



News Release

22 January 2020

A COMMUNITY BURGH SURVEY AND BUILDING REPAIR SCHEME FOR INVERKEITHING



19th C painting of Inverkeithing by David Buchanan Young

Fife Council and Fife Historic Buildings Trust are launching a Community Burgh Survey for Inverkeithing as well as a building repair grant scheme for the town centre.

Find out more at these information events:

- The Burgh Survey and how you could get involved
29 January, 6.00pm to 7.30pm at the Inverkeithing Civic Centre

- Inverkeithing Grant Scheme, for property owners and occupiers in the High Street area of Inverkeithing
3 February, 6.00pm to 7.30pm at the Inverkeithing Civic Centre.

The Community Burgh Survey is an exciting opportunity for Inverkeithing's community to share a journey of exploration and discover the fascinating history and archaeology of the town. The results will be published in a book.

There will be opportunities for people to volunteer, learn, contribute and participate in four key areas of activity:

- Archaeological Excavations – take part in a dig on your doorstep! Help uncover and analyse what past residents of Inverkeithing left behind, hid or threw away.
- Archive Research – document detectives, learn how to access and use historic documents and maps to reveal Inverkeithing's most important stories.
- Standing Building Surveys – learn how to read buildings, understand the significance of built evidence, and help record the Town House and Friary buildings.
- Oral Histories – help collect and preserve memories of Inverkeithing's places and people.

All activities are free and participants will be trained and supported by specialists advising how to successfully contribute. Volunteers can register for one or more projects, and don't need any prior experience or special skills.

Northlight Heritage will deliver the Burgh Survey activities, alongside Fife Historic Buildings Trust and Fife Council. The meeting on the 29 January will highlight the opportunities for people to get involved. For further information about getting involved in the activities please email info@northlightheritage.org

The Building Repair Grant Scheme for buildings in the Inverkeithing High Street area will help private owners to repair or improve their properties. Grants can support sensitive repairs to historic buildings using traditional materials and skills, as well as the reinstatement of appropriate architectural details such as improvements to historic shop fronts. Owners can also get advice on how to look after their historic property and improve energy efficiency. The event on 3 February will be for property owners and occupiers in the High Street area of Inverkeithing. Come along to learn more about the grant scheme and the rights and responsibilities of property owners and landlords. There will also be the opportunity to discuss your project with a member of the team.

Councillor Alice McGarry, Convener of the South & West Fife Villages Area Committee said “Inverkeithing has a superb architectural heritage which is reflected in its many listed historic buildings and large Conservation Area. These activities will help the people of Inverkeithing discover their past and use that knowledge to give a better-informed contribution to plans for its future through the Inverkeithing Heritage Regeneration scheme. It’s planned to combine the survey results and produce the Inverkeithing Burgh Survey book, which will prove an authoritative and comprehensive overview of the archaeology, heritage and historic environment of the town.

“It’s also important that our historic buildings get the regular care and attention they need. This grant scheme is designed to help property owners and occupiers to repair and conserve the historic fabric and traditional appearance of their buildings.”

Both these programmes are generously funded by The National Lottery Heritage Fund and Historic Environment Scotland through the Inverkeithing Heritage Regeneration scheme.

A range of activities will be delivered in parallel with the grant scheme, including traditional skills training for local contractors and events and training for homeowners.

If you have any questions about the grant scheme or would like to find out more, please email inverkeithing@fifehistoricbuildings.org.uk



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Notes to Editors:

- Inverkeithing has a rich history and heritage, reflected in its large Conservation Area and many listed buildings. Fife Council is working with Fife Historic Buildings Trust and the local community to invest in Inverkeithing's historic buildings and streets to support the town's future. The five-year Inverkeithing Heritage Regeneration scheme, which runs until March 2024, will deliver a number of elements: priority building projects, a building repair grant scheme, public realm improvements to the Inverkeithing High Street area, and training and community engagement.
- The Inverkeithing Heritage Regeneration scheme is funded by The National Lottery Heritage Fund (£1,255,900 via its Townscape Heritage programme), Historic Environment Scotland (£1,007,700 via its Conservation Area Regeneration Scheme), and Fife Council. Over £3.6 million will be invested in Inverkeithing's heritage during the five-year programme.
- The National Lottery Heritage Fund is the largest dedicated funder of heritage in the UK, believing that understanding, valuing and sharing our heritage brings people together, inspires pride in communities and boosts investment in local economies.
- Using money raised by the National Lottery, we inspire, lead and resource the UK's heritage to create positive and lasting change for people and communities, now and in the future. www.heritagefund.org.uk Follow @HeritageFundUK on Twitter, Facebook and Instagram and use #NationalLotteryHeritageFund
- National Lottery grants range from £3,000 to £5million and over, funding projects that sustain and transform the UK's heritage

- Historic Environment Scotland's Conservation Area Regeneration Scheme (CARS) programme can offer grant of up to £2 million to support cohesive heritage-focused community and economic growth projects within Conservation Areas across Scotland.
- HES expect CARS to deliver a combination of larger building repair projects, small third-party grant schemes providing funding for repairs to properties in private ownership, activities which promote community engagement with the local heritage and training for professionals in traditional building skills, all of which will contribute to sustainable economic and community development within the Conservation Area.
- The CARS funding programme has been in operation since 2007 with over £40m awarded to date. Applications for Round 8 were accepted up to 15 November 2018. Applicants were notified of funding decisions in March 2019.

Further information:

- Fife Historic Buildings Trust: www.fifehistoricbuildings.org.uk

Contact:

- Fife Council communications team (01592) 583312