

Hebden Bridge Community Association



MEDIA RELEASE

EMBARGOED WEDS MAY 25th 2011

STONE THE CROWS! APPEAL FOR TOWN HALL PAVING GETS OFF TO PROMISING START

The appeal launched last month to ensure that the new riverside courtyard behind Hebden Bridge Town Hall can be paved with genuine York stone rather than substitute paving has got off to a promising start.

Hebden Bridge Community Association has so far received £4,300 in donations towards the total £18,200 cost of paving the courtyard. Sponsors are being invited to 'buy' their own square metre of stone for £100, or to gift a square metre on behalf of a child or grandchild.

"We're grateful to all the people who have been very quick of the mark. Taking into account the Gift Aid tax refund on these donations, we now have 50 square metres of York stone paving paid for. We're more than a quarter of the way there," says Peter Hirst, chair of the Association.

He explains that the funding which the Association has received will meet the core building costs of the new Town Hall extension, but not some of the quality finishing touches which the Association would like if possible to include. "For these, we need to ask the Hebden Bridge community itself to contribute. The new Town Hall

buildings will be with us for generations, and we are keen to make them as good as we possibly can,” he adds.

Among donations already received is one square metre of stone which has been ‘bought’ by a local resident on behalf of their grand-daughter. The grand-daughter’s name will be included on the Sponsors’ name board, which will be erected in the Town Hall when building work is completed.

Separately, the Community Association is about to launch an appeal to local businesses to add their names as Sponsors by contributing to the costs of fitting out the public rooms and communal parts of the building. The Association will be appealing for a small number of corporate sponsors interested in helping and perhaps prepared to match the £10,000 already donated to the project by the Rotary Club of Hebden Bridge.

Information about the Town Hall appeal can be obtained from the Association’s part-time administrator Sue Graham at the Town Hall (10am – 2pm) on HB 845261.

The main construction work on the new Town Hall extension has been funded partly from support from the Communitybuilders fund and partly by the European Union for the region’s economic development, through the Yorkshire and Humber European Regional Development Fund programme 2007-13. The ERDF programme provides investment support to help regions improve their economies and help local businesses, people and communities to improve their prospects.

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Note to editors

1. Full details of the asset transfer and of Hebden Bridge Community Association can be accessed at www.hebdenbridgetownhall.org.uk.

More information: Andrew Bibby, 01422 845799

2. Yorkshire and The Humber ERDF Programme 2007-2013

The European Regional Development Fund Programme is managed by Yorkshire Forward on behalf of a regional partnership including the National Government, European Commission and local bodies. The programme has €583 million from the European Regional Development Fund to invest by 2013.

Further information about the ERDF Programme in Yorkshire and The Humber, including information about the projects that are receiving ERDF Investment, is available at www.yorkshire-forward.com/erdf

European Regional Development Fund

The European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) was set up in 1975 to stimulate economic development in less prosperous regions of the European Union.

ERDF is provided to support the European Union's cohesion policy that seeks to redress imbalances in development between regions and Member States. It is used to support projects that can help local economies address the challenges of globalisation and contribute to delivering Europe's 2020 strategy of smart, sustainable and inclusive growth.

Information about the European Union's support for regions is available at www.ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/index_en.htm



**Project Part-Financed
by the European Union**

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