

Hebden Bridge Community Association



Media release

Issued Tuesday April 12th

TOWN HALL STAFFING CHANGES

Hebden Bridge Community Association, the member-led organisation which manages Hebden Bridge Town Hall, has announced some staffing changes as it gears up for the major building work starting at the site very shortly.

Kate Rae, who has been the familiar face greeting visitors to the Town Hall since last April, is moving from an administrative role to take up a six-month post of Development Officer with the Association. She will be undertaking five linked projects, designed to ensure that maximum use can be made of the new community and business facilities when the building work is completed next Spring.

Among other things, she will be building up links with key local agencies and organisations with the aim of creating an effective 'one stop shop' in the Town Hall where local people can get advice and information. As Peter Hirst, Chair of the Association explains, this has been a central aim in the organisation's plans to bring new life back to the building: "In times past, the Town Hall was the place in Hebden Bridge where people went to get the help they needed. More recently, services have been dispersed elsewhere, relocated to Halifax or cut altogether. We hope that the brand new Town Hall building, when it's finished, will be able to once again perform this important function," he says.

Kate will also be working on a series of events to mark the completion of the building work next year, and developing the Town Hall as a venue for weddings and civil partnerships. Fundraising also becomes her responsibility.

Peter Hirst adds: "When Kate started a year ago, we had only just taken over the running of the Town Hall. She's played a key role since then. She hit the ground running, getting our office equipped and our administrative systems set up."

A new six-month post of Administrator goes to Sue Graham from Heptonstall, who will be working 25 hours a week. She will ensure that the office is staffed between the core times of 10am and 2pm Mondays to Fridays.

Peter Hirst says: "Sue has been at the Town Hall for the past three months under the government's subsidised Future Jobs scheme, and has demonstrated her skills and competence. We're delighted to be able to convert this into proper employment."

The Association will be reviewing its employment arrangements again in the Autumn, as it prepares for the opening of the new facilities early in 2012.

ends

More information: Andrew Bibby, 01422 845799