

REGENERATION AND LIVEABILITY PORTFOLIO

DECISION RECORD

19th October 2007

The meeting commenced at 9.00 am in the Borough Hall, Hartlepool

Present:

The Mayor (Stuart Drummond)

Officers: Peter Scott, Director of Regeneration and Planning Services
Peter Graves, Townscape Heritage Initiative Manager
Jo Cole, Principal Economic Development Officer (Tourism)
Jo Wilson, Democratic Services Officer

19. THI Grant – St Andrew’s Church, Headland *(Director of Regeneration and Planning Services)*

Type of decision

Non Key.

Purpose of report

To seek Portfolio Holder approval to a proposed £148,000 grant to restore and convert the former St Andrew’s Church on the Headland to create a tea room, under the Townscape Heritage Initiative.

Issue(s) for consideration by Portfolio Holder

The report advised that St Andrew’s Church was a grade 2 listed building on the Headland sea front at York Place. The building had deteriorated badly with substantial parts of the stone window tracery and glazing completely missing and the entrance porch suffering from obvious structural failure. The project was to create a tea room within the former church, undertaking restoration of the windows and glazing, rebuilding the porch and undertaking internal works. The total cost would be £326,564, a grant of £148,000 was recommended.

The Townscape Heritage Initiative (THI) is a combined partnership funding of £1million from the Heritage Lottery Fund and £6.2million from the Single

Regeneration Budget (SRB) aimed at conservation projects within the Headland. An £88,000 SRB budget remained available specifically aimed at the reuse of key buildings on the Headland which must be spent before 31st December 2007. Therefore an early start on site would be necessary to allow the building owner's contractor to complete enough work to allow a payment of this element of the total grant. Otherwise the £88,000 would be lost.

A separate approval would be required by the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) for the balance of £60,000 of the proposed £148,000 grant. This part of the grant could be paid after 31st December 2007 and a formal application had been made to the HLF for grant approval. An early decision would be essential if the £88,000 SRB budget was to be spent by the 31st December deadline. Should the HLF funding not be secured the Portfolio Holder was advised that it would be possible to utilise a potential underspend of £102,000 from the Carnegie Building Project. Approval to vire £60,00 from this project had been agreed by the Chief Financial Officer and approval was now required from the Portfolio Holder to agree this course of action, should the need arise.

The Portfolio Holder indicated he fully supported any action which would bring a derelict building back into use.

Decision

- i. That the proposed grant of £148,000 to create a tea-room at St Andrew's Church under the Headland Townscape Heritage Initiative be approved
- ii. That the virement of £60,000 of a potential underspend on the Carnegie Building project be approved, should this be required.

20. Tall Ships Design Brief *(Assistant Director (Planning and Economic Development))*

Type of decision

Non Key.

Purpose of report

To request from the Portfolio Holder approval to proceed with appointing a design agency to assist in developing the promotional material for the Tall Ships Marketing and PR activity.

Issue(s) for consideration by Portfolio Holder

The report outlined the proposal to appoint a design agency to work with Hartlepool Borough Council and its partners in setting up the marketing materials and templates required to promote the Hartlepool Tall Ships Races 2010. This additional specialist expertise would support the skills of the officers delivering the Tall Ships' marketing function.

Appointing an agency up to and including the event would provide continuity in delivery, consistency for the Council and external partners involved in delivery and best value in terms of resources. It was requested that the full open tender procedures commence to appoint an agency on a one year contract, with the option to extend the contract for a further two 12-month periods, subject to mutual agreement by both parties.

The Portfolio Holder felt that marketing would probably be the most important aspect of the whole Tall Ships event so it needed to be right.

Decision

That arrangements for the appointment of a design agency to assist in developing the promotional material for Hartlepool for the Tall Ships Races 2010 be approved.

J A BROWN

CHIEF SOLICITOR

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