Dear

It is said that if you want to know an English village look at its church. Have you ever looked at your

beautiful Grade 1 listed building? Have you been inside recently? Our church is famous for the medieval tiles in the chancel and its wall paintings, which date from the 12th century and are regarded as some of the finest in England.

The upkeep of our church – both the fabric and the ministry - is entirely the responsibility of our small congregation. We receive no funding whatsoever from either the central Church of England or government, and if we want St Mary’s to be there for future generations we have to continue to bear that responsibility. The Parochial Church Council would like to invite you to join us for a special Service on Sunday 23 April, at 10.00am, where there will be a presentation about the future resourcing of our church.

Some of us come to St Mary’s out of faith, others out of love of an ancient building, but we are all

determined to make sure our church is open for all when needed. St Mary’s has been here, in the centre of our village for over 900 years. It has watched as the village has been through plague, civil war and two World Wars. It has been a constant presence in times of trouble and sadness, times of celebration and gladness, and for funerals, christenings and weddings.

We now need to ask whether we want our village church to continue for the future, or whether we will be the link which fails in a chain which has lasted for almost a millennium.

We do hope that you will come on 23 April, hear the presentation and have a chance to ask questions of the congregation and Diocese.

With kind regards

Incumbent

On behalf of the PCC of St Mary’s Church, Anywhere