

## **Kentmere Parish Annual Meeting, 9<sup>th</sup> May 2016**

### **Progress Report by the PCC Project Committee on work to re-roof St Cuthbert's Church**

Much has happened since our report to the Parish Meeting in November 2015. Significantly, the Listed Places of Worship Roof Repair Fund not only increased its award from £96,000 to £100,000 but raised it further to £110,000. This, together with a grant of £10,000 from the National Churches Trust in December and as much again in other donations, meant that we could commit to starting the work. This happened on the 7<sup>th</sup> March and is quite evident from the current sight of the building, which appears from a distance to be not unlike a birthday cake, covered in a layer of marzipan and icing.

It has always been accepted that scaffolding the building would be one of the more complicated parts of the contract, due to the nature of the site, and it is good that this has been completed satisfactorily, though it did take longer than scheduled. Work continues apace within this tent. All the slates have been stripped from the roof and the consensus is that they are in better condition than anticipated meaning that a greater proportion can be re-used. On the other hand, some of the timber appears to be in a worse state than hoped for and all the sandstone ridge tiles need replacing. So there will be some savings and some additional costs, but this is why you include contingency sums in a contract such as this. An update will be given on the night of the Parish Meeting.

Provision has been made within this project to make some small changes within the church building, which will enable us to make better use of it outside of church services. These include plans to carry out further research into the history of the church building and its site, and to mount a display in an open area to be created at the back of the Nave where this history can be detailed in the wider context of the valley, its environment and its people.

I would like to thank all those who have already given their support with donations and pledges. Although we have achieved a huge amount already, there is still financial uncertainty as to the final costs and any further donations would be gratefully received.

*Max Biden*

PCC Hon Treasurer

St Cuthbert's Church, Kentmere