**FORM 9 (Rule 7)**

Section 9 of Care of Cathedrals Measure 2011
Public Notice on application to the Cathedrals Fabric Commission

<table>
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<th>PUBLIC NOTICE</th>
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**TAKE NOTICE** that the Chapter of the Cathedral Church of:

The Cathedral and Metropolitical Church of St Peter in York

Has on this date: **10th May 2024**

Applied to the Cathedrals Fabric Commission for approval of the following proposal:

A CCM submission to vary the scope of works currently consented under CCM to Pinnacle s10. The application now seeks approval for new stone to the pinnacle (as has been approved for the two adjacent pinnacle structures) rather than a mixture of renewal and repair.

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

The CCM proposal seeks a variation to the consent for the repair work to Pinnacle s10. The whole pinnacle will be re-carved in magnesian limestones, as was consented for the two adjacent pinnacles s8 and s9. The application also covers the re-carving the grotesques.

The reason for this change arises from structural investigations, revealing additional embedded iron, and closer inspection from scaffolds of the condition of the existing stones – which is a mix of poor quality Ketton with mag-lime.

In accordance with the stonework policy, the pinnacle will be fully recorded by the Cathedral Archaeologist with the Stoneyard team before deconstruction. The pinnacle would then be taken down and rebuilt with renewed magnesian limestones from two quarries.

The new carvings will be undertaken in accordance with the 2024 Stone Practice policy.
Plans, drawings, specifications or other documents

Copies of the plans, drawings, specification and other documents accompanying this application may be examined at the office of the Chapter of the Cathedral Church

Insert address and contact details

8-10 Minster Yard, York, YO1 7HH
fac@yorkminster.org, and on the website at:
https://yorkminster.org/about-us/statutory-applications/

Between the hours of: 08.00 – 16.00
From this day: 10th May 2024
and until: 7th June 2024

REPRESENTATIONS

If you wish to make representations about the whole or any part of the proposal described in this Notice you should write to

The Secretary of the Cathedrals Fabric Commission:

c/o Cathedrals and Major Churches Officer
Church Buildings Division
Church House
Great Smith St
London
SW1P 3AZ
020 7898 1678
adrian.daffern@churchofengland.org

DIRECTIONS TO CHAPTER

1. This public notice (or a copy of it) must be displayed for a continuous period of 28 days in a prominent position inside and outside your cathedral where it is readily visible to the public.

2. A copy of this notice must be sent as follows:

(a) to the Fabric Advisory Committee of your Cathedral Church
(b) to Historic England (formerly English Heritage)
(c) to the national amenity societies as applicable (see list on Form 8)

and

(only if the proposal is for works as described in section 2(1)(a) of the Measure)

(d) to the local planning authority.
INTRODUCTION

This paper has been prepared for the making of a new CCM application to the FAC for works to Pinnacle s10, South Quire Aisle (West) of York Minster. This application relates to the on-going campaign of stonework across the South Quire consented under the CCM in 2015.

Together with the supporting drawings, this report forms a CCM submission to vary the scope of works consented to Pinnacle s10, based on findings gathered from observation and analysis to date, as concurrent major stone repair work has progressed, under the expert hands of the Minster’s Stoneyard and Masons.

EXTANT CONSENT

Consent was granted in October 2015 for a campaign of stone repair and renewal across the South Quire. In relation to the pinnacle on buttress s10, the proposals allowed for only limited, light touch repair and limited stone renewal but acknowledged the need for further investigation of the cracking as shown below: Extract of submitted proposed repair drawing Oct 2015. The scheme assumed that the majority of the rebuilt Ketton (ie 19thC stonework) would be retained. However as the headline note indicates there was an expectation for further investigation of structural cracking.
Close hand investigation and detailed surveys by the Head Mason; the team from the Stoneyard, and the Surveyor, have further established the presence of embedded metal work. Whilst this has only been exposed locally, the deterioration patterns indicate that it is present throughout the pinnacle and causing issues beneath the corbel level. The cracking is not just within the upper part of the pinnacles as noted on the 2015 drawing, but there is significant cracking and apparent jacking of the stonework at the root of the pinnacle, below the parapet string course.

Left: cracking and rust-jacking has now been noted in the root of the pinnacle both sides of the upper buttress weathering. Right: embedded iron revealed behind spalled stone.

The consented repairs comprise a mixture of limited stone renewal alongside a selection of conservative mortar repairs. The judgement to advance the case for re-building this buttress in new magnesian limestone is not triggered by any single repair consideration but a composite of factors including:

1. The discovery and exposure of cracking and iron at low level in the root of the structure
2. The known ironwork in the main shaft of the pinnacle
3. The general condition of the Ketton stonework, which is relatively poor. Although not the worst of the Ketton stone found in the Minster as a whole, the stone is not in good condition and not performing for a 70+ year return period..
4. The poor condition of the carving, with indents which have themselves been repaired.

As shown on the condition survey drawing there is a need for extensive repair, to a major structural element that has known challenges within its construction. The embedded ironwork which is known about comes also with the real potential of other embedded ironwork elements that could corrode and present as new defects in future.

The argument for renewal primarily rests on the functional needs of conservation and repair, however there is also a more general conservation management argument for renewal of the pinnacle in terms of how this sits in relation to the historic context and aesthetic presentation of the adjacent stone structure. The Ketton detailing is debased and not congruent in detail or quality with its neighbours. Thus this is an opportunity to undertake an informed restoration of authentic and well researched historic detail.
S10 Pinnacle, Geological Survey 2022

West

South
(front)

East

North

Kenton Oolitic limestone from early C20th repairs

Magnesian limestone from late C18th repairs

Magnesian limestone from late C18th repairs (lbc)

Magnesian limestone from mid C20th repairs

Drawing by Minster Stoneyard (Not to Scale)
S10 Pinnacle, Condition Survey 2022

Drawing by Minster Stoneyard (Not to Scale)
STATEMENT OF NEED: RECARVING GROTESQUES ON PINNACLE S10

Cumulatively and as a whole the carved masonry and architecture of the south quire is of exceptional significance (see below). The need for intervention and renewal of the pinnacle which is the subject of this CCM application is primarily dictated by its condition, as described above – with the objective of preserving and enhancing the overall significance of the masonry structure.

There are four grotesques which adorn the pinnacle gable corners; one has completely replaced in Ketton; the others are variously ‘relict’ survivals of past carvings in magnesian limestone. There is not sufficient hard evidence to judge whether these surviving limestone carvings are medieval originals or whether they are heavily weathered but much later 18thC carvings. The judgment and advice of the Master Mason is that there are stylistic indicators that they are not medieval.

At the buttress root of the pinnacle, there is one further grotesque, engaging the weathering below, which has also decayed to the point where renewal is recommended to preserve and reinstate a significant decorative feature, as is supported and justified by the stone practice policy and conservation management approach.

The Stoneyard have carved and fixed some wonderful new grotesques to the pinnacles of S8 and 9 – great works of art on each - which evidences a benchmark of methodology, capability and well-judged output of decorative architectural carvings. There are well established design criteria for how the new carvings will take stylistic cues to honour the authenticity of the original designs.

Example of a ‘relict’ grotesque which will be re-carved. Where appropriate features and forms are taken from surviving carvings as the root for new work.

As shown by the examples illustrated on the following page – the ‘need’ for renewal of these carvings for pinnacle s10 can be summarized under two headings:

1. To preserve and maintain the overall architectural carving scheme for the Minster, with renewal of decorative details that are lost, within the forms, traditions and evidence of historic details.
2. To sustain the craft traditions and skills on which current and future stewardship of the Minster (edifice and institution) depends.
Completion of Pinnacle S8; 2023. Here we see the ‘Judgement of Solomon’

The method and approach for the development of new carvings is well established in the craft practice of the Minster and is systematized as set out in the Stone Practice policy. The mason-carvers create their models and subjects for presentation to the Surveyor for approval – not of the subject and designs, but as a gate-keeping on quality of the artworks.

**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

**Summary Statement of Significance for York Minster**

The York Minster Conservation Management Plan offers the following summary Statement of Significance for the Minster as a whole:¹

“York Minster is the principal place of Christian worship in York, Yorkshire, and the Northern Province of the Church of England, and a long-established place of Christian administration. The apparent presence of a Bishop of York at the Council of Arles in 314AD and the re-foundation of the Minster in the 7th century are testament to the Minster’s long history and status and a continuous Christian tradition spanning more than 1,300 years. Its profound spiritual and cultural value is therefore unquestionable. The present Minster, constructed after 1225, is also a deeply-rooted source of identity for its city and county, not least because it is a defining and unmistakable feature on the skyline of York and its environs. It is a spiritual and civic focus for individuals and groups alike, providing a treasured environment for reflection and thanksgiving to its regular congregations, the Diocese and Province of York, local people, tourists, diverse organisations and the armed forces. The Minster’s clergy, staff, volunteers, musicians and friends enjoy a strong sense of community, and the warmth of their hospitality is often commended by visitors. There is a very strong musical tradition, which brings great pleasure to visitors and adds significantly to the atmosphere of the building and the experience of worship.

The Minster stands as a witness to the history of York: its monuments, outstanding archaeology and extensive Collections provide unique evidence of the city’s past and development. The Collections include objects and documents which testify to local and national history: some, such as the Horn of Ulf and the York Gospels, are of particular antiquity and significance. The building itself has

¹ Baxter, 185
exceptional evidential and design value. Its sheer scale and the quality of its craftsmanship reflect the prosperity of the medieval city and the ambition of its patrons and archbishops, and position the Minster in the first rank of European great churches. More than that, its particular interest rests in the way it contributed to the distinctive evolution of the Gothic tradition in the north of England, and the way it illustrates how architectural concepts were transmitted across medieval Europe. The Chapter House and especially the Vestibule channel French ideas that were being introduced at court; these ideas were then developed in the nave and choir in an increasingly idiosyncratic fashion.

The Minster’s celebrated medieval stained glass is an integral part of its architectural design and essential to creating the special atmosphere of the building. By virtue of the remarkable extent of survival and its artistic and technical quality, it is unquestionably of international importance. The Minster and its glass and fittings were the creation of many designers and craftsmen of regional and national importance. Today the design and craft tradition is kept alive through the work of the Minster’s stonemasons and conservators, and their skill and knowledge is one of the cathedral’s greatest heritage values. Above all others, it is the architectural and artistic values of the Minster, and the achievements and skill of both past and present designers and craftsmen, which is most admired by visitors.

The Precinct includes buildings of national importance, not least St William’s College. The northern part of the Precinct is a highly–valued and much used city centre green space. By contrast, the urban density south of the Minster forms the distinctive foil to the Minster that is experienced by most visitors. Like the Minster itself, the Precinct’s archaeology and architecture are outstandingly important and unique evidence of the history and development since the Roman period of one of the country’s most important urban centres.”

York Minster is therefore of EXCEPTIONAL significance, of international importance.

Assessment Criteria
Categories of Significance

The significance of the site is considered in terms of its evidential, historic, aesthetic and communal value, as outlined below.

EVIDENTIAL VALUE derives from the potential of the site to provide evidence of past human activity. The archaeological research and its potential capacity to respond to investigative analysis make a primary contribution to evidential value. Evidential value also encompasses the extent of associated documentation.

HISTORICAL VALUE derives from the way in which historical figures, events and aspects of life can be connected through a place to the present. This includes associative, illustrative and representational value, and encompasses among other things: rarity or survival, the ability to characterise a period and association with other monuments.

AESTHETIC VALUE derives from the way in which people draw sensory and intellectual stimulation from a place. This includes not only formal visual and aesthetic qualities arising from design for a particular purpose, the experiential encounter with these, but also more fortuitous relationships of visual elements arising from the development of the place through time, and aesthetic values associated with the actions of nature.

COMMUNAL VALUE is vital to the significance, at the heart of which are the many layered meanings that a place may hold in contemporary society. Commemorative and symbolic values are founded in collective memory and historic identity, and social value can also derive from the contemporary uses of a place.
Degrees of Significance

EXCEPTIONAL is used to define areas or aspects considered to be of international importance.

HIGH is used to define areas or aspects considered to be of national importance or value.

SOME is used to define areas or aspects considered to be of local importance or value or to have an element considered to be of potentially national interest.

NEUTRAL is used to define areas or aspects considered to be of neutral value (neither contributing to nor detracting from the heritage values).

DETRACTING is used to define areas or aspects considered to have a negative value or which are intrusive to the significance as a whole.

Significance of s10 Pinnacle

Located on the south side of the Minster, the s10 buttress is one of a number that form the South Quire Aisle. The pinnacle surmounts this buttress.

The pinnacle is of some evidential value, containing differentiated fabric from eighteenth century repair work (principally magnesian limestone) and later fabric from nineteenth and twentieth century repairs (a mixture of Ketton stone mingled with a few elements of magnesian limestone). These later alterations have diminished or removed the evidential value of the s10 pinnacle. As noted above, earlier stonework may be present. The evidential value of the pinnacle includes its potential to yield future evidence by archaeological examination.

Whilst constructed of a patchwork of fabric dating to later than the original phase of the Quire, the pinnacle has clearly maintained its designed appearance broadly. However in matters of detail, the re-working of the 19thC has quite substantially departed from the intricate details of sculptural and architectural details. Its distinctive form, style, and features communicates the historical value of the South Quire Aisle – including the aspirations of those who constructed it.

It could be argued that the re-building of the pinnacle in Ketton stone of the 19thC might contribute to historical value, illustrating one of the important periods of repair and renewal at the historic Minster that hewed to the gothic design language of the original stonework. On reflection, however, one has to be careful to ascribe ‘heritage value’ to a renewal that a) has not survived the test of time b) has passed on a huge and costly technical problem to the present stewards by the use of and the impairment of embedded iron and c) has departed in so many ways from the materiality and detail of the carving it replaced. In the round, the 19hC work is judged to have harmed the significance of the Minster.

It is the overall aesthetic and architectural value from which the s10 pinnacle derives much of its significance. The gothic tracery and crocketed detailing of this architectural element adorn and compliment its slender, spired form. As an individual element, it is of both design and artistic value, its form likely emerging as a result of a fusion of formal design and the craftsmanship of the individual masons who carved it. Crucially, the pinnacle makes an important contribution to the aesthetic value of the South Quire Aisle as one of a group of similar, repeated elements. Through their vertical emphasis and pronounced features, the South Quire Aisle pinnacles provide rhythm and visual interest to this part of the Minster that makes an important contribution to its aesthetic value as a whole.
While in its own right the communal value of the pinnacle is limited, it is one constituent part of the Minster, an important spiritual and civic focus for the inhabitants of the City of York and visitors from beyond its boundaries. The communal value of the craft of the Masons (past and present) is of the highest significance, culturally, communally and practically for the sustainable heritage of the Minster. As such, the pinnacle and its making makes a contribution to this overall communal value.

**SUMMARY OF PROPOSALS**

The CCM proposal seeks a variation to the consent for the repair work to Pinnacle s10. The whole pinnacle will be re-carved in limestone, as was consented for the two adjacent pinnacles s8 and s9. The application also covers the re-carving the grotesques.

The application also, from necessity, seeks approval for the introduction of two stone sources for the work – both magnesian limestone but from different quarries. The Highmoor (Tadcaster) quarry stone will be combined with Cadeby Quarry stone.

The pinnacle will need to be constructed of two different types of stone due to difficulties with availability of material and related procurement of bed-heights. It is vital to stress that there is no intention to break with the long and very fruitful relationship with the Highmoor quarry: their stone is of high quality; the relationship is positive. The issue is only a matter of geology and production from the currently available beds. The Cadeby stone is similar geologically but differs in appearance.

The images below show the appearance of this stone in various conditions.

*The images above show the two stone types superimposed. The upper final stone is in Highmoor, with a slightly creamy, speckled hue; the larger, lower stone is the whiter Cadeby. The photographs aim to illustrate various viewing conditions. On the left, dry stone in even daylight. Middle: dry stone in shadow and on the right, the stones have been wetted – which draws out the colour differences.*
In accordance with the stonework policy, the pinnacle will be fully recorded by the Cathedral Archaeologist with the Stoneyard team before deconstruction. The pinnacle would then be taken down and rebuilt with renewed magnesian limestone.

The rationale for this approach is described in the statement of need – both the functional need for renewal and the more general conservation management argument for renewal in terms of how this sits in relation to the historic context and aesthetic presentation of the adjacent stone structure.
**Heritage Impact Methodology**

The potential impact of the proposed development on heritage values and significance is set out in this section. It is organised by elements of the proposals, assessing the impact of each in relation to the significance of the listed cathedral, then if relevant the conservation area, and nearby listed buildings, summarising impacts to each. The scale against which impacts are judged is defined below.

Positive heritage impacts are here considered multi-faceted. Not all positive heritage impact is heritage enhancement, some works are important preservation works. This is noted within Paragraph 020 of the Planning Practice Guidance, which defines heritage benefit as:

- **sustaining or enhancing the significance of a heritage asset and the contribution of its setting**
- **reducing or removing risks to a heritage asset**
- **securing the optimum viable use of a heritage asset in support of its long-term conservation**

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<th>Level of Impact</th>
<th>Likely effect</th>
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<tr>
<td>High Positive</td>
<td>The proposed alterations or development will have a major positive impact, improving the character, setting and/or heritage values of the heritage asset(s). The change would have the potential to reveal and/or enhance several heritage values assigned to the building or setting as defined in the Assessment of Significance.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Moderate Positive</td>
<td>The proposed alterations or development will have a considerable beneficial impact, improving the character, setting and/or heritage values of the heritage asset(s). Moderate positive impact on the heritage asset(s) as a whole may be caused by the cumulative minor positive impact on the heritage values of several features. This effect can be direct or indirect.</td>
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<td>Minor Positive</td>
<td>Minimal beneficial improvements to the character, setting and/or heritage values of the heritage asset(s) brought about by the proposals. This can be direct or indirect.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Neutral</td>
<td>There is no change incurred by the development or alteration on the character, setting and/or heritage values of the heritage asset(s).</td>
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<tr>
<td>Minor Detrimental</td>
<td>A minimal impact will be brought about on the setting, character or heritage values of the heritage asset(s). Localised, minor detrimental impact may be accepted should demonstrable mitigation be in place.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Moderate Detrimental</td>
<td>The proposed alterations or development will have a negative impact, adversely affecting the character, setting and/or heritage values of the heritage asset(s). This may be brought about to the heritage asset(s) due to the cumulative minor detrimental impact on the heritage values of several features. This affect can be direct or indirect. Detrimental impact of this nature should be avoided, but it may be possible to accept if demonstrable positive mitigation is in place.</td>
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<tr>
<td>High Detrimental</td>
<td>The proposed changes will have a seriously negative impact on the overall character, setting and/or heritage values of the heritage asset(s). Features that contribute to the overall heritage values, character or significance of the heritage asset would be disturbed. Major detrimental change should not be considered acceptable.</td>
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Repair of Pinnacle S10

The proposed works to the Pinnacle of S10 are represented as positive variations to the consented repair approach. Whilst these works are more extensive and remove the Ketton stone entirely, this proposal is required to ameliorate current defects, remove risks of future deterioration, sustain the significance of this part of the Minster and its contribution to the significance of the Minster as a whole. The works are considered proportionate given the deterioration of what currently exists (with known and unknown embedded ironwork) and the aesthetic and historical significance of the Pinnacle. These proposed works may also present an opportunity to learn further of the historical development of its fabric.

There will be a minor visual difference between the two different types of stone that are deployed. In the overall history of the Minster, there are many instances where the supply of stone has changed, sometimes noticeably within areas and elements. In the main the aesthetic differences are slight and mostly only apparent to a specialist, inspecting at close quarters. After a number of years of weathering, the difference tends to subside.

The use of two different stones will result in a minor change to the way the aesthetic value of the pinnacle is appreciated, though is in line with other alterations made elsewhere. The need for this approach is a result of limitations on the sourcing of the stone itself, as expressed above.

The sensitive re-carving of the grotesques in an appropriate idiom and tradition has the potential to enhance the aesthetic value of the pinnacle. The re-carving will also ‘recomplete’ the pinnacle, which has the potential to better communicate its historical value, based in close observation of relevant historic details.

While resulting in the removal of mostly 19thC fabric, the anomalous and poorly performing Ketton stone will be replaced. Thus overall the proposed works will overall have a minor positive impact on heritage value.

CONCLUSION

Following useful previous engagement with FAC members we trust this proposal, with the drawings within this report prepared by the Stoneyard team, set out the need and case for a variation to the original consent.

Oliver Caroe Surveyor of the Fabric
Location plan (NTS) showing the location of pinnacle s10 in relation to the Red and Green Line as defined under the Measure.
Location plan identifying the location of pinnacle s10 in the plan of the Minster (NTS).

Elevation of South Quire Aisle (NTS) identifying pinnacle s10 in elevation. Refer to detailed survey drawings for scale.
Area 1: Window bay s10, south elevation and elevations of buttress to west of window.
Condition survey of stonework.

Ketton Oolithic limestone with cavitation decay caused by MgSO4 salts and/or linseed oil coating

Structural cracks and joint movement
Cracked or damaged stone
Stone with salt delamination
Stone severely weathered

Window bay s10

Wall west of buttress, above South Transept aisle
Note:

The period of restoration described in the annotation as late C18th may have continued into the early C19th. The gargoyles on the buttresses were taken out of use and water from the gutters was diverted into newly installed lead hoppers and downpipes in the 1770s (one on the Zouche Chapel dates from 1774), so it is possible that the pinnacles were rebuilt around the same time. Also Car's survey of 1772 describes the window tracery badly decayed. As stonework is repaired during the forthcoming campaign, further investigation will help to clarify the dating of work to the window. Much of the stone used may have come from the Huddlestone quarry.
York Minster, Western Quire, South Quire Aisle

Area 1. Window bay s10, south elevation and elevations of buttress to west of window.

Proposed stonework renewals and repairs.

- Stone for renewal
- Stone for possible renewal
- Stone for partial removal or plastic repair
- Mortar repair or Keim repair
- Stone for partial renewal or plastic repair
- Remove cementitious
- Investigate feasibility of removing ferrous dowel fixings from joints between hood moulding stonework
- Mortar repair or Keim repair
- De-scale and shelter coat
- Differing ashlar bonding to existing
- Remove telephone wire insulator bracket
- Point ashlar joints in face and return wall
- Dismantle pinnacle to this level, remove iron work and rebuild entirely
- Repair capital and annulets

Wall west of buttress, above South Transept aisle