

Millom Heritage Triangle Project

The aim of the *Millom Heritage Triangle Project* is to both save and promote this incredible area which includes Millom's only Grade I listed buildings: Holy Trinity Church and Millom Castle.

At the moment the church, castle and old school are all deteriorating and, without an injection of funding and an on-going maintenance plan, these incredible buildings are in peril. Millom Castle, despite being a Grade 1 listed building is already included in the Government's Buildings at Risk Register. The School is undergoing emergency repairs and Holy Trinity Church requires urgent work to forestall water ingress and deterioration of significant features. A working group has been set up to develop a plan to try and stop this harm but we need the support and agreement of the Diocese of Carlisle, the owner of Castle Farm and Castle, the Town Council and the people of Millom.

We hope to stop the Old School from deteriorating and make it habitable again with a new name **The Old School Heritage Centre** and a renewed purpose:

In the first instance, the Centre will provide a much-needed modern meeting and training space where the Millom Parochial Church Council and Holy Trinity District Church Council can meet; it could also be used by others to hold meetings and provide training. For example, the 1st Millom (Parish Church) Scouts, Cubs and Beavers may wish to return to their traditional home; Millom and District Local History Group wish to hold their meetings here. Secondly, it will provide a space to celebrate and share the incredible history of the area: from Neolithic times through to the Victorian period when the school was built in 1858.

There are two rooms. Before the building became unsafe the main room was used to hold various events including, for example, celebrating the granting of the market charter; the smaller one was used by the scouts. However, it has not been used for several years now due to its state and as time goes by it is becoming more and more unsafe. Yet it is an iconic building: the first school in Millom!

The objectives are to:

1. Ensure the main fabric of the old school building is safe and secure.
2. Bring the building up-to-date with proper toilets, heating, flooring, décor, chairs, etc.
3. Install projectors, screens, wifi in both rooms to use for a variety of training events and meetings. [S]
4. Research and acquire funding to create displays for the walls in both rooms for visitors to read information about Holy Trinity Church, Millom Castle and the incredible history of the area. [S]
5. Acquire funding to install secure wall mounted display cabinets to show the amazing archaeological finds of the local metal detectorists which reflect the various periods.
6. Research and acquire funding to have a video made of the history of the area and buildings which can then be shown at regular intervals in the small room for visitors to see.
7. Acquire funding to develop audio guides for the church. [S]
8. Turn the entrance hall into a reception area and small shop to sell relevant and appropriate merchandise. [S]
9. Expand the 'afternoon teas' already being served in the church to be open six days a week at the same time as the revitalised Old School Heritage Centre. [S]
10. Acquire funding for a co-ordinator.
11. Recruit and train volunteers to keep the centre and church open for visitors. [S]
12. Develop a series of events to tell the story of this incredible place, e.g. Weekend Fair and Market over Trinity Weekend to celebrate the charter granted by Henry III to John de Huddleston in 1251; take part in the Hadrian's Wall 1900 Festival; re-enactment events (English Civil War; Wars of the Roses); etc. [S]
13. Engage with local schools to organise visits/talks aimed at providing an insight into the history of the area.
14. Work with Millom & District Local History Society, Millom Heritage & Arts Centre and Millom & Haverigg Civic Society to promote the history of Millom and its surrounding area.
15. Renovate the Old School Master's house and turn it into a Retreat. [S]
16. Support the Churchwardens in maintaining the building fabric of Holy Trinity Church, e.g. a recent Quinquennial Inspection suggested £125,000 will need spending on the building within the next five years. Renovate the unique 'fish' window and the Archangel window.
17. Support the Castle owners to acquire funding to secure the Castle remains to make them open, if possible, for the public to see. [S]

Note: Those items with an [S] at the end will help with sustainability.