

Looking into a more optimistic future, the church is a large and well built building: the largest in the village. With repair and adaption it can remain open for all manner of uses, in addition to religious worship. This is how churches were used in earlier times.

The recent Parish Plan Survey has shown that most people in the village wish the church to remain open as a public building. It is still a popular place for celebrating key life events such as weddings and baptisms. (There are already six weddings booked during 2010). It is also appreciated as an attractive historic feature in the village.

Slingsby Church receives no financial support from the Church of England.

### **WE DO NEED YOUR HELP**

We are asking all individuals to support us, whether they are church members or not.

As work progresses, plans on display in the church will show how much has been sponsored.

We are planning a series of fund raising events over the next year including a preliminary exhibition of village history. Please give your generous support to all these events

Please make your donation to:

Slingsby Church Tower Fund  
and send it to:

The Treasurer, Slingsby PCC  
Porch House, The Green, Slingsby  
York, YO62 4AA

If you are a UK taxpayer, please sign this Section and return it with your donation.

I want the Parish of All Saints, Slingsby to reclaim tax on this donation and on any future donations until I notify you otherwise. I pay sufficient income tax or capital gains tax to equal the amount to be reclaimed (currently **28p in every £1**)

Name .....

Address .....

.....  
.....

Post Code .....

Signed.....

Date .....

# SLINGSBY CHURCH TOWER APPEAL

## **2010 Progress Report**



This appeal started in 2008 and we have raised just over £10,000. Since then the condition of the tower has deteriorated and urgent action needs to be taken to prevent the permanent closure of both church and church yard. Removal of the tower is not a financial option.

**We have just been awarded a major grant by English Heritage from the Heritage Lottery fund for Listed Places of Worship**

An initial grant of £14,000 enables us to commission the necessary pre-development work by the church architects and structural engineers and to seek all the necessary permissions. This has to be completed and the remaining money needed to carry out all the building work has to be raised by March 2011, when the sum of £55,000 allocated by English Heritage to complete the whole project can be applied for.

**We are required to carry out other urgent work to the building as a condition of the grant. This will put it in good structural order for the foreseeable future. The estimated total cost of the building work is £102,000**

**We need your help to raise another £25,000 to enable us to do this.**

The recent English Heritage report on the building praised the construction of the church and its fittings, both of which are of exceptional quality for a parish church. It also praised the way the local community has looked after it.

The church is noted as an important part of the historic centre of the village which includes the Slingsby Castle and the Georgian former rectory building.

**As a condition of the grant the church building also has to remain open to the public. The Parochial Church Council is proposing to apply for grant aid to install a permanent exhibition of Slingsby history and its people and in particular information about Slingsby Castle, which will be of interest to both local people and our many visitors. We also hope that this will be a useful resource to Slingsby School, and local education in general.**

There has been a church building in Slingsby since at least 1175, and there were early connections with the original medieval castle.

When the church was reconstructed in 1867 after it had fallen into disrepair, it was endowed with the best quality fittings of the time, for example, the best quality window glazing and joinery

**The present problems with the tower are caused by weather deterioration of the Victorian ironwork which holds the tall tower together. High up, large parapet stones and gargoyles are becoming loose.**

The Church Council has worked hard to keep the church weather tight and in sound condition, through regular fundraising and help of private donations and legacies. In addition to routine repairs in the last 20 years, the building has been rewired and the bells have been made safe and re-hung. Major work has been done to the surface water drainage system to remedy dampness in the building and an automatic winding device has been put in to keep the tower clock going.

Other major work is now also needed, as a 21<sup>st</sup> century public building needs toilets and it needs to be made flexible and comfortable for modern needs. Work on this is planned to take place once the urgent structural repairs have been done.