

Youth

Community

Arts

WREN award us £60,000



WREN (Waste Recycling Environment) have agreed to award us up to £60,000 towards our project to rebuild the back of York House. WREN funds projects which are eligible under the Landfill Communities Fund.

Our completed project will provide us with a new kitchen and storage; a ground floor room for community activities of almost 400 ft²; and various improvements to the grounds and parking.

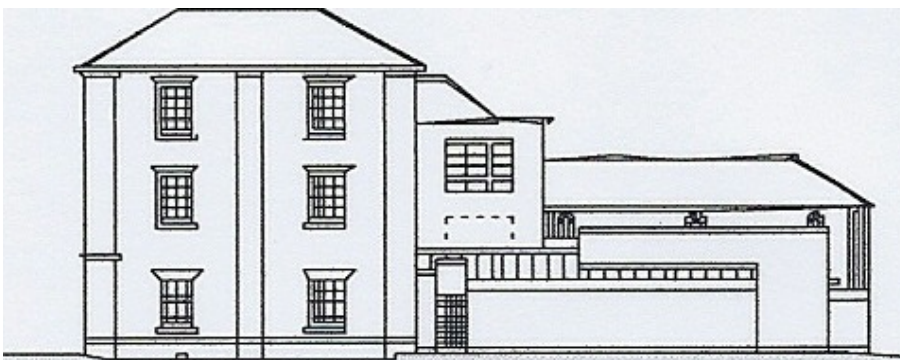
Milton Keynes Council gave both planning and listed building consent, subject to a few minor conditions, in April. We hope to start work in the next few months with completion by about next April.

Our latest estimate for the cost of the building works is £215,000. This may go up or down when we get the actual quotes but any work

after 1 October will now attract VAT at 20% following the latest budget. We have already received £116,000 from Barratt Homes development of Hayes Mews; the town council have agreed to pay the landfill tax (11% or £6,600) on the WREN grant; we have applied to the Community Foundation for £10,000; and are applying to Garfield Weston for the remainder.

If we do not have enough money to fund the whole project then we will have to trim it. So any contributions, or suggestions for further grant applications, will be gratefully received.

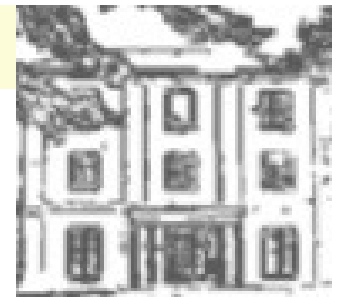
The drawing above shows a rear view of the completed project and that below a side view. Both drawings are by Robert de Grey our architect.



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Big Draw 2012

The Ginormous Battle of DINOSAURS versus ALIENS (& kittens)

In the days when Stony Stratford was just a massive mud swamp and dinosaurs ruled the earth, a massive battle was fought by the dinosaurs to defended their world from invading aliens and giant, marauding, mutant kittens!

We need you, your family and friends to come to our Big Draw to help bring your most wonderful and imaginative ideas and designs to this massive piece of artwork - and see how this exciting battle will evolve!

There will be pterodactyls flying from the ceiling, flesh eating tyrannosaurus rex roaming the building, fearless giant kittens attacking flying saucers ...

... the imagination boggles, nothing will be too extraordinary for this project.

• We are talking GREAT FUN for all the family!

It's a FREE art workshop for all ages led by children's illustrator Jonny Boatfield

York House
Saturday 6 October
10 to 4pm

Come for as long as you like, refreshments will be available.

Stony AHA! 2012

York House hosted 7 events for this year's Stony AHA! (arts and heritage appreciation):-

Drawing on History – Stony Stratford's Big Dreams – a free arts workshop with Jonny Boatfield on 12 May. 250 people attended and the finished artwork was displayed in St Mary & St Giles Church and used for the Diamond Jubilee celebrations

Chainsaws & Chisels – Ian Freemantle ran a 2 evening workshop on wood carving to make a rustic bench for York House Centre

Playing the Blues, Yellows and Reds – Trevor Jeavons and Friends ran an evening of art and music

Stony Come Dancing – a ballroom, latin and rock & roll dance organised by York House Centre, this event sold out (80 tickets) and raised £680.64 for local charity, Ted's Gang - lots of fun was had by all! Thanks to Ken Daniels for being our resident DJ, Bob Adams for technical support, the bar volunteers and Debbie Young from Milton Keynes Dance Centre

Mosaic Workshops – Mel Watts ran 2 free day mosaic workshops to make a decorative tile. This was well attended and the participants really enjoyed it.

A Night on the Tiles (Talk and Dinner) – organised by Ken Daniels this event sold out quickly (40 tickets).

WI Collage – the WI displayed a collage in our main hall detailing the history of the Women's Institute in Stony Stratford



The 8th Cock & Bull Real Beer Festival

noon to 11pm

Friday & Saturday
7 & 8 September 2012
York House

The doors of York House Centre will again be open to welcome discerning drinkers of real ales and ciders as well as Fairtrade wines, juices and soft drinks. There'll be another fine selection of local-ish tipples supplemented by some 'foreign' (i.e. More than 50 miles away) brews.

There'll be hot food, and cool musical entertainment again, and it's free to enter.

The Beer Festivals have been jolly social occasions for hundreds of Stonyites and visitors and has been a welcome fundraiser for York House Centre, the only publicly owned community centre.

The festival is brought to you by the Cock & Bull Society whose mission is the dissemination of humour and pleasure: www.cockandbull.org.uk email clayton@cockandbull.org.uk for more information. Our friends from 'About My Area' www.aboutmyarea.co.uk/mk11 will be joining us for publicity and the popular beer tasting notes.

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Main Hall

You may have noticed recent improvements to our main hall. We sorted out the damp last Autumn. Most of the front wall needed repair. Then we decorated the walls and ceiling. Most recently RestoFloors of Leighton Buzzard did a lovely job of restoring the teak floor.

Alcohol

We now have a license for the sale of alcohol at York House. We are not going to use it to sell alcohol regularly or even frequently. It is for events such as the beer festival; folk-dancing evenings; and fund-raisers for Ted's Gang etc. for which we had to apply for a temporary license every time we held such an event

Supporting Change

Ecominds



Ecominds have agreed to a grant of £9,980 for the Supporting Change application. This was a joint application with MK Mind that funds their Community Gardens supervisor for a further year and their investigation into a food share scheme.

news from York house
June 2012