

# press release



Falkirk Council

22 February 2011

## Denny Town Centre - New Moves Brings Regeneration Closer

Denny town centre's redevelopment has taken a major step forward recently as Falkirk Council's Policy and Resources backed plans for the introduction of Compulsory Purchase Orders (CPOs) that will allow for the acquisition of a number of properties if required.

At a meeting on 8th February, members approved the use of the CPO procedure that helps to accelerate the acquisition timetable and provides Falkirk Council and Henry Boot Developments with a level of certainty of future ownership, therefore reducing potential delays in delivering the demolition of the Church Walk blocks and the delivery of the overall project.

A sum of £300,000 was also made available for use in 2011/12 that will be used for early acquisitions and demolition costs on a number of earmarked properties in the first phase of the redevelopment.

Arrangements for delivery of demolition works are being progressed, with both the Duke Street and Stirling Street (Valeview) blocks demolition tender processes having commenced. Subject to successful conclusion of property acquisitions, it is anticipated that demolition works for these two blocks will commence as soon as acquisitions are concluded.

Additionally, a detailed planning application is to be submitted in the next few months by Henry Boot Developments Ltd.

Cllr Craig Martin, Convener of Policy and Resources said: 'This is a significant step forward for the town and its residents and retailers. By invoking CPO powers we can ensure that there are few, if any, problems that we will have to overcome that could prevent the community from benefitting from our determined efforts to see a successful transformation.'

'We are still negotiating with retailers to achieve a mutual consensus over the acquisition of their interests but this is insurance that there will be minimal delay in taking our plans forward.'

'We are keen to take retailers and residents with us as we develop the town centre and they will be kept fully informed as work progresses and we can all look forward to seeing the town centre transformed into something that the community can be proud of.'

'It isn't an overnight process and we know that the community has had to endure a number of issues but we are now in a far better position to see this project finally delivered despite the economic downturn and the problems that it has posed for all of us.'

The plan for this project is part of a partnership collaboration between Falkirk Council and Henry Boot Developments Ltd to regenerate and revitalise Denny Town Centre and will include a new foodstore, retail units, a library and improved road infrastructure and pedestrian access.

The proposals for Denny Town Centre were subject to extensive public consultation to secure community support for the final masterplan. The plans support the My Future's In Falkirk initiative, the ten year economic regeneration plan for the Falkirk Council area, which aims to offer greater living, working and investment opportunities for the local community.

- Falkirk Council ( 22/02/2011 )