



Newsletter September 2021



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MARKET & CAR PARK SITE DEVELOPMENT NORTHMINSTER?

Kem Mehmed writes that an outline planning application has been submitted for the redevelopment of the market and former multi-storey car park site at Northminster. The applicant, PIP (Northminster) Ltd, is part of the Peterborough Investment Partnership, a joint venture company consisting of the City Council and its partner IAGH3. It proposes a 12 and 11 storey residential block in an 'H' plan shape containing up to 335 units plus two ground floor commercial units fronting onto a reconfigured Laxton Square. There would be only 50 on site car parking spaces and a single vehicular access to the car park from Northminster Road. It is stated that all the units will be social/affordable/intermediate rent with no indication of sizes given although the attendant Design & Access Statement does indicate a mix of 1 to 3 bed apartments. None of the 335 residential units will 'Market Housing'.

The Civic Society was consulted on the proposal before the application was submitted and some minor tweaks have been made as a result. However, our major concerns remain unresolved and centre around the future of the market, scale of the scheme, the effect on Cathedral views and the inadequacy of car parking.

The Market. PIP's pressing ahead with a redevelopment scheme now excluding any provision for a replacement Market, the absence of any arrangements for its relocation and the general lack of communication with stall-holders has met with strong criticism from them, from customers and ourselves. The continued existence of a general provisions market in the city centre is essential and, we suspect, is a legal obligation placed on the City Council. Until such a provision is actually in place no redevelopment of the site should be permitted. This application is therefore premature. We have been in touch with stall-holders and the Council and see that the Leader, Cllr Fitzgerald has given assurances that the Council is seeking a replacement site.

The Scheme. The building mass and height is beyond all existing developments and approvals in the vicinity of the Cathedral. The sheer bulk adds to the enormity of the proposed building which overwhelms its neighbours. Even Bayard Place and the ABC Cinema are dwarfed by it. The 12-storey wing has a maximum height of 39.8m, well above the currently uninterrupted skyline of the Nave ridge at about 32.3m (see back page). The setting of the Cathedral will be seriously undermined and must be a major factor in the assessment of the application. The council choose to dismiss this concern when deciding to approve the Solstice 8 storey block, which is a veritable pimple compared with this one.

We will be making a detailed objection soon based on a thorough examination of the submission and further information on impact which we expect the planners to request. The application reference is 21/01151/R4OUT



Artist's impression

HERITAGE OPEN DAYS ARE BACK!

Our members Chris and Gerry Nicholas have worked hard to organise the following local entries in this national festival. Here is a summary of the participants. For further details on each of these venues and others in the Peterborough area you may like to visit



<https://www.heritageopendays.org.uk/visiting/printable-area-lists/laa/Peterborough>.

Covid-19 Considerations: The pandemic prevented this event last year. This year all will be run in line with local and national government guidelines (with additional considerations where stated). Owners are putting a lot of effort into opening up, so we hope you will be able to make some visits.

All Saints Parish Church, Park Road, Peterborough PE1 2UL

Guided tours of All Saints. Built in 1886 by the renowned Victorian architect, Temple Moore.

Event Times

Saturday 11 September: 12:00 - 16:00

Sunday 12 September: 12:00 - 16:00

Booking Details: No booking required

Please note: Max 12 people per tour/session. 30 minutes Representatives will be inside the church available to guide visitors if needed between the hours stated. **Contact for the day:** David Turnock, 07814 643020

www.allsaintspeterborough.org.uk

St John the Baptist Church, Church Street, Peterborough, PE1 1XB

This historic parish church for Peterborough stands in the heart of Peterborough's Cathedral Square and is an iconic feature of the city centre.

Event Times

Tuesday 14 and Friday 17

September: 09:00 - 14:00

Saturday 18 September: 09:00 - 17:00

Sunday 19 September: 12:30 - 16:00

Booking Details: No booking required

Additional Information

Interpretation boards are located around the church for visitors to read and there are also leaflets.

peterboroughparishchurch.wordpress.com/

Directions

St Johns is easy to find as it is located right in the pedestrianised city centre (cathedral square) adjacent to one of the entrances to Queensgate Shopping Centre, and associated car parks.

J.W D'Arcy Jewellers, 7 Westgate, Peterborough PE1 1PX

A final opportunity to see behind the scenes of this historic City Centre jeweller's shop.

The building dates from around 1799 and has been a shop since 1855. You will be able to see behind the scenes and learn the history of the building and the current business that has traded as J W D'Arcy since 1923.

Event Times

Saturday 11 September: 10:00, 12:00, 14:00

Sunday 12 September: 10:00, 12:00, 14:00

Booking Details

Pre-booking is required. Contact: David D'Arcy. Call: 07739025021 or

Email: davidmhd.dd@gmail.com

Please note: Max 10 people per tour/session. Tour and talk will last more than 1 hour.

jwdarcy.org.uk

Northborough Parish Church - Church Street, Northborough, PE6 9BN

Dedicated to St. Andrew, the church has strong connections to the Claypole and Cromwell families and the poet John Clare.

Event Times

Saturday 11 September: 11:00 - 16:00

Booking Details: No booking required

Peterborough Cathedral, Minster Precincts, Peterborough, PE1 1XS

Discover Peterborough Cathedral and the One Small Step artwork, and explore the Cathedral at night with candlelight. Guides will be on hand to answer questions or take this chance to listen to the monastic service of Compline at the end of the evening. There will be a special evening opening to coincide with Heritage Open Days where you can discover the hidden secrets of this magnificent site, by candlelight.

Event Times

Friday 10 September: 09:00 - 17:00

(Candlelit event 18:30 - 22:00)

Saturday 11 September: 09:00 - 17:00

Sunday 12 September: 12:00 - 15:00

13,14,15,16,17 September: 09:00 - 17:00

Saturday 18 September: 09:00 - 17:00

Sunday 19 September: 12:00 - 15:00

Booking Details: No booking required

Access

The main entrance is approached by a gravel pathway which slopes gradually up to the main entrance. There are no steps. Toilets are located just outside the South Transept entrance. These are not wheelchair accessible. There are two parking spaces for blue badge holders

Additional Information

Donations are most welcomed to help us to continue to take care of this wonderful building.

www.peterborough-cathedral.org.uk/143/section.aspx/142/cathedral-at-night

www.peterborough-cathedral.org.uk/

Prebendal Manor, Church Street Nassington, PE8 6QG

A rare opportunity to visit this Grade 1 listed historic medieval manor which is usually only open for groups and weddings. Dating from 1200, the manor is a hidden gem with a huge history. Included in the visit will be the tithe barn museum, gardens and a 16th-century dovecote.

Event Times Details of this event time will be confirmed with booking

Booking Details: Call 01780 782575

Email: info@prebendal-manor.co.uk

Additional Information

Max 25 people per tour/session. Contact for the day: Jane Baile, 01733 371195

www.prebendal-manor.co.uk

Church of St Mary and All Saints, Fotheringhay, PE7 1RD

A superb church with an octagonal lantern tower and numerous and notable links with our nation's history

Event Times

Saturday 18 September: 09:30 - 17:00

Booking Details Pre-booking Required.

Please use contact details on St Mary & All Saints website (link below)

Booking Contact: Bill James

Email: thefriendsofc@btinternet.com

Go

to: <https://thefriendsoffotheringhaychurch.com/contact-us/>

Additional Information

You are welcome to buy a guidebook to help with funding this important place and to discover more of its heritage.

thefriendsoffotheringhaychurch.com/

Crowland Abbey, East Street, Crowland, PE6 0EN

Originally a Benedictine monastery, the current building dates from 1170. A wealthy abbey due to income from pilgrims to the shrine of St Guthlac. Dissolved and partially demolished in 1539.

Event Times

Friday 10 September: 13:00 - 17:00

Sunday 12 September: 13:00 - 16:00

13,14,15,16,17 September: 11:00 - 16:00

Sunday 19 September: 13:00 - 16:00

Booking Details: No booking required

Contact for the day: David Searle

07761549865

www.crowlandabbey.org.uk

Railworld Wildlife Haven, Railworld, Oundle Road, Peterborough, PE2 9NR

Volunteers, with the help of many companies, groups and individuals, have transformed a derelict coal yard into an inner-city green space with ponds and waterfalls creating increased biodiversity and habitat for wildlife. Plus restored and repurposed Victorian aqueducts and bridges, model railway and 'Globe Hall Earth Centre' with a solar-powered 'World'.

Event Times

Saturday 11 September: 10:30 - 18:00

Guided tours at 11:00, 12:30, 14:00 and 15:30

Booking Details: No booking required

Additional Information

* Parking may be Pay & Display, please check on the day

www.railworld.org.uk/about

Directions

We are right next to the Nene Valley Railway's Peterborough Station.

St Michael & All Angels Church, Nene Way, Sutton, Peterborough PE5 7XD

Discover this parish church also used as a community meeting place. It was built in the 12th century as a chapel-of-ease to St Kyneburgha, Castor for the benefit of the villagers of Sutton and to serve the Peterborough Abbey Grange Farm and Manor in the village.

Event Times

Sunday 19 September: 12:00 - 16:00

Booking Details: No booking required

Additional Information

Contact for the day: Peter Lee 01780

782703

www.castorchurch.co.uk/st-michael-angels-sutton/

St Mary's Church, Tansor, Oundle, PE8 5HN

Part of this building dates back to the Saxon period. There are two sets of three stalls with carved misericord seats, formerly in Fotheringay College, as well as 15th-century open benches with carvings at the west end of the church. You can also see the remains of the 15th-century screen.

Event Times

Friday 10 September to Sunday 19

September open daily 10:00 - 18:00

Booking Details: No booking required

Additional Information

Contact for the day: Wendy Ross,

07894452639

www.warmingtonbenefice.org.uk

St Pega's Church, Chestnut Close, Peakirk, PR6 7NW

A delightful church with stunning 14th-century wall paintings.

Event Times

Saturday 11 September: 10:00 - 16:00

Booking Details: No booking required

Additional Information

Contact for the day: Patricia Roberts,

01733 253111

www.peakirkvillage.co.uk

St Andrew's Church, Church Street, Alwalton, Peterborough PE7 3UU

Explore this medieval church in the quiet village of Alwalton. The last resting place of the motor car pioneer Sir Henry Royce with a small display of his life.

Light lunches available from midday to 2pm. Teas and coffees available all day.

Event Times

Saturday 11 September: 10:00-16:00

Sunday 12 September: 10:00-16:00

Booking Details: No booking required

Contact for the day: Mike Page, 07500

354102

www.alwaltonchurch.org.uk

A Walk around Thorney

Meet at the main door of the Abbey PE6 0QD. Thorney has the remains of a Medieval abbey and is the site of a Victorian model village. A registered tourist guide will lead the walk.

Event Times

Monday 13 September: 1730-1845

Saturday 18 September: 1330-1445

Booking Details: No booking required

Access: the route can be adjusted to ensure wheelchair and pushchair access.

Additional Information

Contact for the day: Dorothy on,

07990587567

www.thorney-museum.org.uk

St. Margaret's Church, Fletton Avenue, Peterborough PE2 8DE

View the nationally important Saxon Stones. Learn about the church's history and the village of Fletton.

Event Times

Saturday 11 September: 1300 - 1700

Sunday 12 September: 1300 - 1700

Booking Details: No booking required

Access

Two steps down into the church. Uneven surfaces.

COVID-19 Considerations

This event will run in line with local & national government guidelines at the time of the festival. Social distancing and increased hygiene will be in place. Displays will only be visually accessible.

Additional Information

Contact for the day: Sadie McMullon

07796952746

www.stmargaretschurch-fletton.co.uk

www.flettonparish.co.uk

St Botolph's Church, Thorpe Road, Longthorpe, PE3 6LU

St Botolph's is just completing Phase 1 of a major Reordering Project. See what work has been done so far including the newly located font, restored organ and the beautiful Ancaster stone floor in the chancel and sanctuary. Displays on church history, links in the graveyard to local X-Ray pioneer, Alfred Caleb Taylor, and the Paralympics.

Event Times

Saturday 11 September: 10am to 4pm

Booking Details: No booking required

COVID-19 Considerations

This event will run in line with local & national government guidelines at the time of the festival. Masks should be worn, the sanitiser provided used and socially distancing observed. There will be a one-way system in place.

Additional Information

Contact for the day: Jackie Bullen.

07729706157

www.longthorpechurch.org.uk

*** Support local HERITAGE OPEN DAYS ***

GUILDHALL WALK

With no signs of Guildhall Walk (the link beside Barclays Bank through to Priestgate) being reopened, David Jost contacted the owners, Barclays. Graham Martin, the bank's Relationship Director, has responded: "We are in contact with the Council, whose response has been to keep the gates closed at this point. We, like you, remain committed to seeing Guildhall Walk reopened safely to the public and will provide further updates when we can". Although not specific, this is a positive response bearing in mind that the Society did not win its case to see Guildhall Walk made a formal public right of way.

CIVIC SOCIETY AT LARGE



Fletton Quays



Peakirk Church

We had good weather and full houses for our first two Summer visits, to Fletton Quays on July 6th and to Peakirk on August 3rd. Full reports will appear in our Annual Report.

GARDEN HOUSE, CATHEDRAL PRECINCTS

Garden House stands behind the high wall to Wheel Yard off Midgate and until recently was the home of The Light Project and day centre supporting rough sleepers. It is a 1930's house and garden sold recently from ecclesiastical into private ownership and is allocated for residential development in the current Local Plan..

The Light Project and day centre have relocated. Applications have been made for the redevelopment of the site with 8 dwellings, mainly three-storey. The scheme is a cautious one in a highly sensitive location and takes its references from the terraced properties facing the West Front. Parts have been kept to two-storey in order to minimise interruption to existing glimpses of the Cathedral from Wheel Yard. The Society's committee (minus the Chairman who declared an interest) decided to support the applications at this stage. They can be inspected on the City Council's web site. References 21/00859/FUL and 21/00860/LBC

HEIGHT OF NORTHMINSTER SCHEME COMPARED WITH CATHEDRAL (see front page)

