

**Section 9 of Care of Cathedrals Measure 2011
Notice of Decision of Cathedrals Fabric Commission**

TAKE NOTICE that the Chapter of the Cathedral Church of St Saviour and St Mary Overie, Southwark applied on 30 March 2022 for approval of the following proposal:

The transfer of eight boxes of human skeletal material currently stored in the triforium cupboard to the Museum of London Centre for Osteoarchaeology, and one box of animal bone from the same excavations.

Summary of the application

The request is made for three reasons: (1) the cathedral does not have suitable storage (see attached document); (2) the bones are part of excavations made in 1969-73, whose material archive, including other human skeletal material, is held with the Museum of London; (3) recent research by MoL shows that the land, though now within the Green Line, did not belong to the cathedral at the time of the excavations. The cathedral therefore has no rights to care for these human remains. We therefore submit that the Museum is the rightful custodian in this situation due to its holding of existing archive materials. Notwithstanding this, because they were buried in the chapter house of the cathedral's predecessor, the Augustinian priory of St Mary Overie, the cathedral clergy will request that the bones come back to be buried at the cathedral in due course, after they are studied, which we hope will be a quick process.

Regarding ownership, the following has been ascertained:

- In his interim report, Graham Dawson thanked 'the land-owners, the proprietors of Hays Wharf, who not only gave permission, but also assistance in kind...'
- The Land Registry documents show that the land in question belonged to 'The Mayor and Burgesses of the London Borough of Southwark' in January 1986 (probably when it was first registered, as Southwark Council couldn't find any earlier land registry documents)
- Land Registry documents show that the cathedral became owners of the land in March 1986

The various charges on the land suggest that St Saviour's (the parish church that became the cathedral) may have sold the land in 1853, and that there may have been several owners between then and 1986.

Representations

No representations in writing were received in respect of the above proposal.

Decision

At a meeting of the Cathedrals Fabric Commission held on Thursday 26 May the above proposal and representations were considered and the Commission decided to approve the application subject to the following conditions:

1. That prior to the removal of the skeletons from the cathedral, Chapter shall formally agree with the Museum of London a reasonable timeframe for the return of the skeletons to the cathedral for reinterment.

The reason for the condition being to ensure that the remains are ultimately

given a dignified reinterment.

Signed:

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Thomas Ashley".

Thomas Ashley
Deputy Secretary of the Cathedrals Fabric Commission

Dated: 16 June 2022

NOTE:

Within 7 days of receipt of this Notice the administrator of the Cathedral Church is to display a copy of it inside and outside the cathedral where it will be readily visible to the public for a period of not less than 28 days.

**Section 9 of Care of Cathedrals Measure 2011
Notice of Decision of Cathedrals Fabric Commission**

TAKE NOTICE that the Chapter of the Cathedral Church of St Alban applied on 21 March 2022 for approval of the following proposal:

To transport the collection of charters and a figure to the Hertford Archive studio for assessment only.

Summary of the application

The Cathedral holds a small collection of eleven Charters, which were purchased as a set at auction. The charters date from 1248 to 1606. Also included in this application is a small 17th-century carved and painted wooden figure of a man, with a lead hat, begging for alms.

Chapter wishes to apply for an external grant through the Tru-Vu Grant Scheme to conserve the objects which are currently held in the Cathedral's Muniment room. The grant application requires a conservation treatment report. The Cathedral does not have the facilities or expertise to carry out such a report. Therefore, the work has to be contracted out to the Hertford Archive Service and Chapter seeks permission to transport the charters and figure to the Hertford Archive for assessment.

The assessment and ultimately the conservation treatment plan will be carried out by the county conservator, Pamela Murry, BA, MSc (conservation practice). Once sufficient data has been collected for the plan to be developed the collection will be returned to the Cathedral. No conservation work will take place at this time.

Four of the charters are mounted because they were on loan to the St Albans Museum for a recent exhibition. The other seven are folded and stored in a small cabinet in the muniment room of the cathedral. This room is at Triforia level with little natural light and restricted space for working. The cathedral does not employ an accredited conservator who could undertake the work on site.

It is proposed to take the charters, by car and in the cabinet to the archive studio in Hertford. It is anticipated that the collection will be away from the Cathedral for 2 to 3 weeks.

The charters will then be replaced into the cabinet and transported back to the cathedral by car to be returned to the muniment room. Once the conservation programme plan is ready, the cathedral can apply for the grant towards their conservation.

Representations

Representations in writing in respect of the above proposal were received from:

- *Historic England – No comment – email dated 22 March 2022*
- *HBAP – No comment – email dated 30 March 2022*

Decision

The above proposal and representations were circulated to the members of the Cathedrals Fabric Commission and, based on their comments, on Thursday 26 May

2022 the application was **approved** with the following conditions:

1. That the details of the insurance arrangements for the objects is sent to the Commission before the objects are transported, and the details agreed in writing between the Chapter and the Head of Conservation or, in default of agreement, approved by the Commission.
2. That if any treatments are required for any of the objects before, during or after their assessment by the county conservator, the details shall be submitted to the Commission for comment.

The reason for the conditions being to ensure the safety of the objects.

Signed:

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Thomas Ashley". The signature is written in a cursive style with a small dot above the 'y'.

Thomas Ashley
Deputy Secretary of the Cathedrals Fabric Commission

Dated: 16 June 2022

NOTE:

Within 7 days of receipt of this Notice the administrator of the Cathedral Church is to display a copy of it inside and outside the cathedral where it will be readily visible to the public for a period of not less than 28 days.

**Section 9 of Care of Cathedrals Measure 2011
Notice of Decision of Cathedrals Fabric Commission**

TAKE NOTICE that the Chapter of the Cathedral Church of Christ and the Blessed Mary the Virgin, Worcester applied on 26 April 2022 for the following proposal:

The Proposal

A programme of repairs to the damaged vaulting in the North Quire Aisle, retaining the vault in place.

Summary of the nature of the work and its extent (and materials) [or in the case of an object, a short description of it and details of the proposal]

Worcester Cathedral is seeking permission to repair the vault of the North Quire Aisle, which was damaged by falling stone during Storm Arwen in November 2021.

The works include:

- Careful cleaning of the upper face of the vault in the areas of impact damage in order to expose the stone.
- Installation of flat plate stainless steel stitching to the upper face of the stone ribs and over the vault field as required.
- Installation of a steel frame between the roof trusses with steel rod hangers from the frame to pick up stitching repairs.
- Local pointing and epoxy resin repairs to impact damaged stone within the fields, and replacement on a like for like basis.
- Local pinning and mortar repairs to impact damaged stone of the associated ribs.
- Installation of a timber deck and walkway within the North Aisle.
- On completion of structural repairs, to re-plaster in lime the internal fields of vaulting and limewash, the colour to match existing

Representations

Representations in writing in respect of the above proposal were received from:

Email from SPAB, dated 24 May 2022, supporting the proposals

Letter from Historic England, dated 6 May 2022, supporting the proposals

Decision

The above proposal and representations were circulated to the members of the Cathedrals Fabric Commission and discussed on Thursday 26 May 2022 the application was approved with the following conditions:

1. That reasonable monitoring and recording of the fabric is undertaken throughout the works.

The reason for the condition is to ensure that the works are recorded.

Signed:

Thomas Ashley

Thomas Ashley

Deputy Secretary of the Cathedrals Fabric Commission

Dated: 16 June 2022

NOTE:

Within 7 days of receipt of this Notice the administrator of the Cathedral Church is to display a copy of it inside and outside the cathedral where it will be readily visible to the public for a period of not less than 28 days.