Chudleigh Parish Church



The Parish of St Martin and St Mary, Chudleigh

Address for correspondence:
The Vicarage, Parade, Chudleigh TQ13 0JF

Annual Report and Financial Statements of the Parochial Church Council

for the year ended
31st December 2025

Vicar:
The Reverend Alex Sharp

Bankers:
Lloyds Bank
Newton Abbot TQ12 2EE
NatWest Bank
Newton Abbot TQ12 2QW
CCLA
London EC4R 3AB

Independent Examiner:
Mr David Rudall
Greenwood Accountancy
Teign Street
Teignmouth
TQ14 8EB

Our web site:
chudleighparishchurch.org.uk

The Chudleigh Parochial Church Council is a Registered Charity no: 1128947

The Parochial Church Council of St Martin & St Mary, Chudleigh

Annual Report
for the year ended 31st December 2025

Aim and Purpose

St Martin & St Mary's Parochial Church Council (the PCC) has the responsibility of cooperating with the Incumbent, the Reverend Alex Sharp, in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish, the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical.

Objectives and Activities

The work of the PCC is shaped by our church vision: "sharing the love of Jesus with our community through word and action."

Achievements and Performance

Worship and Prayer

As a Church, we aim to provide services of worship which are both accessible and reverent, enjoyable and edifying, drawing on the best of traditional music and liturgy while embracing contemporary hymns and songs as well. The PCC would like to express their thanks to our Music Group and their leader Mark Gale, who lead us in a diverse range of worship each week.

During 2025 our regular Sunday morning service rotated between Holy Communion, Morning Worship and All Age Services. We are very grateful for the ministry of our LLMs (Sheila Fletcher and Yasmin Mann) and clergy with PtO (the Revd Martin Fletcher and the Revd Roderick Withnell), who lead and preach at services across our Mission Community regularly. Helen Harding retired as an LLM this summer, which we marked as part of a "Songs of Praise" event held in one of our sister churches, St Michael the Archangel Trusham.

On a monthly basis we also held Messy Church, BCP Holy Communion and Christian Mindfulness services. These reach out to our community in unique and complementary ways to our weekly Sunday Services. We thank all the volunteers involved for their tireless work to provide these opportunities to the local community.

We stream the audio of our Sunday morning services over the internet for those who are housebound or unable to attend. The PCC is very grateful to our PA/AV team for their skill and dedication in ensuring the smooth running of our services and making the broadcast available.

During the week, we do have a time of prayer that is open to all at 9.15am on Thursdays. The PCC would like to thank Sheila Glenton for her particular role in facilitating this important meeting at the heart of our corporate prayer life. The PCC were delighted to host a monthly midweek communion service led by Yasmin Mann and the Chudleigh branch of the Mothers' Union.

Pastoral care for those who are unable to make it to church continues; the PCC recognises that much of this work is done between friends in the congregation in an informal way, and thanks our church family for their love and concern for one another. The Pastoral Care Group meets

monthly to oversee some of this work. The PCC would like to thank Hayley Jones for her work in chairing this group.

As of 19/4/26, there were 106 parishioners on the Electoral Roll, 91 of whom live within the parish. 8 names were added in the period between the APCM in 2025 and 19/4/26, and 3 were removed, because of death. The old roll, as revised for the APCM in 2025 had 101 names. The average Sunday attendance at the 10.30am Service on 2025 Sundays was 70 (including children but excluding those listening at home).

As well as our regular services, we enable our community to mark, celebrate and thank God at the milestones of the journey through life. There have been 3 Baptisms, 3 weddings and 8 funerals and memorials during the year. We continue to provide opportunities for our community to observe important occasions in the national and Christian calendar such as Ash Wednesday, Easter, Remembrance Day and Christmas, as well as special events such as our annual Memorial Service for loved ones who have died.

The PCC would like to thank all the volunteers who help to decorate the church throughout the year, especially Lucy Kerr for organising this work.

Deanery Synod

The PCC would like to thank Clare Lillington and Megs Kiddle for serving as our Deanery Representatives over the last three years. As our representatives they have provided the PCC with a link to the churches around us, and also with the Diocese as a whole. The Deanery Synod receives reports from the Diocesan and General Synods, and there are various topics and speakers at each meeting. Due to an increased electoral roll, we are entitled to elect three representatives for the next triennium.

Church Fabric

Routine maintenance continued throughout the year (boiler servicing, path spraying, carpet cleaning, service of fire extinguishers, clock maintenance, etc…). A Health and Safety report was received, and all issues have been addressed. In 2025 we undertook restoration work to the Rood Screen, external masonry and glazing repair and treated the oak doors in the west end for woodworm.

The PCC wishes to thank all the people who do the other 'behind the scenes' jobs that make the building clean and safe, it is much appreciated and the building could not function properly without their silent contributions. The churchyard grass cutter is Mike Neck. He and his team continue to make the churchyard presentable.

Mission and Evangelism

Mission and evangelism remain at the heart of our identity. Over the course of 2025 we ran numerous events in addition to our regular services and activities, e.g.: "No Blues Monday" dinner and games in January; a Pancake Day event in February; a Good Friday All Age Trail in March; an exhibition celebrating "Creative Chudleigh" in July and a Light Party in October. We used the opportunities of Mothering Sunday and Fathers' Day to invite the community to join us for special Sunday morning services, which included refreshments beforehand and a BBQ for Fathers' Day in the Vicarage garden. At Christmas we held a wide range of services, including a Christingle service, three carol services, a midnight communion service and an all-age celebration on Christmas Day.

We continue to be involved in our local school, with the Vicar regularly leading Collective Worship and hosting school services in the church. Along with the Vicar we have two Foundation Governors on the Governing Board - Graham Allen and Tom Newton - to whom the PCC express their thanks for their diligence and hard work in this role. The school occasionally makes use of the church building for educational purposes during the year.

Ecumenically, we held two joint services with Chudleigh Baptist Church and continued to work together on several initiatives, most notably the Miniones parent and toddler group and Tuesday Night (Youth) Group, which has been split into younger and older groups. The churches work together on providing all school joiners and leavers with a Bible, an initiative funded through the collection taken at our joint services.

The PCC continues to develop new ideas for outreach and service and is working toward a programme of monthly outreach community events in 2026 through a newly appointed outreach committee.

Church Reordering

2025 saw ongoing work towards the potential reordering of the church. The PCC received regular updates on the work of the Reordering Committee and the architect. An extraordinary meeting was held in July 2025 to allow more time for discussion around key decisions for the project. The PCC received feedback from several bodies throughout the course of the year, including the Diocese of Exeter, the Church Buildings Council, the Victorian Society and Historic England. This feedback was discussed and a proposal for the works prepared to take to the Diocesan Advisory Committee in early 2026. An update will be shared with the congregation at the APCM, ahead of potential further church and community engagement in 2026.

Other Activities

The PCC wishes to express their thanks to all the volunteers that organise and facilitate the many different ministries and activities that contribute to the life and mission of our Church. These include, e.g., Miniones (a parent and toddler midweek group), the Tuesday Night Group (a youth group for 11-14s), the Church Flowers group, and many more. In 2025 we launched a new, after-school club for 4-11s called "Lighthouse Club." A report from each group is collated in an appendix to this document, which was made available with this document in the run up to the APCM.

Financial Review

Total receipts on the unrestricted General were £141,114, and payments from this fund totalled £99,466 giving a surplus of £41,648. This surplus arises due to the fact that we received a £45,000 legacy and knowing that there might be a shortfall we invited the congregation to review their giving, which they did and the PCC is duly grateful. The PCC have designated the interest received from the deposit account relating to the previous legacy to be designated to the building fund . Designated monies are not restricted but set aside for projects. They can be used for general expenses if required. It has been good to see that more people are now using contactless giving and one-off Gift Aid envelopes. Our grateful thanks go to all who contribute financially to the life of the church.

The contribution to the Diocesan 'Parish Share' – which goes towards the cost of stipends, pension, housing costs and training for the clergy – increased by 7.2% in 2025The Parish Share

is paid by every parish and calculated annually according to their congregation numbers averaged over three years.

Reserves Policy

It is PCC policy to try and maintain a balance on unrestricted funds of at least three months expenditure. This is equivalent to approximately £26,000. As of the year end there were sufficient funds in the bank accounts to meet this criteria.

Safeguarding

The PCC has complied with the duty under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016 (duty to have regard to House of Bishops' guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults).

The safeguarding team continue to use the Parish Safeguarding Dashboard and Hub, an online platform to manage safeguarding requirements, and have now progressed to level 3 on the Dashboard. All PCC members are up to date with their safeguarding training and DBS checks . Safeguarding policies have been reviewed and approved by the PCC.

A volunteer pack has been designed to assist with Safer Recruitment and People Management, and we are continuing to work at putting this into effect across the church's activities.

Volunteers

The members of the PCC would like to thank all the volunteers who work so tirelessly to make our Church a lively and vibrant community. Our special thanks go to our Churchwardens, Alison Phillips and Cliff Barnes, and to our Assistant Churchwardens David Bone, Ken Styman, Nick Tuckett and Pamela Tuckett.

Structure, Governance and Management

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. The Council comprises the Incumbent, the Churchwardens, those elected to the Deanery Synod, and other members who are elected at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting, by those on the Electoral Roll.

Members of the congregation are always encouraged to join the Electoral Roll, and to consider standing for election to the PCC.

The PCC members are responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance in the parish, and for all financial matters. The full PCC held eight ordinary and two extraordinary meetings during the year. The purpose of these extraordinary meetings was to discuss and advance the reordering project.

Administrative Information

The Church is situated at Fore Street, Chudleigh TQ13 0HX and is part of the Chudleigh Mission Community, in the Deanery of Newton Abbot, in the Diocese of Exeter. The correspondence address is The Vicarage, Parade, Chudleigh, TQ13 OJF.

The PCC is a body corporate (PCC Powers Measure 1956, and the Church Representation Rules 2022) and is registered with the Charity Commission, no: 1128947.

PCC members who have served from 1st January 2025 until the date this report was approved were:

The Incumbent	Alex Sharp	Chair
Churchwardens	Alison Phillips	
	Cliff Barnes	Vice Chair
Deanery Synod Reps	Megs Kiddle	
	Clare Lillington	Treasurer
PCC Secretary	Ruth Tuckett	
Elected Members	David Bone	
	Hayley Jones	
	Lucy Kerr	
	Margaret Parsons	
	Nicky Over	
	Pip Low	
	Rachel Tuckett	
	Helen Jones	
	Mark Gale	*from 7th May 2025*

Approved by the PCC on 9th March 2026 and signed on its behalf by:

…….. C. W. Lillington ……

Alex Sharp (Chair) Clare Lillington (Treasurer)

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Martin and Mary, Chudleigh
Charity Number: 1128947

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Martin and Mary, Chudleigh

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Martin and Mary, Chudleigh (the Trust) for the year ended 31 December 2025.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

David Rudall
FMAAT
Greenwood Accountancy Ltd
5 Pellew Arcade
Teignmouth
Devon
TQ14 8EB

Date: 8th May 2026

Parish Church of St Martin & St Mary Chudleigh Charity number 1128947
Receipts and Payments Accountsfor the year ended 31st December 2025

	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	2025	2024
RECEIPTS					
Regular giving					
Tax efficient planned giving	61670		2272	63942	53462
Other Planned giving	858		30	888	1858
Collections at Services	6030		1786	7816	6072
Gift Aid recovered	15720		475	16195	14961
Donations	2178		120	2298	2687
	86456		4683	91139	79040
Other Voluntary Receipts					
Legacy	45000		0	45000	11891
Grants	1822		0	1822	1322
Sundry donations	1044		1656	2700	5671
	47866	0	1656	49522	18884
Income from church activities					
Fees (net)	4357		0	4357	3509
Parish magazine	1013		0	1013	1305
Church event contributions	384			384	0
Church letting	990			990	0
	6744		0	6744	4814
Receipts from Investments					
Dividend income	48		0	48	46
Deposit account interest		32633	0	32633	37368
	48	32633	0	32681	37414
Insurance claim	0			0	2852
TOTAL RECEIPTS	**141114**	**32633**	**6339**	**180086**	143004
PAYMENTS					
Church Activities					
Giving - relief & development	3858		2121	5979	6610
Giving - home missions	3909		3046	6955	6101
Parish Share	58941		0	58941	54982
Vicar's expenses	2306		0	2306	2589
Church utilities	6214		0	6214	7143
Church insurance	5206		0	5206	5123
Church maintenance	5230			5230	10841
Major repairs		59335		59335	13943
Upkeep of churchyard	2178		0	2178	4455
Upkeep of services	1919		0	1919	768
Parish magazine	1274		0	1274	1109
Messy church, children, youth	1253	647	1323	3223	4266
Parsh weekend			956	956	0
Music, organ & choir	2012		0	2012	3077
Outreach	2834		0	2834	1892
Sundry expenses	2332		953	3285	5205
TOTAL PAYMENTS	**99466**	**59982**	**8399**	**167847**	128104
Net receipts (payments)	**41648**	**-27349**	**-2060**	**12239**	**14900**
Transfers	**500**		**-500**		
	42148	**-27349**	**-2560**	**12239**	**14900**
Balance - 1 January 2025	19043	720523	11008	750574	735674
Balance - 31/12/ 2025	**61191**	**693174**	**8448**	**762813**	**750574**

Statement of Assets and Liabilities	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	2025 TOTAL	2024 TOTAL
Cash Funds					
Current account	24063		0	24063	29459
CCLA Deposit account	37128	693174	8448	738750	721115
Bank balance 31/12/2025	**61191**	**693174**	**8448**	**762813**	**750574**
Investments					
Investments M&G Charifund	37889			37889	39239
Investments COIF income units	1622			1622	1704
	39511		**0**	**39511**	**40943**
TOTAL Assets	**100702**	**693174**	**8448**	**802324**	**791517**

Notes

Restricted funds are:	
Chudleigh Youth work	1675
School bible fund	364
Missionary giving fund	5725
Parish away day	684
	8448