

Accounts: The formal Annual Report and Accounts for 2019 were issued for PCC approval on 14 May 2020, they cover the Church Financial year, which runs from January to December 2019. These additional notes concentrate on St.Martin's Church funds and are intended to supplement the Financial Notes included in the main sections of the formal Annual Report. The formal report incorporates the finances of Well Hill and The Toddler Group. The format of the Report and Accounts is in line with the PCC Accountability Guidelines 5th edition, The Charities Act 2011, and the SORP 2015 regulations. (a copy is available). This Treasurers Report should be read in conjunction with the Statement of Financial Activities sheets, numbered pages 10 & 11, together with a Charity Donations sheet, page 12 and the Well Hill – Toddler Group sheet 13.

People: My thanks continue to be extended to Tony Vernon for acting as a very competent cashier, to Jim Rooke for handling the Gift Aid claims and to our sidesmen for counting the collections each week. The PCC were pleased to appoint Di Lewis, who has generously offered her services, as our Independent Examiner, (I.E.) again this year.

Budget: The PCC set a budget each year, for the following year, at the November PCC meeting. Our budget is based upon trends from previous years, forecasts of future trends plus planned initiatives. Results for the income and expenditure are monitored against this budget by the PCC every quarter. The budget set, anticipated an overall funds deficit of £16,658. At the end of 2019 there was an overall surplus of £23,690. The main reasons were due to unforecast additional restricted maintenance donations and legacies of £20k, increased general giving and donations of £7k and postponed church and churchyard maintenance works of £13k .

Income: Ref p10. Overall Income remained substantially constant, £112k (2018) to £113.5k, once again maintained by significant unplanned Legacies and donations. We cannot rely on continued receipt of Legacies. It is pleasing to also see an increase in regular planned giving. Our income has been inflated by Churchyard Maintenance donations linked to funerals but this in turn leads to a long term increase in Churchyard Maintenance Liability. The pie chart, page 11, shows the main income items as a percentage of overall Income, regular donations and collections are still our most significant income items.

Giving: During 2019 the number of regular (planned) givers remained at 49. In total 95% of the regular giving (excluding Charity Trust) was Gift Aided (GA) to St.Martin's which gives us an extra 25p in the £1. The 'one off' Blue Gift Aid envelopes brought in an extra £335 of Tax rebate in 2019. The additional tax rebate through the GASDS scheme, where open plate cash donations of £20 or under at all services, gave us an extra £1,525 of Tax rebate, approx. the same as 2018.

Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals: Fees income from Weddings, Funerals, Burials & Memorials, increased from £14,032 (2018) to £16,845 the highest for 4 years, however the associated open plate collections and donations continued to fall. In addition we received restricted churchyard maintenance donations, mainly linked with burials, of £11,809 down on the 2018 figure of £14,705. It is very much regretted that this is the final year we will receive all of the wedding and funeral fee income as the diocese will be taking approx. half from 2020 when we also predict a fall in the number of Weddings.

Dividends and Interest: Following the trend of the previous 10 years, National Interest rates remained low for the whole year. With our increased reserves (mainly restricted) interest produced a return of £926, up from £497 in 2018.

Social Events: Our annual fete in June produced a net profit of £3,881, 15% up on 2018 a great result. The Village Fete in July also gave useful income of £1,469, plus a very generous donation from Chelsfield Village Fayre committee. A number of other fund raising events, quiz nights, open gardens, tea parties and concerts produced a profit of £2,763 as well as increasing the visibility of the church. We also received a generous donation from the 5 Bells who donated the profits from their evening quiz nights.

Expenditure: Ref: page 10, overall expenditure remained substantially the same as 2018 at £89,783 if we ignore the year specific £9k of abortive work on the church spire from restricted funds in the 2018 figures. However some planned maintenance works for 2019 have been held over to 2020.

Parish Pledge/Share: Is our major expenditure item, the PCC voted in November 2018 to maintain our share to the same as 2018 pledged amount and review the figure at the end of 2019. In previous years we have voted to top up this amount when we have a profitable forecast. In 2019 the PCC felt unable to do this due to the shortfalls in the 2020 budget forecast, thus the amount given has reduced to £51,468 from the 2018 figure of £54,754. Well Hill additionally make a proportional Parish Share contribution. The calculation and application of Parish Share for 2020 will increase our requested pledge. The amount requested / payable for 2020 will significantly depend upon how the share of the Benefice costs with St.Mary's and All Soul's is jointly proportioned.

Restoration and Quinquennial Works. There were no major works carried out during 2019.

Charity Giving: Ref page 12. Our direct plus facilitated charitable giving was slightly down in 2019 at £8,191, 2018 figure £8,277. However this was in line with our target of 10% of 'normal general income' (it is also probable that some of the direct 3rd party donations may not have been noted as they did not pass through the church accounts). In 2020 and future years it will be sensible to have the majority of charity giving through restricted collections and 3rd party events to minimise Parish Share levy on donations that are not retained by St.Martin's. The Focus Group guide the PCC in the selection of Charities to support.

Funds: Ref. page 11. Our 'General' unrestricted funds at year end (*reserves not restricted to projects and special purposes*) rose by 5% to £58,412 of which 59% £34,314 are held in the Church Repair Fund (CRF) as 'designated' funds held on deposit by the Diocese for Quinquennial and major church maintenance works, this fund is credited from our general funds by £4,300 each year. By the end of 2019 we had two restricted funds, the Restoration Fund of £83,650 (for church repairs) - which shows a significant 11.1k increase, mainly from legacies and restricted donations. A Churchyard Maintenance fund of £32,551 including burial donations showing an increase of £9.6k, (*this must be kept high to meet the long term maintenance demands.*). The bar chart p.11 shows fund reserves since 2012 and in particular how our Unrestricted General funds have not increased.

Bank Accounts:

Our Bankers continue to be HSBC; we hope we will be able to continue with free banking through 2020.

Barry Foale Hon Treasurer