

Parish of Abingdon-on-Thames
Treasurer's Report on the Accounts for the Year Ended 31st
December 2019

The consolidated accounts of the Parish of Abingdon-on-Thames for 2019 incorporate the accounts of the three separate churches that make up the Parish; St. Helen's, St. Michael's and St. Nicolas'.

The Parish owns two freehold properties, as noted elsewhere in the Annual Report; these are the Parish Centre and the House for Duty property purchased during 2015. Both are beneficially owned by the Parish of Abingdon-on-Thames (legal title is held by Diocesan Trustees (Oxford) Ltd. as custodian trustees on behalf of the Parish). The two properties are shown in the balance sheet as Tangible Fixed Assets and are held for the mission of the church. As such, their value is not available to support ongoing expenditure. No new sales or purchases of property by the PCC took place during 2019.

The accounts for 2019 show a deficit on unrestricted funds of £21,227 before gains on investments and transfers between funds. The corresponding deficit in 2018 was £19,108. When grants and legacies are excluded, the net unrestricted income of the Parish rose 5.6% from £269,365 in 2018 to £284,536. However, unrestricted grants and legacies fell considerably to £1,744 (2018: £17,884), and unrestricted income as a whole fell slightly to £286,280 from £287,249. Giving and collections made up some 82% of the net recurrent income, and rose 5% from £221,670 in 2018 to £232,830.

Unrestricted expenditure, excluding freehold depreciation, increased by 0.5% to £305,512 from £303,357 in 2018, although when major repairs and renewals are excluded, other expenditure was 7.4% greater at £303,262 than in 2018 (2018: £282,962). The Parish Share, net of the Deanery Share rebate, accounted for 52% of this expenditure, and rose from £146,821 in 2018 to £155,446, although this increase partly reflects a larger than usual Deanery rebate in 2018.

It is difficult to isolate a single factor to account for the deficit, but as in 2018 non-recurrent expenditure by the two smaller churches may have contributed. Although the overall recurrent voluntary income seems to have been stable, all three churches presented deficit budgets for 2020,

and so each DCC must keep in mind the need to work towards restoring balanced budgets.

Investments and reserves

During 2019 the Parish investments showed unrealised gains of £54,509 (2018: loss of £7,774) or 14% of the initial total. Of this 43% was attributable to the unrestricted funds, which at the year-end made up 54% of the total of £439,921. Apart from one small historic fund, all investment funds are invested with the CBF and COIF funds, and it is the policy of the PCC that unused fund balances are invested with the CBF Church of England funds.

The PCC is required to operate on a going concern basis, and considers that each church should aim to maintain a minimum reserve of two months expenditure in hand against contingencies, together with a reserve, appropriate to each church, to cover the future demands of building maintenance.

The accounts show total funds at the year-end of £1,302,938. Restricted and Endowment funds account for £245,458 and £261,786 of this total respectively. We may define the reserves as the total of general unrestricted funds excluding some designated funds and fixed assets. The following table shows the distribution of unrestricted funds between these categories and between the churches.

	General Reserves	Designated Funds set off	Fixed Assets	Total Funds
St Helen's	118,624	11,619	380,283	510,526
St Michael's	218,771	2,822	0	221,593
St Nicolas	29,538	28,729	3,467	61,734
PCC		1,111		1,111
Totals	366,933	44,281	383,750	794,964

The reserves shown above satisfy the minimum criteria. The lowest reserve is held by St. Nicolas, but here restricted funds of £84,119 are available for the demands of church maintenance. In the first instance it is for each DCC to formulate plans for the future use of any excess funds; the PCC will keep these matters under review.

Andrew R. Birks
October 2020

PARISH of ABINGDON-ON-THAMES
CONSOLIDATED CHURCH ACCOUNTS 2019

	Unrestricted				Restricted and Endowment					Parish Total	
	St. Helen's	St. Michael's	St. Nicolas'	Consolid- ation	Total	St. Helen's	St. Michael's	St. Nicolas'	Consolid- ation		Total
Income											
Giving and Collections	150,674	38,499	43,657	0	232,830	6,732	0	930		7,662	240,492
Legacies and Grants	0	1,219	525	0	1,744	10,000	0	25,929		35,929	37,673
Investments and Rent	631	7,241	1,636	0	9,508	5,121	43	1,397	0	6,561	16,069
Income from Church Activities	16,091	9,452	997		26,540	0	0	0		0	26,540
Activities for Generating Funds	16,375	2,526	5,053	-8,296	15,658	1,869	0	0	-503	1,366	17,024
Other Incoming Resources	0	0	0		0	2,505	0	0		2,505	2,505
Total Income	183,771	58,937	51,868	-8,296	286,280	26,227	43	28,256	-503	54,023	340,303
Expenditure											
Fund-raising Costs	2,723	238	1,521		4,482	260	0	0		260	4,742
Grants	8,434	3,662	559		12,655	0	0	788		788	13,443
Parish Share	87,887	33,982	33,577		155,446					0	155,446
Running the Church	83,867	28,392	28,570	-8,424	132,405	16,473	755	6,672	0	23,900	156,305
Governance Costs	720	600	1,200		2,520	0	0	0		0	2,520
Total Expenditure	183,631	66,874	65,427	-8,424	307,508	16,733	755	7,460	0	24,948	332,456
Net Surplus (after depreciation)	140	-7,937	-13,559	128	-21,228	9,494	-712	20,796	-503	29,075	7,847
Gains on investments	352	15,973	7,552	0	23,877	23,111	1,356	6,165	0	30,632	54,509
Transfers between funds	2,226	6,495		0	8,721	-2,226	-6,495			-8,721	0
Net movement in funds	2,718	14,531	-6,007	128	11,370	30,379	-5,851	26,961	-503	50,986	62,356
Balance forward 01.01.19	508,678	206,849	67,686	1,111	784,324	311,776	40,085	105,787	-1,392	456,256	1,240,580
Balance forward 31.12.19	511,396	221,380	61,679	1,239	795,694	342,155	34,234	132,748	-1,895	507,242	1,302,936

Andrew R. Birks
Treasurer