

# Scrutiny Briefing Note

The Tourism and Visitor Economy Scrutiny Panel have asked to monitor progress on the following issues. This briefing contains the latest position as of 10<sup>th</sup> September 2021.

## **Subject: Heritage Starter Fund for North East Lincolnshire**

### **Introduction**

This brief sets out details of the Heritage Starter Fund with the support of National Lottery Heritage Fund (NLHF) to develop a range of new heritage projects.

### **Background and Current Stage**

In July 2020, The National Lottery Heritage Fund (NLHF) solicited an application for a grant of £250,000 to co-ordinate and develop engagement with community heritage across North East Lincolnshire. North East Lincolnshire was deemed a priority Area of Focus (one of 13) for NLHF given the relatively low levels of investment and heritage engagement and high levels of deprivation. A successful application was submitted in August 2020 which outlined activities to enable this to take place. This was fully approved in December 2020 following collaboration with National Lottery Heritage Fund to develop plans for delivery.

The programme supplements other investments into arts, culture and heritage in North East Lincolnshire such as the Cleethorpes Townscape programme, Grimsby Heritage Action Zone and Grimsby Creates.

A key element of the application centred on the development of a Heritage Network for North East Lincolnshire. The first meeting took place in April 2021 and has seen a further two meetings take place. Due to COVID restrictions these meetings have taken place virtually and have seen over 60 people attend. These have been developed and facilitated working in partnership with Heritage Trust of Lincolnshire.

The next stage of the programme is to support local organisations grow by providing seedcorn funding to develop new heritage projects from the 'Heritage Starter Fund'.

### **The Heritage Starter Fund**

A maximum of £150,000 from the £250,000 will be distributed to local heritage via a 'Heritage Starter Fund' which is intended to act as an 'enabler' to allow something to happen.

The projects supported will aim to encourage audiences from NEL and beyond to re-examine what they know, or think they know, of North East Lincolnshire and its place in the world, through creative interpretation of stories, ideas, the built fabric of the Borough and current issues.

The aim to go beyond dominant narratives and highlight lesser-known sides to the area and previously untold stories enabling NEL's heritage to be seen in a new light by visitors



and residents alike. These include the development of the roles of prolific songwriters Rod Temperton & Bernie Taupin, Grimsby and Immingham's complex relationship with the sea (a means of commerce, friendship and rivalry), and more recent changes such as the impact of the off-shore wind industry.

Some projects which may come forward include:

- Celebrating the many things which NEL is famous for.
- Stories of individual and community relationships with NEL.
- Exploring the history of buildings and landmarks by encouraging the creative short-term use of buildings such as Victoria Mills in Grimsby.
- Celebrating musical heritage.
- Exploring international trading networks.
- Examining the relationship between the sea, the Humber Estuary and how this has shaped the natural & manmade environment of the area
- Developing new partnerships to supplement historic links with Iceland, Germany, and Denmark.
- Encourage people to explore the public archive and collection which consists of approximately 70,000 artefacts across several distinct subject collections.

It is anticipated that the grant will be used to provide the opportunity to develop an idea which can then be upscaled and taken forward as a larger project, eligible for funding in its own right from the National Lottery Heritage Fund.

The size of grants will range from £500 to £10,000 which is exclusively funded by National Lottery Heritage Fund. The application process, including grant form, has been co-designed with the support of Heritage Trust of Lincolnshire and members of the Heritage Network with the aim of the process to be accessible for organisations who may be new to applying for funding support.

### **Evaluation of the Heritage Starter Fund Applications**

An application form has been created by Heritage Trust of Lincolnshire and North East Lincolnshire Council. Part A enables an applicant to check to see if they are eligible and Part B provides them with an opportunity to showcase their ideas. Ideas will be evaluated based on the following:

Critical requirements:

- Revenue funding
- Heritage focus
- Working with collaborators
- Potential to grow ideas and develop larger projects
- Sharing of findings
- Engagement with people from NEL
- Takes place in NEL

New wider audiences and community involvement:



- Current levels of engagement
- Ways of reaching new and specific audiences
- Ideas and opportunities for audience engagement
- How the project showcases NEL heritage

- Future development

Value for money:

- Overall cost
- Amount of funding requested
- How success will be measured

Applications will be reviewed on a monthly basis for a year between 29 September 2021 and 28 September 2022. The grant assessment panel (consisting of North East Lincolnshire Council representatives, NLHF representatives and a small number of volunteers drawn from the NEL Heritage Network) will individually assess each application and then meet to confirm their recommendations.

**Contact Officer: James Trowsdale, Strategic Lead for Culture, [james.trowsdale@nelincs.gov.uk](mailto:james.trowsdale@nelincs.gov.uk)**

**If you require any further information please contact the named officer or alternatively,**

**Laura Cowie, Scrutiny and Committee Advisor, Tel: 324139**

If you would like to find out more about scrutiny you can contact us:

**by email** [democracy@nelincs.gov.uk](mailto:democracy@nelincs.gov.uk)

**on our website** [www.nelc.gov.uk/council/councillors-democracy-elections-/scrutiny/](http://www.nelc.gov.uk/council/councillors-democracy-elections-/scrutiny/)

**or by post** NELC Scrutiny Team, Municipal Offices, Town Hall Square, GRIMSBY, DN31 1HU.

