

# TRIO Fact Sheet

October 2009

- At the two Presentations the financial position of The Beacon Parish was described, discussed and questions answered.
- *As some people were unable to attend, and have requested information we have produced this Fact Sheet.*
- We have included some frequently asked questions.

**TRIO IS ABOUT DAY-TO-DAY COSTS AND REGULAR INCOME.**  
***NOT MAJOR WORKS - NOT IRREGULAR INCOME***

- **Our total regular income: £68,500**
- **Our housekeeping costs: £95,110**
- **The Gap: £26,610 = £512 per week**

**The Beacon Parish**  
 is one parish comprising the three ancient parishes of Ditchling, Streat and Westmeston each with their listed parish churches.

*We have one Vicar, The Reverend David Wallis based in Ditchling: one Church Council (PCC) elected annually, and one budget administered by our Treasurer Jeffrey Titford.*

TRIO was set up by the PCC early in 2009 with a planning group and an elected chairman Colin Juniper, to address a budget deficit of over £500 per week.

*All members of the Parish were invited to one of two presentations describing the budget "gap", where solutions to our problem were outlined.*

This Fact Sheet is an attempt to inform those who were unable to come to one of the Presentations and to give an indication of some of the questions which have been asked.

*Further information can be obtained from members of the PCC*

Regular Income	
Planned giving	£40,000
Tax back	£10,000
Collections	£16,000
Dividends etc	£2,500
<b>Total</b>	<b>£68,500</b>

**NB**

*The 'Regular Income' does **not include** very variable items such as legacies, donations, weddings or 'one-off' fund raising events.*

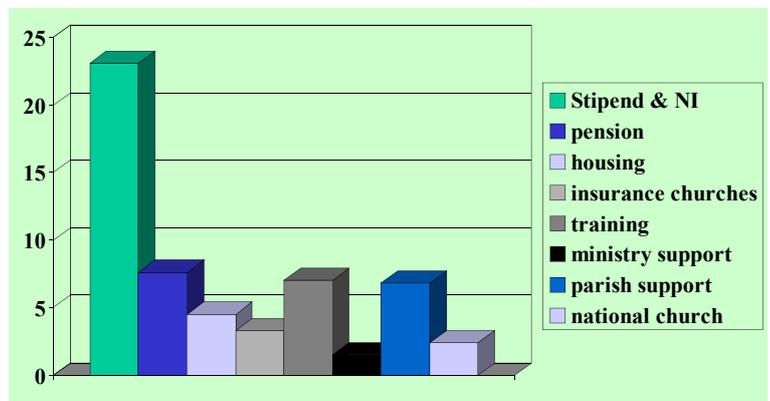
Housekeeping or day-to-day costs	
Diocesan contribution	£56,100
Other clergy costs	£8,900
Church running expenses	£4,450
Admin / stationery	£4,660
Church maintenance	£5,500
Upkeep of services	£4,700
Upkeep of churchyards	£5,800
Missionary/ Charity	£5,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>£95,110</b>

**Major works** involving all three of our churches were carried out in 2008 totalling **£103,230**. We are grateful to these Trusts which funded the majority of these expenses:

- Friends of St.Margaret's Church
- Swan-Perkins Trust
- Mabel Baines Trust
- St.Margaret's Chancel Trust

**For information NOT part of TRIO**

- **Q As the established church in the UK doesn't the Government pay for the church?**  
**A** No. There is no Government provision for the running expenses of the church. The only Government money available is from reclaim of tax through GiftAid.
- **Q Why are we so suddenly having such money problems?**  
**A.** We had been reviewing our budget bearing in mind "TFR", and knew that we needed to increase our income. Then the 'Credit Crunch' happened, affected all of us, the central Church and our Diocese. Every Diocese is having substantial problems.
- **Q What is TFR?**  
**A** Towards **F**ull **R**esponsibility was started in this Diocese about ten years ago as a ten year plan for all the parishes to take **full responsibility** for their expenses. Each year the parish would pay an increasing share until in 2010 the Diocesan subsidy would cease.
- **Q Why do we have to give so much to the Diocese? What do we get for it?**  
**A** As shown on the previous page and in the diagram on the right 69% (the first four columns) of what we give is 'returned' for expenses we have to pay. (Vicar's stipend, National Insurance, pension provision, house and church insurance).
- **Q If I sign a GiftAid form does the parish see my income tax details?**  
**A** No. It only enables the parish to notify the tax people that we can have an extra 28% back from them. It doesn't even cost you anything!
- **Q Why are some of the other expenses so high? What are we doing about it?**  
**A** All expenses have been, or are being closely examined to ensure that no money is wasted. Wherever possible contracts are reviewed and tasks have been done by volunteers rather than by contractors.
- **Q Why are we giving £5000 to Charity when we have such a deficit?**  
**A** At the start of 2008 the PCC had undertaken to give that sum to charity. So we did. This year we have not been able to do the same. However, the PCC is currently looking at other ways to support Missions and charities.
- **Q What about 'fund raising' events? Can't they fill the 'gap'?**  
**A** Fund raising events are an essential item on the parish agenda. They can provide extra money particularly for charity, but any income is variable and cannot be guaranteed. In order to budget effectively a regular income is required.



With this Fact Sheet you will receive a **green Response Leaflet**. It contains all you need if you decide to contribute to the Beacon Parish TRIO appeal. After filling it in, please put it in a sealed envelope and send it to

The TRIO Recorder

Mrs. H.M.Firmin  
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 BN6 8TY

**Please remember  
 GiftAid  
 increases your gift  
 by 28%**