

St. Leonard's Fabric Report 2018/19

Thanks to members of the congregation, minor maintenance work has been carried out 'in house.' Problems are identified by the congregation and logged, and actions are reviewed at the DCC. We are also carrying out regular cleaning and maintenance days. Fire and Gas certificates, as well as boiler servicing have been kept up to date.

Doors

Problems with the front doors of the church were fixed by a carpentry firm; this follows similar issues we had with the Clarence Road doors last year.

Boiler

After discovery of a leak under the boiler it transpired that the overflow not functioning due to the soakaway being blocked by concrete. This has been rectified.

Drain Covers

The drain cover in the car park has been replaced as it was not sufficiently strong for the weight which was travelling over it. Each of the three drain covers outside the North side of the church have been reset.

Welcome area

The welcome area has been completed in the Hall. Leaflet racks have been put up and the wall decorated.

Toilets

We have had several problems with the toilets, including leaks, warped flooring and issues with the door handles. These have been fixed by a local plumber and carpenter, but further work will probably be needed.

Shelving

Extra shelving has been created in one of the cupboards at the expense of a group which used the hall regularly.

Moving forward

Following the Quinquennial Inspection, we are beginning to draw up a schedule of works. We are pleased that there was nothing unexpected within the report, although there is plenty to do. One of the main expenses will be the possible replacement of leaking radiators. We have been waiting for sometime for these to be sourced so we can receive an accurate quote, but this seems to be proving difficult.

Some members of the congregation attended a seminar on keeping churches open and following their report back it seems that it would be possible for us to open daily should we be able to make the Clarence Road door accessible and lock the partition. We have money from legacies to use to change the front wooden doors to glass ones.

Other improvements which are becoming urgent due to the kind of usage we are making of the hall include soundproofing, but quotes suggest this could cost £10,000.

Revd Natalie Loveless

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