

Report on Friends of Longworth Church

This has been a difficult year for the Friends in terms of fundraising. The planned Fireworks in November 2020 were cancelled due to Covid restrictions. The normal annual bridge tournament of which we are the grateful beneficiary did not take place this year, and no other significant activities were possible. However, in October 2020, the Friends Committee sent a letter explaining that the loss of the Fireworks event would impact our funds, and inviting people in the Longworth community to set up standing orders or make one off donations. This initiative was fairly successful, not only raising awareness for FLC but also bringing in additional funds.

The five yearly inspection of the church took place in December 2020. This identified various repairs that are required. The Friends are currently in the process of getting tenders for the required works, which are likely to use up most – if not all – of our financial reserves.

The Church Bells project, which falls under the PCC rather than the Friends, is proceeding. A separate Bells committee has been formed, and they are currently in the process of applying to grant making trusts for funding. The Friends have committed to making a contribution to the cost of the tower repairs which will be needed before the restored bells are rehung.

Fabian French

07771945014