



BROADSTAIRS & ST. PETER'S
TOWN COUNCIL

Joint Press Release from Broadstairs and St. Peter's Town Council and The Escapement Margate

Release from date: 24/10/2018

Subject: Trip Advisors Number one tourist attraction in Thanet, the Escapement, is opening a major new Escape Rooms in Broadstairs.

Intro/Summary para/headline:

Broadstairs Town Council has been working with the Escapement to deliver a community and commercial mix in the old Retort House building, in the Albion Street Car Park.

The Escapement came forward as a potential tenant during an Expressions of Interest exercise back in April 2018. The Town Council has since been working with the company to establish the best mix of community and commercial, and we can now announce that the Escapement will have a lease for the small table tennis room and the former office suites upstairs.

The Escape Rooms will consist of up to 6 of the UK's most immersive experiences with a keen focus on the story telling theatrics The Escapement is renowned for. Along with toilets, meeting rooms and spacious waiting areas this new venue will bring thousands and locals of tourists to rejuvenate this unused town asset.

The community element of the building, the Sports Hall, will remain and new disabled facilities, refurbished toilets, kitchen and front porch will be provided for the community. A planning application for the new porch has been submitted to Thanet District Council for this work.

Broadstairs & St. Peter's Town Council and The Escapement look forward to working together to deliver this project over the coming months.

Quotes:

Danielle Dunn, Town Clerk from Broadstairs & St. Peter's Town Council **said**

“By delivering a commercial element in Retort Horse, the long-term viability of the sports hall has been established. Not only will it deliver a major new tourist attraction to the town, it will also ensure that the costs of running the building are subsidised for the community.”

Lewis Hunt, The Escapement said:

“From everyone here at The Escapement - Thank you - this is such a wonderful venue. I’ve lived in and around Broadstairs all my life, growing up on the sands of Viking Bay, every year attending the folk events and festivals. My team and I are so lucky to be able to bring something amazing to the people of Broadstairs and the tourists alike. We promise to always create world class experiences, we cannot wait to release the themes of our next adventures. The history of our little town, from Charles Dickens and it’s shipbuilding past through to this monument of a building as a nod to our fossil fuelled industrial revolution, will create an atmosphere not seen in the story telling world of escape rooms before. It’s so very exciting.”

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Lewis Hunt and the Mayor of Broadstairs, Cllr Paul Moore