

A Letter from the Treasurer

Finance Update March 2021

Many thanks to everyone who has been able to respond to the letter about our finances with donations, most of which are on top of regular giving. It really is appreciated. We have been able to settle our 2020 Parish Share arrears with the Diocese, although we are now paying only half the required amount in 2021.



Many parishes are in the same position but it's really important that we do everything we can to keep on top of this while not letting our funds run "dry" as all other bills still have to be paid.

The PCC have agreed that I should decide if and when we can reduce our arrears and I hope to be able to make a further payment to the Diocese this month.

The Parish Share is our largest item of expenditure at £6,000 per month (we're paying half at present). This funds the cost of clergy and staff across the Diocese (including our Vicar's pay) plus a small amount for other diocesan costs. I expect that receipts have fallen quite badly during the coronavirus close-downs. The Diocese have been really helpful in agreeing a lower contribution, but we should try to "pay our way" if possible.

New sets of Weekly Giving envelopes will be available in a few weeks, so if/when services resume please collect yours and any for people who can't get to church. If you wish to set up a Standing Order rather than use envelopes that would be helpful. You can set this up if you have Internet Banking, or I can send you a form to send to your bank (see contact details below).

Our bank details are:

Sort code: 05-05-29

Account number: 45670614

Once again, thanks so much for your generosity.

Brian Seaborn
PCC Treasurer

0161 336 8089 or treasurer@mottramparish.org.uk

A Letter from the PCC

Even though the church is closed at present, the work of the PCC continues, and we have recently been considering when we should reopen church. We know everyone is looking forward to being able to worship together in our lovely church building once again.

The Prime Minister recently announced the gradual easing of lockdown restrictions over the coming months due to the success of the vaccine rollout, the decreasing hospital admissions and, thankfully, the decreasing death rate nationally.

However, you may not be aware that the infection rate in Tameside remains higher than other parts of the country, with the Borough now ranked 12th nationally for the number of new infections. The Kent Covid variant is dominant in the borough.

Figures released by Public Health England shown the rate of infections per 100,000 for Tameside are currently 193.4 (as of Friday 26th Feb.) whilst the England rate is only 112.4 per 100,000. The infection rate is decreasing, but slowly. There are serious concerns among local leaders that they may have to implement local restrictions despite national restrictions being lifted.

The Tameside Director of Health, Dr Jeanelle de Gruchy, recently issued a statement via video in which she states we should only leave home for essential reasons. The full video can be seen at:

<https://youtu.be/ots6e8igfKE>

Mindful of this, and the PCC's responsibility toward ensuring we remain Covid safe, we have decided to remain closed for the time being. The PCC is meeting via zoom on Thursday 11th March and will consider the situation further then.

We know many of you will be disappointed with this. But as we are often told "it's a marathon not a sprint" - we will be together again once it is safe to do so.

Stay safe,

Kate Best

PCC Secretary

