



FORT, SEAFIELD & WALLACETOUN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

17 October 2022

To Alloway, Doonfoot & St. Leonards CC
Belmont, Kincaidston & St. Leonard's CC
Forehill, Holmston & Masonhill CC
Newton & Heathfield CC

FSWCC agreed at our recent meeting held on 12 October to write to you regarding the Station Hotel, Ayr to ask for your support in contacting South Ayrshire Council.

FSWCC attended a meeting on 29th September at Ayr Town Hall organised by the Ayr Station Hotel Action Group.

There we heard from 3 Speakers on the importance of restoration against demolition – the carbon footprint would be less. The SAVE Britain's Heritage Report published in May 2022 looks at 5 options and produces plans and costings. It also points to funding sources for the cheapest option, retention as a Hotel at £12.4m.

If Network Rail would repair and fit out their property at £10m (according to SAVE this is likely to be less than their Glass & Steel idea) it is likely that the Station Hotel could be restored. Both Scottish Historic Buildings Trust in 2018 and SAVE recently indicated that the money could be found to conserve and restore or repurpose. The owner has a duty to maintain the building in a wind and watertight condition prior to its re-establishment to beneficial use. Failing this, the building should be the subject of a CPO (Compulsory Purchase Order) with meaningful discussions opened by SAC with SAVE who, as a credible organisation, are most likely to achieve success.

As a first step, SAC must allow SAVE, under their CPO powers, access to the building by their appointed surveyor to assess the integrity of the structure.

FSWCC ask that you consider this request and give your support and if agreed, there will be a joint CC submission sent to SAC.

Yours sincerely,

Olena Stewart
Chairperson
FSWCC