PRESS RELEASE PRESS RELEASE PRESS RELEASE PRESS RELEASE PRESS RELEASE

WDC PRESS RELEASE

9 January 2014

Restoration of Pump Room Gardens

Warwick District Council and the Friends of the Pump Room Gardens are delighted that the Heritage Lottery Fund has approved a grant of £49,000 to prepare detailed plans for a £1 million restoration of the Gardens.

Warwick District Council, The Friends and Warwickshire County Council will be working in close partnership to produce these plans and develop exciting new events for the Gardens. The public will be consulted about the restoration works and new events.

Councillor David Shilton, Portfolio Holder for Warwick District Council's parks and gardens, said, *"The council is delighted with the outcome. We all know how much competition there is for HLF funds with many good causes failing to get funding. With HLF money we will be able to bring back the glory of the bandstand, improve the drainage of the grass, add many new seats, resurface the paths, replant the river bank to encourage wildlife and plant new trees."*

Archie Pitts, Chairman of the Friends of the Pump Room Gardens, said, *"This grant shows that HLF thinks these gardens are worth restoring. This is a fantastic way to start the bicentenary year of the creation of the gardens."* **He added that***: "If we can show the restoration will be done according to the best principles, we have a good chance of obtaining substantial funding from HLF to carry out the work."*

The Friends are committed to raising £30,000 in matched funding and are now seeking pledges (to be redeemed **only when** the restoration is about to start). Pledge forms are available in the Visitors' Information Centre at the Pump Rooms, Leamington Town Hall and Riverside House. Alternatively go to www.leamingtonsociety.org.uk and click on "Pump Room Gardens".

The Media Room – Warwick District Council
T. 01926 456069 | M. 07920 535163| E. media@warwickdc.gov.uk
Warwick District Council, Riverside House, Milverton Hill,
Royal Leamington Spa, CV32 5HZ. www.warwickdc.gov.uk

PRESS RELEASE PRESS RELEASE PRESS RELEASE PRESS RELEASE PRESS RELEASE

WDC PRESS RELEASE

Explaining the importance of the HLF/BIG support, Reyahn King, Head of Heritage Lottery Fund West Midlands said, *"Eighteen years of Lottery investment in our public parks has transformed tired and in some cases under used green spaces across the UK into thriving community hubs. This investment will help unlock the potential of the Pump Room Gardens so they can be restored and fully enjoyed by local people once again."*

Ends

The Media Room – Warwick District Council
T. 01926 456069 | M. 07920 535163| E. media@warwickdc.gov.uk
Warwick District Council, Riverside House, Milverton Hill,
Royal Leamington Spa, CV32 5HZ. www.warwickdc.gov.uk

PRESS RELEASE PRESS RELEASE PRESS RELEASE PRESS RELEASE PRESS RELEASE