

St Cuthbert Mayne Roof Project.

An update for the parishioners of St Cuthbert Mayne Parish, including St Peter's Bude and Our Lady of Victories, Callington. This relates solely to the church of St Cuthbert Mayne, Launceston.

1. Background.

The project commenced in November 2020 following the award of a grant from the COVID-19 Recovery Funds.

2. Project.

In late autumn 2020 a specification was made for the repair and put out to tender. **The contractor Ryearch were chosen** and started work in November. First the whole church was **enclosed in scaffolding** with a roof and sides. Then the slates were removed; the **wood supports were in places rotten and worm eaten**. These have been replaced, new felt and insulation added. We will re-use as many of the original slates as possible, but up to 2000 will need to be like-for-like replacements.

Almost **all the leadworks** have been replaced by specialist tradesmen and marked with security SmartWater. Some **final detailing will continue as the stonework is finalised**.

The stonework has **deteriorated badly in places**; new stone has been worked in the quarry, with detail carving to replace the worst sections. Not all the worn stone can be replaced due still to cost constraints. The **slates are being reinstated** utilising as many of the original that could be saved, supplemented by up to 2000 new ones. **New woodwork will be finished, guttering repaired/replaced** and so on.

Inside the church, the ceiling and walls will be **cleaned, repaired and redecorated**, also the ironwork grills, etc will all be cleaned & repainted.

3. Other works.

Other major items will be considered for replacement/update. Firstly, a new **Sound System** with good microphones, speakers, hearing aid loop and inputs for music players is being installed. The contractor here has just completed an excellent installation at St Peter's in Bude.

The **old heating system is very unreliable**, and expensive to run. We have received an initial proposal to replace with a new Gas Boiler, supplemented by an Air Source Heat Pump; this should **reduce running costs** and allow for a low-level heat to be continuously maintained which will help with **keeping the building drier and more stable** in the future. Alternative quotations are now being sought.

The **electrical services and lighting system** also need updating. Once again, we are awaiting a proposal for these which will meet latest standards, reduce running costs and be more suited to the special interior of the church.

4. Costs and Funding.

The roof project has a total cost just more than **£300,000 including VAT**. Of this **£200,000** will be covered by the Grant, about **£50,000 of VAT** should be recovered from a separate Grant Scheme specially designed for repairs to Listed Places of Worship.

The balance of **£50,000+** and the costs of the **Sound, Electrical & Lighting and Heating updates** will be paid from parish resources, utilising the bequest funds.

5. Timescales.

The project **has progressed at speed**. The severe cold weather caused some delays as the new stonework could not be bedded in, nor the repointing completed in the sub-zero temperatures. However, the contractors were able to continue in other areas and still expect to **complete the major works by the end of March**.

We are keeping a **Photo Record of the works**; a few shots are included below. A fuller selection can be seen by [clicking this link](#).

