Correspondence rec’d 7th August 2025 – **St Lawrence Church Bradfield**

Dear Marie

This is just to let the Parish Council know that we have looked at the seat which forms part of the churchyard wall in The Street, close to the junction with Harwich Road. The seat is in a rather poor state and could become a safety issue for anyone using it.  Following a meeting with our church architect, he has agreed to draw up a specification for a suitable repair. This can then be used by the PCC to obtain estimates for the work. It appears that the brick pillars are basically sound, but need some repairs and repointing, also the long timber planks (which are becoming loose in places) need replacing. There is also a certain amount of cosmetic work that can be done, to improve the appearance of the brick pillars and the overall street scene, in keeping with the original layout and materials.

Before the work can be undertaken the PCC will need to obtain permission from TDC (as it is an old wall in a conservation area) and also the DAC. Our architect does not believe this will hold up things unduly, and we would therefore hope to proceed with the work as soon as possible later this year.

In the meantime, we have introduced a few struts across the timber beams to try and prevent them from moving further. This is very much a temporary measure, and will hopefully act as a warning to anyone using the seat to take care.

The purpose of this email is just to make the Parish Council aware of the situation, as the seat is on a main public road, and we are anxious to ensure that, as far as possible, the seat does not put any member of the public at risk. We will keep the Council informed of developments and we will take note of any further recommendations the Council may make concerning the above.

With kind regards

John

**John Barrow**

**Churchwarden and Treasurer**

**St Lawrence Church Bradfield**