

**Parish Church of All Saints, Staplehurst**

**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF THE PAROCHIAL  
CHURCH COUNCIL**

**And**

**ANNUAL REPORT**

**For the year ended 31 December 2019**

**Rector**

**The Reverend Silke Tetzlaff**

**Associate Priest**

**The Reverend Monica Taylor**

**Authorised Lay Minister**

**Mrs Audrey Bullock**

**Treasurer**

**Miss Caroline Highwood**

**BANKERS**

**National Westminster Bank,**

**Maidstone Branch,**

**3 High Street, Maidstone, Kent ME14 1XU**

**Lloyds TSB,**

**'Woodside', Cranbrook, Kent,**

**TN17 3DJ**

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER**

**Mr Stephen Pooley BA FCA, 56 Corner Farm Road**

**Staplehurst, Kent**

**CHURCHWARDENS**

**Mrs Mary Henley**

**Mrs Shirley Skinner**

## Financial Review.

The funds of the PCC come under three headings:

- Unrestricted (general) funds may be spent by the PCC on any object it sees fit within the boundaries set by its aims and objectives as a charity, which are, broadly, to provide Christian ministry in Staplehurst.
- Designated Funds are sums allocated by the PCC for a particular purpose, but may be re-allocated if circumstances change. Restricted Funds (included within the same column) may only be spent on the purposes for which they were given, for example the grant made by the Parish Council for the upkeep of the churchyard.
- Endowment funds are funds donated and invested, and dedicated for a specific purpose.

In 2019 total receipts on unrestricted funds were £115,256. Full details are given in the Financial Statements. This is £10,888 less than in 2018. In 2018 we benefitted from two legacies totalling £15,326, whereas in 2019 we had an improved level of income from donations (including Gift Day amount of £1,925). Worryingly the planned giving amount (regular contributions by the congregation) has reduced by £2,864 compared with 2018.

The church received £23,717 in restricted and designated funds. The main elements of the restricted funds were the grant made by the Parish Council for the upkeep of the churchyard (£6,231), the grant for upkeep of the Church made by the Friends of All Saints (£4,770, and a further £6,738 towards the chancel floor), and charitable contributions (£4,802). The £549 for flowers represents the transfer of the balance previously held by Audrey Bullock for the flowers, together with income received in year for wedding flowers.

Net income from the hire of the parish room totalled £4,466; while the magazine made a profit of £600. Social and Fund Raising events contributed £3,164, and PCC Fees £11,328 (all figures net of costs).

£118,084 was expended on providing Christian ministry from All Saints, including the Parish Share for which we paid £58,224. This contribution to the diocese pays for the salary of the rector, housing costs such as structural repairs to the Rectory, as well as providing for clergy pensions and a range of centralised resources. These resources include training of lay people (such as lay ministers and readers) and support for the gift aid process. All Saints' contribution to the Parish Share is arrived at by use of a distribution formula, in use throughout the Diocese.

The amount of Parish Share assessed for All Saints was actually £72,487 for 2019 (an increase of £2,451 on the 2018 amount, however it proved impossible to pay it in full. As a result, PCC agreed, in consultation with the Diocese and the Deanery, to withhold two instalments, the sum of £14,263. It is unlikely that we will be able to pay this amount, in the foreseeable future.

There were only small increases in costs compared with the previous year, and this is due to the robust efforts made by the Rector and the PCC to maintain a tight control of all spending. A full breakdown of the costs of ministry is to be found under the heading 'Note 3, Resources Expended' in the accounts.

Despite withholding two instalments of Parish Share, there was a real deficit of income in relation to expenditure in unrestricted funds of £2,828. Taken in comparison with previous years, when

we have been buoyed by the receipt of some generous legacies, the deficit for 2019 demonstrates a truer picture of our financial position.

PCC recognise that this position is completely unsustainable, as we do not have the financial reserves to continue incurring costs without increased income. The Rector and PCC continue to discuss measures to increase income, and to further reduce our costs, and will be happy to receive any additional ideas on this.

As previous years the Diocese has continued to be supportive about the difficulties that we are in. We do not have a specific Reserves Policy, in fact we have very little money in reserve. As advised with the 2018 accounts, PCC has resolved in any month when it was forecast that the bank accounts were likely to fall below £10,000, that month's instalment of Parish Share would be withheld. It was for this reason that, initially we withheld 3 instalments of Parish Share. At the end of the year we felt that we could safely release one of the 3 instalments, and this means we have not paid the final two instalments (£14,263). The 2020 year is likely to be similarly difficult.

Finally, we would like to thank all those people who continue to support the work of the church through their individual financial contributions, and through other fund-raising efforts. These efforts are very much appreciated, and an important feature of the life of All Saints.