Ambition for North Shields and the Fish Quay

ISSUE 11 September 2022



Hello and welcome to your Ambition for North Shields and the Fish Quay update!

This is a regular e-newsletter keeping you up to date with the latest progress as part of North Tyneside Council's ambitious Masterplan to transform the town centre and riverside through a series of bold regeneration projects.

In this issue:

- Transport Hub update
- Embankment Walkway update
- Clifford's Fort cannons reinstalled
- YMCA resident courtyard makeover
- ShopNT app launches
- Further information

The aim is to improve the area so that it provides the right environment to support residents, businesses, retail, and visitors.

The Masterplan features eight separate ambitious projects, including:

- 1. Highways improvements at key gateways to the town
- 2. Transport Hub and new Town Square
- 3. Public realm improvements at Bedford St and Saville St
- 4. Northumberland Square redevelopment
- 5. Howard Street Cultural Quarter
- 6. Riverside Embankment Walkway
- 7. Allocated housing sites: Tyne Brand mixed use site; <u>Unicorn House</u> residential
- 8. Relocation of the Shields ferry landing

<image>

Works continue to build foundations for the new North Shields Transport Hub, with the first steps of the new steelwork structure beginning last week (pictured above).

Embankment Walkway update



Works began on the new Embankment Walkway earlier this month, creating a safer link between the improved town centre and the vibrant Fish Quay.

Since our last update, vegetation clearance has commenced in preparation of building works starting. The new scheme will involve extensive planting, resulting in an overall net gain for biodiversity.

A pedestrian route between the Stagline Building and Ropery Stairs will remain open throughout the works. Stairs at the Stagline Building will be closed. Additional signage will be in place to advise motorists and pedestrians of the changes.

Clifford's Fort Cannons reinstalled

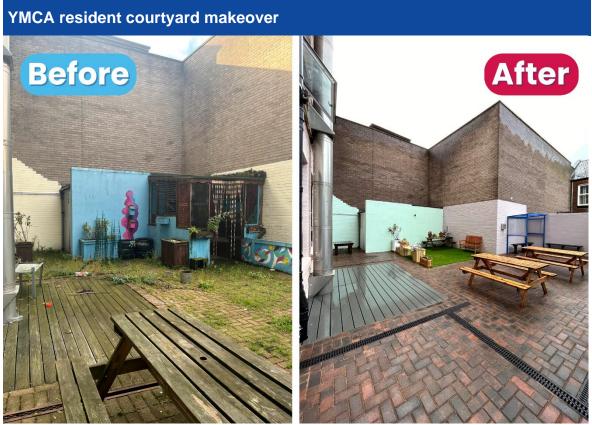
A little piece of history has been reinstated on North Shields Fish Quay. The two cannons, located at Clifford's Fort, have undergone months of painstaking repair works by local building contractors <u>A.</u> <u>McGann</u>

The cannons were removed back in February due to damage to the supports rendering them unsafe. A. McGann were able to build replicas of the supports creating a galvanised steel frame clad with oak sections making them more durable



and long-lasting. The two twelve-pounder cannons were restored following weather damage and erosion over the decades and given a fresh lick of paint.

Watch the installation of the cannons here.



Our appointed construction partner, <u>Willmott Dixon</u>, have been giving back to the community by helping local charity <u>YMCA North Tyneside</u> renovate their residential garden space.

Based on Church Way in North Shields, YMCA is dedicated to helping transform the lives of vulnerable young people throughout North Tyneside. They currently house 36 young people in their supported accommodation and provide ongoing education and training to help them learn new skills and thrive as individuals.

During Covid restrictions, the residential outdoor yard became neglected and overrun with weeds. The team at Willmott Dixon offered a DIY SOS style makeover, which saw the replacement of flooring, painting of the walls, the creation of a planter area and barbeque and pizza oven.

Well done to everyone involved in the revamp, helping create an inviting and fun area where the residents can spend time, get to know each other, and create friendships.



A new way to shop for local products and services has been launched across the borough. The virtual high street shopping app, ShopNT, provides a platform for customers to order from nearly 200 businesses in North Tyneside to click and collect or schedule a zero-emissions delivery on an electric cargo bike.

The app offers exclusive discounts and events to every customer registered and is available to download on iPhones via the App Store and Android devices via the Google Play Store.

Further information

Parking

Parking is available in the free Norfolk Street car park (limited to 2 hours), the Beacon Centre multi-storey car park and on-street parking elsewhere around the town centre.

Buses

Bus diversions are in place and two bus stops, on Northumberland Square and Northumberland Place, are closed.

Buses are instead serving the existing stop on Albion Road and a new permanent stop on Stephenson Street.

Further details about changes to services in North Shields are available on the <u>Go</u> <u>North East website</u> and <u>Arriva</u>.

Customer First Centre

The North Shields Customer First Centre will continue to remain open as normal, although the entrance may be partially restricted at times.

Check out our Digital Story Map

We've created a digital story map showing all the exciting developments either already underway or still in the design stage for North Shields and the Fish Quay.

The map is a really handy interactive tool that plots each project included in the Ambition for North Shields Masterplan with a brief summary of what to expect.

You can view the story map here.

Follow us for more updates!

We are working hard to minimise disruption where possible and we would like to thank you for your continued patience. We will keep you updated throughout the duration of the project.

Keep an eye on our <u>Facebook page</u> for more updates as works progress.

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