

Vestry Report September 2019

- We have declined to give funds to Holy Trinity Church, Wester Hailes as we can't disaggregate the item requested from their accounts, to show the financial need.
- Vestry have been asked to continue to consider exactly how the money for the Pastoral worker should be used.
- An evening to learn new hymns has been postponed until Advent.
- The latest Grave Talk had fewer participants but was a success.
- Approval for the chosen charities to receive a donation from St Cuthbert's was by email. The charity donations are: £500 each for Dad's Rock and Arkordia (local charities); £1000 for Project Embabazi for relief of poverty in Uganda (our Global charity) and £1000 for Christians against Poverty (our National charity). Nicki thanked Laura and Margaret.
- St Cuthbert's has received a bequest from the estate of Miss Jessie Thomson for the sum of approximately £123,000. There was no stipulation for use and we have sent our thanks for this generosity.
- Martin reported that our financial year has ended (truncated this year to 11 months). With the bequest the surplus is around £147,000 although this will decrease when some fees are paid. It was noted that we have not yet spent money on some required repairs.
- Funding requests: for speakers for Shalom; for work to restore the Rectory gardens to a state of low maintenance: to buy a new carpet for the Rectory attic room, and for items (Olive wood Holy family, Temple and Tabernacle) to support Godly Play in Sunday school, were all approved by Vestry.
- Nicki requested that we considered purchasing a portable Font so that Baptisms can take place at the front of the Church. This will enable wheelchair users to remain in the centre of the Church during Baptisms.
- Russell Philp and Jean Wood are retiring from Vestry this year.
- Bob Pritchard is to retire as Property Manager. In future a property Committee with Iain McNelly as Project Manager will take on this role.
- Tod and Taylor Architects have drawn up 2 plans for improving the Church Building space. The aim is to present these to the congregation for consultation December/January time.
- Gail has now left Colinton Parish Church. Nicki has met with Rolf who is keen that they collaborate over the work in the local schools.
- A student on placement is joining us (Dr Lesley Penny, a qualified Vet) and will be with us for 50 hours over 12 months.
- Megan asked if the Welcomers for Sunday services could help those members who need help from their transport into the church.
- There is to be a Christmas Bazaar on December 8 to raise money for the Harmony Education Trust in Balerno (Grant aided Special School).
- *The full minutes are available in the folder at the back of the Church*