

Applications for Financial Assistance from the Conservation and Heritage Fund for, Mow Cop Community Hall, Mow Cop Road, Mow Cop (Ref: 15/16001/HBG) and Blackbrook milestone (near Swan with two necks) (Ref: 15/16002/HBG)

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Working Party indicates its views on proposals going to the Planning Committee:-

- 1. £1,008 for the repairs to the roof of Mow Cop Community Hall (former School to St Thomas Church), subject to the appropriate standard conditions**
- 2. £206 for the repair of the Blackbrook milestone, subject to the appropriate standard conditions**

Purpose of report

To inform the Working Party of two applications for financial assistance and to give the Working Party an opportunity to express its views on those application.

The views of the Working Party will be reported to the Planning Committee.

1. Mow Cop Community Hall

This building is a Grade II Listed Building and has been managed by a local community group since 2011. The hall is the former school to St Thomas Church. The group have refurbished the building and improved the facilities and have had previous small grants from the Conservation and Heritage Fund totalling £1,357. The roof is leaking and the group have received 2 quotations to repair the roof. The work is urgent so that the damp penetration does not undo all of the positive work which has been undertaken to refurbish the building.

The total cost of the current work to the roof is £5,040 including VAT. The works are eligible for grant up to 20% of the total costs which comes to £1,008. This is the recommended grant

2. Blackbrook Milestone

This project by the Milestone Society is by a volunteer organisation wishing to repair and reinstate highway heritage by looking after milestones in Staffordshire. Dating from 1894, the milestone is a Grade II Listed Building adjacent to the well-known road junction on the A51. It is made from cast iron but its fragments have been badly damaged and it has been recovered by a milestone society volunteer. Repair of the milestone will be undertaken by specialist blacksmiths and the painting and decorating will be undertaken by volunteers of the society at a cost of £60.

The quotation for the work is £1,032 including VAT. The work is eligible for grant up to 20% of the total cost which comes to £206. This is the recommended grant.

Financial Implications

There is sufficient funding to meet both grant applications with £32,000 in the Fund allowing for commitments.