



Friends of Lapwing Lane Arcade

Bulletin 21

December 2013

Restoring the Verandah

The Heritage Lottery Fund have issued us with their 'Permission to start' letter; the agreement with Coppell's our contractors is signed; the licence agreements with each of the shop unit owners (agreed by them almost a year ago) has now been countersigned on behalf of FOLLA by our Chair, Liz Spence.

Work will start on site on Monday January 13th 2014.

The main elements of the restoration work include:

- A complete new glass roof with all necessary roof supporting struts
- Sandblasted columns and spandrels (spandrels are the fancy bits at the intersection of the columns and the canopy roof – see opposite)
- At least 3 replacement columns (the 2 outside the old Blockbusters are missing and another is irreparably damaged) cast in aluminium to look exactly like the surviving columns
- At least 6 replacement spandrels cast in resin to look exactly like the surviving spandrels
- Major repairs to the drainage which is built into the canopy structure
- Oval signs for each shop unit at the front of the canopy designed and painted to give a uniform appearance to the front of the structure
- A commemorative plaque on the side wall of the old Blockbusters unit carrying all the inscriptions that you have so generously paid for (we are thinking of closing the 'Pay for a Pane' appeal at the end of January or early in February)

Civic Support

In the last bulletin Ann Downs referred to the efforts over the years to rescue our canopy – and indeed many, including the Didsbury Civic Society, have made strenuous efforts. So it's highly pertinent to acknowledge the role played in this present campaign by the Didsbury Civic Society (especially Steve Parle and Christine Hession) – and indeed the West Didsbury Resident's Association (especially Katie Weeds) in getting our work off the ground and sustaining it with practical help and support throughout. It's not always obvious to the 'man in the street' how much effort goes into caring for our local environment by these bodies as well as by the local Councillors and our MP, John Leech. All have been true Friends of FOLLA throughout this tortuous campaign. Many thanks!

The Great Launch

One of the great things about the Heritage Lottery Fund grant is that it is predicated on the condition that we have a great community 'canopy launch' event. In our submission for the HLF grant we said we'd organise an event to celebrate the restoration involving up to 1,000 local people. So don't expect the work to be carried out and then for us all to slink off for recuperation – we are obliged to have a 'reet good party' when we've finished. Our Social Secretary is in training!



A pair of spandrels

The Bottom Line – as at December 31st

Items to-date	Out £	In £
Campaign costs (stationery, hiring, etc.)	1,184	
Fees (Legal, Architect, Planning, etc)	7,661	
Donations from 742 'Friends'		7,587
'Pay for a Pane' (115 lines on the plaque)		18,747
Council Grant		16,000
Heritage Lottery Grant (50%)		12,500
Net receipts from socials, raffles, etc.		7,723
Gift aid refunds from HMRC		4,255
TOTALS to-date	8,845	66,812
NET TOTAL FUNDS to-date	£57,967	
Items to come	Out £	In £
Fees (Legal, Architect, Planning, etc)	2,854	
Build work (inc. new metal & drainage)	67,249	
Shop signs & signwriting	2,000	
Plaque design & installation	550	
Heritage & Launch costs	1,560	
Contingency	5,000	
Pledged Donations/'Pay for a Pane' (<i>est</i>)		10,000
Heritage Lottery Grant (50%)		12,500
Gift aid refunds from HMRC (<i>est</i>)		2,500
TOTALS to come	79,213	25,000
Target & Currently expected Income	88,058	91,812

