

Name of External Body	Sustainable Communities Fund
Member	Doug Jones
Date of Meeting	28 March 2019
Sustainable Communities Fund Information	
1	The Sustainable Communities Fund has a small budget of £20,000 for 2018/19 and makes awards ranging from £250 to £10,000 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.
2	The SCF grant fund is 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. Projects should 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.
3	The SCF Grant Panel considers applications over £2,000 whilst smaller grants are decided by delegation to NPA officers. The Panel currently consists of eight people from various sectors and includes two NPA 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).
4	Having drawn upon grants returned from previous years (when the SCF budget was significantly higher) the budget available to allocate at the forthcoming meeting of the SCF Grant Panel on 19 March has been fixed at a total of £10,000 due to the transition to the new arrangements with the South Downs Trust. It is likely that the funds available at future meetings will increase, subject to NPA budgetary contributions and endowment inputs from the Trust.
Projects being considered at March 2019 Panel Meeting	
	The five projects being considered for a share of the £10,000 are summarised below:
1	Coultershaw Mill Heritage Site: restoration of South Warehouse as a Learning Space and Exhibition Centre to help engage more people in the heritage of the Petworth area. Seeking £10,000 towards total costs of £139,000
2	Sussex Wildlife Trust ‘Horse Box Café’: conversion of a horsebox to provide refreshment facilities and engagement opportunities at Woods Mill Nature Reserve. Seeking £10,000 towards total costs of £27,400

3	Berwick Church: conservation and protection of the unique painted interior (created during WW2 by the Bloomsbury artists, now of national and international importance) with widening of engagement. Seeking £10,000 towards total costs of £879,000
4	Binsted Primary School ‘Grounds for Growth’: creation of natural wooden amphitheatre (with planting reflecting South Downs habitats) as outdoor learning area for children and wider community use. Seeking £10,000 towards total costs of £23,430
5	Amberley Primary School Outdoor Classroom: creation of an eco-friendly natural outdoor classroom area to support teaching, learning and interaction with the environment. Seeking £10,000 towards total costs of £27,750
Related documents – e.g. reports or minutes – and / or Hyperlinks	
1	https://www.southdowns.gov.uk/care-for/supporting-communities-business/sustainable-communities-fund/
2	https://www.southdowns.gov.uk/care-for/supporting-communities-business/sustainable-communities-fund/criteria-and-detailed-information/