

## **St Denis' church and churchyard / nature reserve**

Update for 19 January 2021 meeting of  
Hatley Parish Council

### **St Denis' church**

#### **Planning permission granted for renovations to the chancel**

Planning application [20/04598/FUL](#) for the reinstatement of three leaded light windows to the chancel north and south elevations, and localised masonry repairs to window surrounds in St Denis' church was submitted to SCDC by the Friends of Friendless Churches and validated on 9 November. It was approved [with conditions](#) on 8 January 2021.

#### **Preparation for the renovation work**

Sabina van de Bruck and Lucy Kaszewski of Hirst Conservation spent two full days on 12 and 13 November surveying the chancel wall finish to prepare a report with recommendations. On 27 November, Geoff Eveling of Lodge & Sons, the contractors who will be carrying out the renovations, visited St Denis'. (Geoff Eveling was involved in SCDC's 2006 restoration and the first phase of FoFC's renovation.)

#### **ITV Regional News item, shown on 10 December 2020**

Announcement of the £58,200 grant awarded to the Friends of Friendless Churches from the Government's Culture Recovery Fund for Heritage prompted an article by Lottie Limb on the [CambridgeshireLive](#) website on 30 November (which appeared next day in the [Daily Mail](#) and [The Mirror](#)).

This was immediately picked up by the local (Cambridge) ITV News team. On 2 December, Claire, a reporter and photographer, spent two hours at St Denis', looking round the church and interviewing Joyce Denby, Peter Mann and Nicola Jenkins. From this, she produced a two-minute news item which was screened on the 6.00 pm and 10.00 pm [ITV's News Anglia](#) (West) on 10 December and repeated on ITV Anglia East on 4 January.

**Thanks** to Peter Mann for recording the news of the grant and its publicity on the [Hatley website](#) and for his illustrated article in the Gamlingay Gazette (December 2020) and [St Mary's Newsletter](#) (16 October 2020).

### **St Denis' churchyard / local nature reserve**

Samuel Dudley of Eden Tree Specialists, a qualified tree surgeon, visited the churchyard/nature reserve on 7 January as a first move to commissioning a report on managing the dead elm and diseased horse chestnuts.

He spent some time at the churchyard, talking to Rev Hilary Young, with John O'Sullivan and Nicola Jenkins, about these trees and also the elm hedgerow and some other trees in the churchyard.

Harold Nickerson joined the discussion (as he happened to be passing) and made some useful contributions. Rev Hilary Young will follow up the quotation with the Parochial Church Council. Please see Hilary's report to this meeting.