

St. Peter's Yaxham Parochial Church Council report for meeting 24/04/2024

St. Peter's is one of six churches in the Mattishall and Tudd Valley benefice. Worship services are held on the second and fourth Sundays of the month. Morning prayer for Yaxham takes place on Zoom on Tuesday mornings at 9am.

The half-termly visit of the school for Collective Worship in the church is always special and we continue with leading Collective Worship in school once a week.

Memorable events during 2023 were the service to celebrate the Coronation of King Charles III and Queen Camilla followed by a Picnic in the Pews.

The Village Nativity play which is a collaboration of Chapel and Church with cast members coming mostly from within the village attracted large numbers on both dates.

It is with joy that we welcome back the Bell Ringers who will ring on the first Saturday of the month at 10.30am. If anyone is interested in learning to ring, I can pass on details to our tower captain.

On a sadder note during these past few months we have said goodbye to twelve people from our village all of whom contributed to village life over the years.

We held our own APCM last week and we welcomed two new churchwardens, Sarah Brown, and Clarke Willis. Lesley Hoyle stepped down after 12 years of service.

After 12 years with us Rev Mark McCaghrey is leaving our benefice at the end of May.

We then move into a vacancy, put together a Parish Profile, and start the process to find a new incumbent.

Mark and Fiona's leaving service will be at 10am on May 26 at All Saints, Mattishall.

We still have a hole in the roof, internally. Within the next month we should be receiving proposal drawings and survey from our architect for the repairs and plans for a toilet and servery. Watch this space!

Thank you to our volunteers who help to maintain the churchyard with a special mention for Peter for his work cleaning and maintaining the area around the war memorial ahead of Remembrance Sunday last year.

Sally Thurgill, Assistant Priest

Townlands Charity report for 24/04/2024

Townlands Charity met three times last year and twice so far this year. We are waiting for the Charity Commission to respond to our proposal to the merger of the Fuel Allotment and Townlands charities and hope that the changes will make the new trust deed a workable document that relates to the 21st century to include governance and administration of the charity whilst retaining the historic values of the original trust deeds.

The Grant Application form has been revised and a more user friendly form produced which is hoped will encourage grant applications.

We are exploring ways of how we can best advertise and encourage applications.

Rents were reviewed and went up by 10% on 01/01/2024 being the first increase since 2017. All rents have been paid for 2024.

We are currently looking at Land Registry and proving title.

I am sure I speak for all the trustees in expressing thanks to Maggie and Mark for all the work and research they have done to progress the above items.

Sally Thurgill