

PCC Treasurer's Report for Annual Parochial Church Meeting

Tuesday 6 May 2025

2024 was another difficult year for the finances of both churches but particularly for All Saints, which ended the year with a deficit of £1,810 and only £2,158 in unrestricted funds available. By the end of this year we anticipate that there will only be around £1,400 in unrestricted funds left so we need to find some new donors for the general running costs of the church before its funds run out. There is some excellent community support for the annual Carol service at All Saints as well as fundraising events such as the Harvest Auction at Green Farm (which regularly makes more money than the Harvest Supper and Auction held in Leigh!) and the recent community coffee morning and Easter Egg hunt in aid of church funds so we know that the village are willing to support the church and the PCC is preparing a letter explaining the need for regular giving, which we intend to deliver to all of the houses in Downhead in the near future.

Thanks to the continued support of the Friends of Leigh Church and the generosity of our regular donors, for which we are very grateful, we should still end the year with sufficient reserves in place to cover the expected shortfall in budgeted unrestricted income for 2025 and we have been very fortunate to have received a bequest of £10,000 for St Giles Church from the estate of the late Gladys Spencer, part of which we have set aside for the next stage of the planned repairs.

As always, I make my annual request that, if you are making regular payments to church funds but haven't increased the amount for some time, we would be very grateful if you would think about whether you are able to increase your donations to help us cover our increased running costs. We appreciate that these are difficult financial times but any increase, however small, would be greatly appreciated and help us to keep our amazing church buildings a welcoming place for people to visit for many years to come.

Margaret Loten, PCC Treasurer

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