



Church Wardens' Report - April 2018

introduction

It is exciting to see the church being used so much - not just on Sundays but throughout the week. This does, however, mean that there are always new considerations regarding the fabric of the building. Here are the main developments that have taken place over the previous year, and any that are currently underway or in hand.

What has happened?

There is new signage at the front of church, as well as around the perimeter of the church grounds. This is important as it raises our profile: a local business owner recently said he didn't know the church was open! Cost £1700.

There has also been signage erected to acknowledge and commemorate the war graves that lie in the church graveyard.

An energy efficiency survey has been conducted and, as a result, have replaced interior lights with energy-efficient ones.

The tables and chairs in the church hall have been replaced. Cost £1900.

A church fabrics team has been formed, consisting of Sean Harper, Mike Richardson, Ian Brooks, and being overseen by Mel Bingham. Richard Wilkinson has also agreed to take care of any electrical issues that arise.

A fabrics team has also been formed to address any maintenance issues that arise with the alms-houses. They will meet every 3 months.

The heating has been repaired. Hooray! Cost £300.

The scout hut required a small extended housing unit for their gas supply.

What is to come?

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We are currently in the process of receiving quotes for the following:

- roof insulation in the main body of the church
- plastering on the stairs
- a safety covering for the lower windows in the gallery
- cleaning of the church carpets
- a church letter box
- electric dryers for the toilets
- heating for toilets and church offices

The major event regarding the fabric of the estate this year will be the refurbishment of the church hall. The purpose of this is several-fold:

- to modernise the space that is currently hired out
- to ensure the building is conforming with current safety standards
- to make use of the (currently unused) space above the existing rooms, which will then be used as office space and for the alternative provision, which is starting in September
- to ensure the building is fit for purpose regarding any future developments in the way the hall is used
- in the car park, to construct a playground that is easily accessible and welcoming to the local community

The total cost of this refurbishment is projected to be £160,000, with £50,000 of funding having already been secured. An architect has drawn up plans for the building, and a separate company has created plans for the playground. It has been planned so that the refurbishment can take place in sections if the full amount is not raised, although it is looking likely that funds will be secured. Please be praying for this, as it is an act of faith, and it will be so exciting to see what God has planned for this space.

Other points of interest

£2000 has been allocated for major building work, following the quinquennial report. An additional £1300 has also been earmarked for front-of-house repairs and improvements, but this will take place once the church hall refurbishment has taken place.

We are in the process of updating risk assessments for all parts of the church estate.

Joe Fenn