

# **ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING 4TH MAY 2025**

## **TO BE HELD AT OLD SODBURY CHURCH 9.30 am**

### **FABRIC REPORT.**

- **Churchyard grass cutting.**

Last year was our first full year with Stephen Harfield and we are generally very pleased with his performance. He does a good job and clears up all the cuttings and keeps the grass well trimmed and clean and tidy. He also (when notified) will cut the grass for weddings and funerals and is generally very cooperative for our needs.

- **CHURCH HEATING SYSTEM**

The church heating system was serviced by J. L. Siney in March 2025 and is in good working order. I spoke with the engineer who told me that the boiler is in good condition and will go on serving us for some years yet. The problem is that it is an oil powered boiler and does not help to control our carbon footprint. I would like to install a "Hive" system to control the heating. As we now have "Wi-Fi" in church we can set this system up and it can be run from the APP on any smart phone or I-Pad. I will be getting a cost for installing this system and will submit to the PCC for authorisation to go ahead with this.

- **Spotlights to Church Tower.**

We have had the old floodlight for the tower replaced with an LED flood light and it is much more economical than the old one, however it does not light up the North side of the tower and I have asked the electrical to install an additional floodlight to do this and I am waiting for him to install this.

- **Church Clock**

The church clock continues to be problematic and at the moment the south clock face is not operational as there needs to be a replacement running from the clock face to the clock mechanism. Unfortunately this will cost in the region of 1,700 GBP. This has not been approved by the PCC and is an agenda item for the APCM.

- **Lych Gate Roof Tiles.**

As many of you are aware in August last we had about 25% of the roof tiles stolen from the Lych Gate Roof. We reported the incident to the Police who noted the incident and gave a crime number for the Insurance Company, but apart from that we were totally uninterested. I reported the matter to our Insurance Company (Ecclesiastical Insurance) who were very helpful. The problem is that the Lych Gate is a Grade 2 listed building in its own right so we have to replace the tiles with similar tiles. I approached two companies for getting a quote for replacing the tiles, Heritage Lime and Centreline Stone, both of whom submitted quotes. We went with Centreline

Stone and everything was agreed with the Insurers and we went ahead and now have a fully repaired stone roof. We are going to install a camera system with a “WI-FI” link from the church.

- **Organ.**

The organ had a full service in March 2025 and a number of repairs were carried out by David Wintle and I am happy to report that the organ is now in good working order.

**WORK THAT HAS BEEN COMPLETED IN THE YEAR 2023/2024.**

- Fire extinguishers have been serviced and refilled as necessary and all up to date.
- Boiler has had a full service and a couple of small items have been replaced. The report from the company states that the boiler is in good condition and provided that it goes on being serviced regularly it should give years of service.
- The lightning conductor has been inspected and tested and is fully operational.
- All gutters and downspouts have been inspected and cleaned.

**Richard J Purdom**

**Churchwarden and acting Fabric Officer. April 18th 2025**