

Notices

Good News - Grant Awarded

"I am very happy to be able to tell you all that we have been awarded the Historic England grant that we applied for to fund the roof repairs.

The award is for £34,928 - which means we have in total over £46,000 either in the bank or promised.

I was made aware of the award a couple of weeks ago but one of the stipulations in the award contract (which is 30 pages long!) was that we could under no circumstances make any announcement before Historic England made their announcement. We were told to very strictly keep the news to only a few key people - and so I made the standing committee aware of the grant and we subsequently held a standing committee meeting to formally accept and sign the contract.

The grant awards have now been announced on both the Historic England's website and the Diocese website – so the cat is definitely out of the bag !

I can't tell you how difficult it has been to keep it quiet !!! It was certainly not my idea to keep it so secret, but we must follow the Historic England 'rules' or we jeopardise the award.

We met with our Architect, Charlotte Shobbrook, from Le Page Architects who, to meet Historic England's criteria, must now run the project.

Doing a detailed survey and specification, together with tendering for the contractors is likely to take us to Christmas and so we are looking to be able to start on the repairs early in the new year.

If anyone has any questions, please send me an email and I'll do my best to answer you.

Once again, I'm very sorry for the secrecy but I'm also really happy to be able to send this email !

Best wishes

Pat"

Pat Eyres
PCC Secretary

Pat also says, "The Historic England grant of £34,928 towards the roof repairs at St. Mary's is part of the Listed Places of Worship Renewal Grant scheme. Over 1000 churches put in an expression of interest. Of these, 93 were asked to submit a full application. Of those 93, 72 (including St. Mary's) have been awarded a grant. With the help of our architect, we now need to plan the works and seek tenders. We expect the repairs to be started just after Christmas."

I'm sure you will join us in wishing Pat our sincere thanks for all her hard work in compiling the grant application and all the work involved with liaising with the different contractors, organisations and other people to get us this far.

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