

## **Market Towns Revitalisation Programme Progress report of approved projects October 2011**

### **Ludlow College**

All building works on the training kitchen have now been completed; the equipment is installed and has been commissioned by the company who installed it.

The first cohort of 12 students, are now on their third week of the course and feedback from the students is that they are really enjoying it.

Will Holland from La Bécasse in Ludlow went recently to give the students a motivational talk and will go back during the course of the year (like other chefs locally) to do Master Classes with the students. All that is left to do now is fit out the restaurant which they hope will be open after Christmas, but are planning to put on one-off events in the run up to Christmas.

### **Ludlow Assembly Rooms**

The £70,000 awarded through the Market Towns Revitalisation programme is being matched with local fundraising and grants from other sources to implement a programme of improvements at the Assembly Rooms.

The grant will contribute to initiatives, under three main themes of:

- a) digital projector
- b) energy efficiency
- c) refurbishment

Progress to date is as follows:

- they have placed the order for the digital projector and will be claiming against this expenditure in the very near future;
- the new promotional banners have been installed;
- they are prioritising energy efficiency investments in line with the recommendations from a study undertaken in 2010;
- we are drawing up a programme of refurbishment for the main public areas including the Box Office, reception areas and toilets.

**Bishop Mascall Centre (formerly Ludlow Conference Centre)**

Building work commenced on the 27th June 2011 with a completion date set for the 11th November 2011.

Progress has been steady with the new extension and lift shaft shells now complete. First fix plumbing, electrics and carpentry are complete and second fix started.

Apart from the discovery of some archaeology when digging the footings for the new extension, no unexpected problems have occurred.

Currently the project is running on time and on budget. Preparations are now underway for the arrival of Keele University Medical students and a launch of the refurbished facilities in November. Additionally the first group to use the first floor is booked for the 18th November 2011.

**Town Enhancement Project**

They are progressing with a planning application for the changes to the Buttercross, prior to bid submission to the Heritage Lottery Fund for the changes: proposed lift etc.

A planning application has been submitted.