

St Andrew's Ombersley PCC

Treasurer's Report 2017

First, the good news. Income from Gift Aided Planned Giving, Blue envelopes and collections was slightly higher in each category compared with 2016. The Fete also recorded its highest ever profit of over £8,000.

Theft

The year was badly marred by the theft of lead from the roof in March 2017. The cost of the repairs and replacement was nearly £23,000. As the church did not have a security system in place, the insurance claim was limited to £7,500 plus the cost of emergency repairs less the excess of £500. The net cost was effectively £15,300. In addition, a security system, approved by our insurers, cost a further £5,200. Although we pray that thieves are now discouraged by the presence of this system, it does mean that the insurance limit has been removed on any future claim.

The repair and redecoration of the chancel ceiling is outstanding. As this is covered by a different section of the Ecclesiastical insurance policy, the PCC will need to cover any excess cost over £7,500.

Income

St Andrew's received the balance of a legacy from the estate of the late Beryl Underwood, which totalled £32,394. £29,000 of this was received in 2016. A further legacy of £1,000 was received from the estate of the late Norman May. We are always extremely grateful for the generosity shown by members of the community who remember the church in their Will.

In line with a decision made by the PCC, such legacies have been transferred to OSCA, which funds restoration and improvement projects.

PCC fees for weddings and funerals were lower this year. However, such fees do vary considerably from year to year.

In all, income from ordinary sources and activities was around £2,000 less than in 2016.

Expenditure

Normal expenditure was around £5,000 higher than in 2016, mainly due to the first of a two year stepped increase in the Parish Share. Part of the increase in church running expenses was due to payments covering previous years for flowers, roof maintenance and kitchen improvements.

In line with the PCC's Charitable Giving policy, 10% of the Gift Aided Planned Giving, Blue Envelopes and collections the first instalment has been paid. The balance has also been paid. Also, 10% of the Fete profit has been paid to local charities.

The outstanding payments shown as Liabilities in the Accounts at the end of 2017 have been paid.

Summary

Over the past four years normal income has exceeded normal expenditure. However, for this trend to continue in 2018 and beyond, serious attention needs to be given to a Stewardship campaign.

Cash reserves have gradually reduced. Whilst still healthy, it would be unwise to rely on these reserves to prop up any deficits.

DJM March 2018