

**Parish Council APM
St Wilfrid's Church report**

Tuesday 10th May 2022

Following the completion of the transformation of St Wilfrid's building to a more community-based facility, the church still retains its use as a place of worship, hosting Sunday services, weddings, funerals and baptisms.

The reduced number of clergy available has meant that the church now has only 3 services per month instead of the previous weekly gatherings. Along with the rest of the Church of England churches in the countryside, we have also had a reduction in the average number of people in the congregation, mainly because of old age and illness.

However, the impetus for the transformation work was that we needed to make more use of the building in order to keep it open and available for everyone. This has been achieved with far more, and different uses made of the church building. In addition to services, we have regular tea and chat meetings, formal meetings for various organisations, parties, films, wine tasting, quizzes etc. Sale and Davys school continues to use the church on a regular basis for services and other activities.

As part of the transformation work, we have appointed a Heritage Activity Delivery Manager; a very energetic lady who has arranged a series of talks, events, workshops and other activities both within the church and around the village.

We hope that the future for our church is now much brighter and more secure than it appeared a few years ago.

We are grateful to all who contribute in any way to the work on, and maintenance of, this beautiful building and its churchyard, and to the people who have continued to support the Friends of St Wilfrid's.

We now have a church building available for anyone who wants to use it for many different activities. Please feel free to have a look around, use it and enjoy!

AMH
10.05.22