Independent examiner's report to the PCC of St Andrew Eccles

I report to the PCC on my examination of the accounts of St Andrew's Eccles PCC for the year ended 31st December 2025 which are set out on pages 1 to 4.

Responsibilities and basis of the report

As the charity trustees of the PCC 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 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the 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 the accounting records

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.

John R Price

John Price
23 Ellonhall Close,
Harpurhey,
Manchester M9 5XG

Date 16 February 2026

CHRIST CHURCH
ST PAUL'S
ST ANDREW'S
ECCLES PARISH CHURCH

ST ANDREW'S
ECCLES

Annual Report

of the
Parochial Church Council
for the Year Ending

31st December 2025

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The Parochial Church Council of the ecclesiastical parish of
St Andrew Eccles Manchester

Registered charity number 1132836

Financial Review 2025

The full details of receipts and payments for 2025 can be seen in the Accounts pages of this Annual Report.

Thanks to the generosity of the congregation, St Andrew's has again met all its commitments to support the ministry in our parish and in our Diocese. A special thank you to everyone who continued to set aside money each week in envelopes or each month by standing order.

Our income from regular planned donations (including gift aid recovered from HMRC) decreased by 3.5% from £33,590 in 2024 to £32,357 in 2025. Our budget for 2026 hopes to at least return to 2024 levels. We have also received other generous one-off gifts during the year including £2,445 from the Gift Day towards our renovation projects. We were very grateful to receive a £4,000 legacy from the estate of Ron Jones.

Our community outreach projects (Café, Toddlers, Art & Crafts) operated for the whole of the year and income from these activities was just under £3,000. We were grateful to receive grants from the Booth Charities and from the Duchy of Lancaster Benevolent Fund and these will enable our Art & Craft workshops to continue fully funded through to September 2026.

We still spend significant amounts on utility costs, especially gas and electricity. Over £7,000 is needed to heat and light the church for all our activities.

The Wardens Report highlights a number of building projects that were completed during 2025. Maintenance work on our listed church is never inexpensive and these projects cost almost £52,000 and required a net withdrawal of £11,232 from our building funds.

The PCC continued to honour its commitment to donate 10% of collections and planned giving to charities. £3,774 was donated to our chosen charities (see accounts page 3 for further details). Parish Share (our contribution to the costs of our Diocese, especially clergy stipends) was £18,279. Inflation affects our Diocese just as much as any other organisation and our Parish Share for 2026 will rise to £19,200.

2025 has been a year of continued consolidation for the church finances, therefore the 2025 accounts show our overall funds had a surplus of £3,845.

Thank you.

Richard Lewis
Hon Treasurer

The accounts on pages 1 to 4 were approved by the Parochial Church Council on 9 March 2026 and signed on its behalf by:



Mr Kevin Walton – Lay Chair of PCC

opportunity in October/November for people interested in 'Leading Small Groups'.
Parishes were asked to consider developing 'More than Sunday' goals and local training.
Synod then broke into groups to discuss how parishes/mission communities can work with diocesan officers to encourage laity into their journeys of discipleship.
The November Synod meeting welcomed the new Area Dean, Rev Richard Worsfold. Rev Worsfold and James Cowley (Lay Chair) paid tributes to Iain Hodcroft, the Synod Secretary, who had died suddenly, for all his work in the deanery and passed on our love and condolences to his family who were present at the meeting.
Richard Lewis reported that Manchester Diocese was forecasting that the deficit on unrestricted funds in 2025 was going to be approx. £2.1m. There was, however, some better news about the level of financial support that our Diocese is expected to receive over the next 3 years from the Church Commissioners. It was agreed at General Synod to offer greater help to the poorest Dioceses and there is also a rationalisation of the way some of the other costs at national level are apportioned. But this still means that the Diocesan budget for 2026 will be a planned deficit of £1.2m. During 2026 it is hoped that all parishes will be able to discuss the parish share in the Discussion and Agreement process again to understand the likely level of payments in 2027, 2028 and 2029.
The Board of Finance has reiterated its commitment to maintaining the level of stipendiary clergy at 175 in the Diocese until 2030.
Eco-church/Environment Care, a report by Nick Hardman.
Nick reported on Eco-Church Awards – within deanery and diocese – and urged every parish to appoint an ECO Champion and reminded us that there is money available for initiatives.
He drew attention to the Manchester Diocese ECO network which can be accessed for support and advice as well as a platform to share best practice. There was a conference at RHS Bridgewater on 9th November to hear about the use of the land. A conference took place at Blackburn Cathedral where the task of looking after God's world was discussed. This is essential, as its impact is felt by the poorest countries.
Children's, Youth & Family Ministry, a report by Sandra Morris.
Sandra spoke about developments within the Board of Education 'Growing Faith' team and their work in schools. She highlighted the increase in verbal abuse experienced by teachers in schools and gave examples of efforts to build relationships of trust between teachers, families and the church.
The Wellbeing of Clergy and Lay Leaders. Canon Anne Edwards, Senior Bishop's Chaplain, spoke on this topic. She asked PCCs to read, discuss and adopt the Covenant for Clergy Wellbeing and the reflection document. She would like to be notified once a PCC has adopted the Covenant. She posed the question as to whether the discussions could be expanded to cover well-being of lay leaders too.
There was a time of discussion and feedback before Anne was thanked for her presentation.

Richard Lewis, Stephen Gibbison & Kevin Walton, Deanery Synod Reps

Aims and Purposes

St Andrew's Eccles PCC has the responsibility of co-operating with the Team Clergy in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church - pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. It also has maintenance responsibilities for the church building.

Administrative Information

St Andrew's Church is situated on Chadwick Rd, Eccles, M30 0NZ. It is part of the Eccles Team Ministry in the Deanery of Salford and Leigh and in the Diocese of Manchester within the Church of England.
The correspondence address is The Rectory, 12b Westminster Road, Eccles, M30 9EB. Website: www.standrewseccles.org

Structure, Governance and Management

The Parochial Church Council of the ecclesiastical parish of St Andrew, Eccles, Manchester is a registered charity (charity number 1132836). The method of appointment of PCC members and wardens is set out in the Church Representation Rules. Members of the PCC are either ex officio (being ordained clergy, members of the Deanery or Diocesan Synod or Church Wardens) or are elected at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting as PCC members. (Wardens and Deanery Synod representatives are also elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting). All Church attendees are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC.

PCC members who served during 2025

Ex officio

Rev Jeremy Wisdom	Team Rector and Chair
Rev Jennifer Lewis	Ordained Local Minister and Curate until 08.09.2025
Rev Susanna Hewitt	Team Curate from July 2025
Kevin Walton*	Church Warden (Lay Chair)
Stephen Gibbison*	Church Warden and Safeguarding Coordinator
Richard Lewis*/**	PCC Treasurer

* Deanery Synod member ** Diocesan Synod member

Elected members

Elaine Walton	Reader & PCC Secretary
Karen Gibbison	Authorised Lay Minister (Children's work)
Jane Lowe	Authorised Lay Minister (Community)
Gaynor Bland	until May
Ayoka Olibisi	until May
Jenny Lewis	Co-opted from September

The PCC met 8 times in 2025. The average attendance was 85%.

Safeguarding Report

Statement of Intent: The parish will follow the Church of England guidance on safeguarding children and adults at risk.

During 2025 the CofE National Safeguarding team has withdrawn the following guidance:

The Parish Safeguarding Handbook,
Protecting all Gods Children (2019)
Promoting a Safe Church 2006)

The withdrawal instruction states that they are no longer to be used and hard copies to be disposed of.

A Parish Safeguarding Toolkit is being developed. Until this is released guidance material can be found on the Diocese of Manchester's site with links to CofE national guidance.

Safeguarding - Diocese of Manchester
Safeguarding e-manual | The Church of England
safer-environment-and-activities-oct19_0.pdf

The PCC reviewed and agreed to apply the Church of England model safeguarding policy on 27th April 2025. It was signed at the APCM on 11th May 2025.

A signed copy of the policy is on the notice board in church and it is also published in this annual report.

Where roles require it, we are continuing to get our volunteers DBS checked and to complete the required training courses.

Over the course of 2025 many leaders have undertaken training on leadership and domestic violence. The Diocese does keep reviewing and changing the requirements for church leaders and volunteers.

A Summary of DBS checks and training is presented to the PCC regularly.

Stephen Gibbison, Parish Safeguarding Officer

Deanery Synod Report

Deanery Synod met three times during 2025, in April, July and November.

At the April Synod meeting the topics for discussion were: Diocesan Finance, Net Zero and Developing Mission Disciples.

Diocesan Finance. With the aid of a Diocesan Powerpoint presentation Richard Lewis gave an overview of the Manchester Diocese Financial position at the end of 2024. There was a deficit of £1.3m which would be met from reserves. It is now becoming an annual occurrence that Diocesan expenditure exceeds income and the gap is bridged using reserves. Deanery Synods were being urged to make the payment of Parish Share a higher priority than clearly some parishes are making it.

Net Zero. Synod heard a presentation by Nick Hardman and noted the CofE aims to reach Net-Zero by 2030. Attention was drawn to the Eco-Church Awards which should energise churches to be practical and then to formalise their achievements.

Developing Mission Disciples. A presentation by Phil Cansdale, Director of Mission and Ministry. The presentation centred on the themes of the importance of developing leaders in our churches and worship centres, the many ways of showing oneself as a disciple, i.e. quietly and calmly, urgently and passionately, exuberantly, with excitement, seriously and profoundly. The Great Commission applies to everyone, everywhere, every day, in everything. Synod then broke into mission community groups to discuss the opportunities.

The Area Dean, Colin Pearson, announced his forthcoming retirement and reflected on his time as Area Dean of Salford & Leigh.

At the July Synod meeting the major topics for discussion were Children's, Youth & Family Ministry, a presentation by Sandra Morris and Developing Lay Missional Leaders, a presentation by Kim Morgan-Jones, Head of Lay Development.

Sandra Morris outlined the developments within the Board of Education 'Growing Faith' team, the integration of the Children Changing Places Team (Places Project) into the wider team, the learning being shared across the diocese and the range of developments underway. She noted moves to develop new deanery initiatives, including growing the 'Open the Book' project, introducing a new 'Shades Project' (Racial Justice) strategy when new workers are in place, and her enthusiasm about partnership working and co-developing initiatives within deanery churches/mission communities was apparent.

Kim Morgan-Jones outlined the opportunities available to prospective Lay Leaders and the need for developing these areas of ministry, the courses available and showed an awareness that new training needs will constantly evolve, as mission and ministry evolves. She noted the growth in numbers of people undertaking the 'Foundations for Ministry' course, and the widening range of Authorised Lay Ministry opportunities. There would be a training

After the summer holidays, we turned to the Old Testament and Joshua: The Power of God's Promises. We read how it was by God's own power that the Israelites were able to conquer the promised land, and how taking the land was delayed when the Israelites failed to listen to God and obey his instructions. A reminder to us that obedience is key when doing the Lord's work. And yet, despite delays or confusion being caused by our failings, God's plan will eventually come to fruition.

Anyone who would like to join us, as we seek to learn more about the God we worship and how our relationship with him enriches and directs our lives as his people, would be very welcome.

Elaine Walton, Home Group Coordinator & Reader

Churches Together In Eccles Report

We met three times during the year to pray, share each other's news and plan events.

In January a service of unity was held.

During Lent there was a Bible study group held and then on Good Friday there was a walk of witness and service held.

In the summer we all enjoyed an evening of Prom Praise, with well-known Prom music and hymns cleverly blended together, and we enjoyed a time of afternoon tea together.

In September the chair passed from Rev Jenny Lewis, who had led and inspired us for many years, to a joint chair of T E Sarah Jones and Rev Jez Wisdom.

In November we held services of Remembrance: an Armistice service involving school age children and on Remembrance Sunday a service around the Cenotaph.

In December we sang carols and gave out mince pies and leaflets to the community as we met at Morrisons in Eccles. We also sang carols at Salford Royal Hospital to bring some cheer to the patients and staff.
Churches Together in Eccles support the work of the Street Pastors and the Men's Breakfasts, which offer opportunities for men to meet together, enjoy food , listen to speakers and enjoy each other's company.

Karen Gibbison, CTE Representative

The Parish of St Andrew's, Eccles.
SAFEGUARDING POLICY
PROMOTING A SAFER CHURCH

The following policy was agreed at the Parochial Church Council (PCC) meeting held on 9th March 2026.

In accordance with the Church of England Safeguarding Policy our church is committed to:

- Promoting a safer environment and culture.
- Safely recruiting and supporting all those with any responsibility related to children, young people and vulnerable adults within the church.
- Responding promptly to every safeguarding concern or allegation.
- Caring pastorally for victims/survivors of abuse and other affected persons.
- Caring pastorally for those who are the subject of concerns or allegations of abuse and other affected persons.
- Responding to those that may pose a present risk to others.

The Parish will:

- Create a safe and caring place for all.
- Have a named Parish Safeguarding Officer (PSO) to work with the incumbent and the PCC to implement policy and procedures.
- Safely recruit, train and support all those with any responsibility for children, young people and adults to have the confidence and skills to recognise and respond to abuse.
- Ensure that there is appropriate insurance cover for all activities involving children and adults undertaken in the name of the parish.
- Display in church premises and on the Parish website the details of who to contact if there are safeguarding concerns or support needs.
- Listen to and take seriously all those who disclose abuse.
- Take steps to protect children and adults when a safeguarding concern of any kind arises, following House of Bishops guidance, including notifying the Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser (DSA) and statutory agencies immediately.
- Offer support to victims/survivors of abuse regardless of the type of abuse, when or where it occurred.
- Care for and monitor any member of the church community who may pose a risk to children and adults whilst maintaining appropriate confidentiality and the safety of all parties.
- Ensure that health and safety policy, procedures and risk assessments are in place and that these are reviewed annually.
- Review the implementation of the Safeguarding Policy, Procedures and Practices at least annually.

Each person who works within this church community will agree to abide by this policy and the guidelines established by this church.

This church appoints Mr Stephen Gibbison as the Parish Safeguarding Officer.

Incumbent: Rev. Jez Wisdom..... Date: .....

Churchwardens: Mr Kevin Walton..... Date: .....

Mr Stephen Gibbison..... Date: .....

Team Rector's Report

So, it's that time of year when I have the opportunity to reflect on the last year… which has been my second! I still tell people that I'm new here, but I think I ought to stop now. Especially as we feel that Eccles is very much home. Indeed, not long ago, I realised that I was referring to Salford Royal as 'Hope Hospital'. Does that mean I'm becoming a local? Regardless, I am so happy in my life and ministry here in Eccles. Leading four churches is no easy task, but Allie and I have no plans to go anywhere anytime soon.

And, although many challenges remain, I believe we are seeing God on the move in our Benefice. Rev Susanna's arrival have been a real blessing, both in terms of what she brings to our churches and being a much needed extra pair of hands. Schools work continues to be a real encouragement with half-termly assemblies and Experience events at almost all of the local schools. And Christmas, which really was a team effort, saw a huge number coming into our churches. We may not be seeing all the fruit we hope to yet, but the Good News of Jesus Christ is being shared.

At St Andrew's we've seen some really encouraging growth in our congregations; with new-comers volunteering in all sorts of ways. Not only does this help those already serving, it is so wonderful to see new people making St Andrew's their home church. We continue to face the various challenges of looking after a very large, old building and wish to see our congregation grow further, but St Andrew's is a church that offers so much to the local community throughout the week and is quick to welcome anyone new into the church family.

And, as we look to the future, we are looking to push deeper into prayer, make some changes to our worship, make real use of social media to raise awareness of what our churches are doing in this town and so much more.

But, I would like to finish by saying a BIG 'Thank You' to all our church members. God calls us to partner with him as we seek to see His kingdom come here in Eccles…and that requires the support and effort of those in the church. And you've given of that so generously and faithfully. I am confident of a spiritual revival in our churches and this town, and look forward to ministering with you, as disciples of Jesus Christ, in the coming year.

God Bless,

Jez

Rev Jez Wisdom, Team Rector

Church Wardens' Report

We think 2025 has been a very good year for St Andrew's. For us, most notable is the increase in the number of new members of our congregation. We are delighted to welcome people who have sought us out and made St Andrew's their home. For those who are interested in numbers our Average Weekly Attendance, excluding Baptism services, in 2025 is nearly 5 children and 23 adults which is better than any

SALT (Sunday School) Report

This year in Sunday School we explored faith through friendship, courage, generosity and light. In February we began with a Friendship Series, thinking about Christian values and creating a "Love" banner together as a reminder of how we are called to care for one another.

We journeyed with Moses from the burning bush to receiving the Ten Commandments, reflecting on how God guides us and how we can make good choices in our own lives. Later in the year, our Harvest "Water Series" helped us think about gratitude and justice, and we collected pennies to support WaterAid. As we moved towards Advent and Christmas, we explored Jesus as the Light of the World and learned about Christmas traditions from around the globe.

It has been a joyful year of stories, discussion, creativity and growing together in faith.

Kate Provan, SALT Leader and Karen Gibbison, ALM (Children's Work)

Home Group Report

When, at the beginning of the year, Tony Wood was unable to continue hosting the group, Claudia Franck, our regular group member from St Paul's Church, kindly took over to host us in her home, for which we were very grateful. Sadly Claudia became ill during the summer term, so when home group resumed after the summer holidays, our venue changed to Jenny and Richard Lewis' home. Many thanks to Jenny and Richard for their generous hospitality.

Using material from the Pathway Bible Guides series, we kicked off 2025 looking at chapters 8-12 of Matthew's Gospel, with a study series entitled Fear and Freedom, which focused on the early days of Jesus' public ministry on earth, giving insight into his character and attributes.

As is our usual practice, we joined in the Churches Together in Eccles Lent Study Group during Lent. This is a great opportunity to meet with people from the different Christian denominations present in Eccles. Thanks once again to CTE Chair, Jenny Lewis, for leading and hosting these sessions.

For the summer term, we spent nine weeks with the letter to the Colossians: Finding Fulfilment in Christ, when we were reminded that Christ himself encompasses all that we need in life and for salvation.

Lord was added to the Roll making 30 members, and this number was the same on 31st December 2025, still with 11 living in the parish.

Should any members of church like to join the voting Roll please ask me for more details. Being a voting member does not commit you to doing anything more than being a church member with a right to vote and an interest in what we do here, and we would love to welcome more on the list.

Jenny Lewis, Electoral Roll Officer

Community Report

Toddler Group for preschool children accompanied by an adult continued to take place on Tuesday mornings. Children had the opportunity to play with a variety of toys, listen to a Bible themed story and have a go at a craft activity based on the story.

The **Art and Craft Workshop** continued to run on Tuesday afternoons led by a professional tutor providing an activity and a chance to socialise for mainly (but not exclusively) older members of the community. We obtained funding from the Booth Charities and the Duchy of Lancaster Benevolent Fund to keep this activity running when our previous funding finished in August. A number of people coming to the workshop were referred by the local Mental Health Team.

The **Community Café** on Friday mornings also continued to attract members of the local community, as did the dementia friendly sessions for older sports fans run (while the cafe is open) by staff from Salford Community Leisure at the beginning of the year and later by a trained volunteer using material provided by the **Sporting Memories Foundation**.
Salford Foodbank continued to run sessions in the church twice a week, at which an advisor from either Salford Citizens Advice or St Anthony's Centre was present to advise clients.

It is our hope that all these activities, as well as meeting local needs in a variety of ways, will help us increase our links with the local community and show people the love of Jesus. I would also like to express my gratitude to all those who give up their time to help run these activities.

Jane Lowe, ALM (Community)

year since 2020. However, we have not returned to the Average Weekly Attendance of 2019 of just over 7 children and 29 adults, but perhaps there is a revival happening in Eccles and our prayers of the last 5 years are being answered.

In June we welcomed Susanna and Scott to the Benefice. Their home, St Andrew's vicarage, had some significant repairs and upgrades in the months prior to their arrival and there are still some desirable improvements needed, but perhaps those will have to wait a while. Susanna and Scott have invited the parish into their home on a couple of occasions since they have arrived and we are appreciative of their hospitality.

Our Rector (Jez) has been very busy during the year and has re-established links with St Andrew's and Branwood Schools. Both he and Susanna are now regular visitors to these schools, taking assemblies and forming relationships with the staff and children. Jez has been active in raising our on-line profile and advertising both services and events at St Andrew's.

In September Jenny decided she was going to retire as an Ordained Local Minister (OLM) and applied to the Bishop of Manchester for Permission to Officiate (PTO). In theory this will reduce her workload and give her some time to enjoy her grandchildren, although she still goes to a couple of Residential Care Homes and provides a Communion Service. Notice 'in theory'. In practice we have been very blessed that Jenny has been around to support us through some difficult times. She will say 'it has been a team effort'. The fact is she was there when we needed her and for that we are very thankful.

December was particularly busy, starting with St Andrew's School Christmas Concert, followed by Salford Academy Transition Concert, which was attended by 7 primary feeder schools - a total 641 children and adults over two sessions on the day. Finally, Branwood School held their Christmas Concert. Both the Christingle and the Christmas Day services were very well attended.

Other reports will cover Home Groups, Salford Foodbank, Art & Craft, Friday Café, and we will not steal their thunder except to record that the need and/or use of these groups continues to grow. We have also rented space to Humbug Art on two occasions during the year and they have requested a further session is 2026.

Although St Andrew's Church is 146 years old, comparing its age to other significant buildings, both within Salford and further afield, it's still only just about a teenager, and I'm told some teenagers can be high maintenance. This

year our major project was the pointing of the south wall that faces Chadwick Road, including the porch, the tower entrance and the south-west corner on Mather Avenue, together with the replacement of the plate glass protection to the stained glass windows with polycarbonate protection, replacement of some slipped slates and painting of rainwater goods. We were fortunate that some significant grants were available from Manchester Diocese to cover the cost of this work, but your generous giving on St Andrew's Days and throughout the year has meant we were able to cover the gap between the cost and grants. In addition, we have replaced the lights in the nave with LED light fittings. The total cost of these projects and architect's fees was £45,617 plus VAT of £9,123. As we are a Listed Place of Worship we are able to recover the VAT, but we need to have the cash available to pay the invoices before we can reclaim the VAT.

As we reported last year 'Maintenance of the building is a never ending task for the wardens' and we will be meeting with our architect early in 2026 to plan what the next maintenance phase should be.

Finally, we would like to thank all those who have helped us maintain our worship during 2025, Karen and Kate who look after our children, and those who, by various means, have been undertaking the pastoral care of our community throughout the year.

Kevin Walton & Stephen Gibbison, Church Wardens

St Andrew's School Report

Our Year 6 attainment figures (SATS) for reading and writing were slightly below national average levels this year, but our Mathematics results were in line with LA and national results. The results for our disadvantaged children were particularly good; the school received a letter from the Secretary of State for Education acknowledging this, stating:
"Congratulations to you and your team on the excellent outcomes the disadvantaged pupils at achieved at the end of the 2024/25 academic year. Your school's performance places it among the very best nationally, and this is a significant achievement. This success reflects the dedication of your staff and the hard work of your pupils. It shows what can be achieved when ambition and commitment come together. Thank you for everything you do to give children the best possible opportunities to succeed."

The school has invested resources and staff in a new teaching area called "The Haven".
This is a dedicated classroom laid out in a more nurturing environment. It is led by our Educational Support staff and Teaching Assistants. It is helping us support the

learning needs of our children with special educational needs, giving them a quieter setting to focus on the child's particular needs away from their classroom. Although this is a new initiative, the feedback and early results are very positive.

We were pleased that the school was able to use St Andrew's Church for its Carol service and school took part in activities such as Experience Harvest.

We are pleased that following his appointment as Rector of Eccles, Rev Jez Wisdom has now taken up his role as ex-officio foundation governor. Jez and Susanna have visited the school and led assemblies a number of times.

This year Derek agreed to serve another term of office for us, for which the PCC is grateful.
The three foundation Governors are:

Ex-Officio	Jez Wisdom
Diocesan appointment	Stephen Gibbison
PCC appointment	Derek Smith
	(Pastor of Kings Church, Bolton)

As of November 2025, the school is full with 234 pupils: 127 boys and 107 girls.
The school was significantly oversubscribed with applications to Nursery and Reception.
144 children (62%) speak English as an additional language.
97 children (41%) are classed as disadvantaged, and 44 are vulnerable.

Stephen Gibbison, Foundation Governor & Vice Chair of Governors

Electoral Roll Report

At St Andrew's we consider all those who worship with us as members.
However, those who are baptised, are 16 and over, in communion with the Church of England and who choose to, can sign to be on the Electoral Roll and can vote at, and stand to be on the Church Council, at the Annual General Meeting. This is usually held in April each year.

On 31st December 2024 there were 34 names on the Electoral Roll.

Every six years each church in the Church of England has to completely renew its Roll and this process took place in March 2025. On April 27th the new Roll had 29 members, 11 of whom live in the parish. In June Isabelle

Parochial Church Council of St. Andrew, Eccles

Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st December 2025

Receipts and Payments Accounts

RECEIPTS	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Building fund Restricted £	Unrestricted Designated £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Voluntary receipts							
Planned Giving							
Gift aid donations		22,800	-	-	-	22,800	23,868
Other (non gift aided)		2,390	-	-	-	2,390	2,162
Tax recovered + GASDS		7,167	-	743	-	7,910	9,452
Collections (open plate)		1,008	-	-	-	1,008	1,136
All other giving/voluntary receipts	3a)	3,913	5,695	37,264	4,000	50,872	18,955
Activities for generating funds	3b)	241	-	-	-	241	418
Income from bank and investments		3,496	-	217	24	3,737	3,972
Income from church activities	3c)	7,560	-	-	-	7,560	6,841
Other income	3d)	4,998	-	-	-	4,998	880
TOTAL RECEIPTS		**53,573**	**5,695**	**38,224**	**4,024**	**101,516**	**67,685**
PAYMENTS							
Church activities							
Mission giving and donations	3e)	2,600	1,174	-	-	3,774	3,675
Diocesan parish share		18,279	-	-	-	18,279	17,738
Clergy and staffing costs	3f)	2,728	-	-	-	2,728	2,359
Church running expenses	3g)	20,758	4,487	49,456	2,500	77,200	41,583
Costs of generating funds		86	-	-	-	86	466
TOTAL PAYMENTS		**44,451**	**5,661**	**49,456**	**2,500**	**102,067**	**65,822**
Revaluation gains on investments		4,396	-	-	-	4,396	736
Transfers between funds		(518)	-	-	518	-	-
Surplus / Deficit for the year		13,000	35	(11,232)	2,042	3,845	2,599
Balances brought forward at 1 January		64,364	5,519	18,654	4,759	93,297	90,698
Balances carried forward at 31 December		**77,364**	**5,554**	**7,423**	**6,801**	**97,141**	**93,297**

Parochial Church Council of St. Andrew, Eccles

Statement of Assets and Liabilities

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Building Restricted £	Designated £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Cash funds						
Deposit funds	67,131	5,554	7,423	6,801	86,909	87,460
Bank current account	300	-	-	-	300	300
	67,431	5,554	7,423	6,801	87,209	87,760
Investment Assets						
Lloyds Banking Group 10,107 shares at 31/12/25	9,932				9,932	5,537
Other monetary assets						
Gift Aid recoverable	1,774	-	551	-	2,325	2,625
Refunds pending from VAT	-	-	-	-	-	351
Diocesan minor repair grant	-	-	-	-	-	7,900
Refunds owed by Diocese re. Vicarage costs	-	-	-	-	-	177
Monies owed by other Team Churches	494	-	-	-	494	279
	2,268	-	551	-	2,819	11,332
Liabilities						
Commitment to contracts awarded + clergy expens	100	919	-	-	919	9,100
Utility bills for usage in December	955	-	-	-	955	1,110
	1,055	919	-	-	1,874	10,210

Notes

1. The financial statements of the PCC have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 using the receipts and payments basis.

2. The movements in the designated and restricted funds during the year were:

	Bal b/fwd	Receipts	Payments	Bal c/fwd
Restricted				
Youth worker fund	1,382	-	-	1,382
Art & Craft workshops	4,137	4,500	4,487	4,150
Charities collections	-	1,195	1,174	22
Building renovation	18,655	38,224	49,456	7,423
	24,174	43,919	55,116	12,977

The Youth Worker fund represents the remaining funds (£1,382) from grants received previously. They are retained pending recruitment of a youth worker.

In May 2024 a grant was received from the Manchester Diocesan Council for Social Aid, towards the Art & Craft project which enabled the group to continue through to September 2025. In June 2025 an additional grant of £2,500 was received from The Booth Charity and in September 2025 a further grant of £2,000 was received from the Duchy of Lancaster which will enable the Art & Craft project to continue until September 2026.

Designated	Bal b/fwd	Receipts	Payments	Bal c/fwd
Memorial fund	2,578	24	2,500	102
Legacy from estate of R Jones	-	4,000	-	4,000
Community Outreach fund	2,181	518	-	2,699

The designated funds consist of monies from legacies and funds set aside by the PCC towards building upkeep and future mission projects.
The PCC agreed to set aside 2% of the offerings received to build a fund for community outreach.
In 2025 no payments were made from this fund. The PCC continues to discuss how best to utilise this fund.

Parochial Church Council of St. Andrew, Eccles

3. Further Analysis of Receipts and Payments Accounts

Receipts	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Building fund Restricted £	Unrestricted Designated £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
a) All other giving/voluntary receipts						
One-off tax efficient non recurring gifts	2,010			-	2,010	2,984
St Andrew's gift day	-	-	2,445	-	2,445	3,115
Grants / Loans	-	4,500	34,819	-	39,319	6,904
Refunds relating to vicarage costs	1,512	-	-	-	1,512	1,038
Legacies / in memorial gifts	-	-	-	4,000	4,000	3,294
Donations for charities	-	1,195	-	-	1,195	905
Sundry donations	391		-	-	391	715
	3,913	5,695	37,264	4,000	50,872	18,955
b) Activities for generating funds						
Funds raised via online shopping	241	-	-	-	241	159
Christmas Band Concert	-	-	-	-	-	259
	241	-	-	-	241	418
c) Income from church activities						
Statutory fees to PCC for weddings, funerals etc.	864	-	-	-	864	203
Café in the church	2,308	-	-	-	2,308	2,242
Toddler group & art group	623	-	-	-	623	740
Rental received for use of church	3,765	-	-	-	3,765	3,656
	7,560	-	-	-	7,560	6,841
d) Other income						
Eccles Team - shared finances	4,998		-	-	4,998	880
	4,998	-	-	-	4,998	880

Payments

e) Mission giving and donations

The PCC has adopted a policy of making grants to Christian charities equal to 10% of the money it receives from planned giving and open plate collections. The PCC also encourages the congregation to support charities by organising collections and special events to promote selected charities. The PCC is acting as an agent for the charities concerned, and has no control over the funds. The details of these donations during 2025 are as follows.

	From PCC	Events & appeals	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Children's Society	440	90	530	
ReVive International - Brazil	440		440	
Tear Fund	440	445	885	
C.M.S. (Sarah + Simon Cawdell - Uganda)	440	58	498	
Scripture Union	440		440	
Tear Fund (Mynamar appeal)	175		175	
National Churches Trust	100		100	
Barnabus	50	47	97	
Royal British Legion	50	89	139	
Greater Manchester Churches Trust	25		25	
Churches Together in Eccles (Proms Praise)		94	94	
Christian Aid		89	89	
St Ann's hospice		52	52	
Macmillan cancer support		94	94	
Salford foodbank		81	81	
Francis house		33	33	
	2,600	1,174	3,774	3,675

Parochial Church Council of St. Andrew, Eccles

3. Further Analysis of Receipts and Payments Accounts (continued)

Payments	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Building fund Restricted £	Unrestricted Designated £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
f) Clergy and staffing costs						
Clergy working expenses	501				501	425
11 Abbey Grove expenditure during vacancy	1,150				1,150	1,301
Clergy housing costs	1,078				1,078	634
	2,728	-	-	-	2,728	2,359
g) Church running expenses						
Church building improvements	-		49,456	2,500	51,956	19,400
Church routine annual maintenance	1,628				1,628	1,145
Upkeep of grounds	-				-	-
Church utility bills	6,241	1,715			7,956	11,012
Church insurance	4,518				4,518	4,307
Upkeep of services	248				248	32
Mission support costs	183	2,772			2,955	2,918
Eccles Team - shared finances	6,070				6,070	1,010
Miscellaneous	1,629				1,629	1,521
Church administration	241				241	237
	20,758	4,487	49,456	2,500	77,200	41,583

4 STAFF COSTS

a) Wages and salaries

It is the custom of the PCC to charge for the services of organists and vergers at funerals & weddings, and to pass these fees on to the individuals providing the service. In 2025 the PCC paid nothing to musicians and £35 to vergers at these occasional services. Fees for the clergy at such events belong to the Diocesan Board of Finance. These costs are netted off against fees received, because the PCC is acting merely as agent. Statutory fees income disclosed in note 3c) is net of all such costs. No amounts were sufficient to attract social security costs.

b) Payments to PCC members

No payments or expenses were paid to any PCC member, persons closely connected to them or related parties.

5 ECCLES TEAM

The pastoral plan for Eccles Benefice is currently not to recruit a Team vicar, therefore there is only one paid minister in the benefice. In 2025 we were fortunate to have a stipendiary curate appointed to the benefice. The Diocese pays the council tax and water rates for the curates property. St Andrew's administers the payments on behalf of the other churches in the Eccles Team in relation to the council tax and water rates incurred for the Team Rector's housing, any expenses of office incurred by the curate, rector and any joint team expenditure. These costs are recorded in note 3g. Income received from the other churches is recorded in note 3d

6 RESERVE POLICY

The PCC has a reserve policy to ensure adequate working capital. The policy specifies that reserves should be maintained equal to 3 months planned expenditure. This policy has been adhered to in 2025. For 2026 this requires the PCC to maintain at least £11.500 in immediately accessible accounts.

Independent examiner's report to the PCC of St Andrew Eccles

I report to the PCC on my examination of the accounts of St Andrew's Eccles PCC for the year ended 31st December 2025 which are set out on pages 1 to 4.

Responsibilities and basis of the report

As the charity trustees of the PCC 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 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the 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 the accounting records

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.

John Price
23 Ellenhall Close,
Harpurhey,
Manchester M9 5XG

Date 16 February 2026