



# Media Release

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## **KNARESBOROUGH COMMUNITY CONFERENCE**

**KNARESBOROUGH** and its future will be on the agenda at a community conference to be held later this month. And although it is aimed at the rich array of community groups, clubs and societies in and around Knaresborough, organisers hope to see as many local people as possible attend.

Billed as "Help Build Knaresborough's Future" the community conference has been organised by the Knaresborough Renaissance Market Town Initiative and will be held at King James' School on Saturday, 5 March starting at 9.15 am and running through to a buffet lunch at about 1.00 pm.

Chair of the Town Team, Councillor Bill Hoult, said: "Many people in the town will have seen, heard, or taken part in an extensive consultation programme over the past few months and this community conference will give us the chance to profile some of the ideas that have come forward. We now have to prioritise those ideas and knock them into some shape for our final report to the regional development agency, Yorkshire Forward, which has financed this initiative. But before we go any further, we want to have a major push to get to as many people as possible."

"While being a Renaissance Town doesn't necessarily attract funding it will help open up a few investment opportunity doors. A factor in Knaresborough's favour is that a lot of pre-planning has already taken place in the town via a variety of local partnerships, particularly the successful Knaresborough Regeneration Partnership. But before the Market Town Initiative prepares its final findings, we want to stress how important it is that we have ideas from everyone with an interest in the future of our town."

A lot of ideas have come out, some controversial such as:

- A one-way system around the town to relieve traffic on the High Street
  - Establishment of a concert/theatre complex in a riverside setting
  - Relocation of the Knaresborough Railway station
  - A lift or funicular railway from Waterside to the castle top
  - A real time interpretation facility for the castle and its environs
- ENDS

Bookings for the conference are essential and can be made by telephoning Mark Hodgson, Partnership Development Officer, on 01423 556019 or email [mark.hodgson@harrogate.gov.uk](mailto:mark.hodgson@harrogate.gov.uk).

**FURTHER INFORMATION: Councillor Bill Hoult is available for comment on 01423 867804.**