

## St Leonard's Sheepstor

### Restoration and Development Project

#### Newsletter: 4 Works Progress

1. Sorry for a shortage of news. We keep having uncertainties which needed investigating but here is an update.
2. The work is next to finished. The work on the top of the tower is effectively finished and the scaffolding will start coming down now. The new gutters are up around nearly all the church.
3. The one bit of work waiting is the down pipe between the tower and the west wall of the south aisle. The gulley has been cut back but the scaffolding prevents access so the work will be done once the tower scaffold is down. The new stainless steel hopper (black powder coated) will be fitted then.
4. The new lead, slates and pointing at the top of the tower look very good. As the old pointing was being taken out the condition was found to be worse than expected, especially around the tower stairs. Encouragingly the problems found tied up with the water access we have been suffering from.
5. The gutters also look good and have been fitted well allowing good overlap from the slates. This should leave the walls much less wet in heavy rain.
6. The pinnacles were inspected. Initially the pointing caused worry but the architect concluded that the gaps were not structural and work was not urgent. This was a relief as the scaffolding would have needed significant modification to allow work on the pinnacles and this would have delayed work and added over £5,000 to costs.
7. We have also looked at the flashing where the north face of the nave meets the tower. Last winter we had water dripping from the top of the tower arch on that side. Investigation found the flashing badly obstructed by soil and vegetation but no problems were found with the lead itself, so again not extra work is being done.
8. That is the news. I will send round a separate note on the finances with the same e mail cover.

Richard Bayly Churchwarden 3/5/2016