



NICHOLSON ENGINEERING

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11th December, 2020.

POST-CONSERVATION REPORT FOR CHURCH BUILDINGS COUNCIL

BASIC INFORMATION

1.1
Church of St. Michael & All Angels
Lambourn
Berkshire
Diocese of Oxford

1.2
Overhaul and repair to the peal of eight bells.

1.3

<u>bell</u>	<u>diameter</u>	<u>weight</u>	<u>note</u>	<u>date</u>	<u>founder</u>
Tenor	52"	20-2-0	D	1637	Roger Purdue I, Bristol
Seventh	45"	14-0-9	E	1637	Roger Purdue I, Bristol
Sixth	42"	10-2-24	F#	1639	John Wiseman, Montacute
Fifth	40"	10-0-17	G	1892	John Warner, London
Fourth	37"	8-3-5	A	1637	Roger Purdue I, Bristol
Third	34"	7-1-12	B	1639	John Wiseman, Montacute
Second	31"	6-0-7	C#	1742	Henry Bagley III, Witney
Treble	30"	5-1-3	D	1804	James Wells, Aldbourne

1.4
Main contract undertaken by Nicholson Engineering, Bridport. Repairs to four cracked bells undertaken by Soundweld, Nr. Newmarket.

1.5

Work commenced 7/1/19

Work completed 9/12/20

1.6

Original report of 12/1/18 (attached) prepared by Andrew Nicholson following inspection 20/12/17. Additional report of 17/1/19 regarding cracked bells (attached).

RECORD OF CONSERVATION

2.1.1

N/A

2.1.2

Overhaul of ringing fittings to the eight bells as per our quotation laid out with our original report of 12/1/18.

Repairs to four cracked bells as per our quotation dated 17/1/19.

Alterations/improvements to the hanging radii, clapper throws and pulley assemblies.

Correction of a number of errors in the original installation, in particular to the alignment and levelling of the bearings.

2.1.3

Ironwork to ringing fittings cleaned down, primed with heavy zinc-rich primer and then painted two coats of Teamac enamel.

2.1.4

New SKF bearing races to main bearings.

New Tufnol clapper bushes and stainless steel hinge pins by Nicholson.

New cast nylon pulley sheaves in new sapele boxes by Nicholson.

2.1.5

Repair of cracked bells as mentioned above.

Alterations to hanging radii, clapper throws and pulley assembly positioning to cure errors in the original 1960's installation.

Correction of errors in alignment and levelling of bearings.

2.1.6

N/A

2.2

None

2.3

Recommended that a regime of regular monitoring of the bellframe be put in place, it being apparent that its centre has settled quite significantly in the last 60 years which was part of the cause of the various bearing miss-alignment issues. Advised that this form part of the quinquennial inspection process.

2.4.1

To be provided by the parish.

2.4.2

Possible further settling of the bellframe may occur. To be monitored as 2.3 above.

2.4.3

None

CARE AND MAINTENANCE RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that all fixings to the ringing fittings and bellframe be thoroughly checked and tightened. This should be undertaken initially after about 3 months and then once annually. During the annual maintenance, the clapper pivots should be given a few drops of light oil and the runner board tracks should be rubbed with candle wax or similar. No other lubrication will be required; the main bearings only require attention every 25 years and the pulleys are lubricated for life. It is understood that the maintenance work will be undertaken by the local ringers, a number of whom assisted with the restoration work.

PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD

The parish will provide appropriate photographs.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

None