



# *News Release*

July 2016

## **CUPAR BURGH CHAMBERS PROJECT TRANSFORMS ICONIC BUILDING**



A key milestone for the Cupar Burgh Chambers project has now been reached, with the submission of the planning and listed building consent applications to Fife Council's planning department.

Fife Historic Building Trust has been working with Fife Council to transform the previously empty building and give it a new lease of life.

Following a community consultation and formal approval to repair and adapt the Common Good property to create a holiday let apartment, the design team, led by Cupar-based Arc Architects, has been working on the plans.

The design includes two en-suite bedrooms on the top floor with a generous kitchen and living area on the first floor, and all finished to a high standard. The drawings can be viewed online on Fife Council's planning portal, and the Burgh Chambers will also be open to the public for Doors Open Day on Sunday 4 September from 11am to 4pm.

Cllr Lesley Laird, Fife Council's depute leader, and spokesperson for planning and economy, said: "Cupar's landmark Burgh Chambers is set to put the town on the map as a tourist destination, as the work by Fife Historic Buildings Trust gives the iconic pink building a new lease of life.

"Preserving the buildings that provide Cupar's unique architectural townscape is central to regeneration and economic growth. The transformation is being carried out as part of a package of town centre improvements under the CARS initiative (Cupar Area Regeneration Scheme), which is run by the Trust in conjunction with Fife Council. We are proud of the way that the Cupar CARS regeneration grant funding is helping to make the area a better place for local people and visitors alike."

Lorraine Bell, Fife Historic Buildings Trust Manager, said: "We are very pleased to be working with Fife Council to deliver this wonderful project. The historic fabric of the building will be carefully repaired in line with best conservation practice and the interior will be sympathetically adapted for the new use while retaining as much of the historic fabric and character as possible."

Michael McArdle, Lead Professional, Fife Council added: "The Burgh Chambers project will transform this empty building into a great resource for Cupar and will ensure that it has a sustainable use for years to come. Fife Council is keen to hear from any organisations or individuals who would be interested in managing the holiday let once the works are finished, which is expected to be in the autumn of 2017."

The Cupar Burgh Chambers project is funded by Historic Environment Scotland and the Heritage Lottery Fund through the Cupar Conservation Area Regeneration Scheme (CARS) and Townscape Heritage Initiative (THI) programme.

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Did you know?

- 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.