

Charitable Giving Summary APCM

Report to PCC

1. Basic principles

In reviewing our practice, we feel that biblical principles of love and generosity should guide us. In the NT church, even poor churches were encouraged to be generous. For example, St Paul commends the Philippians for their giving [Phil 4.15-19].

2. Finances

- a. Minster Finances- it is difficult to identify sources of gifts now, compared to the past collection process, and difficult to decide which count as 'income', when some sums come in and go straight out. Minster income comes from many sources, e.g. trust funds, grants etc., which are given for specific purposes, so cannot be eligible for passing on.
- b. Personal Finances - current practices of church members have changed. There is more giving to other charities. People expect their Minster giving to be used for the Minster mission and upkeep, not passed on, even if the congregation chose the beneficiary.

3. Background - status quo

Minster giving currently seems to consist of:

- a. Special services (Advent, Christmas, Harvest)
- b. Food Bank/Allendale Food Supply
- c. Disasters special appeals
- d. Lunch & Chat – Sudan Medical Link
- e. Christian Aid lunches
- f. Children's Society – boxes, coffee morning

The Minster no longer gives any of the proceeds of the Minster Green Fair to other charities.

4. PCC Process

- a. Background & principles -paper AF/DA
- b. Initial PCC discussion based on paper Sept 25
- c. Survey of house groups – discussion paper Nov 25
- d. HG discussion & feedback
- e. Collated & presented to PCC Nov 25 – discussion of separate account; focus weekends
- f. Further discussion PCC Jan 26 - including Sudan Good Samaritan project in Nzara; volunteer coordinator of charitable initiatives; building relationships

5. Options for future

- a. Maintain the status quo
- b. Create a separate Minster Charity account and decide on the beneficiaries (like a company nominates a charity of the year)
- c. Seek a volunteer coordinator of all charitable activities/appeals
- d. Calculate the annual 'surplus' in Minster Funds and give an agreed % to agreed beneficiaries
- e. Discuss the support of missions separately

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