

Application for Financial Assistance (Historic Buildings Grants) from the Conservation and Heritage Fund – Butterton Grange, Trentham Road, Butterton Newcastle (Ref: 20/21003/HBG)

RECOMMENDATION:

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

- 1. £2,419 Historic Building Grant be given towards the repair of nine original sash windows.**

Purpose of report

To inform the Working Party of applications for financial assistance towards the cost of repairs and restoration of the windows at Butterton Grange Farmhouse and give the Working Party an opportunity to express its views on the applications.

Butterton Grange Farmhouse was built for Sir Thomas Swinnerton of Butterton Hall in 1816 and designed by Sir John Soane. It is built in an elegant villa style. As a Grade II* Listed Building it is recognised as a building of great significance that has more than special interest. Its design has a low-pitched hipped roof with a wide projecting eaves with a deeply recessed central section and 2 flanking bays with large corner canted pilasters. All windows are quartered sash windows with the ground floor having round fanlights at the top.

The sash windows are in need of repair and indeed those to the front elevation are failing considerably and are dangerous in some cases and letting in the weather. The owner has requested help with the cost of these repairs. Repairs vary from replacement of sashes, tenons, cill repairs and making good the putty where it has failed.

Two competitive quotations have been received by appropriately qualified joiners/contractors. The cost of the work is estimated at £12,093.20 excluding VAT as the lowest quotation is not VAT registered. As the building is a Listed Building, the work is eligible for 20% grant towards the cost of the works.

Financial Implications

Historic buildings and structures are entitled to apply for up to a maximum of £5,000 from the Conservation and Heritage Grant Fund. The intervention rate is 20% of the cost of the work for Listed Buildings. Buildings within Conservation Areas or on the Register of Locally Important Buildings are eligible to apply for 10% of the cost of such work.

There is sufficient funding to meet this grant application with a little over £6,000 in the Fund; allowing for commitments. This will leave £3,714 available to offer subsequent heritage assets within the Borough.