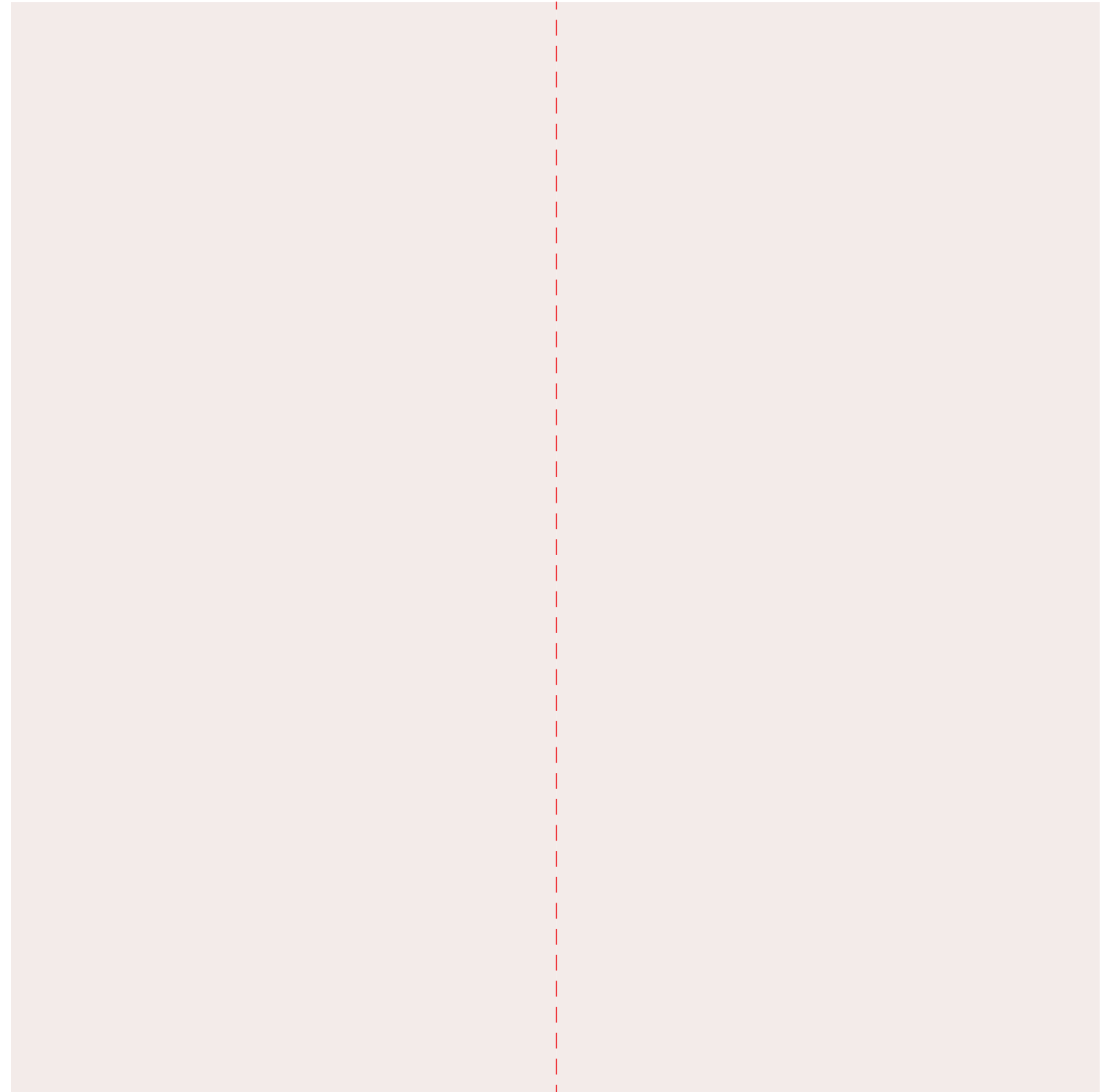


LEAMINGTON SPA TOWN HALL

Site Hoarding Concept Proposals

Issue 03
February 2024





What's happening here?

The Town Hall is undergoing an exciting transformation with the aim of enhancing its presence within Leamington Spa by increasing its public accessibility as a new Creative Hub within the town's wider Creative Quarter.

The proposals are delivered as part of the wider Creative Quarter initiative which aims to see Leamington's Old Town area transformed into a bright, vibrant, and distinct destination for the district.

While the Town Hall's journey to becoming a Creative Hub will involve multiple phases of development, this initial phase is an important first step towards making the building fit for purpose and an attractive proposition for the creative sector. The project is being funded via the Future High Street Fund and works are due to complete in summer 2024.

What will be delivered in Phase 1?

The proposed phase 1 interventions include:

- Adapting the building's main staircase and corridor spaces at ground and first floor level to provide spaces for public exhibition
- Opening up the existing reception area to provide a new anchor space where visitors can congregate upon arrival
- Creating a new space that can become a shop in Phase 2
- Creating a new flexible multi-use space
- Reconstructing a modern rear extension to provide improved toilets and a new passenger lift
- Improving the main entrance's accessibility by providing a new set of ramps
- Carrying out necessary fire upgrades to achieve compliance with current Building Regulations
- Carrying out necessary internal repairs and refurbishment

What does the future hold?

While the current FHSF funding only covers the interventions described opposite, a wider vision has been developed for the Town's Hall future as a place dedicated to the community and to showcasing local creativity. These future interventions will be subject to additional funding and securing the relevant consents from the Local Authority.

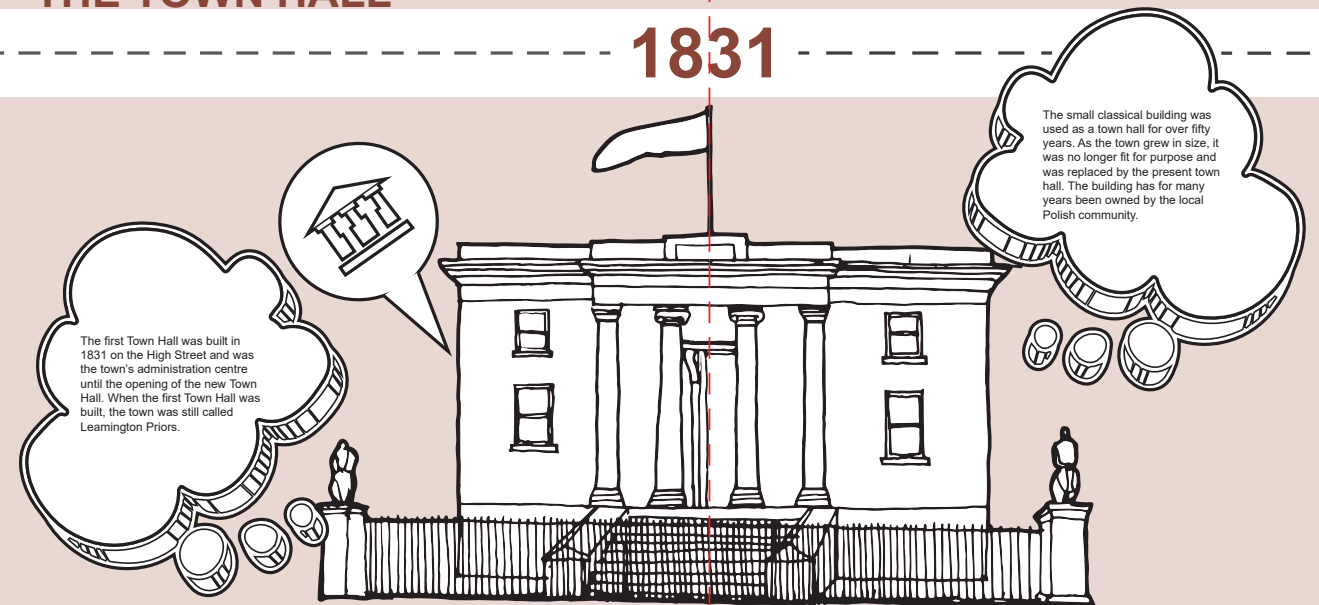
- Makers' spaces providing opportunities for local artists to create and showcase their work
- Additional hireable multi-use spaces for workshops, conferences, meetings, community events, etc.
- Spaces dedicated to the youth which promote the use of the building through multi-generational engagement
- A new café

The completion of this exciting project's initial phase in summer 2024 will be a fantastic way to celebrate the anniversary of 140 years since its inauguration. The project will help safeguard the future of the Town Hall and will enable it to remain at the centre of civic culture and urban life for centuries to come.



A historical timeline of THE TOWN HALL

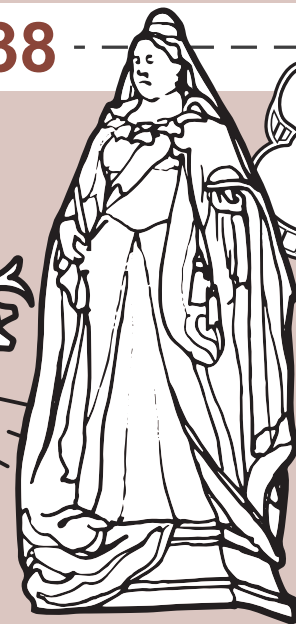
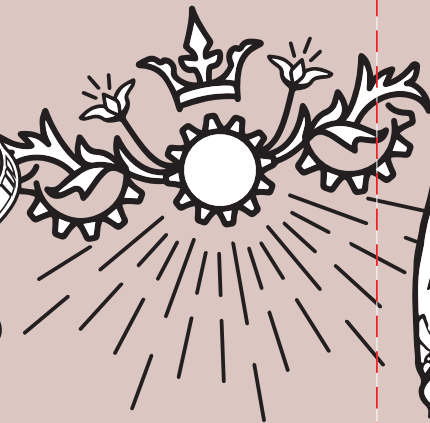
1831



THE FIRST TOWN HALL

1838

Queen Victoria visited Leamington Spa in 1830 and again in 1838, at which time she granted the Borough the right to the 'Royal' prefix.
A statue was erected in her honour on the Parade in 1902, sculpted by Albert Toft.



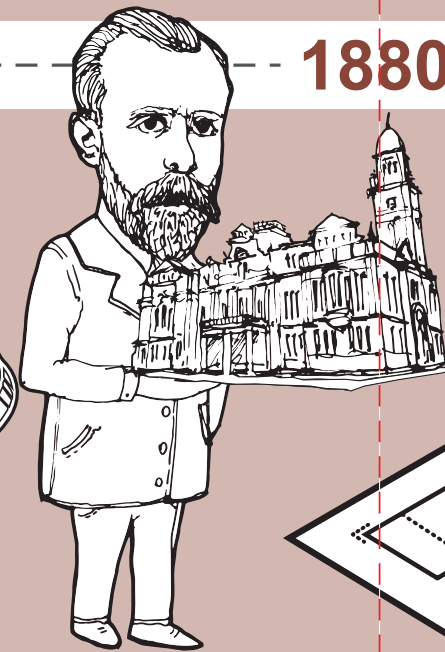
QUEEN VICTORIA

As the fashion for taking the waters ebbed in the mid-19th century, the arrival of the railways took on the driving momentum behind the city's development. In 1875, Leamington was granted Borough status and the first Mayor was selected. The old Town Hall was by this point far too small.

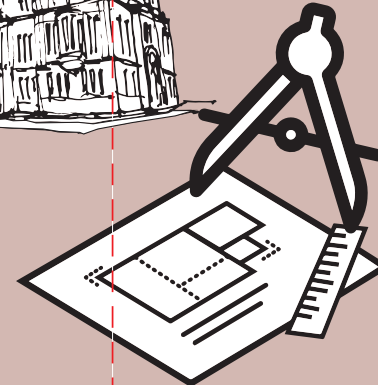


1880

The council passed a motion to commission new Municipal Buildings in December 1880. John Cundall's proposal was chosen out of 47 entries. Born in 1830, Cundall became one of Leamington Spa's leading 19th century architects.



JOHN CUNDALL



His design originally included public library rooms which were cut from the scope due to lack of funding. Cundall's other work includes: the west wing of the Warriford Hospital, the cemetery chapel at Brunswick Street, St Paul's Church, St Alban's Church, and many others.



1881

The Council was initially seeking designs for a new Town Hall as an extension to the existing Pump Rooms, to include Assembly Rooms, a library, a Museum and a School of Art.



DENBY VILLA

The Council eventually changed their approach and instead purchased the site of Denby Villa, demolishing that structure in preparation for a new Town Hall.

1882



FOUNDATION STONE

In August 1882 the Council accepted John Fell's £14,000 construction tender and the foundation stone was laid on 17th October 1882 by Alderman Henry Bright, Mayor of Leamington.



The building of the Town Hall was not simple. An issue with the north-east corner meant further land had to be purchased at a cost of £5,377, as well as prolonged delays due to an accident at Campden stone quarry.

The building was constructed in pinkish-red brick with sandstone ashlar dressings. Alderman's Renaissance' style, incorporating Tudor and French baroque elements. The carvings and sculpture were by Boulton of Cheltenham.



CARVINGS AND SCULPTURE

Intricate mosaic depicting a woman with two angels can be seen on the front facade on the Parade, while a mosaic depicting 'Justice' adorns the Regent Grove entrance portico.



MOSAICS

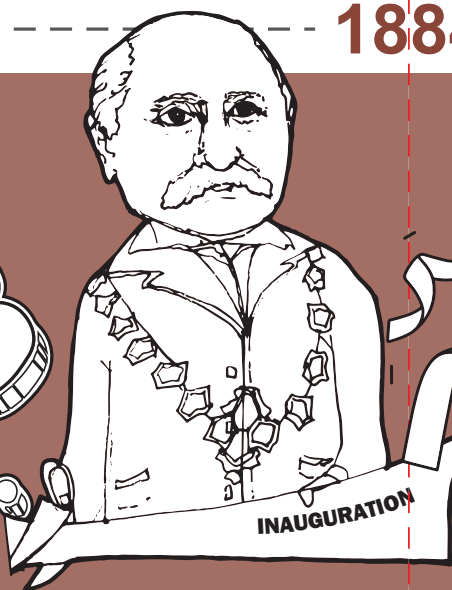


STAINED GLASS

The Assembly Hall has stained glass windows with musical instruments. The Council Chamber has a stained glass window with scenes from Shakespeare, all by Frank Holt of Warwick.

1884

On 18 September 1884, Mayor Sidney Flavel opened the New Town Hall to acclaim and public ceremony.



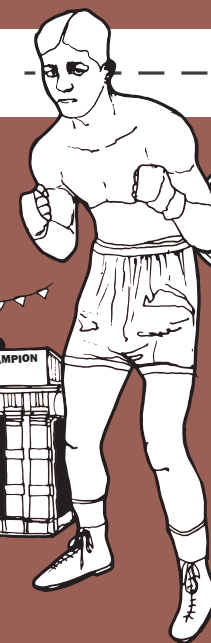
INAUGURATION

INAUGURATION

The Town Hall has been a physical landmark and ceremonial focal point for the local community ever since. The building's significance is drawn from its architectural richness and integrity, as well as its prominent role in the town's civic administration.

1951

Throughout its history, the building has played a significant part as a centre for civic and community life, including in 1951 when boxer Randolph Turpin returned to Leamington Spa.



RANDOLPH TURPIN'S CELEBRATION

In the 1974 Warwick District Council was formed replacing the Royal Leamington Spa Municipal Borough created in 1875. The Town Hall continued to be used as a ceremonial civic centre.

2002

Royal Leamington Spa Town Council was established in 2002. Its main role is to promote and support the interests of the town and its communities.



ROYAL LEAMINGTON SPA TOWN COUNCIL

It assists local community groups through the provision of small grants, supports local cultural and wellbeing activities and works with partners and local groups on many aspects of life in the town.

2024

The first phase of the Town Hall's exciting transformation into a Creative Hub is due to be completed in 2024.

CREATIVE HUB



REDEVELOPMENT PROJECT

This exciting project will mark the anniversary of 140 years since the Town Hall's inauguration and will enable the building to remain at the heart of the community for years to come.

TOWN HALL



Current tenants, Leamington Music will continue to reside in the Town Hall.

Leamington Music was launched in 2006 and aims to maintain Leamington and Warwick District as a musical centre dedicated to promoting excellent music.

New multi-use spaces will be created that can host exhibitions, meetings and workshops.

If additional funding can be secured, additional flexible spaces will be incorporated to support the local creative community.



Current tenants, Motionhouse will continue to rehearse in the Assembly Hall where they create their world class dance-circus productions which tour across the globe.

They aim to increase the amount of work they do with the public.



