

BAHC

The Way Forward

MAY 2018

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More information at BAHC.co.uk

Who we are

- Baldock Arts and Heritage Centre is a volunteer led organisation that took over the lease of the Old Town Hall in 2013 and was granted charity status in 2014.
- Our main aims are to maintain the Old Town Hall as an Arts and Heritage Centre for the benefit of the local community, to encourage wider public participation in the arts and to promote interest in local history.

What we do

- Since 2013 BAHC has hosted professional and amateur drama, music festivals, book events, workshops, conferences and heritage talks.
- A Gallery featuring local and community artists has opened downstairs and one end of the building hosts the Baldock Museum.

Our strategy

There are 3 strands to our Strategy

- Develop a clear and strong Arts and Heritage programme
- Maintain and enhance the building to meet the needs of our programme
- Grow our volunteer base to help establish a strong supporting organisation

Arts and Heritage programme

Heritage Programme Objective

- To advance the education of the general public and encourage and promote public interest in the history and historic culture of Baldock and its neighbourhood .

Next Steps

- Focus on becoming a Heritage Centre
- Create a new space for the Heritage Centre (Old Fire Station)
 - Use of high quality display boards
 - Semi permanent and temporary display areas
- Have regular History in the Afternoon talks
- Sell books and literature related to local history

Arts and Heritage programme

Arts Programme Objective

- To encourage and promote wider public interest and participation in the arts, including theatre, music, fine art, film, photography and any other artistic endeavour.

Next Steps

- Continue to build upon the success of The Gallery which exhibits the works of local and community artists.
- Improve the facilities in the main hall for live performances
- Move towards being recognised as a Studio Theatre providing a venue for
 - Rehearsals
 - Workshops and drama education
 - Staging of new and developing writings, helping new shows to grow
 - Intimate and flexible performance space
 - Local and amateur arts and drama groups

The Old Town Hall Building

The Building

- Is of historic and social interest
- The “saving” of the Old Town Hall is a core objective

Our Maintenance and Refurbishment key aims

- Safe, comfortable and accessible
 - We must ensure the building is safe to use
 - Must provide a comfortable environment for the activities being undertaken
 - Must ensure activities and facilities are accessible to all
- Integration
 - Must integrate the “Museum End” of the building in order to have a single centre
- Flexibility and alignment
 - Must provide space and facilities that can be used for a variety of activities
 - Enhancements and building schedules must be aligned to our Arts and Heritage programme

Building Enhancement Projects

We have a three phase building enhancement plan

Phase 1 – Currently in progress

- Create a new Heritage Centre space in the old Fire Station
- Integrate the Heritage Centre with the rest of the building
- Provide disabled toilet facilities and improve accessibility
- Replace the windows in the hall with new heritage quality double glazed units
- Refurbish coffee bar, entrance hall and overall signage

Phase 2

- Reinststate original style opening doors into the new Heritage Centre

Phase 3

- Install a lift to the main hall

Phase 1 - Building Enhancement

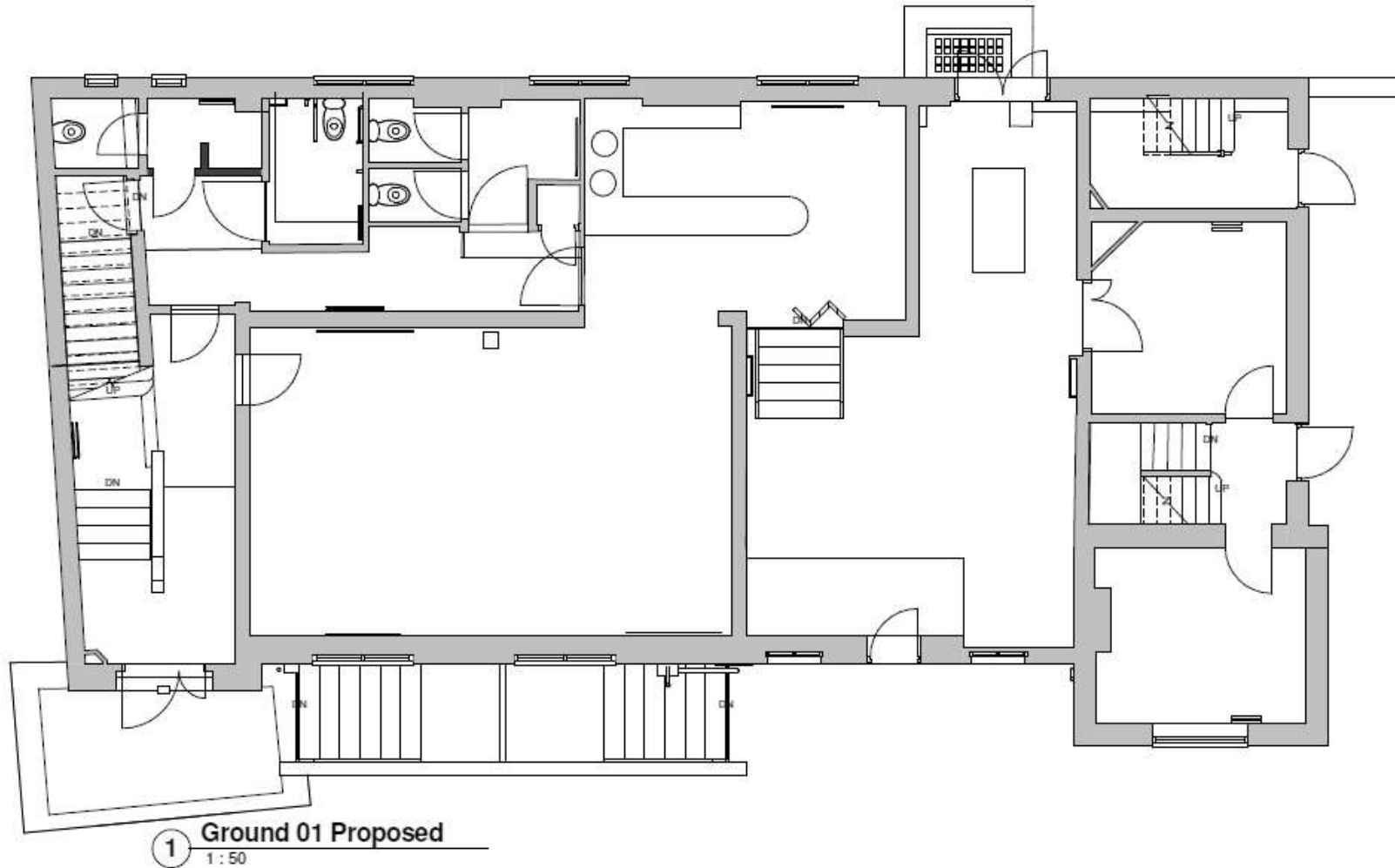
Funding for phase 1 is largely in place

- The current scope of work is estimated to be about £100,000
- In February 2018 we were awarded a £50,000 Community Facilities Grant from NHDC
- We also have a number of smaller grants to contribute to the project
- Part of the project will be funded from BAHC fund raising reserves
- Contributions from volunteers also greatly assist the project
- We are still seeking more funds from grants and other sources

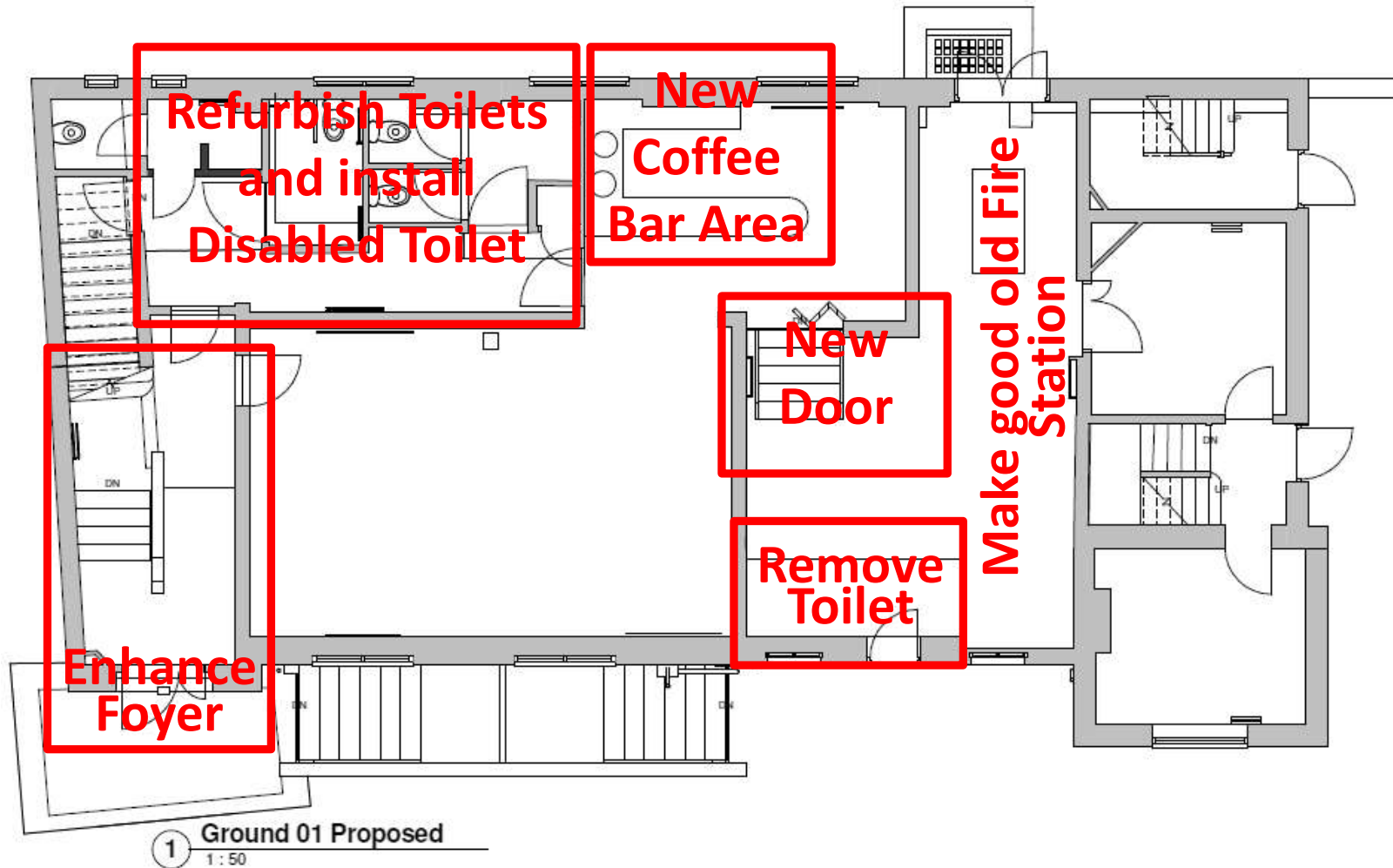
Next Steps

- We are currently preparing the final specifications and drawings
- We will soon be tendering the project to local contractors
- We hope to start building work later this year

Phase 1 - Ground Floor



Phase 1 - Ground Floor Work



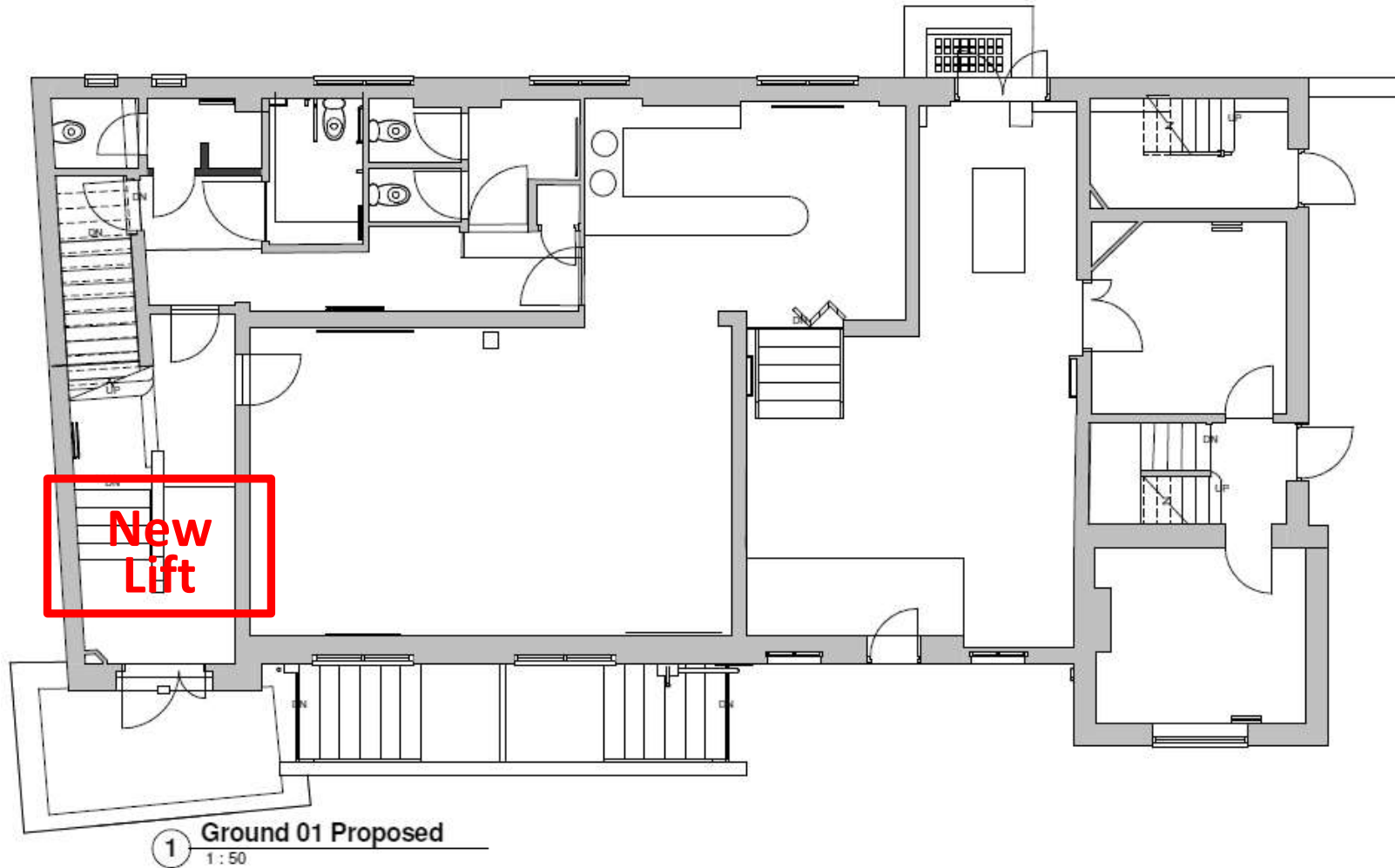
Phase 1 – Outside / Hall Windows



Phase 2 – New Doors



Phase 3 – New Lift



Enhancement Concepts



Volunteers

Volunteers, Volunteers, Volunteers

- Baldock Arts and Heritage Centre is completely run by volunteers.
- We have a dedicated but small group of volunteers
- Our ability to provide more events and services is constrained by the number of volunteers we have

Volunteers objectives

- We need to grow our volunteers base to help establish a strong supporting organisation
- We need to strengthen our capabilities to coordinate and manage more activities

We need more Volunteers

We want to recruit more volunteers

- We have Role descriptions for more formal positions
- We mentor and train volunteers so they can undertake new tasks

If you would like to become a volunteer

- Please complete a form available in the Gallery
- Or visit our web site:

BAHC.co.uk

Would you like more information

If you want more information about our events please
join our mailing list

If you want more information about the opportunities
we have for volunteers

please visit

BAHC.co.uk

