

TREASURER'S REPORT (Including Charities)

Information examining our current financial position will be circulated at the meeting. The status of other issues is shown below:

1. Banking Arrangements

All of the formalities required to open a current account with Barclays have, hopefully, now been successfully observed and we are awaiting confirmation from the bank that we can begin operating the account.

2. PCC Charitable Grants

At the last meeting, it was agreed that we would donate 10% of this year's total planned giving income to the charities chosen by PCC. No beneficiaries have, as yet, been confirmed and the congregation have been given the opportunity to engage in the process by providing appropriate suggestions.

The convention in recent year has been to restrict selection to 3 charities so that meaningful contributions can be provided. Broad target groups have been local, national and international charities. For information, the choices for 2016 were:

Local – Marie Curie Hospice in Newcastle.

National – Church Urban Fund.

International – Tearfund.

Suggestions received from the congregation, together with any explanatory notes, are set out below:

Charlotte Straker Project.

Medecins sans Frontieres.

Barnabas Fund (supporting persecuted Christians).

Leprosy Mission.

WaterAid.

Corbridge Youth Initiative. In October, funding received from Children in Need for parts of the programme will cease. An application for further funding has been rejected for the present. Other funding bids are being assembled but will not be considered until late this year or early next year.

Reaching the Unreached. The charity cares for orphaned children in a rural area of South India. The recent decline in the sterling exchange rate is having a marked negative effect on the charity.

None of the suggestions have been supported more than once. The choice of charities is not restricted to the suggestions coming from the congregation.

PCC should identify and implement a means of selecting the charities we will be supporting this year.