

NFAF meeting 38 on 1st December 2014.

HCC Small Grants Scheme meeting on 11th November 2014 - report.

There were 15 applications for £15,700 – two were re-submitted from the previous meeting in August.

There were two applications from the NFAF area.

1) The footpath resurfacing and clearing along the **Burley Road** (total project cost £2692) was deferred from August for more information. Approved in principle, with the following caveats:

- a) Formal consent from the Forestry Commission has still not been received
- b) The width of the path has narrowed to 45 cms. in places and is to be restored to 1.2 metres.
- c) The position regarding cycling rights has not been clarified by the Council. If cycling is to be permitted the path will need to be 1.5 metres wide to abide by HCC standards.
- d) Natural England will be consulted before the commencement of works.

2) To improve **BOAT 15 in Hale**, (total project cost £3200) this has suffered from water damage, particularly during the winter of 2013-4. The application is for ditches either side of the BOAT and a culvert to divert water from the Village Hall car park away from the BOAT. HCC will maintain the surface of the BOAT to a suitable standard for its legal purpose. Hale Parish Council will maintain the car park.

The committee approved the application in principle, although the costing of the project needs revising. NPA will contribute 25%.

There is still a problem with the quality of the applications being submitted. Four of the 15 today were deferred for more information and many others approved in principle, but with clarification required.

SGS was granted funding of £49,000 for the year 2014-2015. At present we still have £15,000 to allocate, (assuming that the deferred applications are approved in January 2015) and it was decided to offer a fourth round of grants in January.

Joan Cundill

November 2014