



Development stage is Go

For long-term Cathedral regulars, it must feel like an age already since we embarked upon formulating what became *Leicester Cathedral Revealed* – the project that will do for our cathedral in the early 21st century what the then vicar David Vaughan and the church architect Raphael Brandon did for it in the mid-19th! Indeed it was 1st October 2016 that Chapter formally agreed to embark on this journey, and 1st February 2016 that I began my current life as LCR Project Director. And now we can confirm that 1st July 2017 marks the beginning of the Heritage Lottery Fund Development Stage – when we can begin to draw on the £330,000 HLF have assigned to us to develop our plans to the point where we can go back and ask for the other £3m they have set aside to actually do the work.

As I wrote in my last update, we anticipate this stage taking 18 months, to the end of 2018, during which time we will need to address our remaining project funding gap of £5.65m, and we aim to have 80% of that covered off by the time we go back for permission to begin actual work. In which context, a massive thank you to all those from the congregation who gave pledges of financial support last autumn, and have now begun the committed payments that mean so much both practically and morally! It's not too late to join their number...

Whilst that work goes on, we will be developing our proposals to the point where they can receive formal planning permission – from both the city planners and the Cathedrals Fabric Commission. If all goes to plan work will therefore start sometime in the early part of 2019.

You may also have spotted in the media that the work done for Richard III's reinterment has just secured a national award from the Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA), as one of the 49 best 'buildings of the year'. This follows on from our winning the East Midlands regional award. Many congratulations to Josh McCosh and his team from van Heyningen and Haward, who are still working hard with us on the current plans.

Pete Hobson – 29th June 2017
Project Director
pete.hobson@leccofe.org
0116 261 5363

***The Norman tower had a
broach spire added to it***



1757