



# *News Release*

6 April 2020

## **INVERKEITHING HERITAGE TEAM LOOKING AT NEW WAYS OF ENGAGEMENT**

The Inverkeithing Heritage Regeneration project has had to make some changes due to the ongoing coronavirus situation. The team is trialling alternative methods of community engagement so that the regular community stakeholder group meetings can continue in some form.

The full impact of the current shut down on the Town House restoration project and the public realm improvement works is not yet known. However, the project team is working hard to put in place alternative plans where possible.

Emma Griffiths, Training and Development Officer at Fife Historic Buildings Trust, said “Unfortunately the training events and activities that were initially planned have been cancelled. However, we’re investigating other ways to bring the project to life for the community. This might include online heritage activities, virtual meetings using video conferencing, and podcasts highlighting Inverkeithing’s history and heritage.

“I’ve already held several heartening video meetings with keen members of Inverkeithing Local History Society, where we’ve been learning together about how to

care for community archives. Hopefully we'll be able to follow up with more exciting news about future activities and ways for people to re-engage with the project.

Regarding the Building Repair Grant Scheme, which aims to help property owners in the centre of Inverkeithing to carry out repairs and improvements to their buildings. Fiona Stenke, Project Officer at Fife Historic Buildings Trust said “We know that this will be a difficult time for everyone, and that it may be some time before property owners can go ahead with their building repair projects. We will ensure the grant scheme is as flexible as possible, and please don't hesitate to get in touch if you would like to discuss the implications for your project or to register your interest in the scheme.”

Councillor Alice McGarry, Convener of the South and West Fife Area Committee, said; “We'd like to thank the project funders, the National Lottery Heritage Fund and Historic Environment Scotland, for their invaluable support and advice at this difficult time.

“Fife Council is committed to delivering Inverkeithing Heritage Regeneration, but we'd like to ask the people of Inverkeithing to bear with the project team as they endeavour to work out, how best to move forward.”

Inverkeithing Heritage Regeneration scheme is delivered by Fife Historic Buildings Trust on behalf of Fife Council. If you have any questions or would like to find out more, please email [inverkeithing@fifehistoricbuildings.org.uk](mailto:inverkeithing@fifehistoricbuildings.org.uk) or visit [www.fifehistoricbuildings.org.uk/inverkeithing](http://www.fifehistoricbuildings.org.uk/inverkeithing) or follow us on Twitter @FifeHistoricBT



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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](http://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](http://www.fifehistoricbuildings.org.uk)

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