**Item 15 - Closed Churchyard Report**

I met Ian Galbraith, from the PCC on 1st May. The salient points were:

1. The PCC will support gravel being laid inside the ‘kissing gate’ at the south-end of the Churchyard and the establishment of say a one-metre-wide path up the slope, to reduce the risk of users slipping in the winter/periods of inclement weather. This is likely a replacement for what was there before. Council will need to fund and oversee the work. The full gates are occasionally used for hearse access, but it isn’t deemed necessary to extend the path to a drive. The PCC will also support formalising legal Rights of Way through the Churchyard. Ian believes that the public already has a legal Right of Access.
2. Ian will clear vegetation close to the Church and likely have the large stone slabs to the right of the porch which cause splash back, removed. He does ask that the Parish Council remove vegetation encroachment to the drive.
3. There is a chest/table tomb between the Church and the road that needs attention. Ian understands that it can be repaired without resorting to the Parish Council for further assistance. However, we are on notice. The end stone is at an angle, but isn’t likely to fall, but could be pulled over with some effort.
4. The PCC would welcome the re-establishment of the Closed Churchyard Maintenance Group. For consideration by Council.

Cllr Nick Mills