



NEWS UPDATE

We began this year in anticipation of completing the acquisition of the shop by the society, which of course eventually occurred in March. As 2021 draws to a close, we are pleased to advise that we have now reached another important milestone.

The pandemic continued to have an impact on our progress throughout the year, but nevertheless we have continued to work hard with various parties to move forward with the redevelopment plan and were able to submit a pre-application to the Scottish Borders Council in early October. Based on the initial feedback we received, we have worked with our architect to refine our plan and we are pleased to report that our formal planning application was submitted on December 17th. We know that the application review and approval process can sometimes be quite lengthy, but in anticipation of a successful outcome we have engaged a quantity surveyor to develop costings for our plan before commencing a tender for the works, which is a requirement under the terms of the grant we were awarded from the Scottish Government's Regeneration Capital Grant Fund. We will be very busy in the New Year to move the refurbishment project along. The application can be viewed on the Scottish Borders Council public access portal <https://eplanning.scotborders.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?activeTab=documents&keyVal=R4E13QNTLRP00> , and there will also soon be a printed copy of the design to view in the shop.

In wishing you all a very safe and Merry Christmas and a happy and healthy New Year, we would like to thank all of our customers, shareholders, donors and staff for their support. In particular, we need to recognize and say a special thank you to every one of our team of volunteers, who have contributed literally thousands of hours of their time during the course of the year, and without whom our project simply could not happen.

YCSL Management Committee

December 23, 2021