

TOWNSCAPE HERITAGE INITIATIVE
Monday, 1st November, 2010

Present:- Councillor R. S. Russell (in the Chair); Councillors Dodson, Pickering, Smith, Swift and Walker.

together with:-

Canon David Bliss	Rotherham Minster
Brig Chaggar	Rotherham Chamber of Commerce
Peter Hawkridge	Rotherham Civic Society
Charles Hammersley	Project Officer

23. INTRODUCTIONS

Councillor Russell, Cabinet Member for Town Centres, welcomed those present to the meeting and introductions were made.

24. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Ali, Senior Advisor, Town Centres.

25. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 7TH JUNE, 2010

Consideration was given to the minutes of the previous meeting held on 7th June, 2010.

It was agreed:- That the minutes be approved as a correct record.

26. ANY MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MINUTES

There were no matters arising from the previous minutes.

27. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

Resolved:- That, under Section 100(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 (financial/business affairs).

28. TOWNSCAPE HERITAGE INITIATIVE SCHEME - CONSIDERATION OF GRANT APPROVAL FOR ESSOLDO BUILDINGS

Consideration was given to a report, presented by the Project Officer, relating to a request to consider a grant under the Townscape Heritage Initiative Scheme in respect of Essoldo Chambers, High Street,

Rotherham.

Details of the proposed works and costings were set out in the submitted report.

It was pointed out that planning permission for the building improvements was granted on 15th September, 2008. The shop front design by AXIS Architecture was appended to the submitted report. The works would be carried out by the same contractor as for the Hamby's block of properties.

It was confirmed that the works would include cleaning and repairing the façade, a new roof and guttering, together with windows and shop fronts.

It was also confirmed that communication channels had been established and that the works would be carried out on a staged payment approach.

Resolved:- That approval be given for a grant offer to Mr. Anjum Abbasi. up to a maximum of £400,000 towards repair and restoration works at Essoldo Chambers, noting that the grant was also subject to HLF appraisal and approval and on-going discussions with the HLF regarding minor items of works eligible for grant aid.

29. UPDATE ON PROJECTS WITH THE SCHEME

The Project Officer updated members of the Partnership in respect of:-

- The Three Cranes, Alfonsos and The George Wright Building

Noting that, due to funding constraints by the Coalition Government, funding from Yorkshire Forward will not now be forthcoming to allow the Council to acquire these properties.

Reference was made to the importance of the stove grate industry in Rotherham.

- No. 20 High Street

Noting completion of works, including creation of 2 new apartments (one of which was now occupied).

- SNAFU

The grant application had been approved in principle and it was anticipated that work would commence early in 2011, and would complement the landscaping improvements in Minster Yard.

- 10-12 High Street

Self Architects were preparing sketch designs for this property along with No. 14A High Street.

- Hambys Block

Works were now completed.

- Minster Yard

Lighting scheme was completed mid-November 2009. Landscaping works were on going and progressing well. It was pointed out that the lighting scheme had been submitted as part of a national award scheme.

30. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The following issues were reported:-

- (i) Turner Trail

Both the Minster and the Chapel on the Bridge were being promoted by VisitYorkshire.com as part of the Turner tourist trail.

- (ii) Minster Publicity

It was proposed to hold exhibitions and concerts at the Minster e.g. Medieval Babes. Contact details were also provided for Gospel Rock.

31. DATE, TIME AND VENUE OF THE NEXT MEETING

- to be confirmed.