

**PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN SAXTON VILLAGE HALL
WEDNESDAY 31 MAY 2017**

527

Present

Mr. G. Fairclough
Mr. C. Cook

Mrs J Richardson
Ms J. Marshall

The Venerable Sarah Bullock Archdeacon of York, the legal representative of the Archbishop
The Reverend Chris Wilton
Apologies from Parish Councillor Mr. G. Westmoreland
Apologies from Parish Councillor Mr. B. Wilson

This was an extraordinary meeting, held to resolve the matter of the retrospective faculty needed with respect to the lighting in the churchyard – in effect a planning consent. The Archdeacon explained that the faculty system, awarded to the church by the government, was stricter than lay planning requirements. The Parish Council Chairman brought to the notice of the meeting that a church warden, Peter Jesty, had requested and then authorised verbally the work in question, directly as a result of a failure of one of the lights, though without having sought the necessary faculty. The Chair further pointed out the considerable financial contributions made by the Parish Council over the years to the cost of church lighting, both floodlighting and Christmas lighting. It was accepted that Mr. Jesty had acted in good faith, to the extent of undertaking electrical work himself even though not an electrician.

A report had been commissioned from an electrician specialising in church lighting, David XXX, the report on which was sent to the Chancellor, who suggested this evening's meeting.

The Archdeacon explained briefly that permissions for work to church properties were now broken down into two separate classifications, List A – which is basically repair and routine maintenance, i.e. things which can happen without specific permission, though you still have to log them, and List B – substantive matters for which a faculty is required, for instance the moving of an existing, or laying of a new, cable.

The Archdeacon now turned to the report on the DAC site visit of the 6th December 2016, to which the Parish Council had not been invited, and listed the following six recommendations.

The floodlight on the north west corner has light spillage into the sky, and a possible remedy suggested is to install a floodlight projector to contain the spillage.

The lamp on the north gate the DAC insisted was new, though for the benefit of the village, was in fact part of the outside lighting scheme for the church originally installed in 1932. Cllr. Ms Marshall had brought photographic evidence of the existence of the lamp. It had since been replaced in the same position, though it is now carried on a new post.

Permission for small tasteful white (Christmas) lights to be hung in trees was sought from and given by the PCC.

The lamp standard beside the path south of the church was a replacement installed to replace a broken one, and its electricity supply is presently with the PC. The only new lamp is that to the west, which was installed at the request of residents. In addition, at the meeting, the PC agreed to fund an additional floodlight to the west, near to the new lamp standard we installed halfway down the western path parallel to Dam Lane.

The existing north west floodlight on the back lane should be replaced by a new one further east closer to the north boundary of the churchyard opposite the second nave window to the west, its purpose to illuminate the steps. At this point the Chairman suggested a future meeting with the vicar at which recommendations, including cost implications, could be discussed to improve the scheme as a whole. The Archdeacon would make arrangements for a meeting with David XXXX, the lighting officer. The Clerk would provide contact details of Paul Ward, our electrician.