

Norwich Cathedral: North Clerestory Works (1 of 3 projects funded)

Awarded £491,000 in November 2014

The need

There was a need to improve the weather resistance of the external envelope of the cathedral around the area of the north clerestory and east elevation of the presbytery. The latest Quinquennial Inspection had noted the fragile state of the east wall of the Presbytery and the danger of imminent loss of stonework, including to the windows.

Outcomes

Across the various projects, the grant scheme has enabled the cathedral to improve its health and safety for the public and to remain wind and watertight. The cathedral has been able to better publicise the huge amount of work and funding that it requires to maintain the building and its heritage.

Economic and social impact

Norwich Cathedral has managed to obtain further funding from other sources by demonstrating its commitment to maintaining its heritage. The greater interest from the public in the cathedral has led to an increase in tourism, therefore assisting with local economic growth. The project supported jobs in traditional carpentry, stonemasonry and leaded glazing. An increase in public confidence in the cathedral as it is now in a better state of repair; has encouraged more individuals to attend services and events. In turn this has increased the cathedral's capacity to provide more events, through the increase in interest and donations.

Works completed

Work completed included stone cleaning and then, as necessary, repointing and rebuilding/replacement of stone in line with the cathedral's stone conservation policy. Lead flashings were secured and re-set where necessary, and the rainwater disposal system was reorganised to improve shedding. The clerestory windows were conserved and re-leaded. It included work on a latchway line system inside the North Clerestory to assist access for work to the glazing. An underspend of c. £5,000 was returned to the fund for reallocation by the Expert Panel.

Cathedral Quote

We are delighted with the scheme as it has helped the cathedral to achieve so much in a shorter period of time than ever expected. It means the cathedral is in a better state of repair for future generations. It is a wonderful grant scheme and we hope the government will consider another similar grant scheme for cathedrals in the future. (Neil Parsons, Chapter Steward).

The Cathedral

Norwich Cathedral is a Norman-origin building with a large and beautiful close setting. Until the Reformation it housed a large Benedictine monastic community. It was always an ambitious building and suffered several major collapses, including a storm which destroyed the Norman clerestory in 1362 and a lightning strike which felled the spire in 1463. After each disaster the church was re-built. With its new hostry buildings built by Michael Hopkins Architects in the early 2000s, Norwich has modern facilities to match its medieval treasures.



Norwich Cathedral. Photo credit: Robin Keightley.

Norwich Cathedral: Roof Repairs to St Andrew's Chapel (2 of 3 projects funded)

Awarded £88,620 in March 2015

The need

The latest Quinquennial Inspection had identified a need for replacing the lead roof of the medieval St Andrew's Chapel.

Outcomes

The grant scheme has enabled the cathedral to ensure that it is wind and watertight and safe for future generations to enjoy. The cathedral has been able to better publicise the huge amount of work and funding that it requires to maintain building and its heritage. This is an aspect that it did not emphasise previously and due to this the cathedral has seen an increase in donations.

Economic and social impact

Norwich Cathedral has managed to obtain further funding from other sources by demonstrating its commitment to maintaining its heritage. The greater interest from the public in the cathedral has led to an increase in tourism, therefore assisting with local economic growth. The project supported jobs in traditional heritage conservation. An increase in public confidence in the cathedral as it is now in a better state of repair has encouraged more individuals to attend services and events. In turn this has increased the cathedral's capacity to provide more events, through the increase in interest and donations.

Works completed

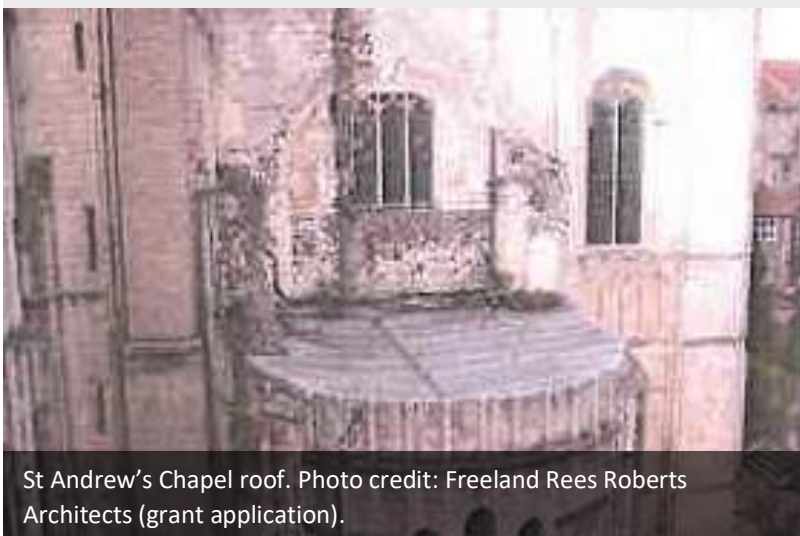
Works included timber, re-leading and masonry repairs. An underspend of c. £5,000 was returned to the fund for reallocation by the Expert Panel.

Cathedral Quote

We are delighted with the scheme as it has helped the cathedral to achieve so much in a shorter period of time than ever expected. It means the cathedral is in a better state of repair for future generations. It is a wonderful grant scheme and we hope the government will consider another similar grant scheme for cathedrals in the future. (Neil Parsons, Chapter Steward).



Norwich Cathedral. Photo credits: Robin Keightley.



St Andrew's Chapel roof. Photo credit: Freeland Rees Roberts Architects (grant application).

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Norwich Cathedral: Electrical Infrastructure (3 of 3 projects funded)

Awarded £190,000 in July 2016 towards a £1.49 million project

The need

The cathedral had raised over £1.15 million towards its relighting, but urgent safety-related work was needed to the electrical infrastructure before the more architectural and decorative aspects of the new lighting scheme could be put in place. The electrical installation originated from the 1950s onwards; wiring and circuits had been added onto the existing systems piecemeal with many adaptations. The lighting was particularly bad in the winter months and was not energy efficient. The wiring from the switchgear to lights was unreliable and increasingly affected by faults, and constituted a potential fire hazard.

Because of its poor condition the electrical installation was subject to a rolling inspection protocol, with faults being dealt with at each reporting stage. It had become urgent for the whole system to be replaced, both for safety but also to enable a modern lighting installation that is fit for the cathedral interior to be installed.



The Passion of Edith Cavell paintings. Photo credit: Norwich Cathedral (Grant Application)

Outcomes

Work to the electrical infrastructure has dealt with many safety issues at Norwich Cathedral. It has enabled renewal of wiring for all the cathedral's support systems: fire alarm, security alarm, audio system and ICT cabling.

Economic and social impact

The project was delivered by a network of contractors and helped to support jobs across several specialist industries including architecture, archaeology, quantity surveying, electrical and mechanical engineering. The new system, which is more efficient, also provides economic benefits in the form of reduced energy costs and maintenance costs. The improved lighting has allowed the cathedral to display their "treasures" with greater effect, conserving the cathedral for future generations. The flexibility of the new lighting system has enabled greater and wider use of the cathedral building for community use, in the knowledge that all the systems are now safe and compliant with industry standards.

Works completed and timescale



Norwich Cathedral Christmas procession. Photo credit: Norwich Cathedral.

The electrical infrastructure work directly funded by this grant formed part of the overall lighting scheme project at Norwich Cathedral, entitled *From Darkness to Light*. EV Bullen were commissioned as the main contractor for the work. This commenced in September 2016 and was completed in February 2018. The rewiring included replacing the original system which was over fifty years old.

The Cathedral

See previous project summary.