

Agenda Item No. 4(f)

DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

**MEETING OF CABINET MEMBER – HIGHWAYS, TRANSPORT AND
INFRASTRUCTURE**

1 March 2016

Report of the Strategic Director – Economy, Transport and Environment

REQUEST FOR GRANT AID FOR HEAGE WINDMILL TRUST

(1) **Purpose of Report** To seek the Cabinet Member's approval to provide grant assistance of £10,000 to Heage Windmill Trust (HWT) from the Historic Environment Grants Budget.

(2) **Information and Analysis** Heage Windmill is a Grade II* Listed Building and was included on the Secretary of State's list of buildings of special architectural or historic interest in 1965. Some early restoration work was carried out during the 1970's although it was not until the formation of HWT in 1996 that the building was more comprehensively restored to function once more as an operational mill open to the public.

The building is leased to HWT by the County Council and a formal lease agreement has now been signed. Whilst the rent paid by the Trust is minimal, it is a 'not for profit' organisation and the limited revenue made is put aside for running costs and future maintenance work for the building. The discovery of serious and expensive structural problems was totally unforeseen for which the Trust simply does not have all the money available to contribute to its repair.

The County Council's Historic Environment Grants budget is used to lever in funding into the County to protect and enhance the built historic environment, as well as support the local economy and crafts people. Typically, funding has been contributed to partnership schemes with Historic England (formerly English Heritage) and the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) where the County Council's investment has secured significant investment from these partners. These schemes facilitate appropriate traditional repairs and reinstatement of lost architectural features where there is good evidence for it.

It is proposed that funding from the Council's Grants budget could be made available to bridge the gap in the Trust's funding.

While this proposed grant would not lever in additional funding, it will underpin other funding that has been raised through HWT's Trouble at the Mill (TAM) campaign. It will also help secure the long term future of this County Council owned building in its original use.

The building has been entered on the Historic England's Buildings at Risk Register which would allow the Trust to apply for funding from the Historic England. However, this process is lengthy and would delay the re-opening of the mill significantly. As HWT would like to re-open the mill ready for Easter (2016) it has successfully raised a large percentage of the total required for the repairs to date through the TAM campaign, other fundraising efforts and grant applications. The allocation of £10,000 from the grants budget would help secure the continued sustainable use of the building as a popular attraction for paying visitors.

(3) **Financial Considerations** The financial contribution of £10,000 towards the repairs would leave £3,259 unallocated in the Historic Grants Budget for 2015-16. A financial contribution towards the Derbyshire Historic Buildings Trust Buildings At Risk project had previously been considered.

Other Considerations

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

(4) **Key Decision** No.

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

(6) **Background Papers** Held on file within the Economy, Transport and Environment Department. Officer contact details - Alex Gilbert, extension 39795.

(7) **OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION** That the Cabinet Member approves the allocation of £10,000 grant from the Historic Environment Grants budget to the Heage Windmill Trust for the repair of Heage Windmill.

Mike Ashworth
Strategic Director – Economy, Transport and Environment