**Churchwarden’s report for APCM 2021-22**

Another interesting year, with many examples of the people who make up the church, rising to the cause, in terms of being flexible and adaptive. We have continued with a blend of conventional and technology, which means that things don’t always go according to plan.  For much of the year a small group of people have been cleaning the church very regularly so that it can remain open in daylight hours.   We have now settled into a pattern of services providing Zoom service for the benefice alongside face-to-face and this is very much appreciated.  So thank you all for adapt to make the functioning of the church as inclusive as possible by cleaning, preparing, helping and keeping in contact with each other. Even though much of what we do seems to be almost ‘normal’, it is important to ensure ‘no one is left behind’ and we need to be there for each other.

The heating has been fully functional over the winter after it was found the pump had broken in the Autumn and the aim is to keep a low level of heating going in order to combat the damp, particularly in the upper room and vestry. Once this has been secured we can start thinking about making sure the overall structure of the building is sound. This is likely to mean investigating why the Upper Room remains damp for much of the year.

Since the cleaning out of the guttering round the church, in January the guttering over the Bridge door to the Upper Room collapsed, making the door unusable. Unfortunately it is too big and awkward a job for one person and we are currently collecting quotes from local firms.

The organ remains usable but is not 100%. It has been used sparingly this year, just one funeral, and would benefit from some activity but there is no one to play it at the moment. The clock is also malfunctioning at the moment but we think this is the Jackdaws who like to nest in the tower putting a stick in the wrong place.  Rob Amor is keeping an eye on this as he always does and once they have fledged we will take a look.

This coming year we also aim to implement the remaining tasks on the quinquennial.

Pauline and I are grateful for the support and help of so many in the congregation for making the welcoming and homely church that it is. Thank you.

Chris and Pauline.