

Friends of Abingdon Abbey Buildings Trust

After 4 years of endeavour, following a feasibility study funded by the National Lottery Heritage Fund (with applications halted during the Covid period), the Abingdon Abbey Buildings Trust is delighted that the NLHF have approved the Abbey Buildings scheme (one of only five approved applications in London and the whole south of England) and are prepared to invest £2.5 million into the local economy supporting an Abingdon Town centre community asset. This scheme will enable the precious heritage asset to be open for 12 months of the year for generations to come, and the restored and enhanced Abbey Buildings, at the core of our town's history, will provide a catalyst for heritage and the visitor economy in our great town. The Trust is very grateful for the support we have received from Abingdon Town Council in achieving this success.

The grant enables the Trust to proceed with a 2-year Development Programme which will involve developing a business plan, producing an architectural design for the enhanced Buildings, public consultation, obtaining statutory consents and, of course, further fundraising. If the NLHF is satisfied with the situation at the end of the Development Stage (early 2025), the Trust will then be able to proceed to the Delivery Programme with anticipated completion of the Project in 2028. With the continued support of the people of Abingdon and the Town Council, among others, we are confident of success and look forward to the opening of the enhanced Abbey Buildings.

Bobbie Nichols
Trustee