

Treasurer's Report

The gradual easing of covid restrictions during 2021 meant that income from collections and fees increased. Stewardship giving was not badly affected by the pandemic but has decreased in the last couple of years, mainly due to donors moving away. This is worrying because regular giving is the foundation on which the PCC bases forward planning.

The Parish Standard Cost (Common Fund) for 2022 remains unchanged at £82,500 but clergy costs have been increased by 1.5% to £56,550 and training & support reduced to keep total costs the same. It should be explained that this figure is not the Rector's salary. Clergy costs include salaries, pensions and housing costs averaged out across the parishes in the Diocese.

The PCC fixed our Common Fund offer for 2022 at £55,000 with the hope of being able to increase it next year to at least cover our share of clergy costs. This is seen as a minimum aspiration as the PCC is mindful of our responsibility to the wider church whilst not neglecting mission at St. Nicholas.

A card reader and QR codes for donations were set up in church at the end of 2021 and have proved quite successful, particularly at weddings and baptisms.

As always, thanks go to the finance team – Fiona, Hilary, Joan and Nicky who count and bank collections and Hilary and Jeremy for keeping stewardship records and dealing with the Gift Aid claim.

Thank you to everyone who supported our church financially in 2021. We appreciate that the current economic situation is very challenging but if you are in a position to review your giving, please consider doing so.

Kathy Hodge

PCC Treasurer

May 2022

(Please note – signed original accounts are held on Parish File)