

St Mabli's Church, Llanvapley

Report on work completed as part of faculty applications 2021-006531 / 2021-006389

Repair of paths and installation of lighting at the entrances to the churchyard / Installation of two wooden benches in the churchyard and associated hard standing

A faculty to install two benches was given in May 2021. The benches were ordered in June, arrived at the end of August and were installed in October. The benches have been inscribed with the name of the church – one in Welsh and one in English. The benches have already started to be used and enable visitors to spend more time in the quiet of the churchyard.



A second faculty to make improvements to church access was granted in July 2021. This application was much more involved than the first one and required a full specification and assistance from an architect. The PCC then set about asking building companies to provide quotations for the work. Despite the difficulties in finding a company who would be interested in the job, we accepted a quotation from a local company in December 2021. The work was completed in January 2022. The work has improved the accessibility of the churchyard and has improved the look and feel of the north side of the church making it much more welcoming.



In our second faculty application we were also granted permission to install solar lighting in the churchyard. Installing solar lights is not just greener but cheaper than fixed cable lights which we had considered. Solar lighting was installed at the three entrances to the churchyard in May 2022. In many ways this was an experiment to see if modern solar lighting technology would work in a churchyard. We are delighted with the lighting and it has improved the accessibility of the churchyard. The units seem to charge well without being, in two cases, in direct sunlight. The output from units is excellent and we would recommend them as a solution for other churchyards. The only slight drawback seems to be the inability to make the lights come on for longer than the set time. The set time is fine but it could do with being a bit longer.



*Les Taylor
Churchwarden
July 2022*



