

**Application for Financial Assistance (Historic Buildings Grants) from the Conservation and Heritage Fund – Audley’s Cross Farm, Loggerheads (13/14015/HBG)**

**RECOMMENDATIONS:**

**That the Working Party indicate its views on proposals going to the Planning Committee that :-**

**A grant of £2,334 be approved for the reinstatement of timber windows at Audleys Cross Farm**

**Purpose of report**

To inform the Working Party of an application for financial assistance towards the cost of the reinstatement of timber windows at Audleys Cross Farm, and give the Working Party an opportunity to express its views on that application.

**Audley’s Cross Farm, Loggerheads**

This property is a Grade II Listed Farmhouse on Newcastle Road. The Building at Risk survey noted that 6 windows in the farmhouse had upvc windows installed by the current residents. The Council has been working with the owners to encourage the replacement back to timber. An application for Listed Building Consent to retain the windows as they are was refused in May 2013. The owners have got two quotations for the work and have applied for some help towards the cost on reinstating the windows to timber plus one other first floor window which is rotten.

Members will recall that in June 2012 Planning Committee approved changes to the terms and conditions of the Conservation and Heritage Fund. One of the changes set out that funds should be directed towards encouraging the reinstatement of timber windows in buildings where upvc windows have been installed.

The cost of the work including VAT is over £11,000 of which all is eligible work. As the farmhouse is a Grade II Listed Building, the work is eligible for a grant up to 20% of the costs.

**Financial Implications**

There is sufficient funding to meet this particular grant application with approximately £17,000 within the Fund, which allows for commitments.

**Conclusions**

The Conservation Advisory Working Party is invited to express its views on the proposals to award a grant £2,334 to Audley’s Cross Farm. Such views will be reported to the Planning Committee.