

ANGUS COUNCIL

MINUTE of MEETING of the **KIRRIEMUIR CONSERVATION AREA REGENERATION SCHEME (CARS) STEERING GROUP** held in the Town Hall, Kirriemuir on Tuesday 29 April 2014 at 9.15 am.

Present: Councillors IAIN GAUL, JEANETTE GAUL and RONNIE PROCTOR.

Non Councillor Members of the Group: PAUL FRETWELL, DEREK MARSHALL and CATHY STEPHENSON.

Officers in Attendance: ROY MADDEN (Natural and Built Environment Manager), KAREN WEST (CARS Project Officer), GRAEME HODGE (Communities Officer) and SARAH FORSYTH (Committee Officer).

1. CHAIR OF THE MEETING

In accordance with the constitution of the Steering Group, the chair rotating between elected members, Councillor Iain Gaul chaired the meeting.

2. APOLOGIES

There were no apologies intimated.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Paul Fretwell declared an interest in item 5 as he had discussed the proposed enhancements to the Square with the Heritage Trust. He indicated that he would participate in any discussion and voting in relation to the item.

4. MINUTE OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minute of meeting of the Steering Group of 18 March 2014 was submitted and approved as a correct record.

5. CARS PROJECT OFFICER'S REPORT

With reference to Article 6 of the minute of previous meeting, there was submitted a Report by the CARS Project Officer summarising progress in relation to the following priority projects:-

- **Glengate Hall**

The Project Officer indicated that the works were continuing to progress well following the recent slow down. Re-roofing works had largely been completed and the ground floor windows had now been installed. The large vertical windows on the first and second floors would be installed in sections over the coming weeks.

A site meeting had been held recently with the developers, Planning and Project Officers and a representative from Tayside Swifts to discuss the possibility of re-opening the original nesting site which had been blocked up by stonework and it was agreed that this would be the most practical option which could be carried out whilst the scaffolding was still in place. A new nesting box would also be attached under the eaves at the rear of the building.

Further, the orange safety netting would be removed at the upper level prior to the scaffolding being fully dismantled around the end of May.

- **1-3 Roods**

The Project Officer advised that planning and listed building consent had been granted for the works. Following discussion with the Architect, some alterations had been made to the proposals including the removal of the proposed render finish to the side gable and rear elevations. A grant application was expected to be submitted during May 2014.

- **Ogilvy's Close**

The Project Officer advised that the owner of the building had now engaged a professional advisor to progress grant repair works to the other property in his ownership but has not, to date, made any decision regarding the future of the warehouse.

- **Airlie Arms Hotel, St Malcolm's Wynd**

The Project Officer advised that she had been in contact with the selling agents who had again confirmed that there were currently no interested parties in the sale of the property. They had however agreed to revise the sales particulars to include information on the CARS scheme and specifically the level of grant assistance which may be available for external fabric repairs.

- **Small Grants Scheme**

It was noted that no new grant applications had been submitted for consideration at this meeting. The Project Officer had however been contacted by two professional agents who had been engaged by owners of properties High Street, one of which was in multiple ownership. Agents for the Bank of Scotland had also been in touch regarding possible grant assistance for re-coating the front elevation of the building in a lime render.

It was also noted that there was still considerable interest from property owners in the Small Grants Scheme. Although there had been relatively few grant applications to date, this was not untypical of CARS and other similar grant funded regeneration schemes at the early stages of the process in year one. In general terms, Historic Scotland had expressed particular satisfaction that one of the priority projects was well underway within the first year of the grant scheme.

- **Public Realm Works**

It was noted that the public consultation exercise for the proposed enhancement of the Square commenced on Monday 24 March and was due to end on Friday 2 May. Leaflets illustrating the Council's proposals and incorporating a response sheet had been delivered to all business and domestic properties in the vicinity of and fronting on to the Square and, in addition, large scale drawings and leaflets had also been made available in the Library and Access Office.

The proposals had also been presented at a public meeting hosted by Kirriemuir Community Council on 26 March 2014 however the proposal to have a stand within the Square featuring the designs had not happened due to holidays and staff shortages.

The Steering Group expressed disappointment that the stand had not happened and indicated a desire to have this re-arranged.

Cathy Stephenson advised members that she had received a number of comments from people who did not know about the consultation exercise.

Following discussion, the Steering Group agreed:-

- (i) that a stand featuring the designs for the Square be placed in the Square on Saturday 10 May; and
- (ii) that the consultation deadline be extended to 23 May 2014.

Thereafter, the Steering Group noted the terms of the Report and the updated position.

6. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- **Lighting**

Discussion was once again held on the possibility of extending the lantern/heritage lighting throughout the town.

The Steering Group agreed that costings for the lighting be presented to a future meeting at which time a decision could be made on whether to use funding from the CARS scheme.

7. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The Steering Group noted that the next meeting would be held on Tuesday 27 May 2014 at 9.15 am in the Lesser Hall, Kirriemuir.