

grants. Additional expenditure is likely to be required for St Cuthberts shortly.

7. Maintenance of the church yards is done with support from the Parish Council, volunteers and contractors. Groups of volunteers come together occasionally to do more major work such as hedge-cutting and pew-polishing. We miss greatly the inspirational leadership of the late Richard Cross, and the constant presence of Nairne Cross who moved to Humshaugh last year.

As for the future, logic suggests that maintaining 2 churches is too heavy a burden for a small community like ours but there is a strong sense of obligation to find a way of keeping going. Much hope rests on the wider Church initiative to rejuvenate the work of the church in the Diocese of Newcastle; Corsenside may be able to play a part in that. Alternative uses for St Cuthberts are being explored to enable it to survive while retaining its use for church purposes.

I hope this will serve its purpose as a brief report on the church and would be very happy to attend a PC meeting in the future to answer any questions you may have.

Yours sincerely –

Hugo