

Funerary Monuments

All repairs to the funerary monuments were now complete. The Genders Memorial in Biddulph was the last to complete. The grant had been paid and the project was now complete.

2019/2020 OFFERS:

42 Compton, Leek

No further update to report.

Leekbrook Rail Track

No project update

2020/2021 OFFERS:

St Edward's Summerhouses

Specification being prepared prior to making grant award.

2021/2022 OFFERS:

Endon Village Well

Two new water pipes had been installed, one of which has now been connected to the well head and so water was once again running to the main well head in the village through a new pipe.

ANTICIPATED APPLICATIONS:

Former garage/barn – Ipstones

69 – 71 Derby Street – New Shopfront and upper floor window repairs

The Plough Endon – Redecoration of Mural

82 **FINANCIAL SUMMARY AND PROPOSED GRANT AWARDS**

The Board considered a report which sought Member's approval for the allocation of grant funding from the Moorlands Partnership Board (MPB) in 2021/22. The budget for this year was £60,350.

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

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Members would recall that given the extraordinary circumstances of last year, the Finance Team agreed to roll forward any unallocated funds to the subsequent 4 years funding of the MPB. This resulted in an enhanced budget of £60,350 in 2021/22 followed by a further 3 years with a £60,000 budget. Members noted however, that the usual budget rules applied and there was no ability to carry forward any unused allocation. If members recommended approval of the grant applications on this report then the table below represented the current financial position this year.

Scheme	Budget £60,350 2021/22
Grant offers to date:	
6 Russell Street additional grant	£350
St Edward's summer houses	£8,000
Endon Village Well	£1,170
Remaining funds	£50,830
Potential grant offers from this report:	
St Marks Church - Foxt	£5,250
Heaton House – Rushton Spencer	£8,000
Hales Hall Pool Lectern - Cheadle	£919
Funerary Monuments - Cheadle	£4,046
St Leonards Church - Ipstones	£4,500
Heritage Trail – Upper Tean	£3,816
Guildhall - Alton Castle	£8,000
19 Hugo Street – Leek	£8,000
Boundary Post - Ipstones	£915
Foxlowe - Leek	£6735
Biddulph planters	£3262
Den Engel - Leek	£8,000
Christ Church – Biddulph	£8,000
Total of potential grant offers from this report	£69,443
Remaining grant budget for 2021/22	£0
Advanced allocation from 2022/23	£18,613
Remaining budget for 2022/23	£41,387

There was a remaining budget of £50,830 to be awarded this year. After the circulation of a revised grant leaflet and publicity within the local press a significant number of grant applications have been received (13). As a result, there were insufficient funds to offer grants to all these from within this financial year. However, in agreement with the Council's Finance Section, the Board could offer grants to all, with any overspend being met from next year's budget of £60,000. This meant that when the Board held its first meeting of the year (July 2022) £18,613 would have already been allocated. Given previous difficulties in allocating grants this would prove a significant step in grant allocation for 2022/23.

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RESOLVED:

- 1) The Board **NOTED** the financial summary in 3.1 of the report.
- 2) Members **APPROVED** a 75% grant of £5250 towards the roof repairs to St Mark's Church, Foxt. Subject to the standard grant scheme conditions and the following technical conditions:-
 - Relevant approvals obtained from the Diocese of Lichfield;
 - Given the listed status of the Church, all new materials bought to site match the existing and approved by the Regeneration Officer, prior to installation.
- 3) Members **APPROVED** a maximum grant of £8,000 towards the restoration of a historic stone boundary wall to Heaton House, Rushton Spencer. The work would be subject to the standard grant scheme conditions and the following technical conditions:-
 - All new materials brought to site must be approved with the Regeneration Officer, prior to construction of the wall.
 - The exact height profile and coursing to be agreed with the Regeneration Officer, prior to construction of the wall.
 - Pointing mix and appearance must be agreed with the Regeneration Officer and a sample panel approved.
 - Any planning consents required are obtained prior to the construction of the wall.
- 4) Members **APPROVED** a 75% grant of £919 towards the installation of lectern and heritage interpretation panel at Hales Hall Pool, Cheadle. The work will be subject to the standard grant scheme conditions and it was **RECOMMENDED** that the interpretation panel included information on the previous use of the building as Government Communication Headquarters.
- 5) Members **APPROVED** a 75% grant of £4,046 towards the repair of two funerary monuments at St Giles Church in Cheadle. The work will be subject to the standard grant scheme conditions and the following technical conditions:
 - The relevant consents are approved by the local Diocese.
- 6) The Board **APPROVED** a 75% grant of £ £4,500 towards the repair of the existing stone path at St Leonards Church, Ipstones. The work will be subject to the standard grant scheme conditions and the following technical conditions:-
 - A pre site meeting be arranged with the Regeneration Officer to discuss the extent and scope of works with the contractor.
 - The existing stone path to be recorded via a photographic record to ensure the coursing pattern was retained.
 - All new materials brought to site in terms of replacement flags and new stone edging kerbs to be approved with the Regeneration Officer.
 - Method of pointing to be agreed with the Regeneration Officer and sample of pointing approved.
 - The Board requested that the replacement flags were permanently fixed in to position.

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- 7) The Board **DEFERRED** the application for the production of the Upper Team Heritage Trail leaflet to its next meeting due to queries around the printing and distribution costs.
- 8) The Board **APPROVED** a maximum grant of £8,000 towards the roof repairs at the Guildhall, Alton Castle. The work will be subject to the standard grant scheme conditions and the following technical conditions:
- All new materials brought to site must match the existing and be approved by the Regeneration Officer prior to installation.
 - Colour scheme for redecoration to be approved by the Regeneration Officer.
 - All new joinery details to match the existing exactly.
 - All new rainwater goods to be cast iron.
- 9) The Board **APPROVED** a maximum grant of £8,000 towards the cost of replacement sliding sash windows at 19 Hugo Street, Leek. The work will be subject to the standard grant scheme conditions and the following technical conditions:-
- All replacement joinery details and profiles, glass and fixing methods to be discussed and agreed with the Regeneration Officer prior to manufacture.
 - Replacement windows to be an exact like for like replacement of the existing windows.
 - Redecoration scheme to be agreed with the Regeneration Officer prior to commencement of works.
- 10) The Board **APPROVED** a 75% grant of £915 towards the reinstatement of the Ipstones boundary post. (*Councillor Malyon did not take part in the vote*) The work will be subject to the standard grant scheme conditions and the following technical conditions:
- The new post is carved from English Oak to match the existing.
 - That the grant offer be reduced if a second estimate is lower.
- 11) The Board **APPROVED** a 75% grant of £6,735 towards the cost of render, window and rainwater goods repairs on the east elevation of the Foxlowe Centre. The work will be subject to the standard grant scheme conditions and the following technical conditions:-
- Colour scheme for render, rainwater goods and windows to be agreed with the Regeneration Officer;
 - All new rainwater goods to be in cast iron;
 - Any replacement joinery details to match the existing sash windows exactly.
- 12) The Board **REFUSED** the application for planters at Biddulph. Reasons included; no heritage aspect to the project, Councillor Community Initiative Funding could be awarded to the scheme and sponsorship could be sought for planters.
- 13) The Board **APPROVED** a maximum grant of £8,000 towards the repair of the clay tile roof at the Den Engel, Leek. The work will be subject to the standard grant scheme conditions and the following technical conditions:-
- All new tiles brought to site must match the existing.

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- Any existing pointing must be raked about by hand and the finish and appearance of the new pointing to be agreed with the Regeneration Officer.
 - All new rainwater goods to be in cast iron.
- 14) Members **APPROVED** a maximum grant of £8,000 towards the reinstatement of a secret lead lined gutter at Christ Church Biddulph Moor. The work will be subject to the standard grant scheme conditions and the following technical conditions:-
- All new materials brought to site must match the existing exactly.
 - The appropriate code lead is used for the lining of the secret gutter.
 - All mortar removal is undertaken using hand tools.

The meeting closed at 3.08 pm

_____ Chairman _____ Date