

Agenda Item No.4

DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

MEETING OF CABINET MEMBER – STRATEGIC LEADERSHIP, CULTURE
AND TOURISM

23 January 2020

Report of the Executive Director – Economy, Transport and Environment

AWARD OF GRANTS TO EXTERNAL RECIPIENTS – VITAL VALLEY

(1) **Purpose of Report** To seek the Cabinet Member’s approval to award grants to external recipients.

(2) **Information and Analysis** In accordance with Financial Regulations, all grants to external recipients must be approved and a departmental register maintained. Grants are payments of funds for a specific purpose. Examples include contributions towards an external party’s core running costs, purchase or construction of specified assets, and the running of specific events.

There is now also a requirement under the Local Government Transparency Code 2014, to publish information on grants awarded to voluntary, community and social enterprise organisations.

Derbyshire County Council, on behalf of the Derwent Valley Mills World Heritage Site (DVMWHS) Partnership, accepted a grant offer from the Heritage Lottery Fund (now the National Lottery Heritage Fund - NLHF) for a Great Place Scheme in the DVMWHS.

The Great Place Scheme includes the Experiment Fund for heritage, arts and cultural organisations within the DVMWHS to experiment with projects that could lead to sustainable income generation in the future. The Experiment Fund has a total grant of £75,000 from the NLHF and £10,000 contribution from applicants.

Applications for grants have been received from the following:

Applicant	Works	Suggested Contribution
The Arkwright Society Ltd	Provide guided tours to DVMWHS locations by minibus to establish the demand for an extended service in the valley, as a project	£20,000

	manged by the Arkwright Society and the Belper North Mill Trust. (The Arkwright Society providing grant accounting and administration services).	
Derby QUAD Ltd	Provide 'Cinema in the Valley' - A festival of outdoor film screenings at venues along the Derwent Valley Mills World Heritage Site.	£19,920
Derbyshire County Council Countryside Service	To develop a welcoming and engaging visitor experience at High Peak Junction, improving interpretation to increase visitor numbers and dwell time to increase income.	£19,800
Wirksworth Civic Society	Produce a self-guided trail publication for visitors to the Derwent Valley Mills World Heritage Site to enable them to extend their area of discovery.	£2,138
Derwent Valley Mills Heritage Site Educational Trust	Provide online sales of books and publications	£490
Friends of the Cromford Canal	Develop new contemporary merchandise to sell in the Friends of the Cromford Canal shop.	£446
Total		£62,794

Specific details of the application for grants can be found in the Appendix attached.

(3) **Financial Considerations** Derbyshire County Council accepted the NLHF grant offer of £1,285,800 on 9 June 2017. On 13 September 2016, the Cabinet Member for Highways, Transport and Infrastructure approved the use of up to a maximum of £150,000 of the DVMWHS Partnership's reserve, as match funding towards the scheme. The grant funding is available until 31 December 2020.

(4) **Legal Considerations** By grant funding, the applicant will not be contractually obliged to deliver any particular service, although the Council may be able to claw back grant if it is unspent or misapplied.

Other Considerations

In preparing this report the relevance of the following factors has been considered: prevention of crime and disorder, equality and diversity, human resources, environmental, health, property, social value and transport considerations.

(5) **Key Decision** No.

(6) **Call-In** Is it required that call-in be waived in respect of the decisions proposed in the report? No.

(7) **Background Papers** Held on file within the Economy, Transport and Environment Department.

(8) **OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION** That the Cabinet Member approves the award of grants, from the accepted National Lottery Heritage Fund grant of £1,285,800 for the 'Vital Valley' Great Place Scheme, to:

- £20,000 to The Arkwright Society Ltd
- £19,920 to Derby QUAD Ltd
- £19,800 to Derbyshire County Council Countryside Service
- £2,138 to Wirksworth Civic Society
- £490 to Derwent Valley Mills Heritage Site Educational Trust
- £446 to Friends of the Cromford Canal,

totalling £62,794 from the grant of £75,000 from the National Lottery Heritage Fund approved for the Experiment Fund.

Signed..... Dated.....

Mike Ashworth
Executive Director – Economy, Transport and Environment

Appendix - Award of Grants

Name of Recipient: The Arkwright Society Ltd

Grant Name: Derwent Valley Mills World Heritage Site (DVMWHS) Valley Tours

Officer Responsible: Beki Howey

Summary of Purpose: To provide guided tours to DVMWHS locations by minibus.

This experiment will establish the demand for an extended service in the valley. The project would be to operate a programme of 40 guided tours taking place between April and September 2020. These tours would use 16 seat minibuses with a driver hired on an as required basis and would be led by a trained volunteer guide.

The project would set up the applicant as a tour operator and seek membership as a start-up of the Association of Independent Tour Operators.

Amount of grant requested: £20,000

Capital/Revenue: Revenue

Which Budget:

Time Period: 2020

Author: Beki Howey
Ext: 39652

Public

Name of Recipient: Derby QUAD Ltd

Grant Name: Cinema in the Valley

Officer Responsible: Beki Howey

Summary of Purpose: A festival of outdoor film screenings at venues along the Derwent Valley Mills World Heritage Site. This will be a festival of eight screenings at four outdoor community venues across the Derwent Valley World Heritage Site including Cromford Meadows or Cromford Mill, Belper Rugby Club and Derby Rugby Club.

The festival will be public facing and will provide new experiences for visitors – enjoying popular “blockbuster” film and a picnic with friends and family on a balmy summer evening is becoming an increasingly popular form of entertainment and – for many – an accessible and fun introduction to engagement in the arts.

This new product responds to the need for a wider range of outdoor film screenings in accessible locations across the Derwent Valley Mills WHS, since there are currently no outdoor film screenings in this area, and the local population has to travel some distance to access the nearest outdoor screening.

Amount of grant requested: £19,920

Capital/Revenue: Revenue

Which Budget:

Time Period: 2020

Name of Recipient: Derbyshire County Council Countryside Service

Grant Name: High Peak Junction Visitor Experience

Officer Responsible: Beki Howey

Summary of Purpose: To develop a welcoming and engaging visitor experience at High Peak Junction, improving interpretation to increase visitor numbers and dwell time to increase income. Currently huge numbers of visitors pass by, failing to engage with the story as it is currently presented. This bid aims to engage with a wider visitor audience and to generate income to assist in the site's sustainable management.

High Peak Junction is the world's oldest surviving railway workshop and illustrates an Outstanding Universal Value of the Derwent Valley Mills World Heritage Site: the development of transport infrastructure to connect the Derwent Valley to the world beyond. Currently huge numbers of visitors pass by, failing to engage with the story as it is currently presented. This bid aims to engage with a wider visitor audience and to generate income to assist in the sites sustainable management.

We seek to develop the visitor experience at High Peak Junction, make the connection to DVMWHS more accessible and engaging, primarily by bringing the railway workshops to life.

- Presenting artefacts in new ways
- Projection to animate the workshop space
- Enhanced interpretation information
- Improved signage on parts of the site that are open
- Designing and trialling family activities
- Donation boxes

Visitors will take part in workshop to select the content, effectively co-creating the display. A series of family activities exploring some of the challenges the railway engineers faced will be designed and trialled through the summer, with the intention of creating a menu of activities and resources that can be offered in future years with minimal input from staff or volunteers.

Amount of grant requested: £19,800

Capital/Revenue: Revenue

Which Budget: DVMWHS Great Place Scheme Vital Valley

Time Period: 2020.

Name of Recipient: Wirksworth Civic Society

Grant Name: Wirksworth Heritage Leaflet

Officer Responsible: Beki Howey

Summary of Purpose: To produce a self-guided trail publication for visitors to the Derwent Valley Mills World Heritage Site to enable them to extend their area of discovery.

The publication will be available on sale at the visitor sites along the 15 mile length of the World Heritage Site, at the Derby Silk Mill, Belper North Mill, Cromford Mill and Masson Mill. The publication will be promoted via social media and occasional guided tours from the Wirksworth Heritage Centre. Also it is hoped that the respective DVMWHS visitor centres will promote the availability of the publication to their members and supporters.

Amount of grant requested: £2,138

Capital/Revenue: Revenue

Which Budget: DVMWHS Great Place Scheme Vital Valley

Time Period: 2020.

Name of Recipient: Derwent Valley Mills Heritage Site Educational Trust (DVMHSET)

Grant Name: DVMHSET Online Bookshop

Officer Responsible: Beki Howey

Summary of Purpose: The DVMHSET wish to commence using online sales for their publications via a dedicated website. The DVMHSET publish many of the research books on topics and places within the valley. Providing a dedicated website would make a clearer distinction between the DVMHSET and the DVMWHS Co-ordinating team, as previously there has been some confusion on the publisher and responsibility for books. The DVMHSET obtains ISBN numbers for the books.

The Trust will sell publications direct to individual customers using promotional leaflets and a website.

The grant will provide the website for publication sales and a leaflet to publicise the new website and what it offers. Income would come from sales via the web site and would be used to finance future publications.

Amount of grant requested: £490

Capital/Revenue: Revenue

Which Budget: DVMWHS Great Place Scheme Vital Valley

Time Period: 2020.

Name of Recipient: Friends of Cromford Canal

Author: Beki Howey
Ext: 39652

Public

Grant Name: Cromford Canal Products

Officer Responsible: Beki Howey

Summary of Purpose: Friends of the Cromford Canal operate a visitor boat trip on the canal boat Birdswood. During autumn 2019, the Friends worked with artist Tracey Meek to create a pop up installation on the Birdswood boat to present as part of Discovery Days Festival 2019 (and part of the Great Place Creative Programme Pop up events). This grant will extend the work with Tracey to develop new contemporary merchandise to sell in the Friends of The Cromford Canal shop.

Amount of grant requested: £446

Capital/Revenue: Revenue

Which Budget: DVMWHS Great Place Scheme Vital Valley

Time Period: 2020.