



# Newsletter December 2013



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## NORTH WESTGATE DEVELOPMENT – LATEST!

Below is information we have just received from Hawksworth Securities regarding the proposed new development. We are sure this will be of interest to you.

*“Hawksworth Securities Plc is in discussion with Peterborough City Council regarding the re-generation of North Westgate.*

*The proposal under discussion is for a mixed use scheme with an eight or ten screen multiplex cinema and other leisure uses including restaurants, coffee shops and bars. The scheme would include a new marketplace, a quality hotel, some additional retail space and residential accommodation in the form of apartments and a number of houses.*

*A new pedestrian street would be formed leading from Bourges Boulevard and the station via a new crossing, through a piazza around the existing church (which will remain but with an improved aspect) and joining up with historic Westgate.*

*Once consent has been granted Hawksworth proposes to allocate different architects to each building to achieve a variety of detail and character in the area. It is important that the environment created is an interesting place for Peterborians to visit and enjoy. This new quarter will regenerate this part of the city and bring new activity and business into Peterborough.*

*The proposals include retaining the Brewery Tap public house in the scheme.*

*It is expected that about 1,500 new permanent jobs will be created.”*

Of course this new proposal is in early stages of development and may well yet alter. However we are pleased that Hawksworth Securities continue to keep us abreast of current developments and welcome the views of the Society.





# Newsletter December 2013



## LOTTERY

With this newsletter you should be receiving a lottery form courtesy of Liz Davies. We are grateful to her for running the Lottery for us again this year. It is a helpful source of funds for the Society, last year contributing £210 net to the coffers. Let's see if we can beat that this year. The prize money depends on how many tickets are bought, but last year £175 was distributed in prizes.

The draw will be made at the **December 9<sup>th</sup>** talk by Neil Mitchell on Peterborough Tram History.

## CIVIC VOICE CONVENTION and AGM 2013

Civic Voice, you will recall, is the umbrella body for civic societies. 123 Delegates from as far apart as Canterbury and Cumbria attended the Fourth Convention and AGM of Civic Voice which was held at the Bluecoat Gallery and Liverpool's spectacular Town Hall. Our delegates were Peter Lee (Chairman), Kem Mehmed and me. The Convention consisted of a number of Guided Tours of the City centre, waterfront and Heritage features and workshops. By separating we managed to cover most topics. The tours gave us food for thought, not least the neat way in which Liverpool's waterfront heritage attractions had been linked to the city centre by the new Liverpool One retail development.

On Friday evening we attended a Reception at the Town Hall which gave us an opportunity to meet with and talk to representatives of other Civic Societies. We did our share of networking. Members of other Civic Societies who had come to the first Civic Voice AGM in Peterborough were very complimentary about us. This was followed by a very enjoyable tour of some of Liverpool's amazing and amazingly well preserved pubs (only four).

The AGM was held in the Town Hall and after disposing of several items on the formal agenda was addressed by Griff Rhys Jones as President of Civic Voice. He spoke with great enthusiasm of the work of Civic Voice. He travels great distances (often by train) encouraging the work of individual Societies.

We shared our experiences and discussed the various ideas and initiatives we had seen and came home re-energised.

Pauline Sidebottom





# Newsletter December 2013



## THE CIVIC SOCIETY AND APPLICATIONS FOR DEVELOPMENT

Each fortnight your Plans Group meets to review the latest applications for planning permission and listed building consent. The following is a selection of the cases it has commented upon together with the subsequent decision made by City Council since your last newsletter. Others await decision and will be reported later.

The reference numbers have been given so that should you wish to examine the plans, you can access them via this page on Peterborough City Council's website:

[http://www.peterborough.gov.uk/planning\\_and\\_building.aspx](http://www.peterborough.gov.uk/planning_and_building.aspx) and by clicking on Planning & Building Online Register.

13/00527/FUL Staff accommodation block on Bretton Gate frontage of City Hospital site. We opposed on design grounds. *Permitted 25 July*

13/00734/LBC Conservation works at Sacrewell Mill, Thornhaugh. Strongly supported. *Permitted 23<sup>rd</sup> July*

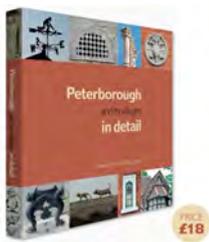
13/00660/FUL 270 Eastfield Road. Redevelopment of site with student accommodation. Opposed on overdevelopment grounds and loss of building of local heritage Value. *Refused 26 September*. Negotiations have continued between the Council, the developer and the action group since then and revised schemes for a care home have been produced. We and the action group strongly prefer the scheme which shows the existing house retained. New application awaited.

13/01156/ADV Advertisements on the front and flank of 60 Westgate. We requested amendment to reduce the size of the flank advert. *Front ads approved, flank one refused October*.

13/01073/LBC Relocation of war memorial plaque from interior of Thorney Methodist Chapel to an exterior position on Bedford Hall, Thorney Tank Yard buildings. We urged protection from the elements. *Revised plans approved with protective canopy*

Enforcement case. We requested that the enforcement officer press the owner to remove the sign board above the door of 185 Lincoln Road Peterborough. It covered the sculpture featured on p158 of Peterborough in Detail. *Successful outcome - board removed*.

## CHRISTMAS IS COMING



Peterborough and its villages in Detail is still selling well and continues to receive universal acclaim and national recognition. Over 1,000 have now been sold. What better Christmas present could you possibly buy a family member, friend or loved one? The book, which costs £18, is still widely available, in local bookshops, the Peterborough Tourist Information office, Ferry Meadows shop as well as via the Society's own website. In fact we boast that anyone local purchasing the book via our website will have the book delivered in person.



# Newsletter December 2013



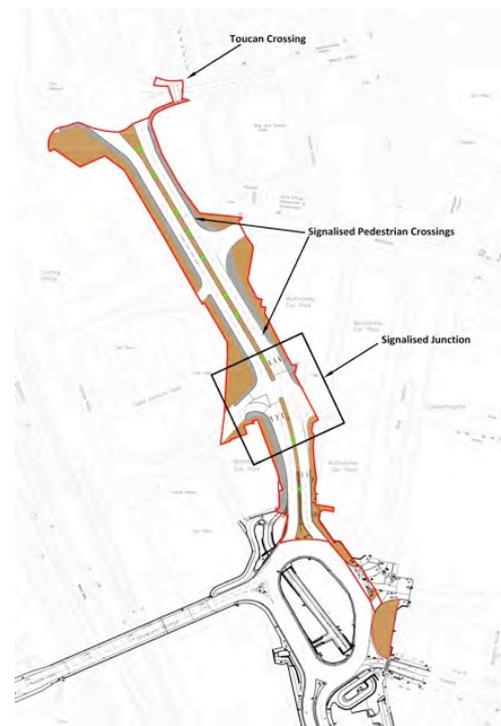
## BOURGES BOULEVARD WORKS

The former Royal Mail site next to the Great Northern Hotel has permission for a food superstore and we understand that naming of the store to develop there will be published very soon. Linked with that will be a scheme for surface level pedestrian access over the Boulevard, a widening of the central reservation with tree planting and art work added. The idea of large numbers of people crossing the road surface will raise many eyebrows. It will certainly slow the traffic down and should encourage more through-traffic to avoid the City Centre and use the Parkways. Christmas traffic heading for Queensgate will be the test.

A public exhibition of the works will be held very shortly, but at a date and venue not known at the time of writing. Check local media for details as they emerge. But you can get a preview of the scheme by going onto the Vivacity website and looking at the public art brief that has just been published:

<http://www.vivacity-peterborough.com/theatres-and-arts/arts-projects/bourges-boulevard-public-art-brief/>

As part of the project, we understand that Anthony Caro's steel sculpture, 'Lagoon' will be sited on Bright Street roundabout. Expect some letters to the paper! The sculpture was originally sited beside the City Road entrance to Stuart House then relocated to Thorpe Meadows Sculpture Park with the general exodus of sculpture from the city centre.



*Crescent Bridge roundabout to Bright Street roundabout showing proposed pedestrian crossings, signalised station access and wider central reservation'*

## NEW WEBSITE ADDRESS

The sharper-eyed amongst you will have noticed that when you Google the Civic Society you arrive at the same web-site as before but with a new address.

[www.peterboroughcivicsociety.org.uk](http://www.peterboroughcivicsociety.org.uk)

That is a more direct and modern address than our previous one. Ian Webb has done an excellent job with Jenny Mogford of Internet Now! to transfer us over.

\*\* NEW WEB ADDRESS [www.peterboroughcivicsociety.org.uk](http://www.peterboroughcivicsociety.org.uk) NEW WEB ADDRESS \*\*