

Churchwardens' Report (Fabric, Goods and Ornaments)

2020

The pandemic has continued to make things difficult this year and we are once again very grateful to Father Oliver for all he has done and for all the extra work this has meant for him. Our services are now well settled at least until the covid problem is finally overcome and we can return to something like normal.

Turning to FGO AC maintenance carried out the annual clearing of gutters and downpipe and the annual boiler service was undertaken and the heating system has worked well through the winter.

With regard to the chancel repairs we had reached the point last year where the work on the exterior of the building could be carried out but this was delayed (like a lot of other things) due to covid-19. We do need to get this work completed as soon as possible. Exeter College are keen to get this done and both the college buildings department and ourselves are pushing the contractors to proceed with the work, they have confirmed that they are about to start and, hopefully, this may have commenced by now.

Following the estimates supplied by Abbey Roofing Contractors these were approved by the DAC and the temporary repair to the roof was completed in December 2020 and will be adequate for a year or so until we can raise the funds to pay for a complete replacement. Once we can organise more fundraising the roof fund will be a priority.

The north door has been open for services and daily prayer. The lock needs to be repaired or replaced and we will then be able to open the door from the inside, an offer to pay for the work has been made and we will hope to arrange this in the near future.

The dry stone wall has deteriorated due to the weather conditions, as the churchyard is closed the Parish Council are responsible for the repairs an estimate was obtained from Ron Dix who is an expert on this type of work and has very satisfactorily carried out similar work at Shipton-on-Cherwell, this has been accepted and the work will commence in the near future.

As discussed last year there is some concern regarding our continued use of the Parish Room facilities when the Manor is sold. I wrote to the current owners regarding this matter and have subsequently had a conversation with the owners who have promised to go into the matter more fully when any sale is close.

In 2020 it was not feasible to collect for Christian Aid during Christian Aid week as has been the parish tradition. We hope to resume our support in this way next year.