

Notes from the Finance Presentation – 18/19th June 2022

Background

(These notes are meant to support the presentation given on the above date.)

Notes supporting the presentation

One of the Precepts of the church – a general rule that should lead to positive thought, behaviour and action is everyone one of us, should support the community with our time, talent and treasure.

The following areas will be covered:

- Finance figures year to date and outlook:
- Finance Reporting Moving Forward
- Raising Finance
- Thank you
- What I am asking of everyone

Figures year to Date (plus onward forecast):

Currently the parish is approx. £50k in debt on our current account, likely projection for year end is possible £70k in debt. (Please note these are projections and can change.)

This is partly due to the impact of COVID and the parish only opening in the last few months.

Gas and Electricity increase of £1800 per month (estimate from contract supplier)

It is estimated we will need approx. £40k extra next budget year from September to just stand still on the current operational model. Urgent action and root and branches review is required to establish the best operational model moving forward – this includes parish administration provision (replacement of Liz Fisher – Parish Secretary and Administrator)

Finance Reporting Moving Forward

From next year we will move to a new method of reporting and will be more stakeholder and mission based. Reporting will be on a regular basis.

There will be a movement towards more spend on Mission rather than Maintenance – fulfilling the great commission of being an intentional disciple of Christ “to go make disciples of all and baptise them”

Raising Finance

There will be a movement towards external grants and financing – Keely Tattersfield (who helped with the parish consultation) will help us with this, along with Richard Norman from the Diocese.

As a parish we fully recognise how parishioner’s disposal income is being impacted:

- 15%increase in food prices
- inflation projected to be 11%
- Increase in mortgages and rents

Notes from the Finance Presentation – 18/19th June 2022

- Increase fuel – electricity, gas, oil, petrol and derv

however, we cannot get away from the fact to continue to provide as we do and move forward the community needs more finance.

Many parishioners continued to support the parish through the pandemic and the last two years, a number did not, we lost much of our weekly plate collection. Many gave and continue to give significantly, some very little, in some cases nothing, some the widows mite and much more, some disadvantage themselves to support the parish family, the reality is that at last census we had approx. 700 adults who declared themselves part of the parish family per person income per week this year is £3.40p. Over the two-year pandemic an estimate of loss of income is in the order of £60k to £70k (based on history).

The reality is that to just provide for what we currently do needs additional funding.

So, in future weeks we shall be looking at how to increase gift aid through direct debit; reducing plate giving so that it is gift aided or through planned giving and looking to go cashless for plate and other payments in the parish. We shall also seek help with those who can afford one-off donations (if possible, gift aided).

I am repeatedly asked, why is it the Kerrith can do this or that and we cannot? One aspect is tithing where a % of income is tithed to the church again we shall look at how we might be able to progress this. Tithing was always part of church and over a period focus was lost on this aspect of sharing “our treasures.”

Upcoming Finance Projects

The sale of St Margaret Clitherow site has so far taken 12 years from the time the church was closed.

Whilst the sale (hopefully in the coming months) will contribute to clearing our debt and pay for making the church premises water tight, it is not the answer to everything financial. After:

- clearing any current account debt;
- £175k approx. to be paid to the Diocese (to be confirmed the cost to sell St Margaret Clitherow site incurred by the Diocese);
- payment of the convent buy out to Silva homes £350k (agreed by the Diocese with Silva Homes in 2021);
- roof project £380k;
- outcome of work identified under the Quinquennial Building Survey Report (value yet to be confirmed);

Notes from the Finance Presentation – 18/19th June 2022

- applying the formula laid out in Diocesan Financial Procedures for allocation of monies from sale of assets.

there may be something in the order of £125,000 to share between parish and Diocese. (Apart from the covenant buy out these figures are all current best estimates and projections could change.)

The big parish project for the future is the development of the church hall. There will be more information regarding the result of the consultation and feasible option soon.

Also, £15k is required to decorate the rooms annexed to the hall. The hall looks good, but the kitchen, hallways and entrances now look shoddy and tired.

Thank you to the following:

Thanks to David, Ian, Peter, Stephen, and Steve for their involvement in the finance team – thank you for all your support.

To Angela – thank you for being our secretary and keeping us on track and distributing everything you do.

Fr Danny, Mary, Emmy, Bill, and Mike thank you as an SLT team for placing your faith and trust in us to keep the finances in order.

Finally, to Tony Gunning and Catherine Colley – you have provided so much support over many years, during the pandemic you both moved to other parts of the country and yet you continued to provide your time, your talent and your treasure to the finance team and the parish. I am personally hugely grateful for your support and help and wish you both all the best for the future and you will always be in our prayers.

What am I asking from everyone?

- Please remember the precept of the church relating to time, talent and treasure – think and react positively
- Times are hard but please consider how much treasure you are giving to the mission of the church - we need money to break even with the current model.
- Please pray and seek from God, Jesus and the Holy Spirit what is being asked of you.

The parish are immensely grateful to those who have and continue to support the parish with their time, their talents and their treasure. What we are asking is that no one after reading this should leave themselves in a difficult financial position. What we are asking is that we all look at what we give, to make a conscience decision and to give what can be afforded.