

Westridge Studio renovation project set to start

THE trustees of the Westridge Studio in Highclere have announced that, after a full tendering process, Arthur Beaver Limited will undertake the renovation project.

The Westridge Studio has planning permission for a two-storey extension with external stairs and parking for 20 vehicles.

The building was bequeathed to the parish by the late Dorothy Rose Gribble.

Westridge Trust is the charity that runs the studio, which will be available to hire for arts, health and well-being activities when renovation is completed.

Project management will be run by Mursell and Company of Thatcham and the trustees want to ensure the building is future-proofed to enable it to deliver a range of activities for the long-term and to allow access to people of all ages.

Westridge Trust chairman Mike York said: "After several years of hard work by the trustees and the management team, applying for grants and fundraising in the community, we are delighted to announce that the renovation project can begin."

"However, the fundraising is continuing to ensure that the studio can deliver a full range of arts activities."

The trust was awarded a grant of £80,000 by Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council from the Local Infrastructure Fund (LIF) and local sponsorship and donations have contributed a further £60,000.

The work will be carried out in two phases and is expected to take four to five months to complete.

The total cost of the renovation project is £309,000.



Westridge Studio. Greenham Trust has offered to match-fund every £1 raised with another £1 (up to a maximum of £5,000) through its Good Exchange platform. Donations can be made at <https://app.thegoodexchange.com/project/14707/the-westridgetrust/westridge-studio-project>

NORTH HAMPSHIRE

Keeping in touch



Have you got a story? Contact our North Hampshire reporter CHARLOTTE BOOTH on (01635) 564537, or email: charlotte.booth@newburynews.co.uk Twitter @charlotteb_nwn

News updates from North Hampshire are now available online throughout the week. Go to newburytoday.co.uk and select the district pages