

Committee: **COMMUNITY COMMITTEE**

**Agenda Item**

Date: 26<sup>th</sup> November 2006

**4**

Title: **MUSEUM HERITAGE QUEST CENTRE :  
INTERIM REPORT AND TIMETABLE**

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## Summary

1. This report is to advise members of progress to date with fundraising for the Heritage Quest Centre and the proposed timetable for making an application to the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF). Donations and grants to date demonstrate an encouragingly wide range of support from across the district, from the county and beyond. The Heritage Quest Trust is being established to enable the Museum Society to apply for large grants from landfill tax credits; once the outcome of these applications is known, the project team will make a formal request early in 2007 for an appropriate capital contribution from the Council so that the application to the HLF can be made.

## Recommendations

2. Report for information only

## Background Papers

3. The following papers were referred to by the author in the preparation of this report and are available for inspection from the author of the report:
  - \* Minutes of Resource Centre Project Team meetings
  - \*

## Impact

4.

Communication/Consultation	Ongoing consultation, fund-raising and publicity by Museum staff
Community Safety	N/A
Equalities	Target audiences for project will be young adults, family learners and rural communities in Uttlesford
Finance	Request for capital contribution from Council will be made early in 2007

Human Rights	N/A
Legal implications	None with HLF until a grant award is offered by HLF. Grants already raised from other sources need to be spent on Heritage Quest Centre within reasonable time span.
Ward-specific impacts	All
Workforce/Workplace	Museum Service

## Situation

5. By 13<sup>th</sup> October 2006 a total of £85,110 had been raised, mostly from local donations and grants, and with donations and fund-raising continuing. Apart from the financial aspect, this demonstrates a very good spread of funding partners and local support (which has been district-wide), which will be noted by HLF. A breakdown is attached as an appendix to this report.
6. Other potential sources currently being investigated and include help-in-kind with landscaping work (local contractor); further donations or sponsorship from local businesses; further fund-raising events; three further trusts (one national, two local), and especially two substantial landfill tax grants (Biffa and Viridor Credits). It is hoped that these will bring in over another £100,000 minimum.
7. The Museum's application to HLF will go forward with a statement of support from Colchester Museum and the East of England Museum Hub, confirming Saffron Walden Museum as one of the key local museum services in the region for the deposition of significant archaeological archives from recent and continuing development in the district.
8. Numerous other foundations, trusts and organisations have been investigated; there are very few which cover local museum service projects but the Saffron Walden Museum Society and its charitable status have enabled the Museum to raise grants and donations from sources which would otherwise be unable to support local authority services.
9. The project team intends to report in early 2007 on the results of further fund-raising and with a project budget. Committees will be asked to approve a capital contribution and give permission for the application to be made to HLF. (Community Committee 18 January, Operations Committee 8 February).

## Risk Analysis

10.

Risk	Likelihood	Impact	Mitigating actions
Slippage of timetable: results of landfill tax grants not known by Jan 2007	Medium	Medium	Urgency in completing registration of Museum Society with Entrust, to enable applications to Biffa and Viridor to proceed. Application to HLF could still be made conditionally (i.e. on anticipated incoming funding)
Loss of other grants / support and HLF interest if unable to proceed within reasonable time	Low at present, will increase if postponed	Low at present, will increase if postponed	Proceeding to timetable as indicated – HLF funded an audience development study for HQC in 2005 and application ought to be made within 2 years of that

### Appendix: Breakdown of Funds Raised by 13<sup>th</sup> October 2006

Saffron Walden Museum Society	10,000
BAA Stansted	32,000
Museum Fund-raising events	3,059

### Donations – Uttlesford : £ 12,491

Uttlesford Parish Councils* and Village Societies	1,694
Uttlesford Businesses	576
Uttlesford Residents	7,146
Gestingthorpe Trust	50
Robert Roaf Charitable Trust	500
Roger Graham Charitable Trust	2,500
Bell Education Trust	25

*\* 7 parish councils to date (Elsenham, Gt and Lt Hallingbury, Hempstead, Henham, Littlebury, Quendon & Rickling) plus letter of support from Stansted Mountfichet*

**Donations – Essex: sub-total £ 16,635**

Essex Art Fund	30
Friends of Braintree Museum	75
Colchester Young Archaeologists Club	20
Essex County Council Community Initiative Fund	12,500
Essex Heritage Trust	4,000
Essex residents (outside Uttlesford)	10

**Donations – Other: sub-total £ 10,925**

Higham Chicele Society (visiting from Northants)	25
National Grid TRANSCO Foundation	1,000
Ernest Cook Trust**	4,900
Tanner Trust**	4,000
Mercers Company	1,000

*\*\* Specifically for educational outreach to schools*

**£ 85,110**