

Farming in Protected Landscapes

Minutes of the FiPL Local Assessment Panel (LAP) held at 5.30pm on Teams on Monday 23 January 2023

Pieter Montyn (Chairman)
Stephen Johnson
Richard Cowser
Angus Sprackling
Romy Jackson
Sam Wilson
Kate Bull (attended later)

Officers

Steven Pick Michelle Rossiter

1.0 WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

- 1.1 The Chairman welcomed attendees to the meeting.
- 1.2 Apologies for absence were received from Jen Walter. Ann Briggs attended at the end of the meeting due to an over running CHC Meeting in County Hall, Chichester.

2.0 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

- 2.1. There were none.

3.0 MINUTES

- 3.1 The minutes of the LAP Meeting held on 13 December 2023 at Eames Farm were agreed as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

4.0 MATTERS ARISING

- 4.1 FiPL Finances Update for Year 2

Steven Pick, the Farming Officer advised that the LAP Panel was on target to spend the entire FiPL budget for the year to March 2023 which was an excellent result.

4.2 FiPL Update for Year 2 and Expressions of Interest.

Steven gave an update on the FiPL year 2 to 2023 and Expressions of Interest (EOI) going forward as detailed below.

Location	Project	Status	Value
Itchenor	Hay rake	Complete	£1,500.00
Birdham	Fertiliser spreader	Complete	£14,600.00
Hayling Island	Educational video and Wildlife Boxes	Approved	£5,646.00
Haying Island	Fertiliser spreader	Approved	£10,424.00
Sidlesham	Hedge and Fencing	Approved	£19,661.50
Sidlesham	Toolbar	Approved	£11,132.40
Hayling Island	Education & Food	Approved	£5,317.24
Cobnor	Habitat creation and workshop	Approved	£1,537.88
Manhood	Cluster group creation	Approved	£10,260.00
Thorney Island	Wildflower mix	EOI	£360
Year 2 total			£80,439.02
Year 3			
Bosham	Fertiliser spreader	Approved	£10,271.25
Itchenor	GPS	Approved	£3,582.00
Apuldram	No Till Drill	Pending	£12,054.00
Manhood	Cluster Group	EOI	
Thorney Island	Coppicing	EOI	
Thorney Island	To be discussed	EOI	
Birdham	To Be discussed	EOI	
Birdham	Cattle handling equipment	EOI	
			£57,718.75

5.0 NEW APPLICATIONS

CH025 – Jack Sawday – Purchase of a No Till Drill

5.1 The Applicant did not attend and the Farming Officer gave a short presentation to the LAP on his behalf. This project was for the purchase of a No Till Drill for the purpose of establishing cover crops over an increased area of the farm. The farm lies entirely within a Nitrate Vulnerable Zone and in close proximity to Chichester Harbour. The establishment of cover crops has many environmental benefits. Cover crops capture carbon and store it in plant material improving soil health. Cover crops also improve soil structure and help to reduce nitrate leaching into nearby harbour waters thereby having a positive impact on water quality.

The Farming Officer Reported that this Moore Uni Drill would drill into grass and/or stubble and was a inexpensive and easy method of drilling. A member queried whether the method of control was a well established one. The Farming Officer responded that the drill had a mechanically driven metering unit and a hydraulic fan that blows the seed down the tubes, a cultivator then cuts the holes, slots the seed in and lifts. The metering system governs the rate of seed planting. A member queried the general legibility of the quotes provided and the Farming Officer agreed to send clearer copies to the LAP. A member commented that the values seemed correct, the drill was a basic model drill and a good purchase. The Farming Officer confirmed that the amount of grant claimed was based on the Farming Technology Fund standard rate.

5.2 Members agreed the scoring for the project as follows:

Project Outcomes (40%)	Value for Money (20%)	Sustainability (20%)	Delivery (20%)	Total Score	Score after weighting
8	8	10	10	36	8.8

5.3 Members unanimously approved the project – Award granted **£12,054**

6. LAP Members Expenses

The Farming Officer reminded LAP Members that they were to claim expenses to cover their time in LAP, which was much appreciated. The rate is £20 per hour. The Administration Officer advised that a claim form would be sent to LAP Members by email.

7. DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

The date for the next meeting was noted as follows: Monday 27 March 2023

The remaining meetings for this year, to be held at Eames Farm at 5.30pm were noted as follows:

- Monday 12 June
- Monday 11 September
- Monday 20 November

There being no other business, the meeting was closed at 6.20pm

SignedChairman

Date