

Church annual report 2025 for Parish council meeting 10/4/2025

In the year April 2024 — March 2025 39 public worship services were held.

4 School services

1 Wedding

0 Christening

1 funeral

The cost of keeping the Church open for worship continues to rise, this current year will cost in excess of £16,700 all of which we have to raise with no government or outside help.

The breakdown of costs are as follows.

Parish share (which we have to pay as a parish to the Church of England) towards the cost of Incumbents salaries, pensions and general running costs of the Diocese.

£8700

Insurance

Electricity

Fire equipment

Organ maintenance

Water

Repairs and renewals

Conservator s fees

Total £8000

This money is raised through Giving by worshipers, and active fundraising by the PCC and friends of the Church, through functions such as quiz nights, dinners and our annual fete, and a musical concert held in the Church.

We have made some progress towards the installation of toilet facilities and a servery, which we have been battling for almost 5 years now. We have had severe opposition from the Church building society, The Victorian society, and the Diocesan Advisory Council.

We have obtained a faculty to install a graduated path from the existing path, around the tower to the unused north door, to allow for disabled level access without the need for ramps and with a water supply underneath.

The threshold of that door is approximately 300mm higher than the floor in the Church. Therefore It and stone work to each side has to be lowered/ extended.

Two pews will be removed from west corner of the Chancel and pew platform lowered, to allow for a servery to be installed for refreshments.

We are still awaiting the faculty to allow us to install a concrete pad with wooden fencing around a disabled mobile toilet, with path to the north door.

The door is believed to be the original Medieval door and is in terrible condition. Despite this the DAC are insisting that it is conserved and extended in height, rather than replaced, regardless of costs to us.

We are hoping to be able to get a grant towards this.

The general fabric of the Church is in good condition due to regular maintenance, and each year we have a concerted effort to Spring Clean the whole Church with the generous help of willing volunteers from the village.

There is an outstanding repair needed to the three south facing windows of the nave. The tie bars and frame work have deteriorated to the point where the windows have to be removed and conserved. The estimated cost of this is in the region of £70,000. Failure to do this in the next few years will result in the windows collapsing. We are looking to find grant funding towards this on top of the toilet scheme.

We have managed to raise our parish share fee due to continued fund raising and generous funding given by worshipers and church supporters.

We continue to actively support the local Church of England primary academy school together with members of Denton church, under the supervision of Gill Hipwell in the heading 'Open the Book' on a weekly basis, this entails dressing up and enacting bible stories to the assembly which helps the children to understand the message of Christian teaching and values.

For those that are interested, bell ringing practice is still carried out on Thursday evening at 7.30 pm.

If you wish to attend just turn up and ask for Mark.