**Closed Churchyard Report – March 2024**

The potholes in the drive on the village side of the church were filled in and the surface made good on Wednesday 17th April. On completion of the task, the opportunity was taken to check on the churchyard wall. As a result, there are two areas of work which are both necessary and would likely be sensible to undertake sooner rather than later. These are:

1. Making good a small areas of the wall close to road level, where flints have been dislodged. These apart, the wall still looks to be in reasonable order. On discussion with Ian Galbraith, L A Burrell Ltd, which previously undertook repairs to the wall has been approached for a quotation for the work. As soon as the quotation is received councillors will be asked to authorise the work. This should be at July’s meeting. Scheduling the work, will be subject to permissions being granted – which will include temporary traffic control in Church Road
2. Replacing the gate posts at the south-west entrance to the churchyard, which are loose and decayed, along with some restoration of the gates themselves. Shrubland Sawmill will provide replacement oak posts at a cost £285.19 inclusive of VAT and council is asked to ratify their purchase, which sum should be met from the green spaces reserve.

The churchyard bench has been rubbed down and has had one coat of preservative. At least one more to come as soon as weather conditions improve.

Cllr Nick Mills