

COGGES PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

Churchwardens' Report 2019–2020: Report on the Fabric, Ornaments and Goods of St Mary's Church, Cogges

As mentioned in previous annual reports, the quinquennial survey in 2016 identified the need for repairs to the church roof and other fabric. It should be possible to undertake this in three stages at a total anticipated cost of £360k. The first stage (costing £148k) was delayed but began in January 2020 and is scheduled to be completed by Easter 2020. This stage has been fully funded with further donations through a gift day in July 2019 and with grants from charitable trusts including Oxford Historic Churches Trust, Allchurches Trust and ChurchCare (Wolfson Foundation).

Phase 2 will be the West End and aisle roofs which is increasingly urgent, and works to the exterior (conservation of render, repointing) and some specialist studies (stained glass). 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.

A Quinquennial Inspection of the Church Centre and Offices has been completed and has identified a series of investigations and repairs to be carried out during the period 2020–2025 to maintain the buildings in functioning condition.

The real fabric of the church is of course the many souls that join together in worshipping our King Jesus. We are immensely thankful for the many, many people that give of their time and money to enable all that we do as a church.

We would like to thank the 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. During this current season, while we are meeting in two venues, we would also like to thank the Service Leaders and their teams.

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