

THI UPDATE

Willenhall Townscape Heritage Initiative

Welcome to the third issue of the Willenhall THI Update, the newsletter designed to inform and keep you up to date with what is happening in the regeneration scheme.

Grants for your building

The Willenhall Townscape Heritage Initiative (THI) grant scheme has been established to help with the cost of repairing, restoring and reusing historic buildings in Willenhall town centre.

The scheme is being funded by Heritage Lottery Fund, VIEW (Visionary Investment Enhancing Walsall) and Walsall Council.

We are pleased to announce that we have received additional funding from the Heritage Lottery Fund for the THI. The money is limited however so if you are interested in applying for a grant

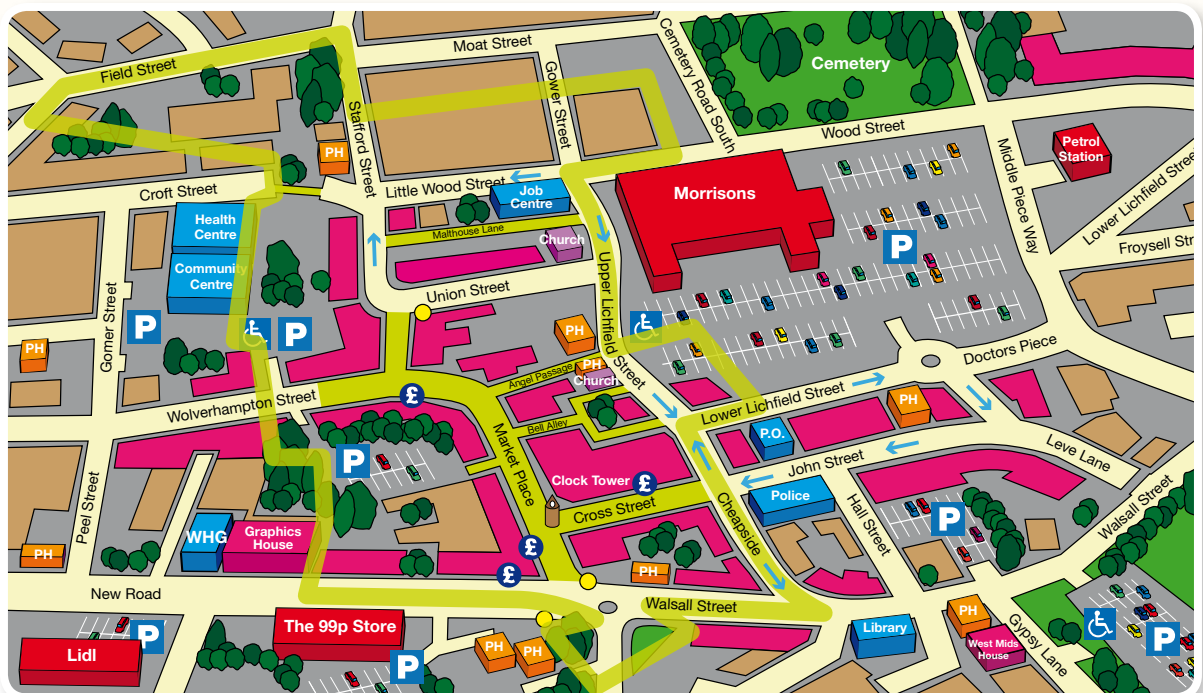
please contact us as soon as possible to register your interest. We are looking for applications to be submitted by April 2014!

The THI can fund repairs to the exterior such as repairs to roofs, windows, brickwork, and shopfronts. Where original details have been removed the grant can fund reinstating architectural features such as traditional shopfronts and sash windows. The grant can also pay towards bringing vacant floorspace back into use for example empty floors above shops.

For more information, or to register your interest, please contact Mandy Hall on 01922 654757

Willenhall Townscape Heritage Initiative (THI) Area

Designated by the green line



Walsall Council



Project Progress

Repair and restoration works have now been undertaken at 12 properties as part of the Willenhall THI scheme.

The most recent schemes to have completed works are 90-91 Stafford Street (Square Deal Carpets), 77 and 77a Stafford Street (Pizza Power and Alice's Beauty Salon), 45 Market Place (Scissors Hair

Design), 22 Market Place (Golden Girl) and 87-89 Stafford Street (Fibbersley Park, American Nails and The Sandwich Shop).

The Bell, Market Place has recently started works.

Other schemes are currently progressing applications and it is hoped that new schemes will be on site within the next few months.



Before



After

77 and 77a Stafford Street (Pizza Power and Alice's Beauty Salon): Works have included repairs to the roof and repairs to the shopfront including uncovering the leaded lights. New signage has also been provided. Works have been informed by historic photos.



Before



After

90-91 Stafford Street (Square Deal Carpets): This is a locally listed building dating back to the early 18th century. Works have included the reinstatement of traditional windows, repairs to the render and new signage. Works have been informed by early 20th century photos of the building.



Before



After

22 Market Place (Golden Girl): This mid 19th century, locally listed property has had a new shopfront installed, new signage and new windows – all of which are of a more traditional design and appropriate to the age of the building.



Before



After

45 Market Place (Scissors Hair Design): This is a listed building dating from the mid eighteenth century. Works have predominantly taken place to the upper floors of the property and have included replacing the windows with those based on the original design.

For further details about the Willenhall THI grant scheme

Mandy Hall
 Regeneration Officer,
 Delivery and Development, Regeneration,
 Walsall Council, 2nd Floor, Civic Centre,
 Darwall Street, Walsall, WS1 1DG

Telephone: 01922 654757
 Email: THIprojectmanager@walsall.gov.uk



Maintenance *Top Tips*

Regular inspection and maintenance can help prevent the need for expensive repair later on. Each issue of the newsletter will look at a different cause of building decay.

This issue will look at: **Brickwork**

Brickwork is a durable building material however poor repairs, a lack of maintenance and inappropriate alterations can lead to issues.

What to look for:

- Decay of mortar joints
- Cracking or bulging of brickwork
- Loss of brick faces
- Vegetation
- Dampness stains

What to do:

- Establish the cause of deterioration e.g. continuous saturation caused by leaking gutters, the use of a cement based mortar rather than a lime based one, and rectify the problem before carrying out any brickwork repairs
- If repointing is required only re-point the eroded joints, use a traditional lime mortar on older buildings as using a cement mortar can accelerate decay in the brick.
- Only bricks that are severely damaged should be cut out and replaced. Sometimes it is possible to turn existing bricks round and refix them.

Help for your business

District Centre Management Team

Walsall Council's District Centre Management Team works with the business partnerships in Aldridge, Bloxwich, Brownhills, Darlaston and Willenhall to provide support to local businesses and promote the district centres to shoppers, residents and visitors. The partnerships have 5 key objectives

- Partnership Development and Business Support
- Environment
- Community Safety
- Events and Marketing
- Regeneration

For more information about the partnership for Willenhall, please contact Diane Mansell – Regeneration Officer for Aldridge, Darlaston and Willenhall 01922 654326

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