

**Ferryhill Railway Heritage Trust incorporating Ferryhill Mens Shed – Ferryhill Mens Shed for the Restoration of historic Office Buildings and Water Tower project**

The Trust is a multi-award-winning organisation in Ferryhill, Aberdeen. The buildings to be restored are located at the former Ferryhill Motive Power Depot, a derelict site adjacent to Duthie Park. The area is leased by the Trust. We will restore this derelict, listed, brick built Victorian buildings, previously used as railway offices, along with an attached granite-based building which originally had a water tank above, used to fill steam locomotives. They, together with the former Engine Shed, are Listed Grade "B" and these buildings are on the HES "At Risk" Register.

We will reinstate the office building to provide a museum space for smaller railway artefacts and a small joinery workshop where the repair of small items can be undertaken and where preparation for repair and preservation of larger objects can be done. The Ferryhill Men's Shed will occupy the workshop area, providing an important facility to overcome loneliness and isolation among older people in the community.

Contractors will be appointed to make the building wind and watertight by installing new roof trusses, a new slate roof, repairing the brickwork using lime mortar, installing new floors, windows and a new access door. The funds can be allocated incrementally to these scopes of work, depending upon the amount available.

**Evidence that local people support this project:**

The Trust was set up with the encouragement of The Community Council, Aberdeen City Council and local MPs, MSPs and Councillors. Large numbers of visitors have attended Open Days and generous support has been given by local companies through donations in kind. Local Trust Funds have generously supported the Trust with grants. The Trust has been awarded a number of UK-wide prizes, acknowledging their success.

**Endorsement from User Groups:**

\*\*\* Winner of the 2019 Rail Partnership Awards for Preserving the History of the Railway \*\*\*

\*\*\* Winner of the Stagecoach Volunteers Award at the National Railway Heritage Awards 2019 \*\*\*

\*\*\* Winner of the Aberdeen Civic Society Principal Award 2019 \*\*\*

The A1 Steam Trust, The SRPS, the LNERCA, local railway Societies including the GNSRA have all endorsed our project and have made generous contributions to the Trust.

Partners and Stakeholders: The Railway Heritage Trust has supported the Trust's work with two substantial grants. Historic Environment Scotland has supported the Trust with several substantial grants. Museums Galleries Scotland has supported the Trust with a number of grants. Age Scotland has supported the Trust with two grants.

**Planning Permission:**

The Trust has full planning permission and Listed Building Consent for this Project. Copies of the plans and views can be seen on Aberdeen City Council's Planning Portal under the following references:

APPLICATION REF NO. 220334/DPP

APPLICATION REF NO. 220335/LBC

Unusually for Aberdeen, these are brick-built buildings, except for the water tower base which is Freestone and Granite. They date from the dawn of the Railway Age and are the only remaining railway structures in the area from this period. They serve as a reminder of the social and working conditions for people in the 1850s. The water tower demonstrates how water was abstracted from the Den Burn, now largely culverted and invisible. The water was supplied to waiting steam locomotives on the adjacent railway tracks. The Office Buildings were used as a signing-on point for the locomotive drivers and firemen. The Trust has some historical records of the period including

signing-on records for some of these staff. There is evidence of firemen requiring to wash themselves down after their shift owing to the dirty operating conditions of the time. There is evidence of the Oil Store used for paraffin oil lamps used to light the railway carriages during this period. Workers would have to clamber up on top of up to 12 carriages and install the oil lamps in up to 5 compartments in each coach, this would have been repeated every night for every train departing during the hours of darkness.

#### Current building



#### Proposal



## **Fersands Fountain Community Project – Nursery Garden Improvement Project**

We are seeking to turn a disused concrete car park into a garden area for nursery Children from a disadvantaged area.

The Woodside Fountain Centre is home to Fersands Family Centre which offers Pre School Education to up to forty-six families each day, fifty weeks per year. All of the Families live in a regeneration area or are from families deemed as vulnerable. The families all live in tenement accommodation with little garden space.

The Family Centre moved to the accommodation thirteen years ago but has since increased services considerably and has outgrown the existing garden space. When they arrived at the centre they looked after far less children and for shorter periods of time.

Our existing space was not designed to accommodate so many children for so long periods. The Nursery is now encouraged to offer a “Free Flow” play system where children choose to play in or outside. Recently more and more value is given to outdoor learning and physical exercise for the wellbeing of small children.

We intend to erect a new boundary fence around part of the existing car park, resurface grounds with a range of materials; soft play surface, composite decking, bark etc.

Remove existing windows and install into Woodside Fountain Centre New Patio Doors in Nursery facing Marquis to form a new direct opening on to the new garden area. Above the new [patio doors we intend to erect a shelter to protect this new entrance with Canope .

(Full detailed drawings are available)

Application was submitted for planning permission in September 2022 and has recently been approved on 16<sup>th</sup> November 2022.

<https://publicaccess.aberdeencity.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?activeTab=documents&keyVal=RHHAPGBZJ9D00>

Partners include; Tinto Architects,

Sangsters (Structural Engineers & Quantity Surveying) Fairhurst (Building Warranty). Approval has been gained from

Aberdeen City Early Years Pre School advisors, Woodside Neighbourhood Network, Woodside Community Council.



