



DAVID WELLS ORGAN BUILDERS LTD

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23 October 2018

Dear Diane,

Parish Church of St John the Evangelist Ellel

As arranged, we visited the church on 27 September last. After a briefing by the Vicar and other church members we were asked to ascertain what is immediately necessary to put the organ into working order.

We give first a short report on the instrument, which was built by Ainscough of Preston in 1911. A two-manual of 13 stops, with mechanical key action and a pneumatic pedal action, it is well made and entirely conventional for its place and period. We understand that some forty years ago, the organ was worked on by Sixsmith, who made some tonal changes to the Great division, probably in conjunction with cleaning and overhauling. Those tonal changes have since been reversed or at least altered. The blowing was originally by water engine (with hand blowing option), but a second-hand electric rotary blower has now been introduced. The connection between the blowing plant and the organ trunking is currently an *ad hoc* arrangement of duct tape.

As it currently stands, the organ is, or was, undergoing work, the plan and purpose of which is not immediately apparent. The work that has been carried out has not been executed by a trained organ builder. There is a mounted, unwinded, electric-action chest with pipes, perhaps of pedal compass, and a construction at the back of the instrument, which like the other additional constructions, is in unfinished timber. The organ space (and surrounding area) has been used to store much additional material, including second-hand organ parts, some with low-voltage electrical parts, and some timber items.

Company Registration No. 3850827



VAT Registration No GB 325 2491 71

IBO Accredited: Tuning and Maintenance – Cleaning and Overhaul – Rebuilding – Historic Restoration

The general condition of the original parts of the organ is dusty, as might be expected after perhaps forty years since the last cleaning and overhaul. The bellows has its original leather; the upper or reservoir part will do for now, but the feeders will need to be releathered if the water engine is used (not included). The internal pneumatic movements of the pedal chest are also from 1911 and will last a little longer. The external primary movements are quite decayed and should be releathered now.

The pipework is in fair order and is clean; some new tuning slides have been fitted. The two reed stops were revoiced in 2015; the Oboe 8ft is in order, but the Horn 8ft, presumably on instruction, has been driven to a louder, brassier Trumpet tone that is too loud for the original chorus of which it is meant to be a part.

The original action is in place and is in fair order, but there are some infelicities of work such as the part replacement of composition lead action tubing to off-notes by small bore industrial hose material. Most of the Great key action between the rollerboard and the soundboard pull-down wires is missing. Those few parts that do exist have paper clips as a connection to the pull-down wires. The existing trackers have insufficient tapped wire above the roller arm for a regulating check button to be properly fitted and glue has been used as a fixer; plastic buttons have been used rather than the leather buttons that would be expected on an instrument of this period. Judging from the condition of the Great rollerboard, the rollers seem to have been painted in place. The end-pins have not been removed, the end-cloths have not been treated and the roller studs have not been cleaned.

To put the Great action into working order it will be necessary to:

1. Fit new internal pull-down wires to the Great pallets, and
2. Fit new tracker links between the Great pull-down wires and the Great rollerboard, using new leather buttons and red-cloth washers, and reset the entire Great action movement.

Current price to undertake this work

£2,503.00 plus vat

To put the Pedal action in order:

3. Remove both the internal and external pneumatic primary motors of the pedal chest, strip off the worn leather, clean up the motor boards, fit new hinges and releather, refit and regulate the movements. Check through the pneumatic tubing from the pedal touch-box to the primary motor rails and regulate as necessary the touch-box movements.

Current price to undertake this work

£2,102.00 plus vat

4. To revoice the Swell Horn 8ft to suit the chorus

Current price to undertake this work

£2,782.00 plus vat

If these items are undertaken, the instrument will be more or less returned to its form. The material now stored in and around the organ should be removed and the space cleaned (£650 plus vat if we undertake the work).

The electrical supply to the blower should be professionally undertaken and arranged by the client.

The internal connection from the blower outlet to the trunking made satisfactory (£650 plus vat).

Combining any of the above individual pieces of work could reduce the overall amount of site time and therefore overall costs may be slightly lower than individual summaries.

We trust that this covers all the points you raised. If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours sincerely

David Wells

PROPOSED terms of payment

50% of Contract price on commencement of work

50% Balance with any agreed extra costs within thirty days of final invoice

CONDITIONS (where applicable)

(UK)

1. **VALIDITY** This estimate is submitted on the basis of current costs of materials, wages, overheads et cetera and is valid until 30 June 2019 after which the figures may be subject to review.

2. **VAT** All figures are exclusive of v.a.t. which will be charged in accordance with current Customs and Excise directives. Recovery of any V.A.T. under the LPW Grant Scheme to be the task of the client.

3. **PERMISSIONS** The Client shall obtain all Faculties, Licences, Consents or Permissions necessary for the timely execution of the work. The Client shall be responsible for any costs incurred in the acquisition of the said permissions. The Client shall provide written evidence of the same if requested to do so by the builder.

4. **DURATION** Whilst the Company will try to ensure that any forecast completion dates are met, time will not be of the essence of the contract and the Company will not accept any responsibility for delays and any consequential loss.

5. **EXTENT** This estimate covers all repairs and renewals that could be ascertained as necessary during the inspection of the Organ. Should it be found on dismantling and opening up the Instrument that additional work is necessary then the client will be notified. No additional work will be undertaken without the client's consent.

6. **EXCLUSION** Unless specifically referred to the blowing apparatus and any mains operated equipment are excluded from this estimate. Likewise, any preparation of the site involving builders' work, and any provision of scaffolding, lifting hoist, and ladders, plumbing and electrical work is excluded from the estimate. No treatment or repair of wood-worm damage beyond simple application of fluid.

7. **DISCARDED MATERIAL** All material removed from the organ and not re-incorporated to be disposed of by the Company.

8. **INSPECTION** Every facility will be given to clients and their advisers to inspect the work during its progress both on site and at the factory.

9. **COPYRIGHT** No technical detail from our specification and estimate shall be used for the purpose of a competitive specification and estimate.

10. **INSURANCE** Clients should inform their Insurers before work on the organ is begun, and cover should be obtained against damage to or theft of parts lying dismantled in the building. Organ parts returned for overhaul will be fully covered whilst in transit and at the factory.

11. **THE** Company reserves the right to alter the details, but not the effect, of the works described above.

For and on behalf of
DAVID WELLS ORGAN BUILDERS LTD