

## **TREASURER'S REPORT ON THE ACCOUNTS TO THE 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2023**

I am unable to attend the APCM on the 19<sup>th</sup> May and I am grateful to Janine for presenting the accounts on my behalf. If anyone has any questions prior to the meeting please email me at [chardyseergreen@aol.com](mailto:chardyseergreen@aol.com)

During 2023 our new branch of Lloyds Bank in Hazlemere was closed. Our account was moved to the High Wycombe branch but our sort code and account number has remained the same. This is the second change in two years as the Beaconsfield branch closed in 2022. Going to High Wycombe each week, in terms of travel, parking etc. was not sustainable. We now use the very helpful branch of the Post Office in Chalfont St Giles to pay in cash and cheques.

Making payments and transfers via online banking has made the process quicker and easier as we are now only reliant on the postal system for the very few cheque payments we make.

The volume of online payments received for the Parish Magazine subscriptions has grown over the last few years, so from the end of 2024 they will be paid into a separate bank account which the two subscription coordinators can have direct sight of. This should make the subscription collection easier to track.

I am once more grateful to David Jordan who has carried out a through examination of the 2023 accounts books and records. I am very pleased to report that David has agreed to continue in the role of Independent Examiner for 2024.

### **GENERAL FUNDS**

#### **Receipts.**

Planned giving to General Funds has decreased from £39459 in 2022 to £38913 in 2023. No new donors have joined any of the schemes set up to facilitate planned giving. There was a small increase due to those donors to the Parish Giving Scheme who have linked their giving to the rate of inflation, but sadly we have lost some regular givers during 2023 so the net effect is a small decrease.

Our general collections have remained at the pre pandemic levels of 2019. More people are using the contactless device allocated to us by the Diocese as part of their Digital Giving Rollout.

We received a full year of rental payments for use of the Parish Church Hall which makes a significant contribution to our overall running costs.

#### **Payments**

Payments to charities never exactly mirror donations received due to timing differences in paying over sums to the charities and reclaiming Gift Aid on donations.

Our Diocesan Quota (Parish Share) has been paid in full at the House for Duty level in 2023.

Other payments were largely in line with our budgeted projection. We are still benefiting from the 3year fixed term contract agreed with our energy suppliers in December 2021.

## **Outcomes**

At the end of 2023 we recorded a surplus of receipts over payment of £409. This was as a result of careful management of our expenditure.

## **RESTRICTED FUNDS**

### **Building (Friends of Holy Trinity)**

In accordance with our published accounting policies, we were able to use this fund for all payments in respect of repairs and maintenance on the church buildings and churchyard. We have incurred significant costs on churchyard maintenance and work needed on the churchyard trees we also constructed an outdoor building in the vicarage garden. These projects were funded by some generous donations and the income generated by the afternoon teas in the churchyard during the summer months. The Buildings Fund is now significantly depleted and it is unlikely that the fund will be able to cover all the maintenance costs in 2024 so these costs will have to be met by general funds.

**Audrey Hardy PCC treasurer.**