

Parish of Abingdon-on-Thames
Treasurer's Report on the Accounts for the Year Ended 31st
December 2017

The consolidated accounts of the Parish of Abingdon-on-Thames for 2017 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. There were no new property transactions involving the PCC during 2017.

The accounts for 2017 show a deficit on unrestricted funds of £11,743 before gains on investments and transfers between funds. This can be contrasted with a surplus of £14,168 in 2016. When grants and legacies are excluded, the net unrestricted income of the Parish fell marginally from £276,946 in 2016 to £276,190. Giving and collections made up some 80% of the net recurrent income, but rose by 1.8% to £222,011 from £218,169 in 2016.

Unrestricted expenditure, excluding freehold depreciation, increased by 8% to £294,225 from £272,565 in 2016, although when major repairs and renewals are excluded, other expenditure rose by 5.4% to £286,433 (2016: £271,897). The Parish Share, net of the Deanery Share rebate, accounted for 50% of this expenditure, and rose from £132,830 in 2016 to £143,476.

The deficit in 2017 seems to result from increased expenditure, and the apparent stability in voluntary income is a positive sign. St Michael's and St. Nicolas both budgeted for deficits in 2017, but delivered a better out-turn than expected. Even so both churches have presented deficit budgets for 2018, and each DCC must continue to work towards restoring balanced budgets.

Investments and reserves

During 2017 the Parish investments showed unrealised gains of £22,239

(2016: £29,980) or 5.7% of the year-end total. Of this 36% was attributable to the unrestricted funds, which at the year-end made up 54% of the total of £391,282. 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 £1,315,514. Restricted and Endowment funds account for £282,515 and £225,705 of this total respectively. We define the reserves as the total of general unrestricted funds excluding 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	Fixed Assets	Total Funds
St Helen's	97,967	19,461	386,062	503,490
St Michael's	225,374	2,822	0	228,196
St Nicolas	35,377	34,958	4,162	74,497
PCC		1,111		1,111
Totals	358,718	58,352	390,224	807,294

The reserves shown above satisfy the minimum criteria, and current budgetary projections are that this will be maintained throughout 2018. The lowest reserve is held by St. Nicolas, but here restricted funds of £121,863 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
March 2018

PARISH of ABINGDON-ON-THAMES
CONSOLIDATED CHURCH ACCOUNTS 2017
(adapted from unaudited figures)

	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	137,619	37,232	47,160	0	222,011	2,891	18,337	15,372		36,600	258,611
Legacies and Grants	500	0	7,792	0	8,292	10,000	500	2,623		13,123	21,415
Investments and Rent	326	7,399	1,429	0	9,154	4,425	32	1,278	0	5,735	14,889
Income from Church Activities	15,179	7,892	649		23,720	0	0	0		0	23,720
Activities for Generating Funds	16,118	5,514	4,678	-6,966	19,344	4,206	0	0	-445	3,761	23,105
Other Incoming Resources	0	0	1,961		1,961	0	0	0		0	1,961
Total Income	169,742	58,037	63,669	-6,966	284,482	21,522	18,869	19,273	-445	59,219	343,701
Expenditure											
Fund-raising Costs	5,407	0	1,707		7,114	2,970	0	0		2,970	10,084
Grants	12,978	5,943	3,380		22,301	166	0	1,234		1,400	23,701
Parish Share (Note a)	78,992	33,084	31,400	0	143,476					0	143,476
Running the Church	72,973	22,634	29,081	-7,411	117,277	13,631	29,761	9,940		53,332	170,609
Governance Costs	2,228	2,029	1,800		6,057	0	0	0		0	6,057
Total Expenditure	172,578	63,690	67,368	-7,411	296,225	16,767	29,761	11,174	0	57,702	353,927
Net Surplus (after depreciation)	-2,836	-5,653	-3,699	445	-11,743	4,755	-10,892	8,099	-445	1,517	-10,226
Gains on investments	135	3,915	3,900	0	7,950	10,200	1,266	2,823	0	14,289	22,239
Transfers between funds	441				441	-441				-441	
Net movement in funds	-2,260	-1,738	201	445	-3,352	14,514	-9,626	10,922	-445	15,365	12,013
Balance forward 01.01.17 (Note a)	505,305	229,934	74,296	1,111	810,646	286,847	50,847	156,108	-947	492,855	1,303,501
Balance forward 31.12.17	503,045	228,196	74,497	1,556	807,294	301,361	41,221	167,030	-1,392	508,220	1,315,514

Note:

(a) Opening balances and outgoings restated to attribute parish share rebate to correct year.

Andrew R. Birks

Treasurer

15/03/18