



Annual Report
2009-2010

Front cover picture: Finial at 34 Rubislaw Den South following completion of roofing works.

Legal and Administrative Information

Constitution

Aberdeen City Heritage Trust is a company limited by guarantee (SC271933) and a registered charity (SC036391) governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association.

Directors and Trustees

The directors of the charitable company ("the charity") are its trustees for the purposes of charity law. The directors are:

- Mr Angus A M Donaldson (Chair)
- Councillor Irene S Cormack (Vice-Chair)
- Mr George A E Brand
- Mr David E D McClean
- Councillor Alan Milne
- Mrs Sheila E Rhind
- Councillor Richard Robertson (appointed 12 November 2009)
- Councillor Jennifer Stewart (appointed 7 April 2009)
- Mr Alexander E Urquhart
- Mr Ian Yuill (resigned 7 April 2009)
- Mr Martin Greig (resigned 7 April 2009)

Project Officer

Douglas Campbell

Principal Office

Aberdeen City Council, Broad Street, Aberdeen

Secretaries

Peterkins

Registered Office

100 Union Street, Aberdeen

Auditors

Ritson Smith
16 Carden Place, Aberdeen

Solicitors

Peterkins
100 Union Street, Aberdeen

Bankers

The Royal Bank of Scotland
Queens Cross Branch, 40 Albyn Place, Aberdeen

Chair's Report

Photograph courtesy of
Aberdeen University



Welcome to Aberdeen City Heritage Trust's 7th Annual Report.

Aberdeen City Heritage Trust has had another busy year providing grant assistance for the repair of the City's historic built environment. It is particularly pleasing to see that Trust support has encouraged some significant improvements both in the condition and visual appearance of buildings in areas where the Trust decided to focus its attention in 2009.

In these times we have to ensure that the historic built environment, which is the back-bone of the character of the city, continues to be better understood, maintained and protected. National Maintenance Week lectures in November 2009 helped by highlighted the need for regular cycles of small scale repair using the correct materials. Better maintenance will lead to better conservation of our city's character and quality.

We are grateful for the support of our funders, Aberdeen City Council and Historic Scotland. Their continuing support beyond 2011 is essential if the Trust is to achieve its purposes.

There is no doubt that there will be challenges ahead but it is vital that the historic fabric and urban grain of the city is recognised for the significant positive contribution it can make to the economy of Aberdeen.

Angus Donaldson
Chair

Financial Review

The net resources expended for the year, amounting to £11,764 (2009 -£124,857) have been dealt with as shown in the Statement of Financial Activities. The Trust is financially supported by Historic Scotland and Aberdeen City Council.

The Trust works closely with Aberdeen City Council which offers support in kind through accommodation of the Trust Project Officer and the provision of limited clerical services. The majority of funding made available to the Trust is for the purpose of making financial awards for the repair and restoration of historic buildings. Operational funding was supplied to the Trust by Historic Scotland.

Reserves

The nature of day to day operations and grants given means there is neither a surplus nor a deficit from these activities. The surplus at the end of the year is a result of additional donations and interest received and it is the Charity's intention to use these in the furtherance of its objectives.

FINANCIAL REVIEW AND RESERVES STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2010

| | Unrestricted Fund £ | Restricted Fund £ | 2010 Total £ | 2009 Total £ |
|--|---------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Incoming resources | | | | |
| Incoming resources from charitable activities | 72,473 | 200,000 | 272,473 | 317,099 |
| Investment income | 557 | - | 557 | 12,435 |
| | <u>73,030</u> | <u>200,000</u> | <u>273,030</u> | <u>329,534</u> |
| Charitable expenditure | | | | |
| Charitable activities | 79,770 | 200,000 | 279,770 | 452,952 |
| Governance costs | 5,024 | - | 5,024 | 1,439 |
| | <u>84,794</u> | <u>200,000</u> | <u>284,794</u> | <u>454,391</u> |
| Movement in total funds for the year/expenditure for the year | | | | |
| Total funds brought forwarded | (11,764) | - | (11,764) | (124,857) |
| | 74,103 | - | 74,103 | 198,960 |
| | <u>£ 62,339</u> | <u>£ -</u> | <u>£ 62,339</u> | <u>£ 74,103</u> |

The Charity has made no gains or losses other than as reported above.

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 MARCH 2010

| | Unrestricted Funds £ | Restricted Funds £ | 2010 £ | 2009 £ |
|--|----------------------------|--------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| CURRENT ASSETS | | | | |
| Debtors: amounts falling due within one year | 308 | 57,080 | 57,388 | 192,388 |
| Cash at bank | 121,124 | 385,131 | 506,255 | 461,251 |
| | <u>121,432</u> | <u>442,211</u> | <u>563,643</u> | <u>653,639</u> |
| CREDITORS | | | | |
| Amounts falling due within one year | (59,093) | (442,211) | (501,304) | (579,536) |
| NET CURRENT ASSETS | <u>62,339</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>62,339</u> | <u>74,103</u> |
| TOTAL ASSETS LESS LIABILITIES | <u>62,339</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>62,339</u> | <u>74,103</u> |
| NET ASSETS | <u>62,339</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>62,339</u> | <u>74,103</u> |
| FUNDS | | | | |
| Unrestricted funds - general | | | 62,339 | 74,103 |
| Restricted funds | | | - | - |
| TOTAL FUNDS | | | <u>62,339</u> | <u>74,103</u> |

These summarised accounts are an extract from the statutory annual report and accounts of the year ended 31 March 2010.

Ritson Smith reported on the statutory accounts as auditors on 16 December 2010 and gave an unqualified audit report. The auditors have confirmed to the Board of Trustees that these summarised accounts are consistent with the statutory accounts for the year ended 31 March 2010. The annual report and accounts were approved by the Board of Trustees and signed on their behalf. They have been submitted to Companies House and the Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator for filing. Copies of the statutory annual report and accounts may be obtained from Aberdeen City Heritage Trust, 100 Union Street, Aberdeen.

Independent Auditor's Statement to the Trustees of Aberdeen City Heritage Trust

We have examined the summarised accounts set out on pages 4 and 5.

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Auditors

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the summarised accounts. We are responsible for reporting to the Trustees of Aberdeen City Heritage Trust our opinion as to the consistency of the summarised accounts with the full accounts from which they are prepared.

Opinion

In our opinion the summarised accounts are consistent with the full accounts of Aberdeen City Heritage Trust for the year ended 31 March 2010.

Ritson Smith
Chartered Accountants
Registered Auditors
Aberdeen

Objectives and Activities

During the year the charity aimed to promote and encourage, the conservation, protection and improvement of the historic, architectural and physical environment of Aberdeen for the benefit of the general public. Additionally it sought to further the study and understanding of the environment and use the information obtained to educate the general public.

In order to achieve this and other objectives the Charity has employed various schemes and initiatives including:

- Operation of a Historic Building Repair Grant Scheme which has assisted property owners in the repair of historic buildings. Fixed percentage rate grants are given for the repair of Listed Buildings and buildings in Conservation Areas, using traditional materials and techniques specified by Historic Scotland as best practice.
- Operation of a Tree Management Grant in partnership with Aberdeen City Council to encourage the proper management of trees that contribute to public amenity.
- Support of Doors Open Day (Aberdeen), part of European Heritage Days which opens the doors to the public of some of Aberdeen's most interesting historic and other buildings.
- Holding the Trust's annual lecture.
- Carrying out photographic recording of 6 Conservation Areas in the City.
- Distributed grant leaflets and displayed exhibition material.
- Worked with Aberdeen Environmental Education Centre to develop school curriculum materials for use within the new Curriculum for Excellence.
- Organising 3 evenings of instructional lectures as part of National Maintenance Week 2009.
- Continued to develop proposals for a joint training scholarship in traditional roofing with Historic Scotland.



Springbank Terrace



Hamilton Place



Beaconsfield Place

Achievements and Performance

The Trust's Historic Building Grants Scheme was a main activity for the Trust making use of grant funding from Historic Scotland and Aberdeen City Council. This allowed the Trust to deliver further physical improvements to the historic environment. Cumulatively the Trust has awarded nearly £1.2M of grants since 2005, leveraging more that £2.0M more of private investment into the City's built heritage.

Projects supported included reproofing work to a number of commercial and residential properties and, on one project, the installation of curved sash and case windows. The majority of grants offered were for small scale residential repairs averaging £5,000 that incrementally improve the condition and appearance of conservation areas.

At the year-end all of the funding offered to the Trust by Historic Scotland and Aberdeen City Council was committed against projects and a number of other potential applications were developed for the forthcoming coming year.

The Trust carried out a review of its grants for the period 2005-2008 following which the grant scheme was refocused on the Union Street and Crown Street Conservation Areas. There has been particular success in the latter, with a number of properties being repaired and windows reinstated.

The performance of the Historic Building Grant Scheme is in large part reliant on the encouraging and development of grant applications from third party applicants. Applicants are required to make significant contributions towards the cost of works themselves; funding they may not readily have access to.

Through continued promotion of the Company's activities public interest continues and it is anticipated that applications for assistance and advice will steadily increase year on year.

Plans for Future Periods

The Company aims to continue to develop its grant assisting role as set out in its Business Plan and will review the performance of the revised Historic Building Repair Grant scheme in 2010. It is intended that significant scale applications will be captured that will assist in bringing larger scale buildings back into use, while continuing its support of smaller scale projects that incrementally support preservation and restoration of the historic environment.

The Trust will explore how completed photographic survey work can be made more widely available to members of the public and will continue to develop its support of construction training by establishing short training courses for local contractors.

Doors Open Day (Aberdeen) was supported by the Trust in 2009 and the Trust supports this worthwhile event again in 2010.

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Scottish Charity No. SC036391

Scottish Company No. SC271933

December 2010



Supported by:



www.aberdeencity.gov.uk and www.historic-scotland.gov.uk