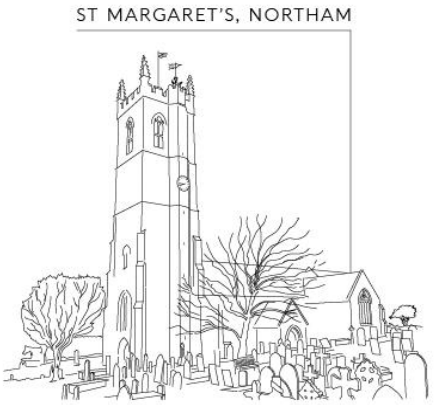
TORRIDGE COASTAL
MISSION COMMUNITY



The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Northam

Address for correspondence:
St Margaret's Church, Fore Street, Northam, EX39 1JL

ANNUAL REPORT
AND
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the year ended
31st December 2025

Team Vicar:
The Reverend Hilary Kemp

Bankers:
National Westminster Bank Plc

Independent Examiner:
Mr P A Dean, Accountant
3 Springfield Terrace
East-the-Water, Bideford
Devon. EX39 4AN

Our Parish Church website: **www.achurchnearyou.com/church/9032**

Charity Number: 1133811

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF NORTHAM

ASSOCIATED LETTERS AND REPORTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2025

Aim and Purpose

St. Margaret's Parochial Church Council (the PCC) has the responsibility of cooperating with the Team Vicar, the Reverend Hilary Kemp, in promoting the ecclesiastical parish, working together with our partners in the Torridge Coastal Mission Community, in the pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical mission of the Church. As well as the Church itself, the PCC is also responsible for maintaining the Churchyard adjacent to the Church.

Objectives and Activities

The PCC is committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship at our church, and to become part of our parish family. When planning our activities, the PCC has considered the public benefit, and in particular the advancement of religion. Our services and worship put faith into practice through prayer and scripture, music and sacrament. We try to enable ordinary people to live out their faith as part of our parish family, through our Vision and Plan which is kept under review.

- We will nurture and sustain growth in the Christian life by teachings, prayer and proclamation of the Good News.
- We will enable existing churchgoers to be confident in their witness to the ongoing life of Jesus Christ.
- We will engage more with the local community of Northam in loving service, working with others.

To facilitate this work, it is vital that we maintain the fabric of the Church and the Churchyard.

Achievements and Performance

Worship and Prayer

The PCC is keen to offer a range of services not only on Sundays, but also during the week, that our community will find both beneficial and spiritually fulfilling. There are Evening Prayers that take place weekly at 5pm on Mondays and there is Friday Fellowship each week at 10.15am.

The new electoral roll forms were issued in early 2025. There was a good response from most of those previously listed. Once all forms were received we were glad to see that there were 7 new people listed including 2 young people, 1 of which now serves on the PCC. The total number of people listed on the electoral roll is now 44.

As well as our regular services, we enable our community to celebrate and thank God at the milestones of the journey through life. There have been 1 wedding, 2 baptisms, 11 funerals and 19 interments during the year. Those who are no longer able to come to Church are not forgotten. We have a Pastoral Care Team in conjunction with St. Mary's, Appledore and Holy Trinity, Westward Ho! and in addition, many receive Holy Communion in their homes.

Financial Review

Please see the report incorporated as part of the financial statements. The main focus for this accounts year was for all those involved in the Parish to support the generation of monies towards the raising of funds for the repair to the chancel and lady chapel roofs. Alongside this, Northam has again ensured that the annual common fund has been paid. A more detailed review can be read later in this report.

Schools
Our Church supports both Northam Church of England schools with governors and in-school lessons. The Schools regularly visit the Church for activities and services. We also take part in the Open the Book scheme.

Mission and Evangelism
Helping those in need is a demonstration of our faith. The Committee raised and distributed £720 which was raised by fundraising, donations and collections. A review of the tithe of £1,000 usually donated each year concluded that the PCC would choose agreed local and national charities. The amount of tithe being given will now be reviewed each year.

Deanery Synod
From April 2024 there have been 2 PCC members (Sally Rice and Anthea Easton) elected to Hartland Deanery Synod. The PCC welcomes any interest from the congregation in this role as it provides the PCC with a link with the Churches around us, and with the Diocese as a whole. It also receives reports from the General Synod.

Church Fabric
The focus for this year and the next couple of years is the repair of the Chancel and the Lady Chapel roofs. In 2024, the cost of these sections of roof has been established as £250,381 according to quotes. Several grants and many donations were received throughout 2024 and 2025, including the main grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund which enabled us to start the planning of the project to start in early 2026. The PCC and Angela King's Entertainments Committee organised several events to raise awareness and money for this important work.

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). As of December 2025, all PCC members have been on the relevant safeguarding courses and are made aware of updates to courses in a timely manner.

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, as always, go to the Entertainments Committee which was created following the merging of the Friends of St Margaret's in 2024, for its important work of supporting and promoting St. Margaret's Church and the Parish of Northam.

Structure, Governance and Management
The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. The Council comprises the Team Rector or Team Vicar, the 2 Churchwardens, the 2 representatives 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 urged to join the Electoral Roll, and to stand 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 met 7 times during the year, with an average level of attendance of 88.3%. Given its wide responsibilities, the PCC operates through a number of sub committees, which meet between full meetings of the PCC each dealing with a particular aspect of parish life. These include the Standing Committee which is the only Committee required by law. It has the power to transact the business of the PCC between its meetings, subject to any directions given by the Council. The Worship, Mission and Outreach, Buildings, Entertainment and Finance Committees are the other Committees. Each is accountable to the full PCC.

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF NORTHAM

ASSOCIATED LETTERS AND REPORTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2025

Administrative Information

The Church is situated in The Square, Northam, EX39 1JL and is part of the Deanery of Hartland, in the Diocese of Exeter. The correspondence address is The Vestry, Tower Street, Northam, EX39 1JL.

The PCC is a body corporate (PCC Powers Measure 1956, and the Church Representation Rules 2006) and a Charity registered with the Charity Commission, number 1133811.

PCC members who have served from 6th April 2025, the date of the APCM are as follows:-

The Incumbent	The Reverend Jules Harris (until 5th April 2026)	
Churchwardens	Mrs Catherine Ellis	Secretary
	Mr Barry Endean	Deputy Chair
Deanery Synod Reps	Mrs Sally Rice	
	Mrs Anthea Easton	
Elected Members	Mrs Joanna Berry	Treasurer
	Mr Rodney Hookway	
	Mrs Angela King	
	Miss Annabel Berry	
	Mrs Jane Hagan (resigned 7th April 2026)	
Minutes Secretary	Mr Jon Ellis	

Mrs Joanna Berry
PCC Treasurer
(on behalf of Mrs Catherine Ellis, PCC Secretary)

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF NORTHAM

ASSOCIATED LETTERS AND REPORTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2025

Letter from our Team Rector

2025 was yet again a wonderful year with so many highlights. Here are just a few.

We started our year with our first Alpha Course which saw 10 candidates, some regular church goer's and others encountering Jesus on a deeper level for the very first time. It's wonderful to see people grow in their knowledge and love for Jesus. Our course culminated in six candidates being confirmed by Bishop Moira on her first visit to St Margaret's Northam. This was truly a wonderful celebration.

The group bonded so well that we now meet on Monday evening where we have embarked on reading the Bible from cover to cover. The conversations and Spirit are something to behold.

Easter again was so very special; from our Lent course Christ and the Chocolateries to reflections from the Women of Easter during our Holy Week Communion services. All services were so very special.

Events and hospitality came sharply into focus for both St Margaret's and Holy Trinity in 2025 with two new Teams establishing themselves.

St Margaret's took the traditional route, albeit our first ever auction was anything but traditional! Totally AMAZING!! This was followed closely by Recitals and Fairs all of which were organised superbly by the Events Team led by Angela King. Angela and the Team worked tirelessly to raise funds for the second phase of our roof project which I'm please to say will commence in 2026. Thank you, Angela for your enthusiasm and energy.

Holy Trinity on the other hand took a different approach by engaging with Beaford Arts. A company who organises various events using the Church as a venue. This was a great initiative that saw people coming into church for the very first time. These events were followed by a wonderful remembrance service with Tamsin Ball and the Appledore Band. Thank you, Kevin and the Team.

At St Mary's our Stay and Play initiative caught everyone totally unprepared when we saw 25 children on the first morning. All had a wonderful time thanks to the quick thinking of Brad and Sue Lane.

I'm sorry that I won't see the start of TRIP at St Mary's Hall but, I know Sara will continue to work tireless to manage both the Hall and this project. Thank you, Sara.

And finally, St Helen's and Abbotsham have really started to come alive with the introduction of a second Thirsty service on the 3rd Sunday of the month when we are joined our Baptist friends in church for more Worship, Word, and Prayer. What an awesome group of musicians we have who bless us so richly with their gifts.

Hilary has also been a huge blessing for the village this year with the introduction of Messy Church on the second Sunday of the month and the introduction of Evening prayer on Tuesday evening. There is also a group who meet to pray for Abbotsham Village on a bi-weekly basis. God is mostly certainly awakening in Abbotsham, and I pray that this will continue.

Continued . . .

Continued . . .

And to complete our year our Christmas festivities kicked off with the Abbotsham coffee morning on 15th November and what a celebration this year proved to be. A wonderful thank you to all those who organised, took part, and enjoyed our Christmas program we certainly finished the year in style. I will never forget the true community spirit at both St Margaret's Christmas Fair and the Torchlight service at St Mary's. Not forgetting the awesome crib services.

I'll never sing the 12 Days of Christmas the same again after Sue May's rendition at our first ever Vintage Christmas Party in Appledore. What a hoot!

This year has really been a tale of two halves for me on a personal level. We lost both of our wonderful Yorkies between July and September and a disagreement that could not be resolved due to circumstances beyond my control led me make the decision to leave my post in April 2026. I do so with a heavy heart.

It would be remiss not to thank those who have supported me not only during 2025 but during my 3 years with you. And so, to my wonderful Team Vicar, Ministry Team, Church Wardens, PCCs, and the Volunteers from coffee@maggies and all the people who worship at our four wonderful churches. To each one of you I pray God's Blessing. Farewell my brothers and sisters, I will continue to love and miss each one of you

Jules
Team Rector
Torridge Coastal Mission Community

The Churchwardens' Report

I am writing this year's report, as I wanted to express my sincere thanks to Cath. After 8 years as churchwarden, she was going to stand down this year, but, in view of recent events, she is prepared to carry on for another year, in addition to all her other duties.

This last year has been a very busy one for St. Margaret's, especially on the fundraising front. The church is now open 6 days a week thanks to "Maggie's."

On top of the normal church services, we hosted the Royal Naval Association Thanksgiving Service, Remembrance Sunday Service, Civic Carol Service, etc. Also, there has been an increased input in services by children and young people, thanks to Brad's input from children of the Youth Club in the monthly "Altogether in Church" services. We hosted Easter, Harvest Festival and Christingle services for St. Margaret's and St. George's schools. At this year's Remembrance Service, the scouts played quite a significant role.

There were: 6 Funerals, 18 Interments of Ashes, 1 wedding, 2 Baptisms and 7 confirmations at a special service by Bishop Moira.

Continued . . .

Continued . . .

In the office we have had Celia and now Betsan, and between them they have worked extremely hard to set up a professional Mission Team Office. Thanks to them, and Cath and Rodney, a significant amount of work has been done to resolve a number of inherited problems over the administration of the graveyard which, at times, have been quite stressful. Hopefully, these have now been resolved, and the P.C.C. have had to make some tough decisions, to prevent this from happening again. Betsan is now the administrator for safeguarding matters for the four churches.

On the fundraising front, 2025 was an excellent year. Angela and the Events Team, and a host of other people, raised a tremendous amount of money towards the repair of the roof at the east end of the church. The events included May Fair, Christmas Fair, an auction, the quarterly recitals, Christmas Tree Festival, to name but a few. Anne Irwin, after countless hours of work, secured a grant for over £236,000 from the Heritage Lottery Fund, towards the roof, and after much deliberation the work commenced in February 2026. The only sour note on this is that we were told that we could not reclaim the V.A.T., which means we now have to find another £25,000, and this church is a Grade 1 National Heritage Building.

'Maggie's' has proved to be an absolute asset, both from the financial aspect, and the enabling of the church to be open 5 days a week. This brings in all sorts of people, both individuals and groups, and of course the church is open to people who just want to come in to sit, reflect, pray and look around our lovely church. A tremendous vote of thanks must go to Carole and her staff of volunteers that make this happen.

The Ministry Team was led by Jules, and we are deeply indebted for all that she has done for St. Margaret's during her time here. Sadly, at the beginning of 2026 she announced that she was taking a new post in Wales and has now moved there. We are now in the position of trying to secure a new Team Rector.

None of these things that I have mentioned happen without willing volunteers. We have reached a situation where we are desperate for new volunteers on 2 fronts, namely the routine activities of the church, and staff to help run the coffee shop. Even a few hours a week would make a difference.

Finally, I have mentioned some people in this report, but obviously there are a lot more people, who give help and support in a lot of different ways, so to all of you, please know that your help and support is greatly appreciated.

Barry Endean, Churchwarden

Safeguarding Officers' Report

In February 2025, General Synod voted to reform Church safeguarding structures. The Safeguarding Structures Programme is its name and its primary goals are to ***strengthen safeguarding*** by improving the quality and consistency of service across all Church bodies, and ***rebuild trust*** by fostering confidence through greater strategic and operational independence and rigorous external scrutiny. In September 2025, a board was set up for this programme and a three-year initiative to deliver the mandate began.

In our Parish, the PCC endeavours to comply with the requirements to make our church safe and comfortable for all those who visit or attend services. All those from our congregation and community who volunteer are given DBS checks if appropriate, do Safeguarding training, either online or at a local group session. Each PCC meeting involves discussion to ensure we adhere to the appropriate rules for everyone involved.

Continued . . .

This year, since Barry has spent the last few years dealing with updating the required policies, there has been little for me to do but to ensure everything is kept up to date. Barry has also kept overseeing the Health and Safety laws and regulations relating to the church because this is such a separate matter.

My plan, since I took this role on, was to simply lessen the load on Barry but also I was glad to be someone who could offer support to anyone who has a safeguarding issue if one should arise. I plan to really gain an understanding of what is happening in the top level of the Church of England and ensure that we, at Parish level, do what is right and necessary to comply with legislation.

Joanna Berry, Safeguarding Officer

Pastoral Care Report

We had a team of five led by The Rev'd Jules Harris, this is now four following Jules's departure and led by The Rev'd Hilary Kemp. We visit eight homes with Holy Communion, Worship Services and visits. We also visit around thirty individuals with Holy Communion or a pastoral visit. Some of the individuals are in their own homes and others are in residential care, also in a few cases the visit is to a married couple. We visit generally on a monthly basis.

During the end of 2025 the team was stretched due to convalescence of one of its members. This will happen again in 2026 for a period of five to six weeks, then it should return to normal.

We could do with some more Eucharistic Visitors.

Sally Rice

Deanery Synod Report

We have had three meetings in June & October 2024 & February 2025.

In June it was reported from Diocesan Synod that the diocese was running at a deficit. There is a strategy to reduce clergy numbers from 165 – 150 within five years & possibly 130 if finances do not improve.

The new Foundations Course has now been launched for future ordinands & laity to understand their faith better. Deanery Synod meets three times during the year. In our first meeting we had a talk from our General Synod member, The Rev'd Rosie Austin about General Synod and the debates currently taking place. The next meeting we had a talk from a representative from the Diocese about publicity including Social Media. At our third meeting Bishop Moira of Crediton came and spoke to us about her role and how she sees us moving forward in our mission in the Diocese.

This coming year we need to renew our commitment to serving for another three years, or stand down and let someone else take part. It is not an onerous role and is very informative and instructive. Concerns from Deanery Synod go to Diocesan Synod and from there to General Synod. So if you have concerns speak to your representatives or volunteer to serve.

Sally Rice and Anthea Easton

Children and Families Report

This year has been an encouraging and positive one for our children and families work, with steady engagement and growing participation across our activities.

Our youth club continues to be a key point of connection, with 36 registered members. It has been wonderful to see the relationships developing among the children, alongside increasing confidence and a strong sense of belonging. The group provides a safe and welcoming space where young people can build friendships, explore faith, and have fun together.

In addition, our Wednesday morning breakfast club, running during term time, has been attended by 8 children. This has become a valued midweek gathering, offering a calm and supportive start to the day. It has also provided an opportunity to build connections with families and support children in a more informal setting.

Throughout the year, we have also been able to offer a range of special activities and events. During the school holidays, we organised a trip to The Big Sheep, which was a great success and enjoyed by all who attended. We also marked Shrove Tuesday with a pancake party, creating a fun and welcoming space for children and families to gather together.

Seasonal craft mornings have continued to be a highlight, with well-attended sessions at Easter, May Day, and Christmas. These events have provided creative opportunities for children to engage with the Christian story in accessible and meaningful ways, while also strengthening our links with families in the wider community.

A particular highlight of the year was the involvement of the youth club children in the Crib Service. Their participation brought energy and joy to the service, and it was a meaningful opportunity for them to be actively involved in worship. It was greatly appreciated by the congregation and families alike, and we hope to build on this in future services.

We are thankful for the continued support of volunteers and the wider church community, which makes this work possible. Looking ahead, we hope to deepen engagement with families, grow participation, and continue creating spaces where children feel welcomed, valued, and able to explore faith.

Bradley Scott

Events Committee Report

Oh what a year!

At the start of 2025 the Events Team (Angela, Cath, Joanna, Annabel, Kim and Jane) set out to bring fundraising and fun events together with a variety of monthly events to help ‘Raise the Roof’. We also got a mention in the North Devon Gazette.

February saw the launch of an on-line fundraiser which only needed people to follow a QR code to be able to donate. We raised £225. If you didn’t try it last year. It is still active for donations.

March produced a tasty smartie fundraiser and an envelope = tiles fundraiser which benefited from being active during the Navy Service attracted donations from a wider audience and brought in £386.58

Continued . . .

In April we hijacked Brad's plans for an Easter egg hunt on Easter Saturday and added in a 'fun day' with activities and competitions for easter bonnets, painted eggs and an easter card which all helped to add £212.50 to the roof fund.

The May Fair which included various stalls and a 50/50 raffle was a busy, well attended evet enjoyed by many as well as being a good fund raiser with a fantastic £1,529.60.

Tinker also did a sponsored walk of a 100 miles in May raising £247.10 for her 4 legged effort.

Heart and Voice Ensemble entertained appreciative audiences with well received programmes in May, June, October and December. If you've not been to one of our recitals yet, which are free to attend with optional retiring collection, your next opportunity is July 25th when we sing to celebrate the new roof with strawberries and cream in the interval. With a cumulative total for all 4 recitals of over £1000 donated.

The biggest event of the year which raised over £3,255.70 was the fundraising Auction which was so popular we are doing it again this year. In fact we will be doing it twice as we have already had enough donations for 2 full events.

September's 40's tea and sing a long attracted a smaller response than hoped but was still enjoyable and made £224.

November and December were busy with the Christmas fair making over £1,600, and the Christmas tree festival also making over £1,600.

I can not stress enough how these events would not be possible without the efforts of so many people who help 'behind the scenes' setting up and clearing away A special thankyou to my fellow events team members but also Barry, Rodney, Jon, Frank, Hilary and Janna as well as the volunteers who willingly allow us to twist their arms and man stalls and serve refreshments (we and you know who you are).

All in all over £10,443.50 added to the roof fund and that does not take into account the money raised from the monthly Saturday afternoon quiz events.

Now on to 2026:-

With the expected works on the roof due to start we had a quiet start to the year with our plan to host the 48 strong Wreckers Coast Choir in February diverted to Holy Trinity due to reduced space here, but don't worry you get another chance to enjoy as they are already booked to return here with their 007 concert on 19th September...put it in your diaries.

So a quiet start but getting busy now! Here are more dates for your diaries

2nd May the May Fair let's see if we can do better than last year!

Continued . . .

June 19th Auction. This year bigger and hopefully better as we add in the ability to bid online from April 24th before completing with live bids on the night. If you haven't tried it yet, be sure to scan the QR code on the poster at back of church and feast your eyes on the variety of items you could win.

July 25th Recital by Heart & Voice Ensemble who have put together a programme with as many references to roof, up, thanks, bless as possible as we celebrate the new roof.

August 15th We venture into the world of Musical Bingo so why not come and test your musical knowledge and have a laugh in the process.

September 19th Wreckers Coast Choir 007 themed concert.

16th October another chance to attend a live Auction so if you can't make it for June this is for you!

21st November Christmas Fair

2nd December Christmas Tree festival

15th December Christmas Recital TBC

Not only that list of goodies we are also thinking ahead to 2027 when we hope to tempt you with Northam's Got Talent, A Northam Treasure Hunt, A flower contest, A bespoke Nearly New Sale and our very own Skit and Murder Mystery Evening which will be for an unlimited number of guests who have to solve the mystery. (Everyone is excitedly preparing for the New Roof. Serious fund-raising is underway and representatives of the local community and church are attending a Posh Puds evening at St Margaret's Church. Everyone is looking forward to an evening of fun. Unfortunately, so is a murderer! You couldn't script it any better, could you?)

Treasurer's Report

When I look back on 2025, I mainly remember what a busy year it was. We all knew that Anne Irwin and her buildings committee team were working hard to get the roof repair project started. The rest of us spent the year raising funds as best we could with fun events for the Parish and community.

My concern was that with so much focus on raising funds for the roof we would struggle to pay the Diocesan Parish Share (Common Fund) from general giving and collections but I am glad to report we successfully paid £27,657 as requested by the Diocese for 2025.

In the year, some of our good news income points are that we missed over £8,000 for the roof from events put on in the church including the extremely successful auction that collected around £3,500 on its own. This can be seen in 3(a) 'Donations, appeals, etc.'.

Also, in the year, once we reached the amount we needed to raise for the roof, we continued to raise funds for general church costs and this came from very successful Christmas events including the fair, recital and tree festival (3(b) 'Fund-raising (fetes, coffee mornings, etc.)').

With regards to expenses this year, you will note an increase in Church Running Expenses but also a star next to this. The net amount that was not used by coffee@maggies was around £11,500 for the year which was a drop from 2024.

Wages and salaries have an obvious increase and this is due to the Parish starting to employ Betsan in the TCMC office. You can see that part of her wages are then recouped from the other Parishes through our Mission Community invoicing each quarter.

You will note that the costs of Children and Families work has risen a lot this year too. This is because the PCC agreed to pay Brad for a set number of hours for him to work in the TCMC each year. His salary is covered by all other Parishes and coffee@maggies by donation.

This year you may note in that accounts we have a separate note which explains the interaction between the Parish church and PCC, and the coffee@maggies CIC company that runs the coffee shop. I wanted to show clearly how contributions are given to cover the shared utilities and coffee@maggies support of Brad in his role in the Parish.

2026 saw the start of the roof repair project and the receipt of the first grant money which will stand out in next year's accounts. But the one thing I am looking forward to is that we are continuing to put on amazing fund-raising events for our church and the community.

I'd like to end by thanking Anne Irwin for her continued support with the finances and Jon Ellis for the FWO collections and bankings. Also, thanks to Cath and Barry for everything you do to assist the well-running of the Parish.

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF NORTHAM

INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS REPORT TO THE PCC

FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER 2025

I report on the financial statements of The Parochial Church Council Of The Ecclesiastical Parish Of Northam for the year ended 31 December 2025, which are set out on pages 2 to 12.

Respective Responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

As the charity's Trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements; you consider that the audit requirement of section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the Act) does not apply and that an independent examination is needed. It is my responsibility to examine the financial statements under section 145 of the Act and to state, on the basis of procedures specified in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners under section 145(5)(b) of the Act, whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiner's Report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the financial statements presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the financial statements, and seeking explanations from you as Trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the financial statements.

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
  - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Act; and
  - to prepare financial statements which accord with the accounting records and to comply with accounting requirements of the Act have not been met; or
- to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the financial statements to be reached.

The matter arising in the course of my examination of the accounting records of the charity that I wish to draw to your attention is that debtors are included for income tax recoverable under gift aid claims for four years, as disclosed in Note 8 to the financial statements, but these claims were only lodged early 2026 and have not been received yet. At this stage I am unable to confirm that the claims will be met in full but am unaware of any reason why the claims should be refused.

Mr P A Dean
Accountant
3 Springfield Terrace
East-the-Water
BIDEFORD
Devon. EX39 4AN

Dated: 25th April 2026

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF NORTHAM

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER 2025

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL FUNDS 2025 £	2024 £
INCOME					
Voluntary income	3(a)	50,824	9,319	60,143	53,753
Activities for generating funds	3(b)	8,424	-	8,424	40,885
Income from investments	3(c)	1,409	1,323	2,732	2,681
Church activities	3(d)	17,124	-	17,124	17,748
Other income	3(e)	23,865	-	23,865	12,978
TOTAL INCOME		101,646	10,642	112,288	128,045
EXPENDITURE					
Costs of generating voluntary income	4(a)	-	-	-	-
Fund-raising trading costs	4(b)	1,603	-	1,603	6,385
Church activities	4(c)	93,088	1,349	94,437	76,617
Governance costs	4(d)	740	28	768	598
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		95,431	1,377	96,808	83,600
NET INCOME / EXPENDITURE		6,215	9,265	15,480	44,445
GAINS AND LOSSES ON INVESTMENTS	6(b)	-	(1,434)	(1,434)	1,410
OTHER RESOURCE MOVEMENTS					
Movements from Unrestricted to Restricted Funds		-	-	-	-
NET MOVEMENT OF FUNDS		6,215	7,831	14,046	45,855
BALANCES BROUGHT FORWARD AT 1ST JANUARY 2025		40,861	149,916	190,777	159,365
BALANCES CARRIED FORWARD AT 31ST DECEMBER 2025		47,076	157,747	204,823	205,220

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF NORTHAM

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31ST DECEMBER 2025

	NOTE	2025 £	2024 £
FIXED ASSETS			
Tangible fixed assets	6(a)		
Investment assets	6(b)	80,926	82,360
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors	8	33,707	18,519
Short term deposits		10,679	9,356
Cash at bank and in hand		90,727	89,143
		135,113	117,018
LIABILITIES: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR	9	(11,216)	(8,601)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		123,897	108,417
NET ASSETS		204,823	190,777
FUNDS	10		
Unrestricted		47,076	40,861
Restricted		157,747	149,916
		204,823	190,777

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 25th April 2026 and signed on its behalf by:

C.M. Ellis

Mrs C Ellis
ChurchWarden

Mr B Endean
ChurchWarden

1 BASIS OF PREPARATION

Basis of Accounting

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Charity's governing document, the Charities Act 2011 and 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102)' (as amended for accounting periods commencing from 1 January 2016). The Charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS102.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the charity. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, modified to include investment assets at fair value. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

2 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Charity Information

The Parish of Northam is a public benefit entity and a registered charity in England and Wales and is unincorporated. The address of the principal office is:

St Margaret's Church
Fore Street
Northam
BIDEFORD
Devon
EX39 1JL

Fund Accounting

Restricted funds represent (a) income from trusts or endowments which may be expended only on those restricted objects provided in the terms of the trust or bequest, and (b) donations or grants received for a specific object or invited by the PCC for a specific object. The funds may only be expended on the specific object for which they were given. Any balance remaining unspent at the end of each year must be carried forward as a balance on that fund. The PCC does not usually invest separately for each fund. Where there is no separate investment, interest is apportioned to individual funds on an average balance basis.

Unrestricted funds are general funds which the charity may use for its own purposes at its discretion within the scheme rules.

Income

Planned giving, collections and donations are recognized when received. Tax refunds are recognized when the incoming resource to which they relate is received. Grants and legacies are accounted for when the PCC is legally entitled to the amounts due. Dividends are accounted for when receivable, interest is accrued. All other income is recognized when it is receivable. All incoming resources are accounted for gross.

. . . .Continued

Expenditure

Grants and donations are accounted for when paid over, or when awarded, if that award creates a binding or constructive obligation on the PCC. The diocesan parish share is accounted for when paid. All other expenditure is generally recognized when a liability is incurred and is accounted for gross, irrecoverable VAT being charged against the category of resources expended for which it was incurred.

Fixed Assets

Consecrated property and moveable church furnishings

Consecrated and benefice property is not included in the accounts in accordance with s.10(2)(a) of the Charities Act 2011.

Movable church furnishings held by the vicar and churchwardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal are inalienable property, listed in the church's inventory, which can be inspected (at any reasonable time). For anything acquired prior to 2007 there is insufficient cost information available and therefore such assets are not valued in the financial statements. Items acquired since 1 January 2007 have been capitalised and depreciated in the financial statements over their currently anticipated useful economic life (initially over 4 years) on a straight-line basis.

All expenditure incurred in the year on consecrated or beneficed buildings (individual items under £1,000) or on the repair of movable church furnishings acquired before 1 January 2007 is written off.

Other fixtures, fittings and office equipment

Equipment used within the church premises is depreciated on a straight-line basis over four years. Individual items of equipment with a purchase price of £1,000 or less are written off when the asset is acquired.

Investments

Investments are valued at fair value (as determined by market value) at 31 December.

Current Assets

Amounts owing to the PCC at 31 December in respect of fees, rents or other income are shown as debtors less provision for amounts that may prove uncollectable.

Short-term deposits include cash held on deposit either with the CBF Church of England Funds or on deposit at the bank.

3 INCOME

		Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL FUNDS 2025 £	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL FUNDS 2024 £
3(a)	***Voluntary income***						
	Planned giving:						
	Gift aid donations	11,680	-	11,680	12,210	-	12,210
	Tax recoverable	3,598	-	3,598	4,501	-	4,501
	Other	1,414	-	1,414	1,000	-	1,000
	Collections (open plate)	3,762	-	3,762	4,700	-	4,700
	Children and families	515	-	515	11,717	-	11,717
	Donations, appeals, etc.	-	8,598	8,598	-	27,500	27,500
	Contributions from coffee@maggies CIC:						
	Towards utilities used *	7,033	-	7,033	-	-	-
	Towards B Scott salary *	5,152	-	5,152	-	-	-
	Missions	-	721	721	-	1,257	1,257
	Sundry donations	6,419	-	6,419	2,585	-	2,585
	Grants and legacies	11,251	-	11,251	-	-	-
*	*See Note 14*	50,824	9,319	60,143	36,713	28,757	65,470
3(b)	***Activities for generating funds***						
	Church hall lettings	2,340	-	2,340	2,275	-	2,275
	Fund-raising (fetes, coffee mornings, etc.)	6,084	-	6,084	2,579	-	2,579
	Parish coffee shop (to 18 Aug 2024)	-	-	-	24,314	-	24,314
		8,424	-	8,424	29,168	-	29,168
3(c)	***Income from investments***						
	Dividends and interest including						
	tax recoverable	1,409	1,323	2,732	1,373	1,308	2,681
		1,409	1,323	2,732	1,373	1,308	2,681
3(d)	***Income from church activities:***						
	Fees (weddings, funerals, etc.)	17,124	-	17,124	17,748	-	17,748
		17,124	-	17,124	17,748	-	17,748
3(e)	***Other ordinary income***						
	Friends account income	-	-	-	4,490	-	4,490
	Mission Community expenses	23,495	-	23,495	8,358	-	8,358
	Sundry Income	370	-	370	130	-	130
		23,865	-	23,865	12,978	-	12,978
	TOTAL INCOME	101,646	10,642	112,288	97,980	30,065	128,045

4 EXPENDITURE

		Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL FUNDS 2025 £	2024 £
4(a)	*Costs of generating voluntary income*				
	Envelopes and printing, etc.	-	-	-	-
		-	-	-	-
4(b)	*Fund-raising trading costs*				
	Cost of fetes and other fund-raising events	1,603	-	1,603	732
	Parish coffee shop (to 18 Aug 2024) *	-	-	-	5,667
	* *See Note 14*	1,603	-	1,603	13,783
4(c)	*Church activities*				
	Missionary and charitable giving				
	Overseas missions	238	130	368	506
	Secular charities	799	591	1,390	1,034
	Ministry				
	Diocesan parish share	27,657	-	27,657	28,294
	Other ministry costs	5,083	-	5,083	5,555
	Working expenses of incumbent	3,301	-	3,301	3,798
	Assistant clergy	2,907	-	2,907	1,549
	Church running expenses *	18,770	-	18,770	14,770
	Church maintenance	2,462	-	2,462	3,557
	Upkeep of services	298	-	298	266
	Upkeep of churchyard	168	112	280	73
	Parish administration costs	1,982	-	1,982	1,328
	Parish training and schooling costs	698	-	698	6,011
	Children and families *	13,645	-	13,645	7,384
	Major repairs - church, organ & churchyard	-	516	516	7,220
	Wages and salaries	15,080	-	15,080	9,518
	* *See Note 14*	93,088	1,349	94,437	83,479
4(d)	*Support costs*				
	Independent examination fee	40	-	40	40
	Bank and credit charges	7	28	35	181
	Sundry expenses	693	-	693	560
		740	28	768	781
	TOTAL EXPENDITURE	95,431	1,377	96,808	98,043

5 STAFF COSTS

	2025	2024
	£	£
Wages and salaries	15,080	9,518
Youth club expenses	12,254	6,715
	27,334	16,233

During the year the PCC paid a self-employed organist, bellringers, verger and administrator. The PCC employed a new administrator from May 2025 and continued to pay the children & families worker this year. Both attracted PAYE & NIC and were entered into the pension scheme. No remuneration, benefits in kind or pension was paid to any PCC member.

6 FIXED ASSETS FOR USE BY THE PCC

			Church equipment	TOTAL
			£	£
6(a)	***Tangible fixed assets***	(all unrestricted)		
	COST	At 1 January 2025	2,538	2,538
		Additions	-	-
		At 31 December 2025	2,538	2,538
	DEPRECIATION	At 1 January 2025	2,538	2,538
		Charge for the year	-	-
		At 31 December 2025	2,538	2,538
	NET BOOK VALUE	At 31 December 2025	-	-
		At 31 December 2024	-	-

6(b) ***Investment fixed assets***	£
Market value at 1 January 2025	82,359.89
Funds transferred	-
Revaluation decrease	(1,433.93)
Market value at 31 December 2025	80,925.96

Holdings at 31 December 2025:

1,294.04 units in the CBF Investment Fund
317.00 income units of Charifund
1,388.44 shares in CBF Investment Fund
457.20 units in COIF Investment Fund
258 shares in Royal Dutch Shell plc

7 NET INCOMING (OUTGOING) RESOURCES

	2025	2024
	£	£
This is stated after charging:		
Independent examination	40	40

8 DEBTORS (UNRESTRICTED FUNDS)

	2025	2024
	£	£
Income tax recoverable	18,230	14,669
Mission Community expenses - other Parish shares Q4 etc	15,081	3,466
Prepayments and other debtors	396	384
	33,707	18,519

9 LIABILITIES: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR (UNRESTRICTED FUNDS)

	2025	2024
	£	£
Deferred income	100	100
Accruals	253	190
Other creditors - overheads	7,157	3,537
coffee@maggies CIC *	3,706	4,774
* *Balance held for coffee@maggies CIC, awaiting its own bank account setup, see Note 14*	11,216	8,601

10 ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BY FUND

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	TOTAL
	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	-
Investment Fixed Assets	-	80,926	80,926
Current Assets	58,292	76,821	135,113
Current Liabilities	(11,216)	-	(11,216)
Fund Balance	47,076	157,747	204,823

11 MOVEMENTS ON RESTRICTED FUNDS

	Balance at 1 Jan 25	Incoming Resources	Expended Resources	Fund Transfers	Gains (Losses)	Balance at 31 Dec 25
Fixed Asset Investments	82,360	-	-	-	(1,434)	80,926
Debtors	-	-	-	-	-	-
Short Term Deposits	9,356	1,323	-	-	-	10,679
Cash at Bank and in Hand	58,200	9,319	(1,377)	-	-	66,142
Current Liabilities	-	-	-	-	-	-
	149,916	10,642	(1,377)	-	(1,434)	157,747

	Balance at 1 Jan 24	Incoming Resources	Expended Resources	Fund Transfers	Gains (Losses)	Balance at 31 Dec 23
Fixed Asset Investments	80,950	-	-	-	1,410	82,360
Debtors	-	-	-	-	-	-
Short Term Deposits	8,048	1,308	-	-	-	9,356
Cash at Bank and in Hand	8,135	28,757	(1,330)	22,638	-	58,200
Current Liabilities	-	-	-	-	-	-
	97,133	30,065	(1,330)	22,638	1,410	149,916

12 MOVEMENTS ON UNRESTRICTED FUNDS

	Balance at 1 Jan 25	Incoming Resources	Expended Resources	Fund Transfers	Gains (Losses)	Balance at 31 Dec 25
Fixed Asset Investments	-	-	-	-	-	-
Debtors	18,519	15,188	-	-	-	33,707
Short Term Deposits	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cash at Bank and in Hand	26,169	70,546	(75,837)	-	-	20,878
Creditors	(3,827)	3,727	(7,409)	-	-	(7,509)
	40,861	89,461	(83,246)	-	-	47,076

	Balance at 1 Jan 24	Incoming Resources	Expended Resources	Fund Transfers	Gains (Losses)	Balance at 31 Dec 23
Fixed Asset Investments	-	-	-	-	-	-
Debtors	17,613	4,885	(3,979)	-	-	18,519
Short Term Deposits	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cash at Bank and in Hand	49,370	88,444	(89,007)	(22,638)	-	26,169
Creditors	(4,751)	4,651	(3,727)	-	-	(3,827)
	62,232	97,980	(96,713)	(22,638)	-	40,861

Unrestricted funds are general funds which can be used by the PCC on the charitable objectives and activities of the churches.

13 OBJECTIVES OF RESTRICTED FUNDS

	Balance at 1 Jan 25	Incoming Resources	Expended Resources	Fund Transfers	Gains (Losses)	Balance at 31 Dec 25
Ecclesiastical Purposes	16,093	-	-	-	(643)	15,450
General Church Purposes	49,478	1,186	-	-	206	50,870
Church & Churchyard	225	-	-	-	(9)	216
Churchyard	13,603	-	-	-	(544)	13,059
Churchyard Project	27	112	(112)	-	-	27
St Margaret's Roof	58,191	8,486	(544)	-	-	66,133
St Margaret's Heating System	82	4	-	-	-	86
St Margaret's Fabric Maint'ce	166	8		-	-	174
Building Maintenance	2,773	125	-	-	-	2,898
Missions and Charities	-	721	(721)	-	-	-
The Sick and Poor of the Parish	9,278	-	-	-	(444)	8,834
	149,916	10,642	(1,377)	-	(1,434)	157,747

	Balance at 1 Jan 24	Incoming Resources	Expended Resources	Fund Transfers	Gains (Losses)	Balance at 31 Dec 24
Ecclesiastical Purposes	15,734	-	-	-	359	16,093
General Church Purposes	47,787	1,154	-	-	537	49,478
Church & Churchyard	220	-	-	-	5	225
Churchyard	13,299	-	-	-	304	13,603
Churchyard Project	100	-	(73)	-	-	27
St Margaret's Roof	8,051	27,502	-	22,638	-	58,191
St Margaret's Heating System	78	4	-	-	-	82
St Margaret's Fabric Maint'ce	158	8	-	-	-	166
Building Maintenance	2,633	140	-	-	-	2,773
Missions and Charities	-	1,257	(1,257)	-	-	-
The Sick and Poor of the Parish	9,073	-	-	-	205	9,278
	97,133	30,065	(1,330)	22,638	1,410	149,916

Restricted funds may only be expended on the specific object for which they were given. Any balance remaining unspent at the end of each year must be carried forward and spent on the specific purpose for which the funds were given.

Fund transfers have occurred because monies have been moved between accounts considered to be Restricted and others considered to be Unrestricted. It relates to tax recovered being passed to the friends of St Margaret's account and an amount approved to be recategorised as Unrestricted to ease cashflows.

The shortfall in the St Margaret's Roof fund at the year end was covered by a unrestricted funds used to pay the final invoices after the year end.

14 RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

coffee@maggies CIC

In September 2023, the PCC decided to open part of the church to trade as a coffee shop on some weekdays with aims of raising funds for the church and providing a welcoming place for residents of the Parish and visitors to meet socially and enjoy refreshments at reasonable prices. The coffee shop was named coffee@maggies and was very successful in meeting those aims, so much so that trading income exceeded the permitted proportions of total income for a registered charity to retain tax exemptions. It became necessary to register a separate Community Interest Company to conduct the trade and coffee@maggies CIC was incorporated on 19th August 2024. Its registration number is 15905218.

The company officers are PCC members and the PCC has provided bank processing facilities to the company pending the opening of separate company bank account. The company contributes to the overhead costs of the church and has donated surplus funds for charitable purposes during the year, as disclosed in these accounts.

PCC member services

Mrs Joanna Berry is a director of Berrys Business Services Ltd, which provides payroll bureau services to the PCC at normal commercial rates.

No other PCC member or close family connection had a personal interest in any transactions entered into by the PCC during the year. Occasionally PCC members act as agents for the PCC and make approved purchases on its behalf, and are reimbursed for this expenditure. Such reimbursed expenditure is not personal to the trustee concerned and does not represent goods or services provided by the trustee.