

BUTTERCROSS CLOCK TOWER

As regular visitors and residents of Ludlow will be aware, scaffolding has been erected at the front of the Buttercross opposite Broad Street. The scaffolding has enabled South Shropshire District Council's Conservation Officer, and local architects and builders to undertake a survey of the clock tower.

The Buttercross is a Grade I Listed Building currently owned by Ludlow Town Council. It was designed by local gentleman-architect William Baker (1705-71) and completed in 1743. The majority of this impressive Classical style building is faced with golden sandstone, although the clock tower cupola is an arcaded timber structure.

In recent months, Town Council staff based at the Buttercross received reports from members of the public that the 'clock tower was leaning more than usual'. After seeking expert advice, Town Clerk, Linda Thomas commissioned a survey, and is now awaiting quotes for remedial works to reinforce the structure of the Clock Tower. Town Council has been assured that the structure of the building is not dangerously unstable; however due to the importance of the building, the work has been given a high priority and will be completed as soon as possible.