

Public Consultation

The Chapter and their advisers are working closely with the Cathedrals Fabric Commission for England, the Diocese and other bodies to ensure that any development proposals are appropriate and sustainable. We are committed to close consultation with our local community and congregation to ensure that the proposals make a positive impact on Guildford by delivering much-needed affordable housing as well as creating a more welcoming and attractive environment for peace and reflection.

Objectives

By the end of 2017:

- The mission and outreach of the Cathedral will have been strengthened and extended.
- The Cathedral will be free of asbestos.
- Visitor numbers will have increased by 20%
- A significant endowment will be in place to safeguard the Cathedral's future.

By the end of 2020:

- The beginnings of a 'living community' will be emerging on Stag Hill.
- The Cathedral will be able to extend its welcome to many more people.
- The "Cathedral Quarter" of Guildford will be a recognised term and location.

Contact Details

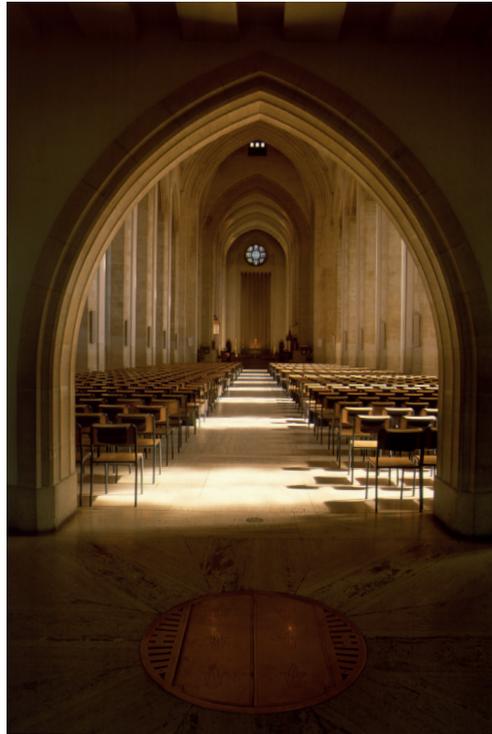
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Keep up to date

Sign up to be kept updated on the Appeal, and our progress on achieving our Vision for 2020 by visiting our website www.guildford-cathedral.org

"We have a vision to be a centre of worship and a hub of spirituality, culture, music, education and social activity"



Guildford Cathedral

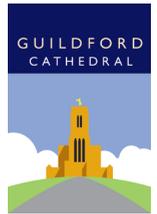
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GUILD FORD CATHEDRAL 2020



The building of Guildford Cathedral was a remarkable achievement. When work began in 1936, Britain was struggling to emerge from economic recession and war clouds loomed over Europe. Construction was halted during the war and did not resume again until 1950 when materials and funding became available. The Cathedral was finally consecrated in 1961 thanks in part to the support of 200,000 people who responded to the "buy a brick" campaign.

The architect, Edward Maufe, had intended it to be accompanied by various ancillary buildings: further housing and flats for staff, a cathedral hall, refectory, meeting rooms and a choir school. He also expected the grounds to be planted and landscaped but these plans were never realised. The original vision of the Cathedral as the hub of a vibrant and well-resourced ministry with education, social and pastoral aspects, has always been hampered by a lack of basic facilities and space. Without this ancillary space the Cathedral is also limited in its ability to generate income and be self-sufficient. Unlike many of the UK's ancient cathedrals, Guildford does not possess significant financial endowments from which to generate income. It currently costs around £1.17million per year to run the Cathedral excluding the cost of any capital repair works - a figure which is in excess of our annual income. In the period up to 2017 urgent repairs costing approximately £7 million are required.

It is for all these reasons that the Cathedral is embarking upon a major 7 year project which combines site development with the preservation and enhancement of heritage.

SAVE & TRANSFORM FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS

The need for major repairs

The £7 million of work identified largely represents the cost of removing acoustic plaster containing asbestos from the building and essential roof repairs. We have launched our Capital Appeal Fund to help raise funds for this work and other improvements, but on its own this will not be enough to secure the financial future of the Cathedral.

Making the most of our assets

In times of austerity we have to make the most of the resources we have and manage our assets wisely for the maximum benefit of our community. In response to the economic challenges that we face, the Chapter has agreed to pursue a strategy of seeking to raise funds by selling an area of land on Stag Hill for an appropriate and sensitive development, working with a commercial developer to obtain the necessary approvals. We believe that this is a responsible and sensible course

of action without which we will increasingly struggle to maintain the building and deliver many important services.

Selecting the right developer

Our process for selecting the right developer seeks to ensure that whoever we work with will:

- be socially responsible and respect the community and individual values
- maintain high ethical standards of integrity and transparency
- possess a business-like approach that balances commercial objectives with a desire to protect and enhance social wellbeing
- recognise that the Cathedral will continue to serve Guildford and Surrey for years to come, and will thus appreciate that decisions and actions must be assessed in the light of long-term impacts.

OUR VISION FOR GUILDFORD CATHEDRAL 2020



- **Conservation of a major historic landmark:** the proposals will generate a capital sum necessary to create an endowment in order to put the Cathedral on a firm financial footing for the future.
- **Improved learning:** through careful reordering of the central space within the Cathedral, we hope to make it more flexible for both worship and other uses and to create more exciting learning opportunities for visitors.
- **Restoration and upgrading of current facilities:** parts of the building are nearly 80 years old and major expenditure is required for essential repairs and improvements. As well as the removal of asbestos, we plan to redecorate the interior and upgrade the lighting and sound systems, the organ and exhibition spaces.
- **Improved accessibility:** an important part of the project will be to improve access for those who have disabilities.
- **New facilities to extend welcome:** new buildings around the Cathedral Green such as modern conference facilities, offices and meeting rooms; a new refectory on the south side of the Green and a new visitor welcome area to provide information and interpretation facilities.
- **Provision of sustainable private and affordable housing:** the project will deliver homes which will seek to address the housing needs of the Guildford community, as well as new Cathedral housing for the Dean and other staff. These homes will be designed to be energy-efficient.
- **Making the best use of the site for the benefit of all** will enable us to increase the connectivity between the Cathedral, the town centre and the local community, improve the accessibility and setting of the Cathedral and create new spaces for education and community meetings.

“Our Vision will provide the framework for an extensive programme of investment which will enable us to finally take our place at the heart of Guildford, and realise the original vision for The People’s Cathedral”

