

*“I’ll bray thee if
tha dun’t get it
sorted”*

What to do with disused
cemetery chapels –a case
study.

Anthony Devonport
Head of B.E.S.T.



The Cemetery



- First laid out in 1867
- 4.9 Hectares
- Several people of note buried in the cemetery

Friends Group establishment

- Established in 2003
- Worked together with volunteers, elected members and Bereavement Services Staff
- Achievements



The Chapels

**Chapel destroyed by fire in 1980's
exterior**

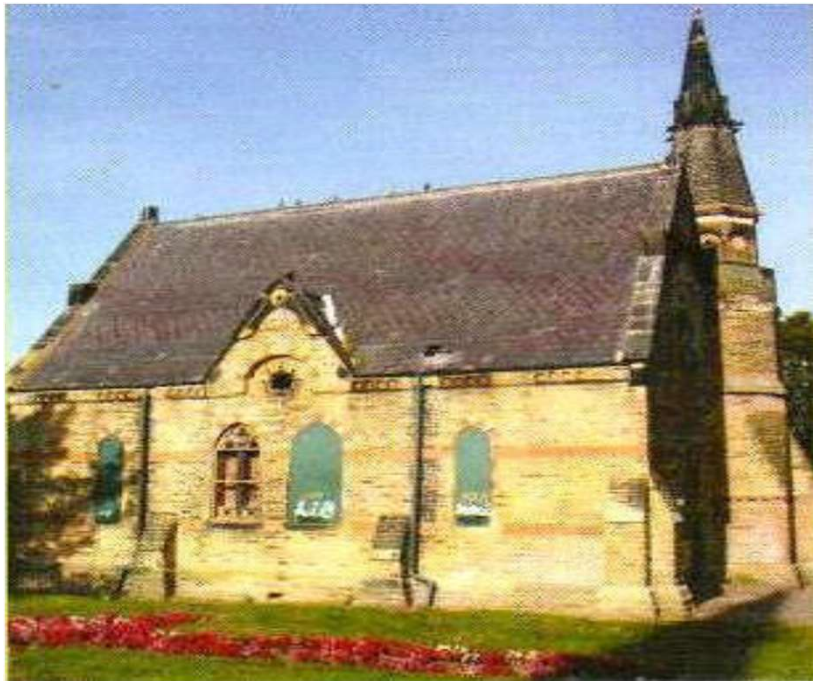


Interior



The Chapels

Abandoned Chapel



Abandoned Chapel Interior



Abandoned Chapel



Developing action plan and finding finance

- One project 2 phases
- Set realistic timescales
- Frank discussion around expectations
- What's the future plan?
- Clear project plan
- Take the lead
- Be bold and cheeky when looking for funding
- Don't overlook the generosity of the public

Phase 1 The Fire Damaged Chapel

- Define Outcome
- Timescale
- Find innovative ways of finding finance
- Don't overlook generosity of public
- Quicker win project with relatively low cost (35k)



Restored Chapel

Restored Exterior



Interior



Restored Interior



Phase 2 The community Hub



- Collaborative approach
- Grant funding – long timescales
- Be firm with architectural brief, question everything
- Forward planning for use of building – business plan

The Restored Chapel, Now a Community Hub



The Restored Chapel, Now a Community Hub



The Restored Chapel, Now a Community Hub



What happens next ?

- Focus on business plan and generating income
- Continue to support group
- Reflect on learning through this journey and apply to the next project
- Keep smiling

