

**KIRRIEMUIR CONSERVATION AREA REGENERATION SCHEME -**

**STEERING GROUP - 21 OCTOBER 2014**

**CARS PROJECT OFFICER'S REPORT**

**Priority Projects**

Glengate Hall

As previously mentioned in the September report, the regeneration project has been entered into the SURF Awards (Scotland's Independent Regeneration Network) for Best Practice and Innovation in Community Regeneration, supported by the Scottish Government. The Applicant and developer Redford Homes Ltd. has been notified that the completed development has been shortlisted (1 of 3) in the Town Centre Regeneration category.

SURF's annual awards process, delivered in partnership with the Scottish Government, is open to all community regeneration projects in Scotland that are currently in place or that have been completed within two years of the closing date.

The purpose of the SURF awards is:

- To recognise and reward best practice and innovation in community regeneration;
- To promote and disseminate best practice across Scotland as a means of sharing knowledge and experience, and thereby enhancing future policy and practice;
- To highlight the role that regeneration projects have in improving the wellbeing of individuals and communities.

The SURF Awards offer an opportunity for regeneration projects of all sizes to demonstrate value to funders and partners, support team building and develop a national profile. Nominations to the five categories of the 2014 SURF Awards for Best Practice in Community Regeneration are in the process of being assessed by an independent panel of 20 regeneration practitioners and policy-makers from across Scotland. All shortlisted projects will be highlighted in a special publication produced by SURF as well as on their website. The category winners will be announced at the SURF Awards Presentation Event in December.

The project has also been nominated for inclusion in the Scottish Empty Homes Partnership's Scottish Champion of the Year Awards which showcases exemplary contributions to the field of private sector empty homes work in Scotland. A shortlist of finalists will be drawn up in October/ November 2014 and the winner will be announced at the Scottish Empty Homes Conference in Glasgow at the end of November.

Officers from Angus Council have also been asked to present a workshop detailing the outcomes of a collaborative approach to development with the Glengate Hall as an example at the forthcoming Scottish Empty Homes Conference.

The building has now been removed from the Buildings at Risk Register. Updated information relating to the above is available to view on the Kirriemuir CARS web pages on the Council's website.

### 1 - 3 Roods

The grant contract for this Priority Project is currently being processed through the Council's Legal Services department and is expected to be issued shortly.

### Warehouse/ Store, Ogilvy's Close

No further progress on any grant application to date although the property is still on the market for sale.

### Former Airlie Arms, St. Malcolm's Wynd

No progress to date on any prospective works.

As noted in the minutes from the September meeting, the new owner, a local businessman has been in contact with the Project Officer but is currently waiting on a Licence application being determined before moving on with any repair/ restoration works to the building.

### **Small Grants Scheme**

No new Grant applications have been submitted for consideration at this meeting.

The Project Officer is to commence preparation of further publicity material (leaflets/ posters etc) to highlight the revised boundary in the Small Grants Scheme and the additional properties that could benefit from grant funding.

### **Public Realm Works**

No further progress as yet on the revised design for The Square.

### **Other Matters**

The Kirriemuir Conservation Area Character Appraisal and Management Plan document, a special condition of CARS grant funding from Historic Scotland was approved by Committee on 30 September 2014. The document is due to be published by mid-November.

Discussions have also recently been held with three potential Training providers, the Scottish Traditional Skills Training Centre, Frew Conservation and the Scottish Lime Centre Trust with a view to preparing a training package in Traditional Skills for both building owners and professionals either in late November/early December or most likely, in the Spring of 2015. More details to follow in due course.

The latest Quarterly Return for the end of September has just been submitted to Historic Scotland. This indicates a total sum of £287,150 to date has been paid out in grants towards project works and £30,000 paid out in administrative and ancillary costs since the start of the project. The total value of Historic Scotland's contribution is approx. £180,000, Angus Council's contribution £137,000. The latest claim also includes salary and travelling costs for the Project Officer.