



# *News Release*

September 2015

## **NEW LEASE OF LIFE FOR CUPAR BURGH CHAMBERS**

A consultation on the future use of the Burgh Chambers in Cupar will begin next month and we want your views!

Fife Historic Buildings Trust has been working with Fife Council to consider how the building, which is currently lying empty, could be used. The three uses being considered are:

- office space
- mid-market housing; and a
- holiday let

Depute Leader of Fife Council and Spokesperson for Economy and Planning Cllr Lesley Laird said: "Funding is available towards the restoration of the Burgh Chambers in Cupar, through the Historic Scotland and Heritage Lottery funded Cupar Conservation Area Regeneration Scheme (CARS) and Townscape Heritage Initiative (THI) programme.

"We will begin a formal consultation on these proposals on 6 October, with presentations to the Community Council at the end of October and the North East Fife Area Committee hopefully in November. But before the proposals are finalised, we want to bring the local community up to date, and give them the chance to have their say.

"With three options on the table there is certainly something for people to think about. The holiday let option is an interesting one, which was put forward by a number of local people and would certainly bring a new facility to Cupar and contribute to the economic and social life of the town."

The team meets again on 29 September, and is keen to hear what you think of the proposals before the formal consultation. To find out more or to give feedback on the proposals, please contact Fife Historic Buildings Trust by emailing [fiona@fifehistoricbuildings.org.uk](mailto:fiona@fifehistoricbuildings.org.uk) or calling 01592 890060.

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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 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 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.