

Tender Opportunity:
**Main Contract Works for the repair and refurbishment of Lye & Wollescote
Cemetery Chapels, Cemetery Road, Lye, West Midlands DY9 8AL**

The West Midlands Historic Buildings Trust (WMHBT) is a registered Building Preservation Trust charity, with specialists in the field of building conservation giving their time on a voluntary basis to serve as trustees. WMHBT's purpose is to safeguard buildings within the West Midlands that are of historical or architectural importance and is able to attract grants and low-cost loans to carry out the type of rescue scheme often necessary with historic 'Buildings at Risk'.

The former Lye and Wollescote Cemetery Chapels is a Grade II listed building. The associated cemetery continues in use but the two chapels, at opposite ends of a single building, are redundant: the nonconformist chapel was closed in the 1970's and the Church of England chapel closed following a fire in 1993 which caused minor damage to the interior.

Thanks to funding by a range of sources including the Heritage Lottery Fund, WMHBT has prepared a scheme and obtained statutory consents to convert the cemetery chapels building to create rooms suitable for use as offices, thereby providing a regular income and a secure future for the building. It is proposed that the building will be used by the Registrar as a venue for weddings and other civil ceremonies.

This is a community project; WMHBT is a charity run by volunteers and, in addition to returning the chapels building to a viable use, the project aims to encourage public participation: working with local historians to provide interpretation on the history of the cemetery, linked with the industrial development of the town, installing on-site interpretive panels and working with teachers to create resources for school pupils to use for project work on subjects such as the built environment and nature conservation, as well as social history, citizenship and other aspects of the school curriculum.

The West Midlands Historic Buildings Trust (the "client") via DTS Solutions Ltd (the "project organiser") and Brownhill Hayward Brown (the "project architects") are seeking contractors with experience in historic building conservation projects to deliver the Main Contract Works associated with the project.

For further information please contact Jamie Sisley at Graham Hale & Company (graham-hale@btconnect.com) before 12 noon on Friday, 12th September 2014.

Please note the deadline for completion and submission of PQQ's is 12 noon on Monday, 15th September 2014.

