

2011 – Formation of the Trust

Forres public enthusiastically support the Trust

27/08/11

Both the Tolbooth Open Day and the recent public meeting were very well attended. The Open Day alone welcomed over 400 visitors who enjoyed exploring the Court House, the prison cells and the exercise yard. The latter two experiences were completely novel to (virtually) all of the good citizens of Forres.

The public meeting was addressed by the four members of the Project Team who presented the rationale for exploring the Tolbooth development options. They outlined essential restoration tasks and some architectural possibilities to satisfy the accessibility and other 21st century requirements. Feedback from the town was very enthusiastic and a good number of ideas for the future use of the building were put to the Project Team. Other suggestions, such as the Trust incorporating cultural attractions like Sueno's Stone and the Falconer Museum into a coherently publicised Heritage Trail were offered.

Public meeting - Wednesday 24th August 2011

The Forres Heritage Trust are holding a public meeting in St. Leonard's Church Hall at 7:30 p.m. The purpose is to review restoration plans. Presentations will be made by Mia Scott of the Highland Preservation Trust and Tom Duff from architects Law, Dunbar and Naismith. All members, supporters and friends of Forres are warmly invited.

Tolbooth Open Day - Saturday 20th August 2011

The Tolbooth will be open and manned from 10 am to 1pm to allow inspection by the public. Refreshments will be provided and members of the Project Team will be on hand to answer questions.

Nelson's Tower

Works on Nelson's Tower are not yet completed to the intended standard and the Trustees have decided not to man or open the Tower to the public this year. However, schools, clubs and other groups may arrange private visits by appointment. The Trustees would like to point out that 2012 is the 200th anniversary of the opening of the Tower. Watch this space.

28th February 2011

Today, the remaining Council records and historical documents will be removed from the

Tolbooth to a secure location and a thorough Spring Clean will follow over the next few weeks. Trust members and supporters will clean and polish the building from top to bottom to signify its forthcoming, much more public role.

If you would like to help with this task, contact our chairman John Mackenzie via the [CONTACT](#) page.

26th February 2011

Before the Forres Tolbooth and Nelson's Tower can be opened to the public, an assessment has to be made of the safety and accessibility of the structures. Some alterations and subsequent restoration tasks may be required. The Trust members were delighted to hear today that a feasibility study for this work is to be funded by the Scottish Government Leader programme. The study will be carried out by professional restoration architects.

1st November 2010

The first major milestone for the Trust was reached. The Forres Heritage Trust became incorporated as a company limited by guarantee. The company number is 387944 and its articles of association have been lodged at Companies House.

The objectives of the Trust can be found on on the [ABOUT THE TRUST](#) page.