

## **Fabric at St Mark's. Report to the St Mark APCM, May 2023**

Fabric (i.e. buildings and fixtures) issues are the responsibility of the PCC. St Mark's church is a grade 2\* listed building (the original building only) which brings extra responsibilities for its care and maintenance and means more processes to go through if any changes or repairs are proposed. This mainly means that for most work, permission has to be sought and approved by a 'faculty', or at least by archdeacon's permission. The newer hall section can be freely worked on. (In this report, references to church mean the listed original building, and hall means the 'new' hall, kitchen etc.)

As previously reported, our 5 yearly quinquennial inspection of the church (April 2020), was carried out by the architect. (The report is available for any church member if interested).

There was a reiteration of the coming need for stonework repairs all round, some glazing repairs and the 'eventual' need for major roof repairs. Funding for these issues is a concern. The PCC has agreed to go forward with the east end stone repairs alongside the window protection, subject to finding a reasonable amount of grant funding. This is slowly being worked through by a few 'grant volunteers'.

No significant work has been carried out on the church fabric during the year other than general maintenance.

In the hall, there have been further leaks above the kitchen, repaired on a low cost basis. Coping stones on the hall end wall slipped and have been replaced.

Looking ahead, the PCC agreed to get a budget quote for the church south door modifications with automatic inner doors, and a ramp to current standards. This would be about £12-15k.

We have also received a budget quote for a full replacement of the hall flat roof, estimated at £12-15k. The hall windows and fire exit doors need replacement soon, estimated at c.£50k.

One of the priorities of the Church Development Plan is now: 'To assess the essential work that needs to be done on the church building and hall, in order to prioritise and inform sources of grant funding'. The architect's quinquennial inspection report, and the areas noted above are all part of this. The PCC will need to consider these needs over the coming months and plan a way forward.

Offers of practical help or on grant work are always welcome.

Do ask if you would like more detail.

Notes by David Calvert, 11 May 2023