

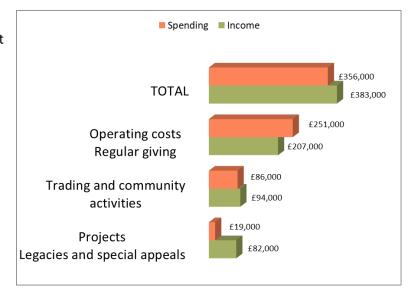
CHURCH FINANCES 2017-18

The Annual Report and Accounts are available on our web site, but that is quite a lot to read. This summary picks out the most important features.

Overall in 2017, we earned more (£383,000) than we spent, which was good. But we have different types of spending – operational, trading and project – and we aim to fund each in different ways.

Income and spending are roughly in balance (after allowing for depreciation) on the trading and community activities costs. These are things like The Cornerstone, our concerts programme, Parish magazine and the two cottages we let in Wiltshire Road.

We received much more last year in legacies and special appeals than we spent, but this is often the case. Big repairs to the church building and



major refurbishment programmes like our Community Church 2020 project are "lumpy". No spend one year and then several tens if not hundreds of thousands the next. These are funded mainly from legacies and special appeals and last year there was a surplus of this type of activity, but this surplus had to be used

Operating costs include our worship, pastoral and outreach activities which are at the core of the church's work – we paid £131,000 to the Diocese last year for clergy stipends, training, housing, pensions, and Diocesan services. We pay a youth worker and a Director of Music. Our other operating costs, such as administration, building and churchyard maintenance and utilities and our gifts to charities and mission agencies brought our operating costs to £251,000.

This is way short of our regular giving amount. Last year, the total from regular giving and collections was just £207,000 – not nearly enough to meet the total amount of operating costs.

In the financial strategy we plan to bring these more in balance, through continuing to share our youth worker with the Methodist church, capping music expenditure, making more of our "trading activities" and raising the congregations giving – particularly through encouraging more people to give regularly and introducing more ways to give, including direct debit and web payments.

At the end of June 2018 we have handed out a letter to all the congregation to remind them of all the different ways that gifts to the church can be made, as described on our web site, or in handouts at the back of church.

Anne King Treasurer June 2018

