

**Arnside/Silverdale AONB SDF Grant Panel Meeting.**  
**Friday 27<sup>th</sup> July 2007**

**Minutes.**

**Present:** Jack Ellerby, Peter Goulder, Bill Grayson, Joyce Lynch, Colin Peacock, Barbara Henneberry, and Richard Bamforth

1. **Apologies:** Cllr Val Hinstead, Jim McQueen, Craig Russell,

2. **Minutes of the last meeting**

Agreed with one minor correction namely Colin Peacock in attendance not Colin Patrick as stated.

3. **New Members Welcome**

The panel welcomed Bill Grayson (in attendance).

4. **2007/08 Funding**

The Project officer informed the panel that confirmation of the 2007/08 Sustainable Development Funding had now been received from DEFRA/NE on the 1<sup>st</sup> June for a total of £70k.

5. **Current SDF allocation**

The Panel was provided with the latest financial spreadsheet. The Project Officer pointed out that this included the 'More Enterprise' scheme that was approved in principle pending last year's project report and financial breakdown. In retrospect this should not have been included until officially and formally approved in full. It also included £600 that had been allocated without panel approval for a scheme 'Morecambe Bay Safety Advice'. [The Project Officer without going to the panel can approve schemes less than £1,000, but requires authorisation from Andrew Dobson at Lancaster City Council].

6. **Applications:**

6.1 A panel member requested a copy of the LESS application from the previous panel meeting.

6.2 The Project Officer was requested to contact Cllr Ian Stewart with regards to plastic recycling in Arnside.

6.3 **More Enterprise.**

At the last meeting the Panel had approved this project in principle pending the report from Year 1. The Project Officer had sent the 'Building Inclusive Environments' Report

2006-07 to the Panel before the meeting. At the meeting of the 27<sup>th</sup> July in light of this report the Panel had serious concerns and reservations regarding the continued funding of this scheme in 2007-08. They were disappointed that given the level of funding received in the first year only one visit had been achieved. Colin Peacock reiterated his comments he made in the May meeting, that there had been problems with the Youth Service Authorities. Given the limited SDF budget the Panel questioned the cost effectiveness of this scheme. The Project Officer was requested to contact the applicant to formalise some tangible objectives and outcomes for the proposed Part II of this scheme. If these were not satisfactory then the panel felt they were left with no other option than to refuse funding.

**Project Deferred**

#### **6.4 The Morecambe Bay Conservation Grazing Apprenticeship.**

Bill Grayson declared an interest in this application, but was in a position to answer any queries from the other panel members.

Given the level of funding requested by the applicant JE felt that more detail should have been made available with regards to the financial costing and that to show real value for money demonstration days should be included in the first year.

BG responded by informing the panel that the first year was intended to provide all the necessary training for the apprentice and get the post 'up and running'. It was agreed that a 'demo day' could be facilitated for the local Conservation Organisations Forum and possibly take place at Dalton Crag. Panel agreed.

In the second year it was anticipated that the partners would take responsibility for developing the demonstration days according to the best opportunities available at the time. These could include 'Local Produce Days'/Management of the Countryside wherever these were likely to attract sufficient interest from visitors and residents alike. It could also feature demonstration days for local farmers and agricultural advisors, perhaps in conjunction with the colleges providing the training.

CP questioned whether funding would be available from the Learning Skills Council and given the uncertainty of SDF next year whether there was a likelihood of the scheme being sustainable.

BG responded by informing the panel that given the age and high level of educational background of Ruth Dalton (the proposed apprentice) he was in discussion with Myerscough College regarding a training package and possibly looking at a foundation degree in agriculture, plus NPTC skills training. The long term financial sustainability of the scheme would hopefully be coming from a HLS application currently being drawn up for Dalton Crags by Forest Enterprise. Bill said the partners were coming together and working hard to secure funding and was confident others partners' would come on board.

**Project APPROVED      £12,500**

**July Panel SDF Awarded £12,500**

**(2007-08 Total SDF allocated £44,600, unallocated £25,400)**

## **7. Other SDF Applications**

Morecambe Bay Safety Advice: The Project Officer informed the Panel of this leaflet and drama scheme. The applicant intended to get the leaflet out to the schools before the end of term, but is currently held up with the Lancashire County Councils legal department. (Joyce Lynch - County lawyers were waiting to hear whether the Coastguard was content with the accuracy of the leaflet. The Coastguard has now approved the leaflet and as such the County lawyers are content too: 31/07/07).

## **8. Applications Developing**

A Project Ideas Form in the form of a letter has been received from a lady interested in purchasing a 'Tramper' that is to be located and remain within the AONB. She is currently taking this to a full application

## **9. Publicity**

SDF literature has been sent to the local schools and village halls and the Project Officer reported to the Executive Committee earlier in the week.

**10. Date of next Meeting: Friday 28<sup>th</sup> September 2007 (A/S AONB Office 3pm)**