

## Members' Library Service Request Form

Date of Document	01/11/14
Originator	Head Of Communities & Partnerships
Originator's Ref (if any)	
Document Title	St. Andrew's Kirk, Kirkports, North Berwick

Please indicate if access to the document is to be “unrestricted” or “restricted”, with regard to the terms of the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985.

Unrestricted	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Restricted	<input type="checkbox"/>
--------------	-------------------------------------	------------	--------------------------

If the document is “restricted”, please state on what grounds (click on grey area for drop-down menu):

For Publication
-----------------

Please indicate which committee this document should be recorded into (click on grey area for drop-down menu):

Cabinet
---------

Additional information:

Authorised By	Tom Shearer
Designation	Head of Communities & Partnerships
Date	Nov 2014

For Office Use Only:	
Library Reference	234/14
Date Received	18/11/14
Bulletin	Nov14

**REPORT TO:** Members' Library Service

**MEETING DATE:**

**BY:** Head of Communities and Partnerships

**SUBJECT:** St Andrew's Kirk, Kirkports, North Berwick

---

## **1 PURPOSE**

- 1.1 To advise Members of the proposals for conservation works to St Andrew's Kirk, Kirkports, North Berwick. This includes proposals to reinstate the roof of the tower and to consolidate the rest of the structure, as well as to implement an interpretation and access plan.
- 1.2 Also to advise Members that in order for this to be achieved there has been a steering group formed which includes Council Officers and Members, representatives of North Berwick Environment Trust, North Berwick Community Council and other interested parties.
- 1.3 North Berwick Environment Trust, as a registered charity (SC029992), is the applicant on behalf of the steering group for a number of grants to enable the work to be carried out. However several of the grant conditions require that the applicant has a lease for the application site.

## **2 RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 2.1 That Members note the content of the report and agree to granting a lease for St Andrew's Kirk, Kirkports, North Berwick to the North Berwick Environment Trust. This will enable grants to be applied for the reinstatement of the tower roof and the consolidation of the rest of the structure. It is envisaged that this would take the form of a 10 year lease for a rent of £1 per annum.

## **3 BACKGROUND**

- 3.1 St Andrew's Kirk, Kirkports, North Berwick was completed in 1664 as a replacement for the original St Andrew's Kirk (located to the south of the Seabird Centre and harbour in North Berwick). It was decommissioned in

1878 when the replacement St Andrew's Kirk was built (the current Parish Church of St Andrew's Blackadder).

- 3.2 The decommissioned church and graveyard passed to control of the Council under the Church of Scotland (Properties and Endowments) Act of 1925.
- 3.3 The church and graveyard was designated as a Scheduled Ancient Monument by Historic Scotland in 1971.
- 3.4 In 2009 the tower of the church was classed as a dangerous building as the slates from the distinctive oggee roof were coming loose and were being blown onto the street during high winds.
- 3.5 Scaffolding and a protective netting were erected as a temporary solution and to allow investigations. In 2010 after a full historic building survey and following extensive discussions between the Council and Historic Scotland it was decided at that point that the roof was to be removed.
- 3.6 The tower roof was removed in 2011 and subsequently representatives of North Berwick Community Council, North Berwick Environment Trust and interested parties petitioned the Council to have the tower roof reinstated.
- 3.7 A conservation architect's report on the whole structure including the potential for reinstating the tower roof was compiled on behalf of the Council by Historic Scotland. This was complimented by the Council's Property Dept carrying out an indicative QS on the structure.
- 3.8 Following the discussions between the Council, Historic Scotland and community representatives a steering group was formed to seek to not only reinstate the tower roof but to consolidate the rest of the structure.
- 3.9 In 2013 the steering group, which consists of representatives of the Community Council, North Berwick Environment Trust and Council Officers and Members, raised funds for and commissioned a feasibility report for the reinstatement of the tower roof, consolidation of the rest of the structure, the linking of the graveyard to the Lodge grounds and some modest interpretation.
- 3.10 Since the feasibility study was undertaken, work has been ongoing to promote the project within the wider community (with exhibitions, talks and press releases) and to source and apply for grants to enable the work to be undertaken.

#### **4 POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

- 4.1 There are no policy implications.

## 5 EQUALITIES IMPACT ASSESSMENT

5.1 The report, at this stage, has not been Equality Impact Assessed.

## 6 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

6.1 Financial – There are no financial implications for the council arising from this report

6.2 Personnel -There are no personnel implications arising from this report

6.3 Other -

## 7 BACKGROUND PAPERS

7.1 Feasibility Study prepared by Richard Shorter in 2014  
[http://www.eastlothian.gov.uk/downloads/file/8395/st\\_andrews\\_kirk\\_feasibility\\_study](http://www.eastlothian.gov.uk/downloads/file/8395/st_andrews_kirk_feasibility_study)

7.2 Historic Scotland Conservation Architect report 2011  
[http://www.eastlothian.gov.uk/downloads/file/8396/st\\_andrews\\_kirk-architects\\_report](http://www.eastlothian.gov.uk/downloads/file/8396/st_andrews_kirk-architects_report)

7.3 Historic Building survey 2010 by AOC Archaeology Group  
[http://www.eastlothian.gov.uk/downloads/file/6437/st\\_andrews\\_kirk-part\\_1](http://www.eastlothian.gov.uk/downloads/file/6437/st_andrews_kirk-part_1)  
[http://www.eastlothian.gov.uk/downloads/file/6438/st\\_andrews\\_kirk-part\\_2](http://www.eastlothian.gov.uk/downloads/file/6438/st_andrews_kirk-part_2)

<b>AUTHOR'S NAME</b>	Andrew Robertson
<b>DESIGNATION</b>	Archaeology/ Heritage Officer
<b>CONTACT INFO</b>	arobertson1@eastlothian.gov.uk
<b>DATE</b>	16/11/2014