

FOLLA

Friends of Lapwing Lane Arcade

Bulletin 15

June 2013

A few weeks ago FOLLA was celebrating the announcement of a £25,000 grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund for the restoration of the canopy. This took us up to the declared target of £60,000. Yet in our last bulletin there was talk of a re-tendering process. Let me explain....

When we sat down with the original contractor a few days after the announcement of the Heritage Lottery grant to discuss starting the work it soon became evident that the quote he gave us at Christmas (£48,000) was not enough and there was talk of a significant extra amount being needed to cover the work and - even then - no fixed price contract. Add to this terms which required 20% of the price to be paid before work started, and the FOLLA Board decided it was only right for to seek an alternative approach. As you can guess we were bitterly disappointed.

Of course there's no question of us giving up at this stage so we decided to appoint the architect who has already done some preliminary work for us, to run a tendering process and then manage the restoration work through to completion. Whilst drawing up the tender document we will look at alternative approaches which retain the historic appearance but may use cheaper materials than cast iron.

The advice from the architect is that at the upper end of the scale we may need a further £28,000 but there may be solutions that cost us just £10,000 more. Of course we will not know for sure until we have all the tenders in and have chosen a way forward. As you can see I have increased the 'thermometer target' on the right from £60,000 to £90,000.

The tendering process will start in August and then, providing we have sufficient certainty about our funds, the chosen contractor will start work in September and complete late in November.

Needless to say I'm sorry we have to roll up our sleeves again and seek more funding but we are still determined to get to the finishing line.

We will be ramping up our 'Pay for a Pane' campaign which has already brought in more than £11,000, and we are planning events over the coming months to bring in further funds. Whatever help you can give us throughout this period - financial, moral or pure elbow-grease - will be greatly valued.

'Pay for a Pane' for Pa

With Father's Day just round the corner (Sunday June 16th) why not sponsor a pane in honour (or memory) of your Dad? 'Pay for a Pane' has now raised £11,550 reserving 65 lines of inscriptions on the plaque. As I did last month I attach the special 'Pay for a Pane' donation form alongside this bulletin in my email to you.

BUPA Great Manchester 10k for FOLLA

On Sunday May 26th FOLLA Board member, Katie Weeds, raised just over £500 for FOLLA through sponsorship by finishing the Manchester 10k run. It was a noble effort indeed at 1 hour 4 minutes and 40 seconds. I was there at the finishing line to see her glide elegantly past a pair of waiters and a gorilla. Thanks Katie!!



The Bottom Line

As at June 9th we have:

- **707** signed up 'Friends'
- £21,116 in net donations from individuals and events which with...
 - Gift Aid refunds from the Tax man estimated at £3,500,
 - a Barclays pledged donation of £1,500,
 - the Council grant of £16,000 and
 - the Heritage Lottery Fund grant of £25,000,

...brings projected net income to £67,116

- paid out £490 on legal costs and £2,850 on preparatory work for the restoration (architect fees, CAD drawings, drainage survey, etc)

.....so in total we have **£63,776**.

