

Fabric Report 2020

2020 again has not been a typical year for the Fabric Team as occupation of our buildings has been very minimal due to the Covid outbreak and the subsequent lock down periods and the consequential very limited use of any of our premises.

The Committee has not met during this period; however Don and Colin being local have kept a watching brief on the Church Building and attended to any urgent matters.

The problems with the new Bosch boilers was still ongoing, yet another visit by two engineers from Bosch at the end of February made a vast difference and the boilers have been operating without the need for any further attention from Bosch.

Edward Bays the heating engineers attended around the same time and made some adjustments to the actual heating installation and this appears to be much better, although we have not had any “normal” service congregations or large events to fully test its benefits.

Opportunities were taken to carry out routine cleaning of the roof gutters and to locate and carry out short term repairs to any minor roof leaks. In August there was a severe rain storm which caused an inrush of water down the west wall of the South Transept; the cause of the problem has been identified and the discussed with our Architect who is designing remedial works to overcome the problem. Global Warming is only likely to create those storm conditions more frequently in the future.

The Architect has also inspected the condition of the flagpole and the weathervane and will be putting proposals to the PCC in due course for its refurbishment.

The footpath lighting has received routine replacement of light bulbs.

PAT testing has not been carried out on any items in the Church, Church Room and St. Michael’s Hall. (Just as we were about to put this work in hand we have been notified that our PAT Tester for the last 13 years has decided to

retire, due to the effect that the Pandemic has had on his business and his age. We are currently looking for a new Tester.)

In December 2019 a problem arose with the new kitchen floor, this was investigated during the early months of 2020 and a new floor covering installed which it is anticipated will resolve the problem.

Shelving has been installed in the small room at the top of the stairs to assist with the safe storage of documents etc.

Items that have received too little attention are some upgrading works in the Church Room.

I would like to thank Don Leonard for his assistance and Peter Croton who reports to the PCC.

We hope that during 2021 we will be able to reform the Fabric Committee and return to a more normal routine.

It should also be noted that St Michael's PCC is responsible for the maintenance of St James', Sevenhampton, and also the Churchyard maintenance at St John the Baptist, Inglesham.

Colin Gunn.

March 2021.