

**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 Peter in Exeter applied on 6th November 2020 for the approval of the following proposal:

Application for a programme of archaeological investigations within the Cloister Garth of Exeter Cathedral, focused on the site of the east cloister walk. These archaeological investigations are key to the development phase of our National Lottery Heritage Fund (NHLF) Project 'the Vision 2020s – investing in our welcome' and our ultimate goal to re-instate the east cloister walk.

Summary of the nature of the work and its extent (and materials):

The programme will be conducted in two stages: first Evaluation in the development stage of the project, which will seek to establish as much information as possible about the character of the deposits which may be removed, and second the completed excavation in the delivery phase. The attached WSI details this first stage.

Representations

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

- Historic England (letter dated 3rd December 2020) with comments but no objection;

Decision

The above proposal and representations were circulated to the members of the Cathedrals Fabric Commission and discussed by video conference, and on Wednesday 9th December 2020 the application was determined by Chair's Action as follows:

To **approve** the proposals subject to the following conditions:

1. That approval is only given for the first evaluation/development stage of the project and not the 'delivery stage' referenced in the Form 8.
2. That an archaeological watching brief be carried out during all the excavations and during the investigation of the sub-base of the presbytery floor.
3. That if stratified pre-1760s deposits are encountered at a depth of less than 500mm below the existing cathedral floor, they will not be excavated unless deemed justified for the purposes of the evaluation, when full excavation will require the agreement of Commission officers (as an amendment to section 3.6.3 of the WSI).
4. If anything of particular archaeological significance is uncovered which would be disturbed or destroyed by the works, works shall stop to allow for consultation with the Cathedral Archaeologist and the Commission and shall not recommence until a mitigation strategy is agreed by both parties.
5. If any human remains are uncovered they shall be treated with due care and decency and in accordance with the guidelines set out in the Advisory Panel on the Archaeology of Burials in England's Guidance for best practice for treatment of human remains excavated from Christian burial grounds in England (2nd edition, 2017).
6. A report describing the results of the work will be prepared and circulated to the Cathedrals Fabric Commission and the Exeter City Historic Environment Record.

The reasons for the conditions being to ensure the protection of the archaeological resource, the proper and respectful treatment of human remains, that the investigations produce helpful results to inform the heating proposal and that the Commission is informed of the results of the excavation.

Signed:



**Becky Clark
Secretary of the Cathedrals Fabric Commission for England**

Dated: 11th December 2020

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.