

From:
Sent: 20 December 2022 17:30
To: clerk <clerk@belpertowncouncil.gov.uk>
Cc:
Subject: RE: ROBERT OWEN CLOCK

Hi Debra,
Thank you for your email and I confirm the following:

- A proposal of design and costings
Central England Co-operative is working with Andy Myers (designed based in Belper) for the design of the clock. (1.2 metres in diameter) The estimate of the clock is between £12-£15,000. We (CEC) have secured 50% of the cost and will pay Andy Myers to work with the clock makers.

The donation from the Council of £8,000 will be payable to the clock makers. To be invoiced to you at the appropriate time.

- Project plan with timescales for manufacture and installation
Central England Co-operative will be responsible for any additional costs relating to the clock and will also be responsible for the installation of the clock and necessary works, along with long term maintenance, we will also be responsible for any electrical work and construction works. We will make all arrangements for the installation.
We will check if we require planning permission once we know how best to hang the clock, but that will be our responsible. We own the building but we may require planning consent.
- Confirmation of the proposed location
The first choice of the positioning of the clock is above the doorway of the Co-op on the eave, above the current signage. If there are any reasons why this cannot be done, we are happy for it to be placed anywhere on the building that is prominent and visible.
- Confirmation of who has committed money towards the project
We have commitment from Central England Co-operative - £3,000 plus installation and contingency,
CEC – Member & Community Council £3,000, Co-operative Party – Derby branch - £1,000; Co-operative Party – Belper Branch - £500.

In addition, we will financial support towards a working group, promotional post card etc., and a celebratory event to launch the Clock – possibly Spring.

- Details of interpretation boards
CEC will have the display boards/appropriate materials to be made and placed on the building which will explain about Robert Owen & the clock, and the project along with any QR code and CEC Logo and the Council's Logo – plus any specified wording.
- Confirmation of ownership and insurance (Co-op)

CEC will have the ownership of the clock and that it will be part of the Store's insurance.

- Details of Robert Owen's connections with Belper
We have recently undertaken a number of projects to celebrate the works of Robert Owen.
Within the Co-operative Movement, Robert Owen is known as the Social Reformer and Father of Co-operation. We recently celebrated his 250th anniversary.
Although Robert Owen was born in Wales (1771) he was influenced by his Father in Law, David Dale.
David Dale was associated with the Arkwright's and in particular with the mills in Belper.
There was also a connection with the Strutt family. It was the Stutt family who gave the Derby Co-op its first premises to rent to set up its business, so a long association with the Co-operative Movement.

David Dale is recognised at the Cromford Mill and how he inspired the workings of the mills and in particular treating people and giving them ownership and control. Robert Owen when he took over from his Father in Law in New Lanark (now a heritage site) shows how he reformed working conditions, introducing the trade union movement and set up the first institution for the Formation of Character and then the first infant school in New Lanark. He set factory legislation, corporate social responsibility. Owen believed that society could be transformed peacefully, without class struggle.

Without Owen's ideas of co-operatives and co-operative communities we would not have the Co-operative Movement of today, so this is why it is important that we celebrate his achievement at every opportunity.

Why the Clock? – Owen refused to let children under the age of ten work in the mills, older children could not work more than 14 hours and he gave them time off for meals, despite protests from his business partners. The hours were reduced to 12. Eventually, Owen was credited as the first person to introduce the 8 hour working day and proved production was just as successful on limited hours.

His slogan was: Eight hours' labour, Eight hours' recreation, Eight hours' rest.

Working hours changed, not just for children, but for all mill workers. Owen believed that education and environment was essential. Adults were encouraged to attend evening classes and lectures and a weekly concert. Also, encouragement was given to walking by the river and the beautiful waterfalls in their leisure time.

Please let me know if you require any additional information.

Kind regards

Member & Community Relations Officer

Mobile:

central 

Central House, Hermes Road, Lichfield, Staffordshire. WS13 6RH
Web: www.centralengland.coop

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