



Treasurer's Report 2023

The Deanery runs the following funds:

1. General Working Fund

This fund deals with the routine running of the Deanery. Income comes from fees paid by each parish. For 2023 it was £40 per Deanery Synod lay representative (unchanged since 2020).

2. Quinquennial Inspection Fund

This fund is operated as a service to parishes so that the cost of their Quinquennial Inspection fees can be spread over several years. Each parish contributes a standard levy per inspectable building, and claims from the fund when the inspection falls due. The levy (set by Deanery Synod) for 2023 was £220 (unchanged since 2020, which was the first increase since 2009).

3. Parish Share Rebate and Mission Fund

This fund receives the Parish Share Rebate on behalf of the Deanery. A rebate is payable when all the deanery parishes pay the Parish Share in a timely fashion throughout the year; currently 20% paid by 31st March, 50% by 30th June and 100% by 31st December. A deposit account with the Central Board of Finance of the Church of England is used, operated on the Deanery's behalf by Oxford Diocese.

The fund is used by the Deanery to make grants to support projects in line with the Deanery vision, but also to finance the shortfall in Parish Share, so that the Deanery can meet the above target dates and still benefit from the rebate. Deficits for recent years are shown on Page 3 of these accounts. The shortfalls in 2022 and 2023 have been much lower than in recent years, which is a significant achievement. As a result, the total for grants in 2023 was a record high, and it is envisaged that a significant amount will be available in 2024. It is however vital to leave sufficient funds in the account to meet shortfalls at each target date, in order to achieve the rebate each year.

In October 2020 Deanery Synod approved a Parish Share Contingency for 2021 (see Page 3). Initially, this was to finance a detailed review of the rural parishes in the western half of the deanery and to finance accommodation for a Lay House for Duty. As it was not fully utilised by 31st December 2021, the contingency for 2022 was considerably lower. The Lay House for Duty arrangement ceased in October 2022, when the Lay Chair retired, replaced by a paid role for the new Associate Lay Chair. The annual contingency is now only used to finance this paid role.

4. Rural Parishes Project

In 2021 a review was carried out involving the 14 rural churches on the western side of the Deanery. This has led to mutual support and pooling of resources between the churches, and continues as the Deanery's Rural Forum. (Details can be found on the Deanery's website WycombeDeanery.com.) In 2023 an anonymous donation has enabled the Deanery to appoint a Rural Parishes Project Co-ordinator, to provide support, particularly to Church Wardens and other workers in the churches.

Nigel Peach
Deanery Treasurer
March 2024

Report of the Independent Examiner

I have examined the records and documentation of all the Wycombe Deanery funds set out above and confirm them to support the following statements.

L. A. Wratten
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L.A. Wratten
L. A. WRATTEN

Wycombe Deanery

31st December 2023

1. General Working Account

	2023 £	2022 £
Income and Expenditure Account		
Income		
Synod Members' fees (63 @ £40)	2,520	2,600
Transfer from Share Rebate Fund	3,000	2,000
	<u>5,520</u>	<u>4,600</u>
Expenditure		
Secretarial Support	-3,610	-3,140
Deanery Officers' Expenses	-335	-588
Accommodation Costs West Wycombe Rectory	0	-10,389
Rural Review Expenses	0	-2,013
Associate Lay Chair Salary	-10,295	-2,794
Less: above three items covered from Mission Fund	10,295	15,196
Miscellaneous Expenses	-1,003	-1,526
	<u>-4,948</u>	<u>-5,254</u>
Net Surplus/(Deficit) this year	<u>£572</u>	<u>-£654</u>
Add: Accumulated Fund at 31st December 2022	937	1,591
<u>Accumulated Fund at 31st December 2023</u>	<u>£1,509</u>	<u>£937</u>

2. Quinquennial Inspection Fund

	2023 £	2022 £
Movements on Quinquennial Fund		
Income		
Annual Inspection Contributions (34 churches @ £220)	7,480	7,700
Bank Interest received	332	94
	<u>7,812</u>	<u>7,794</u>
Expenditure		
Architects' Inspections (nine inspections)	-11,635	-3,520
Net Surplus/(Deficit) this year	<u>-£3,823</u>	<u>£4,274</u>
Add: Accumulated Fund at 31st December 2022	28,841	24,567
<u>Accumulated Fund at 31st December 2023</u>	<u>£25,018</u>	<u>£28,841</u>

3. Parish Share Rebate and Mission Fund

	2023	2022
Movements on Fund	£	£
Income		
Share Rebate received (2.5% of £1,224,557)	30,614	38,089
Bank Interest received	3,567	741
Grant from Oxford Diocese	0	0
Parish Share Contingency (see page 1)	12,200	12,967
	<u>46,381</u>	<u>51,797</u>
Expenditure		
Payments towards shortfall in share payments (see note 2 below)	-1,729	-8,686
To General Fund re Associate Lay Chair salary (and in 2022 also Accommodation Costs and Rural Review Expenses)	-10,295	-15,196
	<u>-12,024</u>	<u>-23,882</u>
Transfer to General Fund	-3,000	-2,000
Missional Grants (see note 1 below)	-22,056	-10,050
	<u>-37,080</u>	<u>-35,932</u>
Net Surplus/(Deficit) this year	<u>£9,301</u>	<u>£15,865</u>
Add: Accumulated Fund at 31st December 2022	74,636	58,771
Accumulated Fund at 31st December 2023	<u>£83,937</u>	<u>£74,636</u>

Note 1. Deanery Missional Grants

	2023
St Mary the Virgin, Fawley towards new AV system	1,500
Christ Church Flackwell Heath re school uniform supply project	2,000
Hambleden Valley Group towards Wild Church	500
St Nicholas Ibstone towards new AV equipment	919
St Paul's Wooburn re iSingPOP workshop	1,000
St Francis Terriers towards resources for youth group	2,000
Deanery resource (based at St Andrew's) portable puppet stage	1,612
Towards Deanery Youth Weekend Away (organised by St Peter's)	2,000
St Mary & St George, Sands towards equipping new families worker	2,000
St Bartholomew Fingest towards new AV equipment	1,000
St James Downley towards new keyboard	1,000
St Mark's Bourne End towards renovating hall garden	2,000
Holy Trinity Hazlemere towards resourcing After School Dropin	2,000
St Mary Le Moor Cadmore End training for Godly Play	525
All Saints Bisham towards new servery equipment	2,000
Total	<u>£22,056</u>

Note 2. Unpaid Parish Share for recent years

<u>Year</u>	<u>Total Unpaid Parish Share</u>	<u>Total Deanery % Parish Share Unpaid</u>		<u>Deanery Rebate</u>	<u>Net "Gain"</u>
2018	£25,741	£1,202,476 2.14%	3	£35,233	£9,492
2019	£32,213	£1,215,244 2.65%	5	£35,884	£3,671
2020	£37,288	£1,256,929 2.97%	6	£37,398	£110
2021	£33,057	£1,195,741 2.76%	3	£35,872	£2,815
2022	£8,686	£1,269,619 0.68%	2	£38,089	£29,403
2023	£1,729	£1,224,557 0.14%	1	£30,614	£28,885

See note on Page 1 Defaulting Parishes

Wycombe Deanery

31st December 2023

4. Rural Parishes Project

	2023	2022
	£	£
Income and Expenditure Account		
Income		
Donation	10,000	0
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	10,000	0
Expenditure		
Salaries	-1,298	0
Mileage Expenses	-75	0
Rural Fellowship Barbecue	-226	0
Miscellaneous Expenses	-15	0
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	-1,614	0
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<u>Accumulated Fund at 31st December 2023</u>	<u>£8,386</u>	<u>£0</u>

Balance Sheet as at 31st December 2023

	2023	2022
	£	£
Accumulated Funds at 31st December 2023		
General Working Account (see Page 2)	1,509	937
Quinquennial Inspection Fund (see Page 2)	25,018	28,841
Parish Share Rebate and Mission Fund (see Page 3)	83,937	74,636
Rural Parishes Project (see above)	8,386	0
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	<u>£118,850</u>	<u>£104,414</u>
<i>Represented by:</i>		
Bank Accounts		
Lloyds Bank Current Account	11,635	8,307
CBF Deposit Account	7,585	7,252
CBF Deposit Account re Parish Share	75,820	58,525
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	95,040	74,084
Debtors and Prepayments	34,899	39,103
Creditors	-11,089	-8,773
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	<u>£118,850</u>	<u>£104,414</u>