



News Release

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BELL BAXTER PUPILS VISIT ICONIC BURGH CHAMBERS AS TRANSFORMATION BEGINS



Ten pupils from Bell Baxter High School have been given the opportunity to visit the iconic Burgh Chambers in Cupar as its transformation into a holiday let begins. The pupils received a guided tour of the building by ARC Architects and were able to ask questions and gain information about the project, including measures taken to improve the energy efficiency of the building.

The pupils were given a demonstration of traditional sash and case window repair by Douglas Normand, of James Normand and Sons' and benefited from his experience of

repairing traditional windows. They were shown how to repair the windows and the steps taken to improve their thermal efficiency.

Back at the school, pupils had the opportunity to come up with their own designs for the Burgh Chambers, working from architectural plans of the building.

“It was a really interesting afternoon and one that the pupils and I really enjoyed”, said Alastair Lownie, Curriculum Leader – Technologies at Bell Baxter High School.

Finlay Pass, Bell Baxter High School pupil added, "I really enjoyed the visit to the Burgh Chambers. It broadened my knowledge of what I need for the future and made me think about what I want to do when I leave school. The visit helped me a lot."

Gregor Stewart, Energy Efficiency Officer for the Cupar CARS/THI said “This visit was the second of four planned visits to the Burgh Chambers for the pupils. I was impressed by the great questions they asked and hope that the visit has helped them understand the type of energy efficiency improvements that can be made in a historic building.”

This project was delivered through the Cupar Conservation Area Regeneration Scheme and Townscape Heritage initiative in partnership with Bell Baxter High School.

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Note to editors

- Cupar Conservation Area Regeneration Scheme (CARS) and Townscape Heritage Initiative (THI) is operated by Fife Council and Fife Historic Buildings Trust, and core funded jointly by Historic Environment Scotland, the Heritage Lottery Fund, and Fife Council. The five-year CARS/THI programme, which runs until March 2019, will deliver a number of elements: priority building projects, a building repair grant scheme, public realm improvements to Cupar streets and closes, and training, apprenticeships and community engagement.
- Using money raised through the National Lottery, the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) sustains and transforms a wide range of heritage for present and future generations to take part in, learn from and enjoy. From museums, parks and historic places to archaeology, natural environment and cultural traditions, it invests in every part of our diverse heritage. To date it has invested over £588million in Scotland’s heritage.
- HLF’s Townscape Heritage Initiative (THI) encourages partnerships of local organisations to carry out repairs and other works to a number of historic buildings, structures or spaces. Grants range from £500,000 to £2m. To date, HLF has invested over £214m regenerating towns that have suffered serious social and economic decline.
- Historic Environment Scotland’s Conservation Area Regeneration Scheme (CARS) provides financial assistance, over a five year period, for Conservation Area based regeneration and conservation initiatives undertaken by Local and National Park

Authorities, community groups and other 3rd sector organisations experienced in delivering multi-funded projects. Since 2005, there have been six CARS application rounds awarding £33m of Scottish Government investment.

Further information

- Heritage Lottery Fund: Website www.hlf.org.uk Twitter: @heritagelottery
- Fife Historic Buildings Trust: Website fifehistoricbuildings.org.uk

Contact: Fife Council communications team (01592) 583312