

Date: 13th June 2018

Report: Surrey Hills Trust Fund Activity Report

Written by: Neil Maltby

The Panel last met on 12th April and the next meeting is planned for 12th July. Grants were awarded through the Surrey Hills Society for the Cycle Surrey Hills Project and Surrey Unearthed.

The Panel has been considering how the fund development and grant awards could be more effective. As the Community Foundation does not have the ability to collect small donations, it is proposed that the Surrey Hills Society could collect smaller donations which could be transferred into the Trust Fund at regular intervals. One of the opportunities being discussed is a Surrey Hills Cycle Fund to support the adoption, inspection and maintenance of trails.

The Surrey Hills Challenge and the inaugural Festival of Sport will be taking place on the 23rd September at Denbies Wine Estate. Bookings for the Challenge event are up 200% on this time last year and plans for the Festival are progressing well with a wide range of outdoor sporting activities being planned including the British Horse Society national road show, mechanical horse, cycle hill climb, cycle pump track and canicross. The Festival should help to support the Trust Fund in the long term by generating footfall, income and sponsorship opportunities. In the meantime, it will be a great opportunity to raise the profile of the Surrey Hills as an outstanding area for outdoor sport and exercise.

The 6 limited edition prints are being sold and a contribution of £5.00 from each purchase will be donated to the Surrey Hills Trust Fund. Visit <http://www.illustrationsandprints.com/limited-edition/index.html> to view and buy the prints. The sales should increase through the recent travel campaign with the artwork being displayed at railway stations and on buses.

Mrs Mittal is kindly hosting a donor event at the Alderbrook Estate on 21st June. This is an opportunity to profile the Inspiring Views project to get more landowners and donors interested in opening up views, enhancing access and public art installation. The aim is to increase contributions to the permanent endowment to maintain the Views in perpetuity through a simple agreement with landowners, as has already been established with the Mittal Foundation funding. The Watts Gallery is also keen to profile the Physical Energy public art commission for the A3 and is inviting some of its major donors and the Community Foundation for Surrey is inviting some of its Trustees and donors.

As reported to the last meeting, I will be stepping down as Chairman next October. This will provide the opportunity to review the membership of the Panel to ensure that we have the right philanthropic interests, skills and experience represented. Our ability to generate donations is dependent on our network of contacts and ensuring we are supporting projects that will generate great interest and further giving.