

# **GLOUCESTER ST. NICHOLAS'**

## **MARCH 2021 CHURCH PLAN**

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### **Part A - Current Report**

### **Part B - Survey**

Results of our open survey conducted in Summer and Autumn 2020, canvassing all community contacts for their reaction to Part A. The survey remains [open and available at this location](#). Please feel free to repeat your survey response or complete the survey for the first time.

### **Part C - Community Recommendations**

Minutes of any community meetings held to discuss the information available in other parts of the Church Plan.

### **Part D - Action Plan**

Details of any actions agreed through Community Recommendations, assigned to community participants, Churches Conservation Trust staff, or to the Churches Conservation Trust Local Community Officer specifically.

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## **Part A - Current Report**

### **Church Introduction & Statement of Significance**

St Nicholas Church is a historic church in Westgate Street, Gloucester. It is recorded in the National Heritage List for England as a designated Grade I listed building and its truncated spire is a landmark in the city centre.

The church was built in or around 1190. By 1203 it was known as "St. Nicholas of the Bridge at Gloucester". It was largely rebuilt in the 13th century, retaining some of its earlier features. Further alterations were made in the 15th century, and the west tower and spire were added. The spire was originally 200 feet high. During the 16th century, the parish was the wealthiest in the city. The northeast vestry was extended in the 16th and 17th centuries. In 1643 during the Siege of Gloucester in the Civil War, the spire suffered a direct hit by cannon fire. It was reduced in height and capped in 1783. In 1865 the church was restored by John Jaques and Son, and repaired following a fire in 1901. The tower was stabilized in 1927, and between 1935 and 1938 the north aisle was rebuilt and the church was re-roofed. The church was declared redundant on 7 May 1971, and was vested in the Churches Conservation Trust on 25 June 1975.

### **Current use (bookings) & voluntary activity**

St. Nicholas' Gloucester does not feature religious services at present. During one recent season the church was leased to the Clearspring Evangelical Church, which used the building for religious services twice a week, however the building was too cold for this use in the late Autumn, Winter and Spring despite the addition of plug-in electric radiant heaters. The proximity of the cathedral may be a factor in the very limited religious use of this church, as well as the ample provision for Anglican services at city centre churches locally.

The church has not been exploited in recent years for its potential as a heritage learning venue, other than through the informal learning routes provided by the excellent stewardship of Civic Trust guides.

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The Civic Trust guides open the church occasionally each week in the warmer months, providing guided tours free of charge for passing visitors and groups, but the unavailability of large numbers of guides results in many people visiting the city and finding the church closed. Keys are available from the Greek taverna on the opposite side of Westgate Street, (and have previously been held by the city's folk museum adjacent, which is currently closed). In addition, this devoted group of guides opens the church for the annual Spring Residents' Weekend and the September Heritage Open Days.

St. Nicholas' has been booked previously by Artspring, which aimed to use the site for retail, catering and craft-based learning, but the associated bid for funding to address the hoped-for installation of visitor facilities halted as a result of conservation considerations. More recently another art exhibition has been successfully mounted within the structure as a result of collaboration by Russell Haines with the city's Marketing Gloucester group. Digital artist and composer George Moorey has used the electrified space as a recording studio, presenting new interpretative compositions captured across the city and capitalizing on a favourable acoustic, as have the Three Choirs festival organisers on one previous occasion.

While St. Nicholas' enjoys a very considerable footprint in the city centre, much of the space is occupied with large numbers of fixed pews. However useful space beneath the west tower, in the vestry and in the chancel is available, with access to power sockets throughout. In addition the proximity of ample parking, accessible lavatories, tea-rooms and other catering facilities offer considerable potential for various uses at the site, especially whenever any heating system might enable continuous occupancy.

Voluntary activity undertaken by seven local residents includes

- Occasional unlocking and locking
- Cleaning days twice annually
- Remittance of wall safe funds
- Provision of guided tours
- Ad hoc reporting of building change or building emergencies.

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## Collection Review

Open Churches Policy status:	Open - key available nearby
Local Community Officer:	Patrick Joel
Current project:	Top 15 Roof Repair Project
Cleaning schedule:	Twice annually, led by volunteers in accordance with CCT guidelines
Welcome table:	Maintains stock of current leaflets (note unavailability of future leaflets for re-stock)
Keyholder role:	Fulfilled
Key representative role:	Vacant
Area volunteer role:	Surplus to requirements
Fundraising roles:	Vacant and necessary
Stewardship roles:	Surplus to requirements
Research, interp & talks role:	Vacant and necessary
Accessibility details:	Provided via website
CCT silver plaque:	Installed
CCT information board:	Not installed, overdue (for affix to noticeboard)
Oak post:	Not installed, not needed
CCT freestanding board:	Not installed
Wall safe poster:	Installed, current
CCT A board:	Not installed
Gift Aid envelopes:	Provided
Visitor book:	Installed
Building services:	Electric lighting, electric sockets
Parking:	Extensive, Westgate car park 50 yards West
Organ:	None
Churchyard:	Owned by The Churches Conservation Trust, small area of lawn, often filled with rubbish
Ringable bells:	Yes
Pews:	Sound, no defects
Fire rated capacity:	240
Seating capacity:	400

Site plan:	Unavailable
Roof alarm:	Uninstalled
CCTV:	Uninstalled
Individual item security measures:	Uninstalled
Nearby attractions:	Gloucester Cathedral, Gloucester Life Museum, Tailor of Gloucester House, Blackfriars Monastery, Gloucester Docks, St. Oswald's Priory, St. Swithun's Brookthorpe
Social media presence:	Nil
Images on CCT website:	One of four
Regular feature parish news:	No
Services per year:	Nil
CofE support for services:	Unknown
Christmas memory tree:	No
Tea Party:	No
Heritage Open Days:	Guided tours
Ride & Stride:	No
Champing:	No. For further information, please see Champing introduction and typical church income at appendix 4.
Retail:	No
Risk assessment general:	Current
Risk assessment fire:	Current
COSHH listing:	Current
Portable appliance listing:	Current
Security Audit:	Current
Children's explorer cart:	No, surplus to requirements
Children's trail:	No

## Conservation reports

Annualised maintenance costs (Exclusive of VAT):	
Annualised maintenance costs express the total costs of church maintenance	£5,238.44

divided by 25 years. Every cost which relates to maintenance is included except the twice-yearly maintenance visit. Any anticipated repairs are also excluded. A list of typical maintenance tasks for any historic church, forecast over the period, is available to view at appendix 2.	
Routine maintenance costs: (Per annum and exclusive of VAT):	
Total cost of two maintenance visits per year exclusive of any additional maintenance items included above. A list of the maintenance tasks included in the twice-annual maintenance visits is available to view at appendix 3.	£1,248.00
Repair Liability Total (Less desirable non-essential repairs):	£680,810
Total short term repairs:	
Small scale items of limited cost which could be fulfilled with minimal fundraising.	£6,200.00
Rainwater goods repair: remove asbestos guttering, take down gutters to porch, galvanise, reset and redecorate:	£5,000
Arrange a video survey of the drains:	£1,200
Total medium term repairs:	
More expensive needs such as roof repairs and tower repairs which may require more involved fundraising and grant applications.	£70,300
Various masonry repairs to the external walls:	£44,300.00
High level inspection of tower masonry and minor repairs:	£6,000
Sheltercoat tower:	£20,000
Total long term repairs:	
Items which are known to require works in the longer term but which are not essential in the near future.	£604,310
Recover all roofs:	£550,000
Repairs to all external openings:	£23,310

Remove sulphate layer from interior of spire stonework, mortar repair stonework and patch repoint spire internally and repairs/adjustments to the internal tie rods etc.:	£31,000
Additional desirable repairs available to view - 2017 report  Repairs which are not essential to the conservation health of the church but which might improve aesthetics or usability of the building.	
All cost figures are estimates, exclusive of VAT and professional fees  VAT is charged at 20% of the total costs and can sometimes be recovered. Professional fees vary, but are either charged at an hourly rate or as a percentage of the total project cost. These are usually charged only on larger or more complex projects.	

## Income, Expenditure & Balances

### Income

	Wall Safe	Total Income
2019/20	£183	£202
2018/19	£177	£306
2017/18	£303	£8165
2016/17	£878	£8358
2015/16	£1127	£1427
2014/15	£752	£752

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## Visitors

		Wall safe income per visitor
2019-20	1927	£0.09
2018-19	3266	£0.05
2017-18	3999	£0.08
2016-17	5642	£0.16
2015-16	5145	£0.22
2014-15	7660	£0.10

## Expenditure

Total spend since vesting 25th June 1975 (non maintenance): £1,108,879

	Conservation (repair) expenditure	Maintenance expenditure	Utilities
2019-20	£2,400	£2,581	£18
2018-19	£0	£3,126	£295
2017-18	£0	£1,061	£262
2016-17	£1,225	£1,428	£193
2015-16	£0	£0	£121
2014-15	£1,543	£1,543	£100

## Balances

The restricted balance is the amount of money which has been covenanted or restricted for expenditure at the church. Any expenditure needs to match the terms of the covenant under which the money was donated, for example, a term expressing that a donation is intended for roof repairs only.

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Restricted Balance Report Jul 19	£0
Income less expenditure 2019/20	-£2,820
Income less annualised maintenance 2019/20	-£4,932.44

## **Local Community Officer's Summary**

Underuse of such an astonishing building in Gloucester suggests considerable potential benefit for its maintenance and upkeep, as well as for the citizens and visitors of the city. Extremely high forecast repair costs should encourage the broadest possible review of options for future use which, given the space available, should be highly varied.

As a covered market, a gallery space, a cinema, a youth centre or through careful design, a combination of all such or any similar uses, St. Nicholas' offers an opportunity to achieve more than its current status as a skyline feature by offering a commercial opportunity for local residents and entrepreneurs. Alternatively its adjacency to the cathedral could lead to consideration of its use as extra space for worship or for other cathedral activity. Any of these approaches could fit the continuing support of The Civic Trust through its programme of occasional stewardship and tours, as well as exploring the potential of better links with the city's tour programme, visitors through which disembark just a few meters away at the Westgate car and coach park.

A first step in the community-led church plan will necessarily entail broad public consultation to resolve options, preferences and considerations, covering potential for

- Future building use options
- Potential for future fundraising events
- Means for communicating developments in the city
- Historical groups' interests and interpretation of the site
- Suitability for Champing™
- Interim, short term arrangements for opening and using the church

Future plans will need to account not only for the high forecast repair costs, but also for the prospective expense of heating the church to be suitable for year-round use and for practicalities of operating the site daily in its urban setting. However the flexibility of the

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building itself and of its location near to major transport links should encourage consideration of a plan for the church in an ambitious way, with expressions of interest strongly encouraged from all prospective participants.

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## Part B - September 2020 Survey

### Summary of consultation responses received by end August 2020

*Following distribution of fifteen questions through our standard church plan questionnaire in summer 2020 to existing Churches Conservation Trust correspondents, (together with an invitation for correspondents to share the survey and associated Church Plan Part A), **one** response was received for **Gloucester St. Nicholas'** by the deadline of **August 31st**.*

The response received was from a respondent writing in a **personal capacity**, who confirmed that their responses related to **St. Nicholas' Gloucester**.

In addressing the question of *a perfect outcome for our work together at the church* the respondent indicated that they **would love it if it could become some sort of community centre - I think Gloucester needs more places like that. No judgement, just help.**

In writing about challenges anticipated in respect of repair liabilities and running costs, the respondent indicates that **they perceive keeping the church warm is the biggest concern.**

Thinking about local life away from the church, in relation to other community projects or activities which might combine with our work to protect the church for the future, the respondent indicated **no opportunities identified.**

Considering if increased use of the church might benefit the community, or if increased use might benefit the church itself, the respondent indicated **yes, 'I think it's a gorgeous space that needs to be used, to help people the best it can. It would help the church stay alive'.**

In relation to identifying conservation priorities for the church, the respondent **identified keeping warm. The church needs to be able to be kept warmer during the colder months.**

Regarding priorities, opportunities or ideas for fundraising the respondent noted **some ideas identified together with the Local Community Officer, a pop up cinema, or stalls selling products created by local artists.** In respect of means for initiating fundraising activity, the respondent **suggested consideration of pew removal as a means for providing space for**

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**additional activities.** The respondent also indicated that they **are** available to participate in fundraising activity.

In seeking respondents' participation in a future group discussion regarding church planning the respondent indicated that **they would be happy to meet in person.**

In answering our final, open question about any additional church matters not covered in other areas of the survey, the respondent indicated **no further response.**

In addition to responses fielded through the questionnaire, a further **x** respondents wrote back to their Local Community Officer, expressing the following perspectives: **Nil**

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## **Part C - Community Recommendations**

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## **Part D - Action Plan**

### **Community Actions**

#### **Short term actions (to end June 2021)**

- Agree dates for face-to-face or digital meeting to review interim church plan (September 2020 edition)

#### **Medium term actions (to end June 2022)**

- Consider means for broad-based appraisal for options in terms of future use
- Consider including uses such as covered market, gallery space, pop up cinema, youth centre, community centre or combined use.
- Further, ensure appraisal includes consideration of options for historical groups' use of space for re-enactment or similar
- Assess suitability for Champing
- Consider prioritising commercial use of space to support local urban regeneration projects and economic priorities
- Review feasibility of extending cathedral operations to make use of available church space
- Consult Civic Trust regarding plans and proposals related to Folk Museum opposite
- Consult City tour programme to identify means of linkage between church opening and coach tours parking at nearby Westgate Street car park
- Review means for heating church in order to extend period of feasible use year-round
- Consider relative merits of pew removal

#### **Long term actions (to end March 2024)**

#### **Actions complete (to end March 2021)**

### **Local Community Officer Actions**

#### **Short term actions (to end June 2021)**

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### Medium term actions (to end June 2022)

- Consider means for broad-based appraisal for options in terms of future use
- Consider including uses such as covered market, gallery space, pop up cinema, youth centre, community centre or combined use.
- Further, ensure appraisal includes consideration of options for historical groups' use of space for re-enactment or similar
- Assess suitability for Champing
- Consider prioritising commercial use of space to support local urban regeneration projects and economic priorities
- Review feasibility of extending cathedral operations to make use of available church space
- Consult Civic Trust regarding plans and proposals related to Folk Museum opposite
- Consult City tour programme to identify means of linkage between church opening and coach tours parking at nearby Westgate Street car park
- Review means for heating church in order to extend period of feasible use year-round
- Consider relative merits of pew removal

### Long term actions (to end March 2024)

#### Actions complete (to end March 2021)

- Update the wall safe poster
- Agree dates for face-to-face or digital meeting to review interim church plan (September 2020 edition)
- Publish Part A, B & D as Interim Church Plan to colleagues by end September 2020
- Undertake staff consultation against Interim Church Plan by end November 2020
- By end November 2020 review colleagues' feedback regarding updates to church plan part A, to include
  - Conservation interpretations
  - Presentation improvements
  - Champing data
- Repeat survey for additional respondents by end January 2021
- Agree dates for face-to-face or digital community meetings by end January 2021

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- Resolve updated findings, conclusions and recommendations based on Part A, B & C expressed as short, medium and long-term actions for each site (Part D)
  - Publish Church Plan Version '2021-22'
  - Distribution Part A reports for each church to all existing correspondents, together with survey
  - Receive, anonymise and collate survey responses and add to Church Plan Part B
  - Resolve initial findings, conclusions and recommendations based on Part A & B, expressed as short, medium and long-term actions

## **CCT Actions Other**

### **Short term actions (to end June 2021)**

### **Medium term actions (to end June 2022)**

- Review risk assessment in respect of lighting project proposed by Gloucester Council

### **Long term actions (to end March 2024)**

### **Actions complete (to end March 2021)**

- Provide interpretation of maintenance and repair plans to further explain anticipated costs described in part A above.

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## Appendix 1: Summer 2020 Questionnaire

1. This is the first of fourteen questions in the survey - thank you in advance for working through each one. First of all, we need to know if you're completing the survey on behalf of an organisation or writing in a personal capacity (If you're writing on behalf of an organisation, please use the text box to let us know which one. Thank you!)
2. Which church are you writing about? (Don't worry, you can complete additional questionnaires for other sites if you like!) Please state the location and dedication, as in 'Sapperton, St. Kenelm's'. Thank you.
3. People are involved with our sites in so many different ways. In your own words, please describe your relationship with the church building.
4. Some people are actively involved at the churches we look after together. If you're part of this group, tell us about your involvement. Cleaning, attending services and fundraising are just a few of the most frequent activities we share, but we'd appreciate as much detail as you might be happy to provide.
5. In your own words, and having reviewed 'Part A' of our church plan (sent to you by email with the invitation to this questionnaire), please describe a perfect outcome for our work together at the church. What would you like to see happen in terms of community involvement and other use of the building?
6. Bearing in mind the repair liabilities and running costs described in the report you've read, what challenges do you anticipate for a sustainable future at your church?
7. Thinking about local life away from the church, which other community projects or activities are you aware of that could combine with our work to protect the church for the future?

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8. Here are two questions together... Could increased use of the church benefit the community? How would this increased use benefit the church itself?
  9. What do you think are the most important conservation priorities at your church? For each or all of these priorities, please also let us know about any ideas you have for addressing them.
  10. Income and expenditure for the church is detailed in 'Part A' of the report we sent you. Addressing conservation priorities will entail finding new ways to raise funds. Tell us about any ideas or opportunities you have identified for raising additional income at the church.
  11. What do you think might be the best ways to get started with any fundraising activities you have suggested?
  12. If you don't already, would you be interested and available to take part in future fundraising activity?
  13. Almost done! We'd like to invite you to join us in a group discussion about the church later this year, either in person or through 'phone / video conference. Would you be willing to join the discussion?
  14. Last question! Is there anything else you'd like to share about your interest in the church which we haven't asked you already? Otherwise, thank you again so much for reflecting on the future of the church through your answers.

## Appendix 2: Typical Maintenance Tasks Forecast - 25 Years (Not Including Twice-Annual Maintenance Visits)

Item	Method & Purpose	Cycle/Yrs	Estimated Cost per visit (present day levels)	Cumulative Estimated Total Cost After 25 Years (2020 values)
Drains, rodding	Below-ground drains can be blocked by debris which stops the rain water dispersing properly and potentially leading to water backing up and overflowing. To prevent this they require rodding and cleaning even ten years.	1	£ 39.00	£ 975.00
Soakaways, inspection and clearance of silt build-up	Soakaways consist of a large pit filled with gravel of varying sizes which act as a filter to allow rainwater to slowly seep into the surrounding ground. Over time material carried into the soakaway in the rain water fills in the gaps and slows the rate of dispersal which can lead to water backing up and potentially damaging or even flooding the church	10	£ 600.00	£ 1,500.00
Mansafe hatchway system	Man safe systems are steel cables or anchor points which are fixed to the roofs of churches to allow people to safely access and work on the roof. As these systems are used for safety it is a legal requirement that they are tested every year for loose fittings or damaged cables.	1	£ 360.00	£ 9,000.00

Lightning conductor testing	Lightning conductors are required to be checked every three years to make sure that they are still performing correctly and will be able to disperse a lightning strike effectively. Metal thefts have often targeted lightning conductors and they may need replacing.	3	£ 480.00	£ 4,000.00
Organ maintenance	Organs are complex machines built using numerous natural materials which can be damaged by moisture, heat and animal attack. It is recommended that organs are checked every year to carry out minor repairs and to be re-tuned as required. Regular servicing can also reduce the likelihood of large unexpected repair bills.	1	£ 140.00	£ 3,500.00
Fire extinguisher inspection	Fire extinguishers servicing checks that the fire extinguishers are functional and maintaining adequate pressure for use in an emergency. Note the CCT only provides fire extinguisher in churches which are either stewarded, used for Champing™ or have significant timber items.	1	£ 166.00	£ 4,150.00
Electrical periodic inspection testing	Electrical tests ensure that the electrical system of the church is both safe and fully functioning. The test will check all elements of the system and highlight any concerns.	5	£ 350.00	£ 1,750.00
Replacement of electrical fittings	As items are highlighted as faulty through periodic testing and maintenance visits they will need to be replaced.	15	£ 1,500.00	£ 2,500.00
Replacement of lamps	General wear and tear - Bulbs require regular replacement. Note LED bulbs will be used where possible	2	£ 250.00	£ 3,125.00
Heating installation,	Annual servicing of the heating system to ensure the efficiency and	1	£ 384.00	£ 9,600.00

servicing	safe working order of the boiler etc.			
Roof alarm, servicing	Roof alarms require annual servicing to check that the system is in good working order and to replace minor parts such as the batteries in sensors.	1	£ 316.80	£ 7,920.00
Rainwater goods, redecoration	All external rainwater Goods (RWG) require redecoration as they are in exposed locations and are exposed to significant amounts of water. The redecoration significantly extends the lifespan of the RWGs and ensures that they are working correctly and are securely fixed in position.	7	£ 1,560.00	£ 5,571.43
Internal & external ironwork redecoration	Redecorating the ironwork prolongs the life of the item and improves the aesthetic of the church. The redecoration of ironwork also provides a good opportunity to inspect the item for damage.	7	£ 1,500.00	£ 5,357.14
External joinery, redecoration	Redecorating external joinery prolongs the life of the item and improves the aesthetic of the church. The redecoration of ironwork also provides a very good opportunity to inspect the item for damage.	7	£ 1,875.00	£ 6,696.43
Window repairs	Minor repairs to the windows such as broken panes of glass, replacement of glazing bars, mortar repairs or lead work repairs are important to exclude the weather and birds and other animals.	5	£ 350.00	£ 1,750.00
Bell maintenance	Bells require ad hoc inspection and minor maintenance to fixtures and fittings	5	£ 235.00	£ 1,175.00
Condition inspection report, all specialists	We have a 9 yearly architect or surveyors inspection plan. When the survey is undertaken all elements of the church will be inspected and a prioritised plan for	9	£ 450.00	£ 1,250.00

	all required repairs will be created.			
Roof overhaul	Roofs require constant minor maintenance with a major overhaul every seven years	7	£ 2,500.00	£ 8,928.57
Clock maintenance	An annual service of the clock with minor repairs and checks to ensure good timekeeping	1	£ 140.00	£ 3,500.00
Tree inspection	A five yearly inspection of all the trees in the churchyards we are responsible for to check for defects and enable us to plan for any required works.	5	£ 225.00	£ 1,125.00
Churchyard maintenance	Grass cutting and minor trimming of plants and bushes etc.	0.5	£ 200.00	£ 10,000.00
Overheads	Office costs to support maintenance planning etc.	1	£ 20.00	£ 500.00
Staff Costs	Staff costs incurred in preparing the required inspections and reports	1	£ 97.00	£ 2,425.00
TOTAL (Excluding VAT)				£107,598.57
TOTAL (Excluding VAT) / 25 years				£4,303.94

## Appendix 3: Typical Maintenance Tasks Forecast - (Twice-Annual Maintenance Visits)

Item	Method & Purpose
Gutters, downpipes and gully clearance	Gutters, hoppers and downpipes are easily blocked by leaves and debris both windborne and dropped by birds which can lead to overflowing and water damage to the building.
Roof, inspection & replacing slipped/missing slates/tiles	Over time some slates/tiles or the pegs/nails which hold them will reach the end of their useful lifespan. When this happens it will allow slates to move from their correct position which can let rain in to the building and potentially poses a risk to visitors as the slate/tiles can fall.
Vegetation, control of growth	Overgrown vegetation against walls and buildings can hold moisture against the building potentially causing damage and some plant species are invasive. Vegetation can also obscure the building hiding potential damage and can provide shelter for vermin such as mice.
Tower stairs & boiler room steps, sweeping	Leaves and other debris can build up on steps which could lead to accidents if people slip. Regular sweeping reduces the risk for potential accidents.
Principal steps and paths, clearance	Leaves and other debris can build up on steps which could lead to accidents if people slip. This is especially the case for churches with trees in the area. Regular sweeping of the steps reduces the risk for potential accidents.
Wall Safe, servicing	Servicing of the wall safe helps to ensure that the donations can be easily collected and also checks to ensure that there hasn't been an attempt to steal from the safe.

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## **Appendix 4: Typical Champing™ Arrangements and Related Income**

Champing™ is the exclusive overnight hire of a church to visitors. Camp beds and chairs are set up inside the church, along with tea making provisions, battery lighting, and cushions and blankets to give guests a cosy stay.

Guests book online through the Champing™ website [www.champing.co.uk](http://www.champing.co.uk) and these bookings are related to local contacts so everyone knows when visitors are staying. A local member of staff sets out equipment for the night and removes all gear each morning. Guests have exclusive access to the church between 6.00 p.m. until 10.00 a.m. so visitors can enjoy the church during the day.

Champers don't expect much in the way of facilities and understand that these are ancient buildings. For most churches we've installed eco-loos either inside or outside in wooden cabins. We don't allow candles but provide battery lanterns and fairy lights. As most of our churches don't have heating we only operate Champing™ between the end of March and the end of October, and we recommend Champers bring warm sleeping bags and extra blankets. We also supply bedding and breakfasts but this option isn't available at all churches. Most Champers will eat out locally or may bring their own picnic.

For those churches without electricity we provide a gas camping stove and we also provide amply bottled water for Champers and all visitors to use.

Typically Champers are couples and families. Some of our churches are large enough to welcome groups of up to 16 people. We are dog-friendly, and child-friendly. Many Champers appreciate the history, architecture, and unique features of their surroundings, and come to learn about the building and its locale through this unique accommodation. We offer those staying for the first time a free CCT membership so they can learn more about our work and consider support for The Trust after their visit.

You can evaluate typical income which derives from Champing™ in the table below.

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Church	2017	2018	2019	2020	Total
Langport, Somerset	£10,472.40	£2,765.60	£3,809.94	£3,128.00	£20,175.94
Emborough, Somerset		£2,024.30	£1,378.49	£2,625.00	£6,027.79
Chiselhampton, Oxfordshire	£10,156.29	£2,696.40	£5,864.11	£1,705.00	£20,421.80
Wolfhamcote, Warwickshire		£3,001.00	£2,213.77	£1,624.00	£6,838.77
Holme Lacy, Herefordshire		£4,368.80	£4,758.55	£1,004.00	£10,131.35
TOTAL	£20,628.69	£14,856.10	£18,024.86	£10,086.00	£63,595.65