

MAKING PLANS

Hometown boy at fore of bid to revive high streets

'Ayr has a huge future if we have the courage to build it'

Stuart Wilson

A team bidding to revive Scotland's flagging towns is being headed by an Ayr MSP.

And he admits his first task is to put his home town back on the march to success.

Tory John Scott is to lead a cross-party group of politicians tackling High Street decline across the nation.

Scott, who will convene the Holyrood unit, insists that "better promotion and marketing" lies at the heart of his strategy for places like the Auld Toun. And ahead of the long-awaited remodelling of Ayr's problem bottom end of the High Street, he says it's time for the talking to stop.

Speaking on a walk round his home streets, he said: "As with many other towns across Scotland, the town centre of Ayr has struggled for many years.

"I want to provide a focal point where the complex issues affecting our towns can be examined and - crucially - best practice shared."

Scott, who points to the encouragement of new business start-ups as another key element, has met with bosses at Ayr Renaissance, who detailed their plans for town redevelopment.

Among their proposals is to spend more than

£1million transforming the old Clydesdale Bank building into a thriving marketplace and cultural exchange.

It comes as plans to bulldoze the vacant end of the High Street are set to be put before the public. Scott added: "Ayr has a huge future if we have the courage to go out and build it.

"The town's full potential must be realised, and as quickly as possible."

And Scotland's Towns Partnership, the agency which works closely with Holyrood to drive reform, says the likes of Ayr can be an example to all.

Phil Prentice, chief officer of the partnership, said: "Ayr is a sleeping giant, it has great assets - coast, river and beach, tourism and excellent connectivity.

"Some of the historic buildings are fabulous and there is the council, college, racecourse, Ayr Central, University and many many more building blocks to start making significant improvements.

"There is also a lot of culture and creativity in the area as well as food and drink, leisure and entertainment.

"The town has set the wheels in motion and the journey to follow over the next couple of years will not be easy.

"But it will be interesting and worthwhile - it's all about partnership and attitude."



Back to the future John Scott MSP (second from left) joins Ayr Renaissance and Scottish towns guru Phil Prentice for a walkabout on the High Street

Armed forces charity will be quids in now

Prestwick St Cuthbert Golf Club Armed Forces charity event raised an outstanding £2913. All funds raised will support local charities and the Erskine Hospital, with club members and golf fans from

across Scotland getting involved.

Organiser, Ian Logan said: "Many thanks to everyone who came along and supported the event.

"We have raised an incredible £11,000 since

beginning these events in 2012, which have supported lots of good causes."

And he added: "If anyone wants to join or help sponsor any future events get in touch with St Cuthbert Golf Club."

A fair cop as £1k of drugs seized at crash

Police have seized £1000 cocaine after a road traffic collision.

Two tubs of white powder were lifted by officers on a rural road at Coynton. Twenty grammes of the illegal substance was allegedly thrown from a vehicle at noon on Saturday.

Cops had turned up to reports of a car smash on the B742.

An 18-year-old man has been charged with being concerned in the supply of a drug in relation to the incident.

The family business... serving our customers since 1985!

Charisma Blinds

BLINDS | SHUTTERS | CURTAINS

...from Ayrshire's leading supplier and Manufacturer of Quality, Made to Measure, Window Blinds, Shutters and Curtains

Manufactured at our premises
Freephone 0800 003310
 or call 01294 607200

www.charismablindsayrshire.co.uk

Cloudy2Clear Announce Trusted Trader Partnership

ADVERTORIAL



Consumer champions Which? have now joined the thousands of customers who recognise that Cloudy2Clear Windows really are a business that you can TRUST. The company which specialises in repairing windows which are steamed up, broken or damaged by replacing the panes - not the frames has received the coveted 'Which Trusted Trader' status after going through a rigorous accreditation process entirely focussed on customer service.

Group Managing Director Marcus McGee believes that Which? have endorsed Cloudy2Clear's long standing company policy of delivering the

highest standards possible at all times. "Our service is simple. If your double glazing has misted up we can replace the glass at a fraction of the cost of a new window, in any type of frame, and with a new 25 year guarantee. But it's not just about saving people money, although that obviously helps. Whilst a number of tradespeople perhaps don't focus on customer care as much as they should do, we make sure we turn up when we say we will, do the job the customer requires and leave their house as clean as a whistle.

Locally Cloudy2Clear service the Ayrshire, Irvine, Kilmarnock & surrounding areas and manager

Peter Brummitt agrees that this approach is a major factor in his success. "The truth is that it's not just the personal satisfaction that I get from doing a good job but also it makes good business sense. I get a huge amount of business from friends and family of people I've done work for, which just goes to show how much a little bit of effort is appreciated as both my customers and, obviously a body as nationally important as Which? now recognise."

So, if your windows are steamed up, broken or damaged give Peter a call for a free quotation on 0800 61 21 118 and he'll be happy to help!

Cloudy2Clear GUARANTEE
 All Customers That An Average Quote Will Take No Longer Than 20 MINS!!!



STEAMED UP DOUBLE GLAZING?
 Don't Replace The Frames... Just The Panes!

Cloudy2Clear Are A...

Which? Trusted Trader

cloudy2 CLEAR WINDOWS
 REPLACING YOUR FAILED DOUBLE GLAZING

All Glazing Backed By Our

25 YEAR GUARANTEE

Priority Freephone

0800 61 21 118

www.cloudy2clear.com

Broken Or Damaged Windows? Faulty Locks, Handles, Hinges?