

**CARS STEERING GROUP  
TUESDAY 4 OCTOBER 2016**

**PROJECT OFFICER REPORT**

**SMALL GRANTS SCHEME UPDATE**

Two new grant applications have been submitted under the Small Grants Scheme and will be discussed under the next Agenda item.

Most other grants awarded under the Small Grants Scheme are known to be progressing although dependent on contractors availability so as yet, those not started are:

Visocchi's, High Street – awarded £14,793 (20/10/2015). The replacement window frames are currently in the process of being manufactured by a local joinery company and have required a slight amendment to the design. The works are expected to start shortly (Autumn 2016) depending on the availability of the contractors.

44 Glengate – awarded £6,927 (8/9/2015). Replacement windows have been manufactured and Applicant is waiting on a date from the Contractor to have them fitted.

Ogilvy Arms, Flats 5B and 6B – awarded £40,000 total (20/10/2015). The applicant/ developer has intimated that works should commence in mid to late October with completion likely in January 2017, weather dependent.

1 Manse Close – awarded £9,156 (20/10/2015). Grant contract documents have finally been signed and returned. The Agent is currently arranging a start date with the Contractors.

Church Centre, 17 Bank Street – awarded £11,590 (20/10/2015). The building was due to change hands on 12 September however it is understood from the Agent that the sale has not as yet been concluded. A pre-application planning enquiry confirmed that proposed conversion to two townhouses would be acceptable in principal however no formal planning applications have yet been submitted. No revised grant application has been submitted.

Church, 10 Bank Street – awarded £10,657 (20/10/2015). Funds generated from the sale of the above building will contribute towards the restoration works at the Church. Given the above, it is likely that this project will also be delayed.

NOTE: The Agent for the last two grant projects will be keeping in close contact with the Project Officer regarding progress etc. although the conversion works at 17 Bank Street may require to be re-visited in terms of grant eligibility.

Enquiries for potential grant funding still continue to be received although a number of buildings are outwith the priority town centre area. Of particular interest in terms of potential grant funding, are two enquiries in relation to the following:-

6 – 10 Glengate – this comprises the two storey stone building immediately to the left as you enter the narrow part of Glengate from High Street. The building appears fairly run-down as it has been badly re-pointed with cement in recent years. The building has been purchased recently and planning permission and listed building consent applications for conversion/ alteration works have been applied for (applns. 16/00556/FULL and 16/00555/LBC refer). The Applicant is keen to receive CARS grant assistance to carry out stonework repairs and

re-pointing to the front and side return elevations onto Glengate, in addition to traditional roof and window repairs. Given that stone repairs have already been grant funded at the adjoining property, it would be beneficial to the appearance of this listed building for re-pointing works in particular to be carried out. Likely funding would amount to a maximum £20,000 grant.

2 – 8 Bank Street – this comprises the former Franchi's building, now converted to flatted accommodation on the upper floors and an Accountant's office on the ground floor. Interest in grant funding for roof and façade repairs has been previously expressed by the property owners (3 properties in total) although not taken forward by the owners due to the current limitations in the grant funding budget.

At this stage, the small grant budget is fully committed. It is requested that the Steering Group give consideration to potentially assisting any or both of these grant enquiries should any additional funding become available and whether the Project Officer should progress new grant applications.

### **Public Realm Works**

Kirsty Macari, Senior Planning Officer is currently on annual leave but has provided the next two updates (with Appendix 2) for this meeting -

As members of the Steering Group will be aware, a collaborative public realm project between Kirriemuir CARS and the Dementia Friendly Group has been developed to look at de-cluttering the town centre. This type of work not only improves the public realm by removing or reducing unnecessary signage but will also include enhancement works such as the painting of lighting columns/sign poles in black to be more in-keeping. Investigation works are still underway to establish final costs for the possible replacement of 3 streetlamps to heritage style lamps; 2 in Bank Street and 1 in Reform Street.

An audit of the street area was undertaken by officers from Roads and Planning, in-conjunction with representatives from the Dementia Friendly Group (see attached Appendix2). This information has allowed Roads to undertake a costing exercise. It is anticipated that works will cost no more than £3,000. These works are considered appropriate under the CARS public realm scheme as enhancement works to the conservation area. Although not an exhaustive list the works include:

- Removal of lamp standards in Glengate
- Painting of signage poles/lamp standards in Glengate, High Street, The Square, Reform Street and School Wynd
- Removal of signage poles in The Square, High Street and Reform Street
- Re-positioning of the car park signage in Reform Street car park to improve a public realm space
- Replacement of worn street signs\*
- Installation of a dropped kerb in Reform Street\*

\*These works are being undertaken within Roads maintenance budget.

Further work will continue to improve close areas with assistance from the Dementia Friendly Group in due course. This will include, dependant on final costings, the installation of the heritage lamps.

## **Other Matters**

### Legacy and Kirriemuir Charrette

The Senior Planner and Project Officer attended the Kirriemuir Charrette which was recently held in Kirriemuir. One of the proposals put forward by a student at Webster's High School was to create an app for Kirriemuir. Following discussion with the Charrette team, it was suggested that as part of the legacy from the CARS project and to enable the launch of the app, the Steering Group would be asked to make a contribution of £2,000 from the Training/ Education budget, which has approx. £10,000 in available funding.

The Senior Planning Officer has advised the Charrette team that in order to meet the criteria under the grant funding as provided by Historic Environment Scotland and as part of the legacy of the CARS scheme, the first stage of the app should seek to map information on those buildings which have received grant funding from CARS and to give an insight into the history of Kirriemuir. Suggestions for this could include:

- In-app ability to look at a building and preview a historic image (or similarly street) e.g. looking along Bank Street from High Street the image of previous building which stood in the centre of Bank Street may be visible ("Pokemon" style).
- Data to include grant awards and information on works undertaken

The basic app would require to be completed in this financial year but there may be scope to allow this to be extended to the end of this school year i.e. June 2017. The app could then be further developed with input from other groups in Kirriemuir, as part of any future upgrade and developments led by the school. It should be noted that any upgrades or associated costs with development in future years could not be funded by CARS.

The Steering Group are respectfully requested to consider funding the development of the app with a contribution of £2,000 from the Training and Education budget.

### Training Update

The next workshop/ seminar in the 2016 Training programme will take place this evening (4 October 2016) from 6pm to 8.30pm in the Old Parish Church Hall. Guest speaker Dr Lindsay Lennie, MRICS, IHBC, will give a talk on the subject of "The Conservation and Repair of Traditional Shopfronts". Dr Lennie will present a slideshow and talk covering the architectural history of shops, shop signage for listed buildings and conservation areas, as well as case studies of conservation and repair projects.

A further evening event will take place the following Tuesday, 11 October at the same venue/time, giving another opportunity for homeowners and private individuals to come along to an informal presentation evening offering repair advice and information to enable locals to look after their traditional buildings.

Details of these events are on the Council's website, Facebook, Twitter and have been sent out the local media.

### Rural Parliament Visit

Arrangements are currently being made for a project visit by the Scottish Rural Parliament to Kirriemuir on the afternoon of Saturday 8 October. This will take the form of a presentation to members at the Community Hub in Bank Street (with refreshments) followed by a walk around the town to view some of the buildings undergoing regeneration. It is likely that there will be around 20 delegates in attendance, along with two guides. Any assistance which may be offered by Members of the Steering Group during their visit (from 2.20pm to 3.30pm) would be most welcomed by the Project Officer.

Whilst the group will also be visiting a number of other local groups (Kirriemuir Regeneration Group; DD8 Music and the Kirriemuir Allotment Group) at venues in the town on the day, information on the CARS visitation has been passed on to the Council's Comms team as requested by the Steering Group at their last meeting.

## APPENDIX 2

Please Note: this is an initial working sheet that has been used to consider some de-cluttering works in the town centre. This is not a complete list and is only for indicative purposes

### HIGH STREET



Image 1: Small yellow signage to be attached to building and pole removed.

### BANK STREET/THE SQUARE



Image 2: No entry signage to be replaced x 2 to either galvanised or painted black depending on price. Signage outside co-operative to be removed and sign attached to building.

HIGH STREET



Image 3: One way signage to be replaced/painted as per image 2 to provide cohesion.



Image 4: Remove small signage pole to left, and if possible have only one signage pole (again to met as per image 2/3 regarding pole type).

GLENGATE



Image 5: Remove pole and signage to left. Rationalise signage on the right to be included on the one lamp standard. Lamp standard to be moved to where existing directional signage exists.



Image 6: Replacement with traditional style lamp/painted or replaced or if feasible placed on building.





Image 7: replace signage, on building if possible or replace poles.

ST.MALCOLM'S WYND/ REFORM STREET



Image 8: Remove 3<sup>rd</sup> signal box and consider where this crossing is on replacement/upgrade plan, bring forward if possible.



Image 9: replacement signage for no entry/directional signage either galvanised or painted black to match. Can Camera obscura sign go on building? Crossing point on right hand side to be installed to match crossing on the left side.



Image 10: Can this sign be moved? One way signage on right hand side to be placed on the lighting column?

### SCHOOLWYND



Image 11: Remove poles and place signage on building. If appropriate to replace then consider either galvanised or black.

BANK STREET



Image 12: Can lamp be more heritage appropriate and painted?



Image 13: as per image 12 above.

Overall. Replacement where required of street name signage which is worn or untidy.

Consideration still to be given to progression of signage to the key areas such as Dementia Garden.

Potential interest us a VR set to give a perspective of the area from those suffering from dementia.

Need to consider key uses/routes/service areas to be accessed and signage routes as appropriate.