Hampstead Parish Church Magazine April 2020

PCC REPORT

ANNUAL ACCOUNTS AND BUDGET – EXTERNAL LIGHTING – MISSION ACTION PLAN PRIORITIES FOR 2020/21

The PCC's latest meeting was held on 24 February.

The main formal business of the meeting was the approval of the parish's Financial Statements for 2019, which will be included in the Annual Report to be presented at the Annual Parochial Meeting on 27 April. Our Treasurer Inigo Woolf reported a small deficit on the general fund at the year end. Although expenditure had been higher than planned, partly due to the cost of repairs following rain damage in the choir vestry, this had been offset by unexpected income, such as fees for the filming of "A Christmas Carol". A revaluation of the parish pension scheme liability also helped to reduce the deficit.

Capital projects such as the solar panels and improved lighting have been paid for out of the generous legacies received in recent years, and the balance of those funds are set aside for further improvements and other projects such as a new website. After considering the funds needed for our regular mission and outreach activities the PCC has adopted a budget for 2020 showing a deficit of around £18,000, and although we always retain some cash reserves the PCC will be looking at ways to generate additional income, including increased regular giving by congregation members.

The meeting also received an update on the proposals for improvement of the external lighting, which have now been modified in the light of comments received during the planning application process, and we hope that this will soon be able to proceed.

The Mission Action Plan approved by the PCC last year is a regular item for discussion at our meetings, and was also discussed at the PCC's "Away-day" held on a Saturday in January. As well as reviewing the progress already made we are identifying priorities for development of our mission over the rest of this year and in 2021. At the February meeting we had a preliminary discussion about the part of the plan which involves looking at how we can make best use of our buildings and facilities to enhance our worship and reduce our environmental impact. This includes considering ways of making our building more open, welcoming and accessible to all, as well as improving facilities for worship and hospitality and the office and vestry areas.

NICK WALSER – PCC Secretary