



GLOUCESTER CATHEDRAL

21

BUILDING FOUNDATIONS FOR
THE NEXT MILLENNIUM

DEVELOPMENT PLAN

Gloucester Cathedral's origins stretch as far back as the 7th century. From early Saxon beginnings to the majestic building we cherish today, our story has been one of faith and hope, service and celebration. Throughout the centuries, countless souls have been part of this journey, coming here to find a sense of belonging in a world that can often feel overwhelming.

We receive visitors from all walks of life and our responsibility is to inspire and educate, to elevate and nurture. For more than 1500 years, we have proudly served the city, the county and the diocese – and as stewards of this magnificent building, we want to continue that legacy for future generations, making sure that our mission remains relevant, engaging and accessible to all.

With this in mind, our strategic vision for the next ten years involves several major projects that promise to safeguard this extraordinary place of prayer and celebration. In step with those who have gone before us, our role is to positively respond to today's set of challenges and encourage others to participate.

Our hope is that in joining us on this journey, you will find in the Cathedral a true friend, a humble teacher and a source of great joy. As we travel together, the next step will be just as rewarding as the fruits to be savoured at journey's end.

Stephen Lake

DEAN OF GLOUCESTER



During the next decade we have ambitious plans to deliver three large scale projects:

- 01** Project Pilgrim Phase Two: Beacon of Hope
- 02** Refurbishment of Gloucester's famous organ
- 03** Securing the future of our world class Cloister and training future generations of stonemasons

By investing in our infrastructure, coupled with an increasing focus on programming varied and high-quality activities, we will ensure that Gloucester Cathedral continues to play a key role in the lives of people and communities across the city and county for the foreseeable future. We strive to be a truly 21st Century Cathedral, inspiring all who come through living faith, history and tradition.

We will build on the success of Project Pilgrim Phase One and the recent county-wide support for our North Ambulatory Living Stones project and Beacon of Hope fundraising appeal.

To help bring about this transformation and ensure the Cathedral remains open and relevant for generations to come, we are now seeking support from individuals, philanthropists, businesses and trusts.

A PLACE *for* COMMUNITY



01

PROJECT PILGRIM PHASE TWO: BEACON OF HOPE

Phase One of Project Pilgrim saw us transform a car park into a new green public space, as well as a beautiful setting for this extraordinary building. Creating a new welcome space and improving accessibility across the site, as well as introducing an award-winning interpretation scheme, has transformed the Cathedral into a world class heritage destination and increased visitor income. Lastly, conserving and representing the “at risk” 15th century Lady Chapel has breathed new life into a tired part of the building.

In Phase Two our vision is to re-establish the Cathedral as a beacon of hope at the heart of the city and county. We will reveal our abbey history to inspire a sustainable future for all, working with partners to deliver against social responsibility priorities which make a difference to the lives of Gloucester’s diverse communities. We will ensure our catering and visitor facilities are as outstanding as the rest of the Cathedral and able to support our finances into the future.

It’s time to deliver the rest of our Project Pilgrim Vision, refined to respond to the impacts of the pandemic and the devastation threatened by the climate emergency. We’ll use our heritage, plus our partnerships and platform, to showcase the potential within all Cathedrals.



1 Chapter House



2 Garth and Garth Walls



5 Parliament Room



6 Green Spaces

1 CHAPTER HOUSE
 We will create a hub for our growing social responsibility work, whilst ensuring our musical heritage contributes to the city's cultural journey by developing a dynamic music and performance space.

2 GARTH AND GARTH EXTERIOR CLOISTER WALLS
 We will carefully restore and conserve the stonemasonry of the cloister walls and landscape the Garth to create a wellbeing garden.

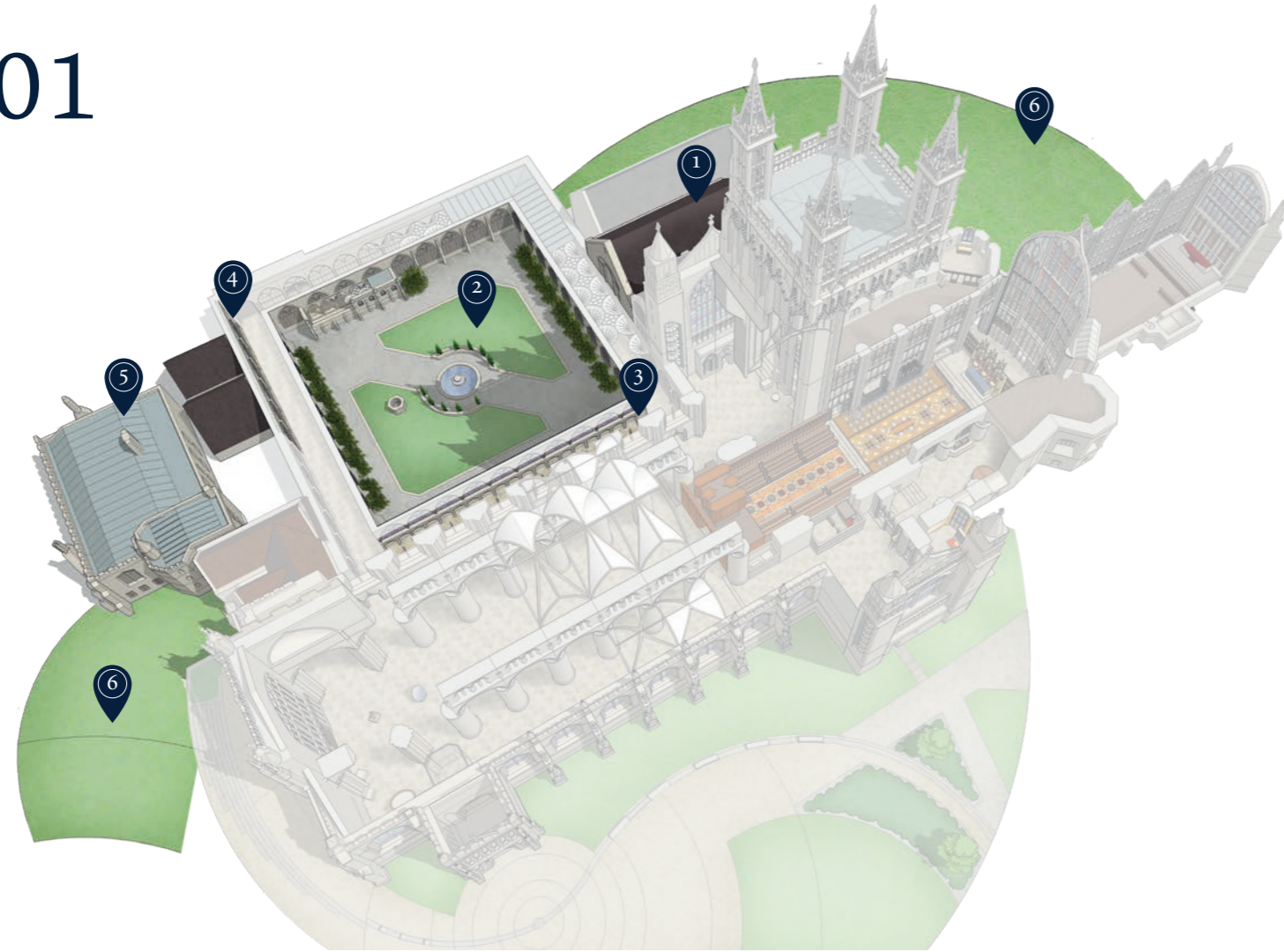
3 NORTH NAVE
 We will conserve and repair the weathered stonework to keep the building watertight and weatherproof for future generations.

4 INNER CLOISTER PILOT
 We will conduct crucial piloting of the necessary restoration of this world-renowned cloister to prepare us for the long-term Cloister Project (See p13).

5 PARLIAMENT ROOMS AND CAFÉ
 We will breathe new life into the grade one listed Parliament Rooms and connected buildings, revealing their history and making them accessible, hospitable, and versatile, while also offering a welcoming secular space for learning activities for all ages and backgrounds.

6 GREEN SPACES
 we will develop every bit of green space into "GLOUCESTER'S GARDEN", restoring people and nature through distinct but connected areas.

01



FUNDING REQUIRED
£8,000,000



A PLACE *for* MUSICAL EXCELLENCE



02

THE ORGAN PROJECT

We are proud to have one of the most significant instruments in any cathedral accompanying daily worship. It is time for a sensitive refurbishment of our much-loved organ to ensure its future at the heart of our musical life.

Last refurbished in 1971, the organ is renowned for being so much more than just a liturgical instrument, attracting the best organists for our recital programme, inspiring visitors and worshippers from around the globe and playing a key role in the success of the oldest music festival in the world – the Three Choirs Festival.

We will ensure the organ's future as a thoroughly versatile and exciting instrument for both worship and recitals.



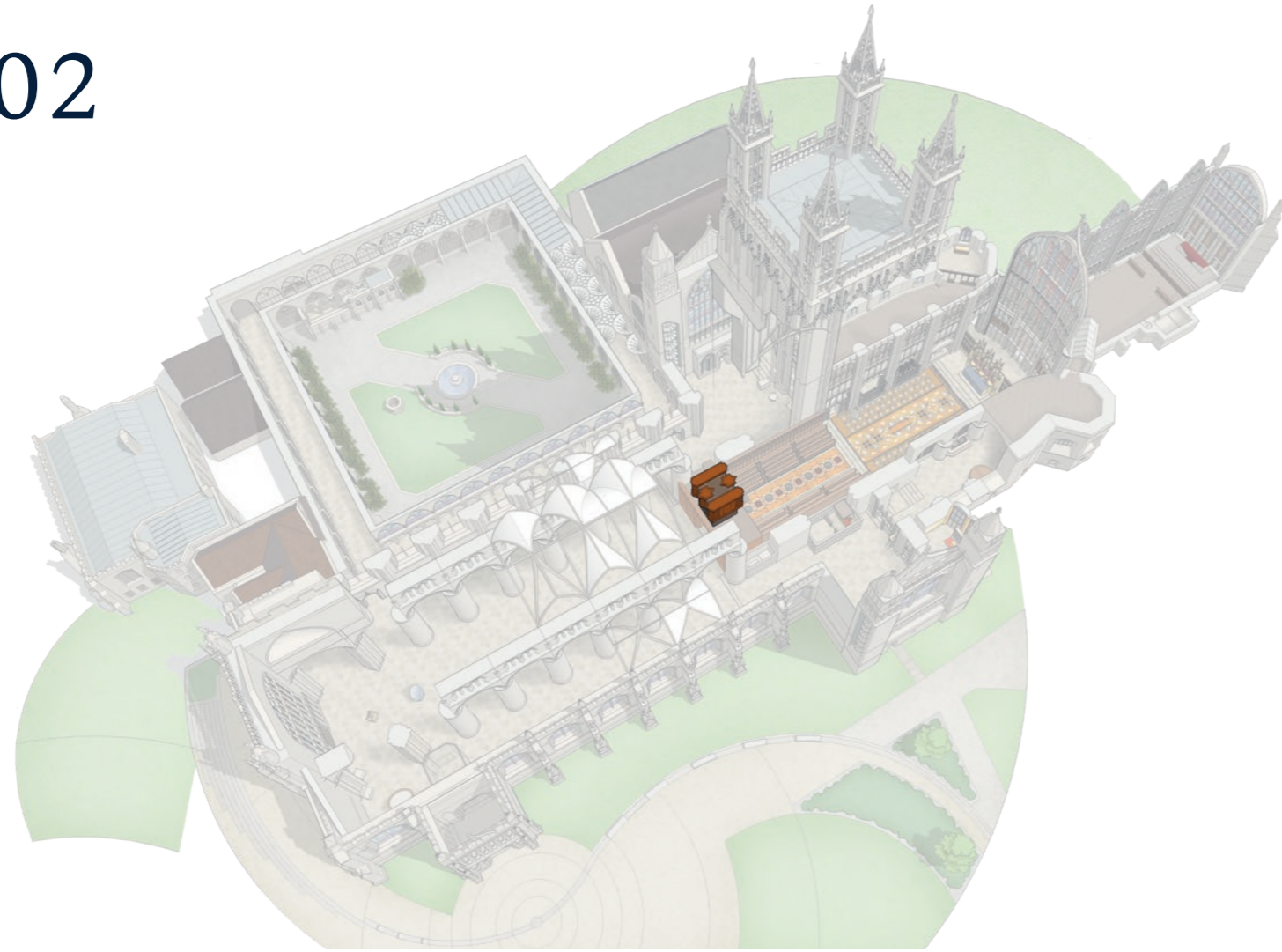
ORGAN REFURBISHMENT

Developing the tonal scheme for the organ to accompany the Cathedral's choirs with colour, sensitivity and to complement the liturgy throughout the year.

Ensuring the organ has sufficient weight and gravitas to support the enthusiastic singing of large congregations.

Enabling the organ to continue playing a key role in other artistic expressions as an appropriate symphonic instrument for the Three Choirs Festival and other recitals.

02



FUNDING REQUIRED
£1,500,000



JANUARY 2024 –
DECEMBER 2024

Build = January 2024 onwards



A stone mason wearing a brown tweed cap, safety glasses, and a dark sweater with a red stripe is working in a workshop. He is using a large wooden mallet and a chisel to shape a large block of light-colored stone. The workshop is filled with various tools and equipment, including a large circular saw blade visible in the background. The text 'A PLACE for TRAINING' is overlaid in the upper right corner of the image.

A PLACE *for* TRAINING

03

THE CLOISTER PROJECT

The GREAT CLOISTER is widely regarded as the first and best example of fan vaulting in the world and is now known as 'Hogwarts' to Harry Potter fans. We will use the long-term conservation of this extraordinary built heritage (including the North Nave and Transept) to develop our stonemasons training and mentoring programme. We will offer opportunities for at least eight talented craftspeople to develop their careers through a once-in-a-millennium opportunity to work on this extraordinary fabric whilst gaining a foundation degree in Heritage Skills. Visitors will experience conservation first-hand, learning about the people and techniques which protect heritage for future generations and we will open the Cathedral Workshop to wider uses, including tours and training.



FOUR CLOISTER WALKS

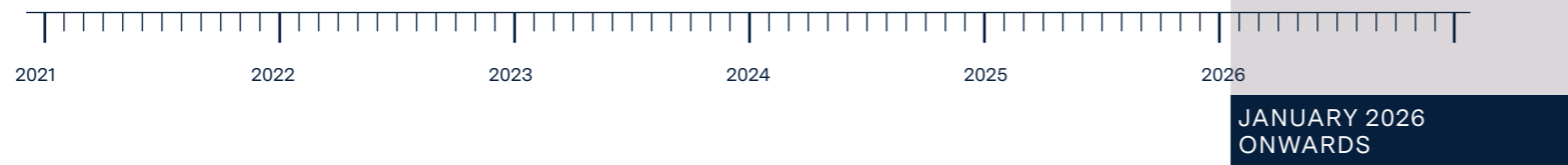
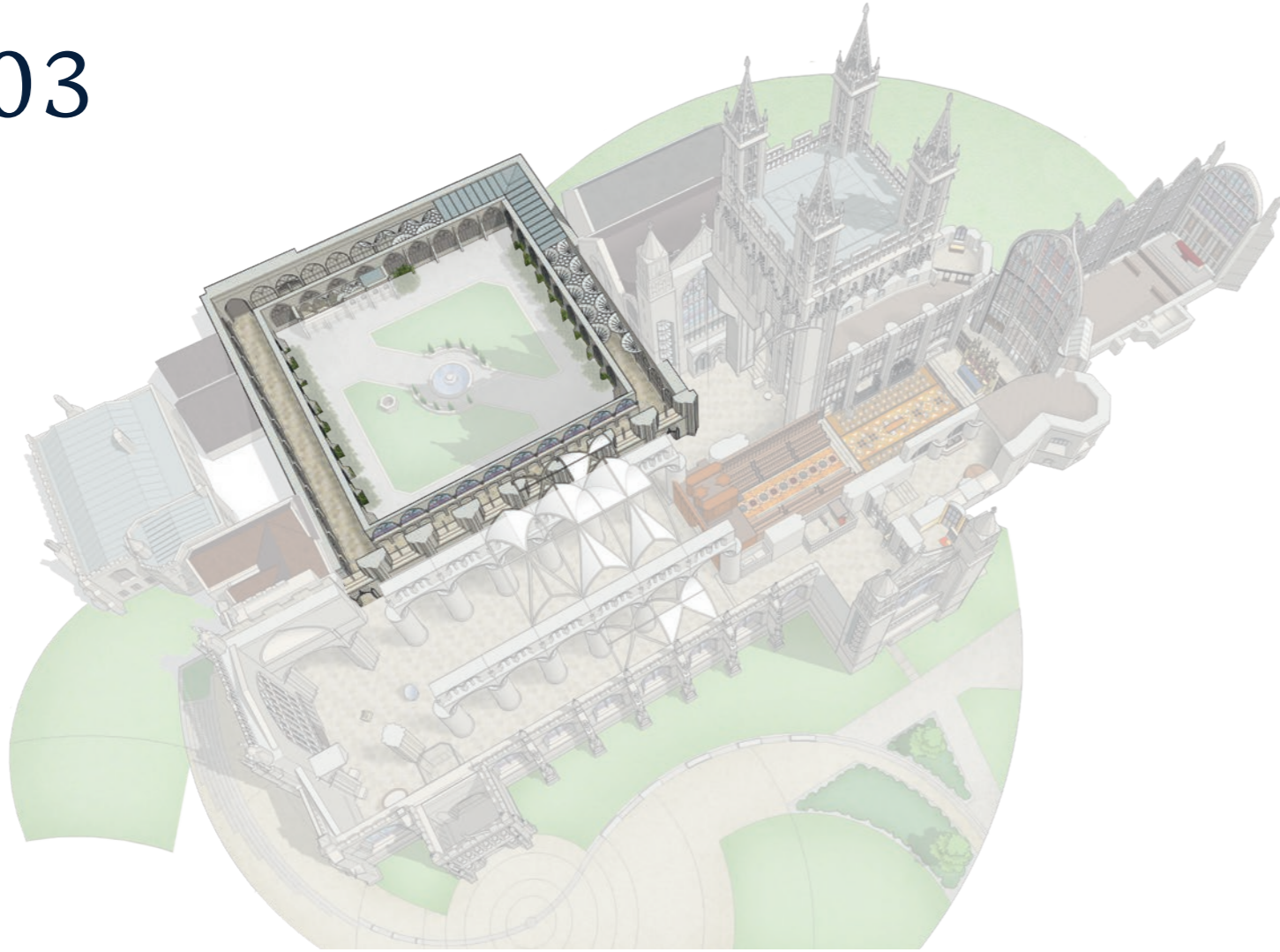
Before its current incarnation, Gloucester Cathedral was a monastic community of men and women, thereafter an abbey where every aspect of daily life from food growing and preparation, learning and democratic decision making to hospitality, almsgiving and medical care took place alongside worship. The GREAT CLOISTER was the centre of this life.

Built in the 14th century, Gloucester's Cloister represents the first example of fan-vaulting in the world. It remains internationally significant today but a 2019 survey confirmed it is at risk.

Through the Cloister Project we are committing to train a new generation of stonemasons and ensuring continuation of the craft. We will deliver a long term stonemason apprentice programme to offer aspiring stonemasons an opportunity to train under the watchful eye of our talented and well recognised master mason – Pascal Mychalysin.

As part of our commitment to train future generations of stonemasons, apprentices will work with our skilled team to carefully clean and conserve the stonework, removing the cement pointing and replacing with lime mortar, and renewing decayed stone elements. This isn't a job to rush and since much of the work will be taking place indoors and at ground floor level we will be able to show visitors both the exceptional architecture and human skill and care up close.

03





WAYS TO SUPPORT

You can help us make history by investing in a shared future for Gloucester Cathedral and the county.

If you are inspired by these plans, we would be delighted to work with you as we make them a reality together.

INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES

Giving is a personal experience, which is why we are flexible and responsive to your values and wishes, as well as practical needs such as tax efficiency. Our Development Plan offers several projects through which local individuals and families can work with us now to leave a long-lasting legacy for generations to come.

Whether you are interested in worship, heritage, fabric, music or community outreach, we can facilitate truly personal gifts and ensure your donation has maximum impact in the areas which inspire you the most.

By investing a minimum of £25,000 you can become an Ambassador of Gloucester Cathedral and play an integral part in our work.

TRUSTS AND FOUNDATIONS

Due to the scale and quality of the work required to sustain this great building, we are looking to work in partnership with local and national Trusts and Foundations whose ambitions and charitable aims align with our own.

Our projects are about much more than bricks and mortar. Our vision is to inspire, bring people together and use our building, assets and partnerships to make a positive contribution to our local community.

BUSINESSES

We can help local businesses fulfil their charitable goals and support their local anchor institution and the communities they care about. We can add value to Corporate Social Responsibility activities, whether you wish to make a strategic, long-term impact or want to get involved within the communities in which you operate.

By investing £25,000 (as a one-off donation or split over five years) local businesses can become a part of our Corporate Ambassadors group which brings a range of benefits including:

- Networking opportunities with like-minded businesses
- Invitations to special Ambassadors events
- Volunteering opportunities for your staff teams
- Positive PR stories



GLOUCESTER CATHEDRAL

If you would like to find out more, or wish to support us, please contact our Development Team.:

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Charity by Act of Parliament