

Important statements from the original leaflet launching the development fund in 2009

What is the Development Fund for?

The Development Fund has been established with a view to the possible replacement of our church hall or the significant addition to or modification of our church buildings. Payments may only be made from the Development Fund for these purposes.

This may include payments in respect of:

- investigations and preparatory activities required to be undertaken in order for decisions to be made concerning building or adaptation works;
- designing, constructing or equipping a new building;
- acquiring a new building or the use of additional premises;
- significant building alteration or refurbishment works; and/or
- transition costs (such as rent payable on alternative space while works are being carried out).

All such expenditure will need to be authorised expressly by the PCC.

If a surplus is left in the Development Fund following significant expenditure on replacing the church hall or making significant additions to or modifications of our church buildings that surplus may be applied for other purposes with the agreement of the PCC.

Payments may not be made from the Development Fund to address a shortfall in the regular income of St Mildred's or to cover expenses of an operational rather than capital nature.

How will the money be looked after?

The Development Fund will be held within a separate bank or building society account or accounts within the ultimate control of St Mildred's PCC and its officers.

The Development Fund will be audited at regular intervals by the Church auditors, as part of the Church accounts. Reports on income and outgoings will be presented to the Church AGM and to the PCC.

What happens to income generated within the Development Fund?

The Development Fund may accrue interest. This interest will remain in the Development Fund.

Gift Aid refunds attributable to payments made into the Development Fund (together with any other tax relief and/or similar entitlements relating to such payments) will be paid into the Development Fund.

So it is all for St Mildred's?

A tithe of 10% will be set aside annually on all sums paid into the Development Fund. This will include gifts to the Development Fund, the recovery of tax relief on these gifts and the accrual of interest within the Development Fund.

This tithe will be placed in a separate "Development Fund tithe account" and allocated separately from the tithe of general Church income. Distribution of money from the Development Fund tithe account will be at the PCC's discretion, but with the expectation that the money might be applied towards a suitable mission project(s) requiring capital funding.

Where will the money come from?

We believe that if God wants us to carry out a building project at St Mildred's then he will provide the necessary funding for this. If we trust our Heavenly Father to provide what is needed we should not need to ask anyone outside the St Mildred's family and the wider Christian community to assist.

Donations from outside St Mildred's and the wider Christian community may be accepted gratefully but the point is that they should not be actively solicited. This means that it is not appropriate to seek funding by inviting anybody from outside St Mildred's and the wider Christian community to provide sponsorship or make a donation, to purchase any goods or services or to participate in any fund-raising event or activity.

The Development Fund is therefore likely to accumulate primarily by donations. It may be possible to secure grant funding from Christian organisations although the availability of this kind of funding is relatively limited.

And finally....

Regardless of your age, you might consider making a donation to the Development Fund by providing for this in your will.