



Lives Transformed by the Light and Love of Jesus

## Report title: Raising The Roof

### Update on activities/ events:

- **Buildings Work Progress**
  - **North Aisle**
    - Concrete roof was removed.
    - Rafter repairs completed.
    - New wooden base installed with additional insulation.
    - Laying of new lead roof started (estimated 3 weeks work).
    - Repair work on stonework still in progress.
  - **Internal**
    - Holes in internal ceiling now boarded.
    - Making good and filling still required.
    - Polythene Sheeting is now removed.
      - Note that use of North Aisle is still advised against without prior agreement as it is still technically part of the contractor's worksite, and we need to ensure they have unencumbered access for their tower.
    - As no additional dust should be generated, cleaning is planned for prior to Wed 27<sup>th</sup> March:
      - Church cleaners (Mon 25<sup>th</sup>/Tues 26<sup>th</sup>)
      - Working group on Wed 27<sup>th</sup> (subject to volunteers)
    - Organ
      - Date when organ is uncovered will be after Easter but needs to be confirmed with Organ company
  - **Other Works**
    - Due to error in the scaffolding (extending full length of church on South side) there was an opportunity to undertake additional remedial work that was deemed to be less critical and not part of the initial scope of the work. The additional cost is around £4,800 plus VAT so it was decided to complete these items.

**Please note we do not yet have a completion date for all the work, but will keep the PCC and congregation advised.**



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- **Finances**

	<b>Provision (£'000)</b>	<b>Building Fund (£'000)</b>
Opening Balance	220	224
Increase to provision <sup>1</sup>	56.5	
Reduction in costs <sup>2</sup>	-29.4	
South Nave <sup>3</sup>	5	
Sub-total	<hr/> 252.1	224
Shortfall		<b>28.1</b>
Amounts raised <sup>4</sup>		23
Current shortfall		<b>5.1</b>

Notes:

- 1) The increase to provision was due to the extra work for rectifying the concrete roof.
- 2) The reduction in total costs is due to the current and future expected expenditure by Lodge and Sons. to carry out the work.
- 3) The additional south nave work was added as to do it now reduces the overall cost of the work due to not having to re-hire scaffolding.
- 4) The £23,000 grants that have been received since start of year.

- **Grants Pending**

We have grants pending with two organisations, The Benefact Trust and Garfield Weston. We have no information as yet on their progress. Additionally, an application to the Lawton Trust for a grant that technically met their criteria has been submitted, but they don't seem to have been issuing many grants lately.

We have also approached Herts and Beds Historic Churches Trust, who previously gifted £8k. But we have not placed a formal application as the grants officer needs to confirm the way to proceed.

The main issue is that because the work is in progress, most granting bodies do not accept new requests. Both Benefact and GW however indicated that this may not be a blocker to proceed.