

Name of External Body	Sustainable Communities Fund
Member	Doug Jones
Date of Meeting	23 June 2016
Sustainable Communities Fund Information	
1	The Sustainable Communities Fund (SCF) is a grant fund available to community and voluntary groups, social enterprise / 'not for profit' organisations and 'for profit' organisations delivering non-profit-making projects in the National Park. Grants can range from £250 to £10,000. Projects must contribute to policies or outcomes in the Partnership Management Plan. Organisations that are outside the National Park can be funded if they demonstrate a clear link to priorities in the National Park area.
2	The SCF Grant Panel considers applications over £2,000 whilst smaller grants are decided by delegation to NPA officers. The Panel consists of eight people from various sectors and includes two National Park Authority Members (Doug Jones and Pete West) along with other individuals with a variety of expertise and backgrounds. Applicants can apply for up to 50% of project costs and the remaining funding can include investment from their own organisation, other grants or contributions, and contributions in kind (including volunteer time or materials).
3	The SCF has a budget of £20,000 for 2016/17 and makes awards to a wide range of recipients, in a wide range of locations – often helping applicants to 'lever in' significant amounts of funding from other sources and helping to develop sustainable communities.
Decisions made at the SCF Panel meeting on 29 March 2016	
1	Petworth Community Garden: a project to provide a sustainable source of power via the installation of solar panels for a community garden project. The project will enhance current activities and extend the reach of the community garden, as well as showcasing solar power to other organisations and the wider community. A grant of £2,874.37 was approved subject to a number of conditions.
2	A New Learning Centre (Feasibility Study), Sustainability Centre, East Meon: funding towards a feasibility study to transform an existing 1970s ex-MoD building into a new Learning Centre. The study will deliver a detailed assessment of the site and building, propose design options and provide a report from which other organisations should be able to draw learning points. A grant of £7,887.50 was approved subject to a number of conditions.
3	South Downs Poetry Festival: funding towards a 'Proof of Concept' festival, testing various forms of delivery at locations across the National Park. To include a cross-park poetry bike tour visiting a large number of rural settings and performing free-to-attend events. The aim is to stage a more comprehensive South Downs Poetry Festival in 2017. A grant of £5,000 was approved on the condition that specific project deliverables are carried out.
Decisions made by delegation at the small grant meeting in February 2016	
1	Improving awareness and understanding of Graffham Down: a project to design, manufacture and install signage to guide and inform visitors about the reserves and develop complimentary communication materials (including leaflets) to generate awareness of the reserves amongst locals and visitors to the National Park. Supported with £2,000 with conditions that SDNPA branding and shared identity are used and that the Graffham Down Trust pays for any reprints of leaflets as well as maintenance of information panels.

2	<p>Sustainable development of Charleston House: printing of several leaflets linked to LSTF and sustainable transport-friendly ways of visiting Charleston House (including cycling and walking) as well as inviting the Bike Doctor to return to offer free bike repairs to visitors over the Easter weekend (supported by a social media campaign). Supported with £1,860 subject to conditions about the final approval of the campaign and draft literature.</p>
3	<p>The Foundation Project, Sussex Traditions: funding towards a community engagement element of a much larger project (£2,000 towards total costs of £29,136). The project aims to develop an online catalogue and database to host 4,000 records, initially relating to Sussex folk songs: a combination of unique field recordings, photographic and manuscript records with access to digital files, transcriptions and links to other online sources of information in collaboration with other relevant organisations (such as The Keep, the Weald & Downland Museum, the English Folk Dance and Song Society, the Universities of Sussex and Brighton and the National Trust. Community engagement aspects to include adult learning events, primary school projects and sharing events.</p>
4	<p>Chalk Poets (Winchester Poetry Festival): a grant of £1,350 towards costs of £53,150 to support the 2016 Winchester Poetry Festival (recognised by the Arts Council as being of strategic national importance). The festival will be celebrating poets and poetry rooted in the South Downs: a series of poetry readings from seven writers with South Downs or chalk landscape pedigree and the publication of a collection of poems either featuring or inspired by the South Downs (SDNP shared identity to be used).</p>
<p>Related documents – e.g. reports or minutes – and / or Hyperlinks</p>	
1	<p>https://www.southdowns.gov.uk/care-for/supporting-communities-business/sustainable-communities-fund/</p>
2	<p>https://www.southdowns.gov.uk/care-for/supporting-communities-business/sustainable-communities-fund/criteria-and-detailed-information/</p>
<p>Date of next meeting</p>	<p>There are 2 panel meetings each year for the large SCF grant applications. The next meeting is 20 September 2016</p>