

COGGES PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

Churchwardens' Report 2018-19

Report on the Fabric, Ornaments and Goods of St Mary's Church, Cogges

During the past year we have continued work arising from the 2016 Quinquennial Inspection of the fabric of the Church from architects Acanthus Clews. The roofs of the Church remains the principal concern - a significant roof project will be required within the year to repair failing lead roofing, and replace the stone-slate roof over the Chancel and North Chapel. This work will be eligible for financial support - the Church family has now raised over 50% of the funds needed for this first phase of works which has enabled us to apply for three significant charitable grants.

Other works will be required over the term of the QI, including works to the exterior (conservation of render, repointing) some specialist studies (stained glass) and an overhaul of rainwater drainage. There are also several smaller projects, some of which may be undertaken by working groups from the congregation. Fortunately, the interior is largely in good order.

Work on the 'digital fabric' has also continued with improvements to several policies and continuing improvements to office management and data storage. The last year has seen the migration of the church website to a new, more scalable platform. We continue working with the staff team on the wider use of digital systems within the church leading to and continuing on from the new data protection legislation (GDPR) which came into effect in May 2018.

Our role as wardens at St Mary's is very different from the many wardens serving in the surrounding parishes. Changes in the PCC during the last year have introduced subgroups to the PCC. James leads the staff welfare group and Gerry leads the building maintenance group. Both James and Gerry serve on the Leadership Team. Many of the usual warden responsibilities are covered by our excellent staff team and a wider team of volunteers. We would like to thank that team of volunteers who during the year mowed the grass in the churchyard, pruned and weeded and kept it looking so good. We would also like to thank the team of volunteers that clean the church building, arrange the flowers and place the banners and altar cloths. Thank you to the Sidesmen (and ladies), Welcomers, the Coffee Teams, and many more.

The job of churchwarden would be absolutely impossible without the assistance of many other people within the Church Family – thank you to you all.

Thank you for all you are doing.

James Webster and Gerry Wait