

FRIARGATE

COVENTRY

COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER **WINTER 2015**



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BULLDOZERS MOVING IN



For decades the Station Tower office building has loomed over passengers as they disembark at Coventry Railway Station, but not for much longer as demolition is set to start later this month.

Demolition experts Armac are already working in the building to ensure it can safely be dismantled floor by floor and should all go according to plan, the full 15 storey block will be razed to the ground by the end of the year.

Overseen by principal contractors Bowmer & Kirkland, the building is being demolished to make way for modern new commercial premises.

During the demolition works a new traffic management system will be set up incorporating minor changes to bus and taxi stands. Routes for both vehicular traffic and pedestrians will be clearly signposted.



**Stephen Reynolds
of Friargate said:**



Friargate is bringing a vibrant new business district to the city that will generate up to 15,000 jobs. Demolition of Station Tower marks a highly visible milestone and takes us another step further in the dramatic transformation of the skyline.

WORKING WITH YOU

The principal contractor at Friargate, Bowmer & Kirkland is an Associate Member of the Considerate Constructors Scheme (CCS), which encourages performance beyond statutory requirements. The CCS Code consists of five sections: Care about Appearance; Respect the Community; Protect the Environment; Secure everyone's Safety; Value their Workforce

The Friargate team is totally committed to upholding these values and will be working with residents throughout the construction process. CCS mascot Ivor Goodsite will also be meeting Coventry pupils to promote safety on and around construction sites.





WE NEED YOUR IDEAS!

Local pupils will be planting a Friargate time capsule beneath the new Council building, and we want your ideas of what to put in it!

Please send your ideas of small objects (no larger than approx. 15cm) that represent the past, present and future of Coventry. The best ideas will be selected and placed in the capsule for future generations to discover.

Please email your ideas to
catherineryan@core-marketing.co.uk
by Friday 27th November

OPPORTUNITIES FOR LOCAL PEOPLE

Now that construction has started in earnest, there will be great opportunities arising from our work on the site.

- Apprenticeships in partnership with the Coventry and Warwickshire Construction Shared Apprenticeship Scheme
- Work experience placements with Bowmer & Kirkland and its sub-contractors
- Links and visits to local schools, colleges and universities
- Recruitment through local 'Job Shop' of many trades and professions
- Supply chain opportunities for local suppliers and contractors



Keep your eyes and ears open for details of future recruitment and 'Meet the Buyer' events.

IN THE SPOTLIGHT

We grabbed ten minutes with our senior project manager Paul Kelly from construction company Bowmer & Kirkland to get an idea of what life is like for him on site at Friargate.



Paul Kelly from Bowmer & Kirkland

Describe a typical day for us?

My day starts around 7am with the first of many cups of tea. Each day ranges from administration tasks such as answering emails and sorting out design queries, to hands-on work on site, briefing the team and inducting new starters.

I get to meet a lot of people in my job. Right now we are excavating the basement and constructing the public realm so we have anything between 50 to 200 people on site per day. Everyone needs to be inducted to make sure they are competent on site and comply with health and safety legislation, that's the most important part of my job really. And then supervising the work on site to keep it on track. My day finishes around 5.30pm

How long have you been in the industry?

Since 1989. I started with construction courses, a BTEC, then a degree and finally a Masters. My first site job was in 1989 at Reading University. I've worked for B&K for 12 years now. I started as a site manager and am now senior project manager, so I'm responsible for the day to day running of the site.

Has it always been construction?

Well sort of, I started off constructing pizzas though – my first job was the late shift at Pizza Hut 6pm – 1am.

What's the strangest thing that's happened at Friargate so far?

We had a magnetometer on site over the summer to identify if any unexploded Second World War bombs were lying beneath the ground, so that was a first! Thankfully the survey carried out at Friargate detected no unexplained metal objects under the surface – not even an empty bean can, let alone any unexploded bombs!

Any impressive measurements?

On site we're anticipating:

- 30,000 tonnes of rubble will be generated
- 1,000 tonnes of steel to be used just the first phase
- 350 piles will be dug beneath the building

Would you recommend your job to others?

My kids are both girls; nine and ten and I'm so glad that the industry is becoming more open for all. I'd love them to follow me into construction - it's a great industry to work in.

Do you leave construction at work or dabble in DIY at home?

I do lots of DIY. I have recently been slabbing the patio and for all my talk of health and safety I injured my finger!

Construction workers are known for their practical jokes – any at Friargate?

Well we run a tight ship here to keep things safe and on schedule, but we have plenty of nights out to let off steam and are looking to set up the first Friargate football team. I doubt we'll be playing at the Ricoh any time soon though!



WORK OFFICIALLY STARTS TO BUILD **COVENTRY CITY COUNCIL'S NEW OFFICE AT FRIARGATE**



The start of construction of Coventry City Council's new office at the transformational Friargate regeneration scheme was formally marked in September.

Councillor Ann Lucas, leader of Coventry City Council, led a special groundbreaking ceremony attended by council representatives and development partners.

One of the council's employees, 21-year-old Morgan Emslie from the Business Services team, was nominated to help Cllr Lucas break the ground.

Stephen Reynolds, of Friargate, said:

"Friargate has become a labour of love for all involved. Getting to this stage has been a complex process of land assembly, demolition and planning; so it was fitting that the sun was shining as the ceremonial shovel broke ground. We are now looking forward to the delivery of this building and the further buildings and phases of the development to follow."

“

Cllr Lucas said:

Breaking ground on our new offices with Morgan was a brilliant moment. Friargate is such an important scheme for the city, essentially acting as a gateway to welcome those arriving by train. We want to be a top ten city once again and developments like this, and the jobs and investment they create, will help us get there.



COVENTRY UPDATE



The Council is working with its partners on a range of projects to continue the city's transformation and help Coventry gain its rightful place as one of the UK's top 10 cities.

One million pounds of European and Government funding is being invested every week to improve the city's roads, regenerate derelict or run-down areas and make the city centre itself a bright and attractive place to be.

The Friargate development will completely transform the area and create a new business quarter. It will be home to the Council's own office building and will save Council tax payers around half a million pounds a year as people move from 27 offices down to just nine. But the building isn't just important to the Council, it's important to the city. It will be the first building in what will eventually be a scheme that changes the way investors think about the city.

Developments like Friargate, and the jobs and investment they generate, will create opportunities for local people by providing 14 Grade A office buildings across a range of sectors as well as a range of retail and residential uses.

To support the redevelopment of the area a massive public realm project, funded by European money, has already taken place. A 'bridge deck' across the city's ring road has been created as the first stage of what will be a tree-lined boulevard into the city centre, giving visitors to the city an attractive welcome and plugging the railway station right into the city centre.



For the latest updates on Friargate visit the website at www.friargatecoventry.co.uk Here you'll also be able to see the site come to life courtesy of a time lapse camera which has been installed nearby.

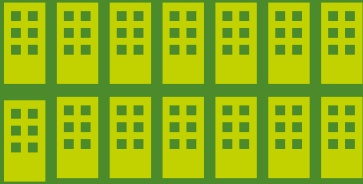


KEY FACTS

Friargate is an office-led, city centre development offering a mix of uses right next to Coventry train station.

It covers an area of 15 hectares (37 acres) – the equivalent to around 25 football pitches – and will provide 3 million square metres (3.2 million square feet) of space in 25 new buildings, which will be designed to meet high standards of sustainability and energy performance.

FRIARGATE COVENTRY WILL INCLUDE:



14

GRADE A OFFICE BUILDINGS

WITH RESTAURANTS AND SHOPS AT GROUND LEVEL



VIBRANT STREETS

WITH RETAIL/RESTAURANT/BARS



NEW

PEDESTRIAN ROUTES
ACROSS THE CITY



RESIDENTIAL HOMES

IN THE QUIETER
AREAS OF THE
SITE AROUND
GROSVENOR
ROAD AND
MANOR ROAD

NEW HIGH QUALITY PUBLIC SPACES
AND THE EXPANSION AND IMPROVEMENT OF GREYFRIARS GREEN

Please contact us on: info@friargatecoventry.co.uk

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Bowmer & Kirkland