

Pendle Hill Landscape Partnership

Update to JAC November 2016

Objectives of the Development Phase

As agreed with Heritage Lottery Fund, these are to:

- Appoint a Development Officer
- Review the landscape character assessment for the project area
- Undertake consultation and 'Gathering' events
- Develop the scheme and individual project proposals under the headings of Environment, Economy and Everyone
- Raise match funding for at least year 1 of the Delivery Phase (due to start April 2018)
- Develop and produce a Landscape Conservation Action Plan (LCAP) and stage 2 application to HLF (to be submitted September 2017)

Progress to date

1. Development commissions

These are now all let bar one (Evaluation, which will come later in the development phase):

- In-Situ Arts** have been appointed to manage the arts development activity – this has involved managing three artistic commissions which will gather information to help build our 'Pendle Hill Story Map' and the **Audience Development Plan**. This will be drafted before Christmas and will be presented to the next Board meeting in February 2017. The summer arts workshops 'Fields on Prescription' have been very successful. In Situ will also support local artists' professional development, draw up artists' briefs for years 1 &2, and submit applications for match funding for the Delivery Phase by the end of their contract, next summer.
- Rigby Jerram** has been appointed as the contractor to carry out a **habitat and boundaries survey** of the LP area. He has now completed the foot survey and has begun digitising his mapping. Next he will begin to analyse his findings and draw up action plans for the delivery phase – he will bring a report to the next Board.
- Robin Gray** has completed his work carrying out and reviewing the **Landscape Character Assessment** of the LP area, and confirming the project boundary.
- Countryscape** are developing a **Communications Strategy and Interpretation Plan** for the programme. The next step is an interpretation plan which will identify and cost out communications activity for each of our planned projects – eg leaflets, information panels, digital applications and web resources such as downloadable walks and information guides. This will be prepared for June 2017.
- UCLAN** (University of Central Lancashire) let an internship with us, and Mike Woods spent 8 weeks of the summer doing research with us, both desk and site based, to identify suitable sites for **community archaeological** study in the LP area. His report will be ready soon and will identify sites worthy of further research, some of which we hope to look at next summer with another intern.

- vi. **Fourth Street & Heritage Naturally** are conducting a **Visitor Management Plan**, identifying key routes of concern and developing plans for visitor gateways and dispersal.
- vii. **RJS Associates** are carrying out a **Tourism scoping study** to identify baseline statistics on the visitor economy locally, and to assess a number of potential projects for delivery and funding.
- viii. **Burnley, Pendle and Rossendale CVS, working with Hyndburn & Ribble Valley CVS** are now working on drawing up a **volunteer handbook** and set of policies for the programme
- ix. **GeoLancashire** are preparing a **Geodiversity Plan**, identifying suitable sites and projects for research and delivery.

2. Match Funding

We are currently preparing ideas for submission as Expressions of Interest to the LEADER funding stream this winter and next spring. A Funding Plan has also been prepared to guide and plan other applications we need to submit next year.

3. Programme and Project development work

- i. We have held a follow-up Farmers Network to discuss our next application to Natural England for Facilitation Funding in 2017. The group is very keen to be involved with the LP scheme and the resources it may bring them for land management via the Biodiversity, Traditional Boundaries, Volunteering and Trainees projects; they will also be encouraged to support arts, archaeology and outreach projects on their land.
- ii. I have met with the Dry Stone Walling Association to discuss their role in the delivery of the Traditional Boundaries project
- iii. We are having a number of discussions with Natural England and local Universities about the 'What's a Hill Worth' project and hope to establish a research question and project lead soon.
- iv. Lancashire NHS Care, Community Restart team are very keen to be involved in our Outreach project and are hoping to deliver it in partnership with us, bringing in up to £50,000 worth of staff time (gift in kind). We are planning to run a pilot project with them in the summer of 2017
- v. A group of volunteers has been established and will begin a programme of activity soon to support projects such as traditional boundaries, access, and outreach.
- vi. A proposal to run a 'Landscape & Heritage Festival' has been received and we hope to work this up into a project to replace the 'Around the Houses' idea. This will be led by Pendle Heritage Centre, working with a number of local history groups, and will be a week-long festival held once a year.
- vii. We have met with Mid Pennine Arts to discuss them leading the 'Pendle Radicals' project
- viii. Jayne Ashe has been appointed as our Graduate Trainee and she started work in October. Jayne is a recent graduate from Sheffield University where she gained a 2i MBiolSci in Biology with Conservation and Biodiversity. She lives near Blackburn and

attended Clitheroe Royal Grammar school. Some of her first tasks will be to assist with setting up the volunteering group, supporting the audience development and outreach work, and developing the Story Map project.

- ix. We have set up a Programme Steering Group to work with Cathy, Jayne and Elliott to provide advice on some key issues around funding and partnership working.