

Chris's Reordering Blog – Week 16 & 17, 18 to 29 September



Last time I ended with a note that I hoped to include pictures of the installation of the Porch lantern in this edition. In fact, it has taken rather longer to complete this work than I thought and the two pictures here were taken today, 29th September two weeks down the line. Installing this was shelved while work was concentrated on completing the floor. In the end Wrencon brought in two additional personnel to finish it off.

There is of course some additional work to be carried out at the decorating phase. The inside of the lantern frame will be painted white, whereas outside the fixing struts are aluminium and a dark brown in colour.



The Steering Group had prudently held back on commissioning this and several other elements of the design until it was known if there were going to be significant additional costs constructing the floor. There are two elements of the original design that have not been reinstated, these are the feature glass door between the Porch and the Nave and a new external door into the South Transept. However, we did want to have something that provided a bit of a 'wow' factor on entering the Church and fitting the glass lantern was a relatively inexpensive way of achieving that.

Interestingly, this feature is hardly visible from the Churchyard as you will see from the second picture.

As to the floor, this work is now about 85% complete. It has taken a little longer than planned, it was scheduled for completion in week 17, but it will be finished by the end of next week, about a week overrun.

As I have said before, nothing is easy when working on a building such as St John's. A more careful look at the plans reveals that the Chancel is not quite

square with the Nave and laying the floor so that this is not too obvious requires a little bit of ingenuity! The architect and the floor layer spent time today working this out. Sometimes what is on the plan may not give the complete picture and standing back and viewing with a keen eye for detail is what is needed.

Meanwhile work has been progressing on the joinery work off site and as soon as the grouting is complete, and the floor is cleaned and sealed, work can start on installing the Servedy, the other cupboards and the oak, part



glazed, partition between the Chancel and the Vestry corridor. Soon the Pulpit will be brought back in, and we can see if we might set the steps on the north side so that they don't encroach into the Chancel, as well as reinstating the font.

Wrencon still expect to complete the work on time and all the signs are that this will be the case.

I like this picture! It was taken by Paul Carter and shows the project architect, Richard Codd, with Steve Roadhouse, Wrencon's site supervisor, and that's me as well, discussing how the stone floor tiles should be laid around the Nave entrance. I just love the way the light is coming in through the Millennium window.

Chris Young, 29th September 2017