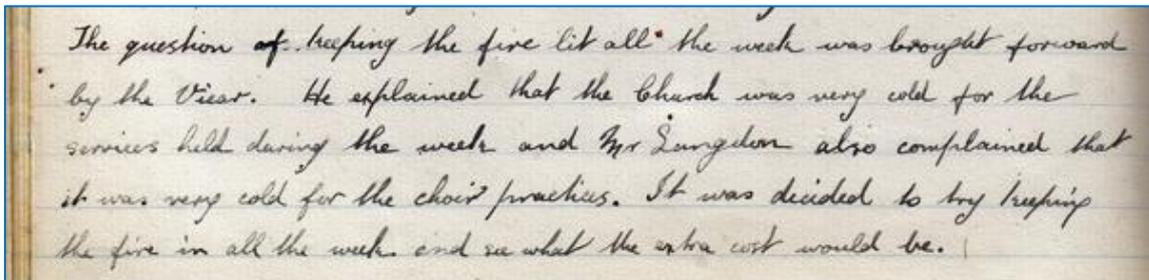


1910-1914: Why was the church at Twerton freezing cold?

Minutes of the Parish Church Council Meetings occasionally give enjoyable insights into the thoughts and feelings of church members at the time when they were written.

In the month of February 1910, St Michael's Church in Twerton was a chilly place to be, and this point was raised at a Church Council Meeting by the Vicar Henry Maynard. So bad was the problem that the Vicar suggested keeping the fire going all through the week.

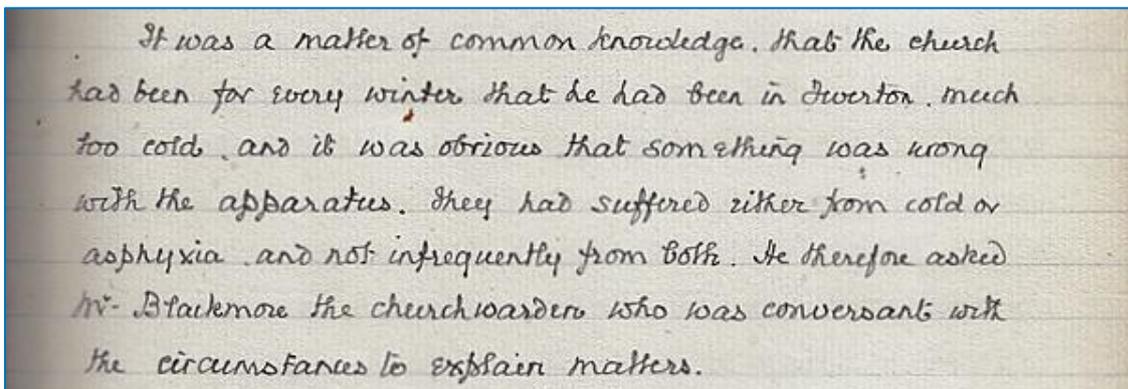
"He explained that the church was very cold for the services held during the week, and Mr Langdon also complained that it was very cold for the choir practices. It was decided to try keeping the fire in all the week and see what the costs would be."



The question of keeping the fire lit all the week was brought forward by the Vicar. He explained that the Church was very cold for the services held during the week and Mr Langdon also complained that it was very cold for the choir practices. It was decided to try keeping the fire in all the week and see what the extra cost would be.

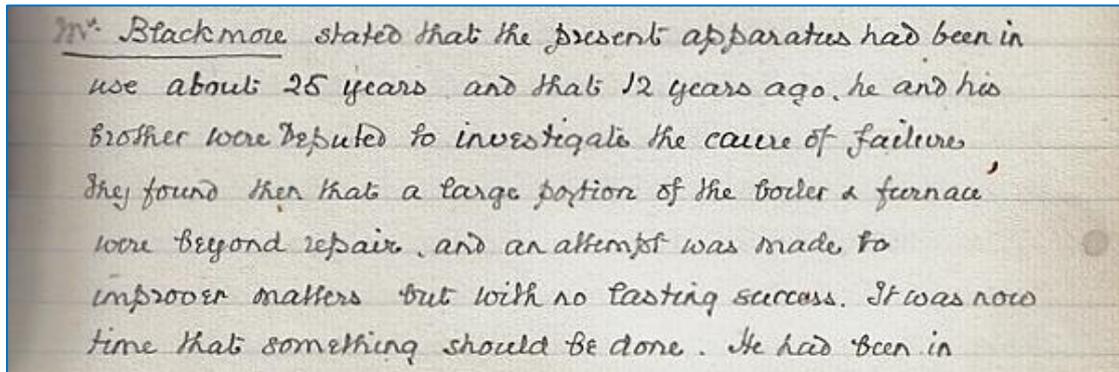
Whether this idea was actually implemented is not recorded, but clearly it did not resolve the problem, because the Vicar called a meeting to discuss the temperature of the church in September 1914. By now there was no margin for beating about the bush.

The Vicar asserted that: "It was a matter of common knowledge that the church had been for every winter he had been in Twerton, much too cold, and it was obvious that something was wrong with the apparatus. They had suffered either from cold or asphyxia, and not infrequently from both. He therefore asked Mr Blackmore the Churchwarden who was conversant with the circumstances to explain matters."



It was a matter of common knowledge, that the church had been for every winter that he had been in Twerton, much too cold, and it was obvious that something was wrong with the apparatus. They had suffered either from cold or asphyxia, and not infrequently from both. He therefore asked Mr Blackmore the churchwarden, who was conversant with the circumstances to explain matters.

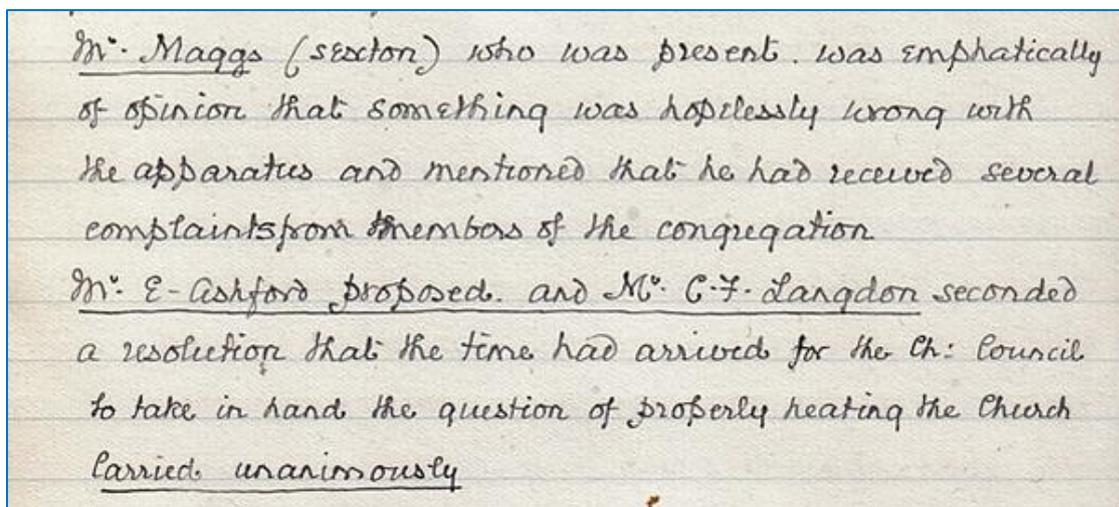
In reply, Mr Blackmore stated that: "the present apparatus had been in use about 25 years and that about 12 years ago, he and his brother were deputed to investigate the cause of the failure. They found then that a large portion of the boiler and furnace were beyond repair. An attempt was made to improve matters but with no lasting success. It was now time that something should be done."



Mr. Blackmore stated that the present apparatus had been in use about 25 years and that 12 years ago, he and his brother were deputed to investigate the cause of failure. They found then that a large portion of the boiler & furnace were beyond repair, and an attempt was made to improve matters but with no lasting success. It was now time that something should be done. It had been in

The minutes continue: "Mr Maggs (Sexton) who was present, was emphatically of opinion that something was hopelessly wrong with the apparatus and mentioned that he had received several complaints from members of the congregation."

"Mr E. Ashford proposed and Mr G.F. Langdon seconded a resolution that the time had arrived for the Ch. Council to take in hand the question of properly heating the church. Carried unanimously."



Mr. Maggs (Sexton) who was present, was emphatically of opinion that something was hopelessly wrong with the apparatus and mentioned that he had received several complaints from members of the congregation.
Mr. E. Ashford proposed, and Mr. G.F. Langdon seconded a resolution that the time had arrived for the Ch. Council to take in hand the question of properly heating the Church
Carried unanimously

A heated meeting?