

Heritage Walks in Wiltshire

1. What is the project?

The project's aims are to get people walking and to inspire them to get involved, learn about and enjoy Wiltshire's rich heritage through connecting it together and making it more accessible. We want to take a more holistic approach capturing the considerable work already undertaken, adding value to it through focussed sub-projects and then bring it to life through designing exciting interactive heritage walks. All of this will be captured through the development of a new digital app called MyWalk

The project will consist of several stages.

1. To work with the Wiltshire History Centre, museums and other partners to map the existing projects, including those which have or are being funded by the Heritage Lottery Funding.
2. To run at least 4 heritage sub-projects across Wiltshire focussing upon different themes. One project being proposed is to look at the architectural heritage of the Corsham community area. This will connect the previously HLF funded 'Lacock Uncovered' project to take in the market town of Corsham with the potential to link up with the Civic Society Corsham High Street project. This could also explore the heritage in between such as Thingley Steam Railway junction, Corsham Court, The Almshouses, Neston Park and local villages
3. To capture and make available the output from the projects selected including the formation of at least 4 new walks that interpret and explain the heritage.
4. To use these walks to begin to populate a community digital app being designed alongside. The app will allow users to interact, share information and add pictures. It will also enable new information to be added and for the community to create new ones.

During year 2, we will actively promote the app to communities to start creating their own heritage walks.

5. Where is the project taking place?

Wiltshire wide but a focus upon those community areas that provide some match funding

6. When will the project take place?

It is a 2 year project with a lifespan of the app and outcomes spanning many more years
There is an HLF funding bid that will be considered early summer 2018, If successful then the start date will be soon after that

7. What are the key issues that need to be addressed?

The key drivers for this project are:

- To encourage more people to walk and live healthy lifestyles
- To boost accessibility to Wiltshire's heritage
- To address the two common problems of heritage projects – namely that they are carried out in isolation to other local projects and that the output is not always easily accessible
- To address loneliness and isolation by creating a MyWalk community

8. Who has been involved?

The project is supported by the Communities team at Wiltshire Council as well as the History centre at Chippenham.

Many local and regional groups have offered their support and the Open University would like to act as academic sponsor.

The Corsham Community Engagement Manager is putting together the HLF bid and the Head of community services is responsible for the development of the digital app

9. What is being proposed

To provide £1,500 that is remaining digital literacy funding in order for the Corsham area to be part of this project and to be considered for one of the year 1 sub-projects.

10. What are the community benefits and evidence of need

The key benefits are:

- To support and make accessible the various heritage projects in the Corsham area
- To help people become more active
- To educate and increase involvement in our local heritage including young people
- To help address loneliness and isolation through the connectivity offered by the app

11. Who will manage/be responsible for this project?

The Corsham Community Engagement Manager will manage the local side of the project. He will work with the head of community services and other partners

12. Costs/quotes/ match funding?

The following are approximate costs:

Total cost of the project will be @£45k for the whole of Wiltshire

HLF bid for £25k will shortly be submitted

The proposal is to use Corsham Community Area's £1,500 allocated for digital inclusion projects (carried over from 2016/17) to make up part of the remaining funding being obtained from community areas

13. Additional information

If the funding is not agreed, then Corsham is unlikely to benefit from the HLF additional funding and not take part in the project.