



WORCESTERSHIRE
Building Preservation Trust

Historic building provides unique new homes

Three historic cottages in Horsefair, Kidderminster are under new ownership, having been saved from dereliction and returned to use as unique homes with stories to tell linked with the weaving heritage of the town. The iconic Grade II Listed Weavers' Cottages' have been rescued and painstakingly repaired by The Worcestershire Building Preservation Trust using grants and loans including substantial investment from the National Lottery via the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) of £730,000 and from the Architectural Heritage Fund of over £300,000.

Announcing the successful sale Phipps & Pritchard with McCartneys Partner Nick Millinchip commented: "We are most privileged to have been chosen to assist the Trust in the sale of these very important properties and the project has demonstrated something quite extraordinary for the open market. Namely, the extreme yet - for the lucky purchasers, and indeed Kidderminster itself - richly rewarding concept of conservation before cost! Refreshingly, profit has not been the point – the focus is perfection in conservation which has been sensationally achieved!"

Nick continues, "such is the prominence of the Weavers' Cottages project that it has also been shortlisted in the RICS (Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors) 2018 West Midlands awards in both the Conservation and Community Benefit categories."

Bob Tolley, Trustee of The Worcestershire Building Preservation Trust, expressed his delight at the outcome: "It's wonderful to have people once again living in the cottages and to have demonstrated how historic buildings can be refurbished to provide attractive housing for future generations to enjoy. We are grateful to the large number of people who have played a part in enabling the Trust to deliver this successful transformation from an eyesore to an asset of which the local community can be proud."

John Brierley, joint new owner with wife Linda, added: "We are so pleased to have acquired the three properties and my wife and I really appreciate the historical importance of the cottages. We already have a tenant who has moved into no 20; she is a local Kidderminster woman, who has been so excited about the project and moving in, and informs us that she used to walk past the cottages on her way to the local school sometime in the 70s."

Full details of this amazing project plus links to the Worcestershire Building Preservation Trust can be found at <http://www.weaverscottages.info>.

ENDS

Main Photo - Left to Right

John & Linda Brierley (The Purchasers), Nigel Brown (WBPT Trustee), Nick Millinchip (Estate Agent), Bob Tolley and John Woodall (WBPT Trustees)

Supporting Photo

John Brierley and Bob Tolley

About the Worcestershire Building Preservation Trust

The Worcestershire Building Preservation Trust, a registered charity, aims to rescue buildings 'at risk' that are of historic or architectural importance. The Trust has completed successful projects at Church House, Areley Kings; Wyre Hill, Bewdley; Belle House, Pershore; Load St, Bewdley; and The Sargeants House, Ledbury; where sustainable uses have been found for otherwise abandoned historic properties. www.wbpt.org.uk

About the Heritage Lottery Fund

Thanks to National Lottery players, we invest money to help people across the UK explore, enjoy and protect the heritage they care about - from the archaeology under our feet to the historic parks and buildings we love, from precious memories and collections to rare wildlife. Follow us on [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) and use #HLFsupported. www.hlf.org.uk

About the Architectural Heritage Fund

Architectural Heritage Fund is a registered charity, working since 1976 to promote the conservation and sustainable re-use of historic buildings for the benefit of communities across the UK, particularly in economically disadvantaged areas. They are the leading heritage social investor and the only specialist heritage lender operating in the UK. www.ahfund.org.uk

For further information please contact:

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The Architectural
Heritage Fund