

Midsomer Norton Town Hall Transformation Project



October 2022 Newsletter

www.midsomernortontowncouncil.co.uk



Phase one of the project continues and all rooms on the ground and first floor have now been removed on the Island side of the building, leaving one central dividing wall in what will be the new Market Hall.



Was the Market Hall on Pillars?



A passer-by spoke to ANG Artelier Group Senior Site Manager Damon James and said that the Town Hall was originally on stilts or pillars. The internal walls on the ground floor of the Town Hall have been pared back to the brick work and we are wondering if the central section of brick work in the front wall pictured above is one of these pillars. We'd love to know if this is true. Please get in touch if you have any Town Hall history to share with us.



Beauchamp Room

"Dark green paint has been revealed on the walls of the Beauchamp Room behind skirting board. The Town Hall was opened in 1860 in the Victorian era when rich dark colours were popular. Removal of the radiators has uncovered a later dark pink paint. The original supporting pillar has been boxed off to protect it as the floor is dug out.



Parquet Floor

Parquet floor tiles that were hidden below layers of carpet and lino on the ground floor are now piled in the corner of what used to be Room 1 - The Town Clerk's Office. Hot bitumen would have been used to lay the floor and this remains on the back of the solid wood blocks.



Mezzanine Floor Removed



The Sarah Ann Room - First Floor



"Looking down into the space that will be the Market Hall. The dividing wall on the left is still to come down. The back wall shows shadows of the kitchen cupboards in the River Room kitchen. Rooms 1-4 on the ground floor have gone. The girder that used to support the mezzanine floor can be seen across the windows.

From the Archives - 1931

Lower Hall converted to Labour Exchange. This may refer to the Salvation Army hall of 1906 (now the Beauchamp Room). Two of the three south windows blocked in 1904-6 may have been reopened and metal framed glazing installed at this time.

Midsomer Norton Town Council

The Town Hall and Public Toilet are now closed, as work has begun on the Town Hall Transformation Project.

Town Council staff will be available in Unit 14, South Road, on Mondays and Thursdays between 1.30pm and 4pm.

Please contact the office on the usual number (01761 418 701) or email, if you need to book appointments at any other time.

administrator@midsomernortontowncouncil.co.uk

See our website for more information.

<https://www.midsomernortontowncouncil.co.uk/townhall/>

