

## ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH ROOF - COMPLETION!

The roof project is now completed apart from some small decoration to parts of the ceiling inside the church which has first, to dry out. It had been damaged by water from the leaking roof before the work started. The project was within budget and would have been on time but for a short break during the busy Christmas festivities.

The works included masonry repairs to the stonework parapets, and pinnacles, and a replacement of the valley and parapet gutters. In addition, we had all the hips, and ridge tiles re-bedded. The water discharge systems from the roof have been repaired or renewed. At ground level, contractors have also undertaken repairs to the existing drainage pipes, and laid new pipes, so rain water and soiled water is discharged away from the building, in a more effective and efficient manner.

The total cost of the works was around £250,000. The contractors, West Tiling have done a splendid job. We have been very pleased with the work and the good relationship with them, and with our architects, Oxley Conservation, who prepared the specification, tender and monitored the progress of the works.



We have had a fund raising programme in place for nearly 2 years and so far raised about 85% of the costs. We were helped by the Heritage Lottery Fund who contributed £81,000 and we received several very generous donations from individuals, and other Grant organisations. The VAT will be recovered, and the balance of the funds raised have been through the hard work of the Fund Raising Committee, who have arranged Christmas concerts, tea parties, summer fêtes, lunches, and many other events. These have all helped us to bring the Church and Community together, and we are immensely grateful to everyone who has contributed to the project.

Fund raising will continue to replenish the funds borrowed from the Church reserves and for other projects, which are now needing to be tackled following our latest 5-year survey. The most pressing item is to repair part of the brick wall around the churchyard which is leaning over quite dramatically, and the replacement of the Church central heating system.

*Cliffe Chermiside  
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