

SS MARY & JOSEPH

GARDENS & PATHWAYS etc

NOTES FOR BUDGET PLANNING 2007

The items listed below are a mixture of garden maintenance and repairs to the footpaths and boundaries of the church property. I have given estimates of the costs for the gardening items but the other items need a builder's input.

CHURCH

GARDEN	There is little need to spend money on the garden next year although we will need fertiliser and weed treatments.
PATHWAYS AROUND THE CHURCH	<p>The tarmac covered area near the main door would benefit from some patching around the edges. This could be done with cold lay tarmac at little cost (DIY) but there are significant areas elsewhere which need to be re-laid so it would make sense to do this patching at the same time.</p> <p>The path leading from the gate on Wharf Road all the way round to the gate on Horsecroft Road needs a significant amount of repair. It might be possible again to just patch the edges but I'm not qualified to say.</p> <p>The area outside the sacristy door on Wharf Road and alongside the sacristy is in a very bad way. Each time I try to pull weeds out I lift some more tarmac.</p>
FENCE	The fence all the way from the gate on Wharf Road to the boundary with the newsagent's car park on Horsecroft Road needs painting and some of the support brick pillars need repair.
WALL	The garden wall along St John's road has lost some of its coping stones.
SHED	The shed is an eyesore and needs repairs and re-painting.
RUBBISH CLEARANCE	The area behind the shed has collected a lot of rubbish. Some, I admit, is garden waste waiting to be shredded and removed but there is also a pile of newspapers, lumps of tarmac from who knows where, building blocks, and old timber. I suggest that we hire a skip and organise a working party to fill it; but see also Presbytery Garden, below.

PARISH CENTRE

The volunteers who put their names forward in 2005 either didn't materialise or have since faded away. Therefore, I don't have the time or assistance to maintain the margins of the car park. I suggest that these margins be incorporated into the car park and covered with some suitable hard standing.

PRESBYTERY

FRONT GARDEN	The front lawn contains more weed and moss than grass so I would like to spend money on lawn weedkiller and lawn seed early in 2007
BACK GARDEN	The surviving lawn at the back needs similar treatment to the front and in addition I am working to reduce the overgrown flower beds and borders to a manageable size; making more lawn area in the process. This will require at least one "Jumbo Bag" of topsoil. I am shredding and disposing of as much waste as I can through the green wheelie bins but I expect to have approximately half a skip-full of timber, bricks and stones which will need to go in a skip. This could be disposed of at the same time as the waste behind the shed in the church garden. I expect to get to this point at about the end of March, weather permitting.
PATHWAYS	The path from the front door to the gate on St John's Road needs only minor repair, if any. The path from the double gates at the side of the house leading to the double gates on St Johns Road also needs only minor repair. The tarmac area by the shed and outside WC is in dire condition. It has been dug up in places and not re-instated properly and every where I try to remove weeds I lift lumps of tarmac.
GATES	The single gate on St John's Road no longer exists and the double gates are disintegrating. The latter, I suspect, because of the treatment they get from the wheelie bins. I suggest that these gates be removed and all gate posts be made safe by removing hinges and latches.

SUMMARY OF EXPENDITURE ITEMS

Seed and weedkillers	£100
Topsoil	£100
Skip	£120
Shed repair & re-paint	£ ??? DIY?
Fence painting	£??? DIY?
Wall repairs	£ ???
Tarmac repairs	£ ???
Car Park margins	£ ???
Presbytery gates	£??

Note: Depending upon the nature of the tarmac repairs it might be possible to coordinate the use of skips to remove any recovered tarmac and the other waste at the same time.

Tony Grainger

28th Nov 2006