

THE TRUSTEES OF GILBERT WHITE'S HOUSE AND THE OATES MUSEUM, SELBORNE

PURPOSES FOR WHICH FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE IS SOUGHT

The Trustees of Gilbert White's House and The Oates Museum in Selborne are seeking grant aid from the County Council to help towards the cost of restoring the 18th century stable yard. Restoration of the yard, and the buildings within, will provide a more attractive entrance to the museum, together with a new shop/cafe and improved visitor facilities.

It is also intended that by restoring the buildings will allow its collection of books and archives to become more publicly accessible in a new modern library.

The Trustees are in the process of submitting a funding application to the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) of £1.8m for this £2.6m project. If successful, the second round application will be made in November 2014 and the project will start in spring of 2015.

APPLICATION ADDRESSED TO:

Leader of the Council

AMOUNT OF REQUEST

Not specified

COMMENTS OF LOCAL MEMBERS

Councillor Mark Kemp-Gee is in full support of this project.

GENERAL COMMENTS

Director of Policy and Governance – Corporate Services: The Museum has a history of successfully delivering projects with HLF support (3 projects since 2000) and has been given their support for the preparation of this application.

The Museum currently offers courses in natural sciences and biodiversity to over 4,000 Hampshire schoolchildren and adults and this project will enable them to extend these to many more groups.

In view of these buildings and facilities having significant importance to Hampshire's heritage, it is recommended that a grant of £50,000, plus architectural support, be awarded to the Museum. The monies to be paid in 2014/15, subject to the budget being available.

RECOMMENDATION

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