



Falkirk Council

PRESS RELEASE

Date: 21 December 2010

Making Progress at Falkirk and Old Parish Church

The transformation of the area surrounding Falkirk and Old Parish churchyard and town centre is continuing with the removal this week of temporary metal site fencing and the installation of a protective wooden cover over the new stone feature seating facing the High Street.

The cover will be in place until Spring 2011 and allows protection of the incomplete stonework and seating from the weather and any accidental damage whilst intricate stone carving and construction detail are progressed off site.

Following receipt by Falkirk Council of a Heritage Lottery Fund Your Heritage grant, stonemason Gardener Malloy along with recently appointed local apprentice Johnny Trodden are currently working on selected new stone carving pieces that will be incorporated into the site by early Spring of next year, the weather not allowing these traditional materials and construction practices to be worked on site.

Gardner has recently been working with local High Schools and Forth Valley College to promote stonecarving and the project. Several public workshops will be announced for early next year when construction and stonecarving commences on site.

The £950,000 project will see a number of architectural and environmental improvements around Falkirk and Old Parish Church, Newmarket Street and the High Street that are scheduled to be finished in Spring 2011.

Poor weather has resulted in delays to the contract being progressed, with the principal contractor JKF Ltd and Falkirk Council grateful to the residents in Manse Place, the congregation and users of the church as well as shoppers and visitors to the town centre for their continued patience.