

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT FUND COMMITTEE

28 June 2017

Present: Councillor K Doolin, Dr R Heath-Davies, Mr AE Sangster, Councillor M Williams and Councillor S Yelland; Mr G Lloyd-Jones (Natural Resources Wales), Mr P Howe (Pembrokeshire County Council) and Ms L Livock (Pembrokeshire Association of Voluntary Services).

[Mr S Bradley (PLANED) arrived during consideration of the SDF Administrator's report (minute 6 refers).]

(NPA Offices, Llanion Park, Pembroke Dock: 10.00am – 12.55pm)

1. Appointment of Chair

It was **UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that Mr AE Sangster be appointed Chairman for the ensuing year.

2. Appointment of Deputy Chair

It was **UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that Councillor K Doolin be appointed Deputy Chair for the ensuing year.

3. Apology for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor M James, Mr R Smith and Ms L Williams (Pembrokeshire Tourism).

4. Disclosures of Interest

Mr S Bradley disclosed a personal interest in SDF 0368, SDF 0370 and SDF 0371 but remained in the meeting and played a full part in the discussions thereon. Mr P Howe disclosed a Personal interest in SDF 0369 however he remained in the meeting and played a full part in the discussions thereon; Mr P Howe disclosed a prejudicial interest in SDF 0370 and withdrew from the meeting while it was discussed.

5. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on the 25 January 2017 were presented for confirmation and signature.

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting held on the 25 January 2017 be confirmed and signed.

6. Sustainable Development Fund Update Report

The report of the Sustainable Development Fund (SDF) Administrator outlined the 4 applications before the Committee for consideration that day. The report also updated the Committee on all current projects and their progress.

The SDF Administrator then went on to report the financial position. £200,000 had been allocated to the SDF for the 2017-18 financial year. £19,218 of unclaimed funding had been carried forward from 2016-17 to 2017-18 which meant that there was a total of £219,218 of funding available to support projects this financial year. £127,261 had already been committed, which left £91,957 of uncommitted funding available for new projects in 2017-18. Applications received were requesting £99,429 in 2017-18 and £36,214 in 2018-19, which meant that if all the projects were deemed worthy of support there would be a shortfall of £7,472 available in 2017-18. There was however a SDF reserve sum of almost £29,000 (not £129,000 as reported), which could be made available if the quantity and quality of applications received requesting funding in 2017-18 warranted it.

With regard to the Little Green Grant (LGG) scheme, only one project had applied and received support in 2017-18 and £3,000 remained committed for allocation to LGG projects. It was reported that administration of this scheme was undertaken by Pembrokeshire Association of Voluntary Services (PAVS).

It was reported that revisions to the SDF Policy, Committee Terms of Reference and Grant Conditions had been approved by the National Park Authority in March 2017, and a copy of these were appended to the report for information. As set out in the revised reference documentation the process of appointing Advisory Members to the Committee would take place prior to August 2017 when the term of appointment for current Advisory Members expired.

Finally the SDF Administrator informed the Committee that the Sustainable Development Fund would be showcased at this year's Royal Welsh Show, in a partnership event with the other two Welsh National Parks and the Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONBs). The case study that had been put forward by PCNPA was ArborCulture's project – Using Compost Heat Recovery to kiln dry firewood. Arborculture (formerly LM Tree Solutions), a small National Park based tree surgery and woodland management business had received funding towards the design and construction of an ecologically heated firewood kiln.

NOTED.

8. Applications for funding under the Sustainable Development Fund

The Committee considered 4 new applications for funding under the Sustainable Development Fund (SDF). The applications were considered in detail against the fund assessment criteria, following a brief presentation by each of the project applicants. The SDF Administrator reminded Members that a number of the applications included on the agenda that day contained commercially sensitive information.

Ref No	Project Name	Presentation by	Organisation
SDF 0368	Marine Renewable Supply Chain Project	Ceri Crichton Holly Precious	Pembrokeshire Coastal Forum (PCF)
SDF 0369	Brynberian Community Centre	Dai Llewellyn Prof Pat Capland Angela Walmsley	Brynberian Community Centre
SDF 0370	Pembrokeshire Pod Outdoors	Sian Ranahan	Pembrokeshire FRAME
SDF 0371	Coleg y Môr – Phase 2	Anna Elliot Laura Lemey	Sea Trust CIC

The Chairman reminded the Committee that, under its terms of reference, the decisions were to be taken by the Members of the National Park Authority, taking into consideration the views of those Advisory Members present.

Following discussions, it was **RESOLVED** that:

- (a) the full amount of funding requested be granted to the following applications, subject to the usual conditions of grant and any additional caveats agreed at the meeting (and detailed below):
 - (i) SDF 0368 - Marine Renewable Supply Chain Project.
 - (ii) SDF 0369 - Brynberian Community Centre – subject to the Business Plan being satisfactorily reviewed by the SDF Administrator/Finance Manager.
 - (iii) SDF 0371 - Coleg y Môr – Phase 2 – it was suggested that additional advice be sought from PAVS on building a broader supporter base which could provide an additional source of income; also that their attention be drawn to national funding which might help with their apprenticeship programme.

(b) the following application be refused :

- (i) SDF 0370 - Pembrokeshire Pod Outdoors: The Committee expressed reservations about the financial viability of the proposal. The outdoor space available for garden planting was considered small with the location next to a busy road not ideal. It was also concluded that there was insufficient evidence presented to demonstrate innovation or benefit to the Pembrokeshire Coast National Park and communities.