Since the last meeting of the Area Board, work has started on phase 1 of the refurbishment and conversion of the Old School building.

The firm chosen by the SOSCIC board of directors to carry out the work is Chappell and Dix Ltd. The choice was a unanimous one and was the outcome of a careful selection process. Eight firms were initially contacted by SOSCIC’s architect, James Slater Ltd. From these, following discussions and site visits, a short list of four emerged. They were invited to submit tenders for the work and after due consideration the SOSCIC directors made their choice.

Chappell and Dix made a start during the second week of July. Provided there are no unpleasant surprises now that the building is opened up, the work should be sufficiently well advanced for the post office and general stores to move in before Christmas as planned.

In order to undertake phase 2 of the project, which would complete it, a further £150,000 has to be raised. A number of funding initiatives and grant applications are now underway in that regard.

Geoff Martin
SOSCIC Company Secretary
22nd August 2011