**ST. LAWRENCE CHARITABLE FUND**

Registered Charity No 80034

**CHAIR’S ANNUAL REPORT**

**FROM JULY 2021 TO JUNE 2022**

It has been almost twelve months since the last AGM.

As Covid restrictions were lifted SLCF monthly meetings were resumed at St Lawrence’s community hall, Sidcup.

The annual appeal was held in October 2021, a few months later than usual. We thank Fr. Paul and the parish of St Lawrence’s for their continued support. As a result of changes in the way people use cash, it has been decided to adopt a QR code to provide another option when donating.

It is foreseen there will be a greater demand for help in the coming months as a result of pressure on families and individuals, this due to the increase in cost of living and goods.

The past year SLCF has seen a significant increase in requests for help.

Total income from 1st April 2021 to 31st March 2022 was £21,677, and total expenditure for the same period was £35,369. A significant deficit of £13.692. If this continues at the same level it may become more difficult to fulfill all requests received each month without an increase in income.

A thank you to all those that continue to support SLCF, this includes parishioners of St. Lawrence’s Church, Harenc Trust {supporting requests of Sidcup residents}, William Kendall Trust, Sidcup Rotarians, local businesses and individual donations.

The sum of £2485 was received from HMRC in relation to the gift aid claim, This shows the importance of completing a gift aid form when giving.

In November Joan Coles formally retired as trustee, we thank her for valued contributions. This year we welcome Sarah Washer as a trustee.Thank you to all trustees for their continued hard work, undertaken on a voluntary basis.

In conclusion the coming months will be uncertain and difficult for many, SLCF will continue to apply for grants, encourage donations, and standing orders, so that support can continue to be given to those in need when requested.

 Teresa Haverty, Chair SLCF