

Finance Report

As in previous years, this report is a short introduction to the Annual Accounts of the parish, with the associated Notes, which provide the relevant facts and figures.

All receipts and payments in 2024 were recorded, and the bank account fully reconciled. There were no outstanding invoices at the year end. Moneys owed and owing in the normal course of business were recorded as Accounts Payable and Receivable respectively; details are given in the Notes to the Accounts.

After very difficult financial times in 2023, 2024 was fortunately a much quieter year. In contrast with last year's almost unsustainable deficit of £6108, the General Fund had a tiny surplus of £11.42 this year. Both congregational giving (with an aggregate increase of over ££3,000) and other sources of income (total increase over £8,000, mainly from hall rentals) were encouraging. Unfortunately, it also became apparent that we had incorrectly estimated the amount of tax recoverable through the Diocese, and this year's accounts have had to make provision for this error. This has pushed the General fund into a deficit of almost £1,800, which will impact on cash flow in 2025

The good news is that, by taking the hit to cash flow in the current year, we were able to pay last year's Parish Share (£26,877) in full before the Diocese closed its books for 2024. Although costs are not rising as much as they were a year ago, it is already clear that paying our Parish Share in full this year will once again be difficult. Our smaller and older congregation is as generous as ever, but we cannot expect to continue as we are indefinitely.

Keeping church finances in some sort of order takes a lot of work. It bears repeating that the task would be impossible for me without the support I continue to receive from David McCulloch and Helen Davison. My most important task in this report is, as in previous years, to put on record my thanks for all the help they give.

David Bennison