

FABRIC and FURNISHING REPORT for work done in 2021

General

The maintenance of the church, its buildings and grounds is the responsibility of the church's Maintenance Action Group. We are grateful to all the committee members and their Chair Mark Batchelder for all the work they put in to keep our buildings and grounds in good order. Much of the day-to-day maintenance work such as gardening, some cleaning and minor repairs is carried out by members of the church on a voluntary basis. Duncan Hamilton is our part time employed caretaker and makes a significant contribution to the maintenance of the church and hall buildings and services and ensures the health and safety requirements are met.

Aston Commercial Cleaning now undertake the cleaning of the church buildings. With the gradual relieving of the restrictions of the use of the premises associated with the Covid pandemic the church hall, lobby, office and toilets are cleaned on a weekly basis. The church kitchen is deep cleaned on a weekly basis and the actual church building is swept and dusted monthly. The cleaning of the church buildings is currently satisfactory.

The quinquennial inspection was due last year but again the Covid pandemic has made it impossible to safely undertake the work involved. This inspection will be done when it is appropriate to do so.

23 Kestrel Close

The house is now occupied by our new Youth Worker Luke Fennell and remains in good condition with the exception of some small repairs and the failure of the bathroom shower which has been replaced. The small repairs will be addressed when the Covid pandemic limitations allow.

Church Boilers – Heating

The church boiler serving the hall has failed twice and, on both occasions, this was related to the thermo-couples. The Maintenance Action Group arranged the repairs, and these failures highlighted the need to review the church heating systems.

The Maintenance Action Group have been investigating alternative heating systems to comply with the C of E requirements concerning carbon neutral church buildings by 2030 and to replace the elderly boilers which currently heat the church and church hall. The current progress has been indicated to the PCC.

Church Grounds

Regular maintenance of grounds, pathways, hedges, and trees have been undertaken and overseen by Lesley Culley, Simon Lewis and their group and we are grateful for their commitment and service.

Upkeep of the vicarage garden and hedges has continued to be undertaken by a contractor.

Work planned in next 12 months

- Ongoing maintenance
- Further investigations into the options for more efficient church heating
- Quinquennial inspection if possible and a review of the associated advised repairs