



21 November 2022

Churchyard WP Report

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 The Churchyard WP met on 14 November 2022 to discuss the impending Churchyard Closure.

2.0 Report Details

- 2.1 Phil Harrison (Vicar, Wroughton & Wichelstowe) and Nick Orman (Treasurer, Wroughton & Wichelstowe Church) advised WPC of the likely timeline relevant to the churchyard closure.

23 November - Notice period of the intended closure of St John the Baptist & St Helen Churchyard, Wroughton, Swindon comes to an end.

7 - 14 December - The Privy Council confirm closure of St John the Baptist & St Helen Churchyard, Wroughton, Swindon.

21 December - Wroughton & Wichelstowe Church will serve a three month notice to WPC for transferring the maintenance responsibilities.

- 2.2 WPC is under no obligation to undertake the maintenance at the closed churchyard but the council must serve at least one months notice to SBC before the three month period has expired. Wroughton & Wichelstowe Church will have no further maintenance responsibility from this date, which is anticipated to be around 23 March 2023.
- 2.3 The Clerk has advised SBC on the impending closure, if WPC does not undertake the maintenance then the ultimate responsibility falls to SBC.
- 2.4 WPC will be analysing the cost for undertaking maintenance responsibilities, which will include internal and sub-contracting options.
- 2.5 A full report will be submitted to January FC.

3.0 Recommendations

- 3.1 To note the report