

The Peppercorn Centre is a not-for-profit company set up with charitable aims to promote the building of an arts and heritage centre on the south side of the High Street in Leighton Buzzard. Once the centre is built the company will employ a team of arts and heritage professionals to run it on commercial lines for the benefit of the community.

Currently Peppercorn has five directors and trustees who have expertise in the arts, music and heritage sectors. They have commissioned a feasibility study that demonstrates that the proposed centre will be self-supporting from the revenue it generates and therefore will not require public subsidy.

The initial object is to engage with councillors from Central Bedfordshire Council, which owns the land on which Peppercorn hope to build their centre, and with members of Leighton Linlade Council, in the belief that they will want to support this venture. It will provide many facilities currently lacking in the town, including services that help children in dance and drama, as well as all those interested in the arts and heritage.

Many of the town's organisations and individuals have already expressed support for such a venture and their intention to use it as soon as facilities become available.

Peppercorn has been set as a separate not-for-profit entity with its own bank account and constitution so it can fund raise on behalf of the proposed arts and heritage centre and all funds will be safeguarded for this purpose. As soon as is practical a Friends of the Peppercorn Centre will be established so organisations and individuals can contribute financially and in practical ways to support the venture.

The feasibility study is available on request.