



**St Joseph's Bishop Thornton
DIOCESE OF LEEDS
Finance Committee**

Monday 28 January 2019

Summary Minutes

Attendees

Ian Burrell
Helen Jordan
Mark Ashworth
Mark Grafton
Patrick Henry
Martin Holden

Kevin Anderson and Anna Larkin from the Diocesan Curia were in attendance.

Health and Safety

The Memorial testing process has commenced and will continue into the spring. This includes the development of detailed plans of the graveyard. There will be a process of consultation with parishioners who may have information which can help develop these detailed records.

The paths around the Church continue to be gritted as needed. There are plans to scrub the Yorkshire flagstones. This should help ensure they are not slippery.

Finance

Thanks are extended to Rachel Walsh who continues to do the bookkeeping for the Parish.

The Net Assets of the Parish at 31 December 2018 stand at £59k.

At present, once the Parish accounts have been adjusted for extraordinary items, the Income and Expenditure report shows that the Parish is breaking even. This means that whilst the everyday costs are covered by the contributions of the parishioners, the current level of giving is not contributing towards reserves which will, sooner or later, be required for essential repairs and maintenance.

There was a positive response to the recent appeal for offertory donations to be made by standing order. Details of how to set up a standing order and Gift Aid Declarations are available at the back of Church.



Property

The presbytery has now been made available to the Parish for community use and one of the garages will soon be rented out.

Some progress has been made, although more work is still required, with Harrogate Borough Council regarding the potential of a small linear housing development on land owned by the Parish. It is hoped that a "Planning in Principle" approval will be granted in the spring and thereafter the site will be marketed.

Assuming that the PIP is granted, the preference would be to let the school on a lease of up to 10 years. This would help by generating an income for the Parish.