St Milburga’s Church Wixford

Our parish church has been closed as the Church of England seeks to minimise the risk of spreading the Covid-19 virus. We have, however, been active in posting advice on how to gain access to thought and prayer to help us through these trying times.

We have also used the opportunity to undertake a major step in making the church compliant with modern standards for electrical installations and are in the final stages of seeking a Faculty (legal permission) to undertake the upgrade of the lighting and the ad hoc switchboard.

Our present lighting is at least 40 years old based on drop lights suspended from the centre of the vaulted roofs. The wiring is the old braided variety, brittle but somehow tasty to squirrels in the roof.

The light elements are 150 watt bulbs, which are no longer available and modern replacements do not yield the same intensity of lighting, which is already inadequate for the Rector and for areas of the nave.

The switchboard is the old insert fuse (with fuse-wire) recently modified with some second hand switch-fuses but is far from ideal.

We have a new professional design of high level lighting which will give enhanced brightness to the altar and choir areas, as well as more uniform light to the seating areas in the nave. We are confident that services will be conducted with greater certainty and less guesswork for the wording of hymns and the prayer book.

The new installation will reduce health and safety risk.

Funding for the project has been secured and so work can commence as soon as a legal Faculty can be obtained from the Diocese

There will now be a pause of 28 days in the application procedure to ensure that all interested parties are fully briefed and are content.

If any church member, or member of the village have any questions, please contact Bryan Knight on 01789 772993, on [bryancknight@btinternet.com](mailto:bryancknight@btinternet.com), or at a discrete distance at the gate of Oversley Farm House

Bryan Knight 26 June 2020