

REPORT TO CHURCH COUNCIL FROM RESOURCES MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 25TH JANUARY 2024

Finance

Phil presented a summary of the management accounts for the first four months of the current financial year to 31/12/23 with a comparison to budget

There is encouraging progress, in particular with lettings, gifts, grants and fund raising income with a surplus of over 1k compared to a budgeted loss of 7k for the period

Phil has revised the year end 31/8/24 budget to show a surplus of 3.5k instead of breakeven

Gift Day

This Sunday , Letter being sent to the congregation seeking to raise 5k. Grants received of circa 15k towards purchase of the two new batteries costing circa 20k.

The two new batteries should save us 2.5k pa in energy costs as enhance our Eco credentials

Whilst Church finances are improving they are not yet robust enough to find this additional 5k.

Battery

Being delivered on 13th February by Stratford Energy Solutions into the organ loft next to the existing battery to ensure we meet grant conditions. Exact installation date dependent upon electricity meter upgrade.

Launch Date for Commissioning of Battery for discussion

A good opportunity to gain some good publicity for the Church. Various ideas for discussion at CC meeting

Solar Panels---Henley proposals for discussion

Andrew Steele has obtained from Heart Of England Community Energy---HECE

Soft loan of 5.5k –interest free repaid from savings made—around 1k envisaged pa. Together with a grant of 1.5k. The Church would need to find 1.5k to complete the project ---8.5k

Solar Panels—Stratford proposals for discussion

Andrew and Lim looking at similar scheme with HECE for additional panels

Supportis

Visit for both Churches took place on 1st November—comprehensive report for both Churches with a good number of action points. Both Churches have supplied information and reports and made some progress by taking prompt action, however an ongoing project over next 6/12 months. Requirement for improved signage and maps on premises.

Next Step is to organise Fire Awareness Training in conjunction with Holy Trinity

Property

After many many years as our Senior Property Steward Steve Farmery is stepping back and resigning from the Resources Committee.

We are very grateful for the hard work and dedication and we all owe him a massive thanks.

Steve has been keen to step back for sometime and importantly he will remain available to guide us with his wide knowledge and expertise.

Leaves a big gap for us all to fill.

Henley—Roof tile from the Fish & Chip Shop blew off and damaged the leaded windows of the Church—in progress of being sorted with insurers.

Stratford

Accessible toilet –boxed in—minor work o/s

Low level gutters and top part of Rainwater Harvesting System cleaned

Lighting inside and outside issues--one visit from electricians on 30/1—further visit and work to follow.

Five Year Electrical Testing and Inspection due June 2024—quote accepted --£1872

Five Year Quinquennial Inspection due in the summer—paid and organised by Circuit

Church Garden—for discussion—suggestion change the wild garden behind the kitchen into a lawned area with a bench

Colette

One Circuit employment contract is making good progress.

Colette is on hols for 3 weeks from Thursday 15th February until Monday 11th March, support and help may be needed

Graham Collins

Resources Secretary

8TH February 2024