# St Hilda's Church

## Ashford

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# APCM REPORT

# 2026





**JOINT VESTRY AND PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING OF ST HILDA'S CHURCH, ASHFORD, MIDDLESEX TO BE HELD ON SUNDAY 26th APRIL, 2026**

AGENDAS

ANNUAL VESTRY MEETING OF PARISHONERS

The Chairman reads the Convening Notice

1. Prayers and welcome

2. Minutes of the Vestry Meeting held Sunday 27th April, 2025

3. Election of Church Wardens: Adjudicators to be nominated by the Chairman (if needed for voting purposes)

ANNUAL PAROCIAL CHURCH MEETING

1. Apologies for Absence

2. Minutes of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting held Sunday 27th April, 2025

3. Matters arising

4. Report from the Electoral Roll Officer

5. Election of Representatives: To the Parochial Church Council – 3 vacancies for 3 years and 3 to be reelected if they wish. To the Deanery Synod – 3 vacancies for 3 years until 2029 in-line with Synod election rules. Adjudicators to be appointed by the Church Wardens if needed for voting purposes Appointment of the Independent Financial Examiner

6. Vicar's Report

7. Church Wardens' Reports

8. PCC's Annual Report for 2024

9. Treasurer's Report and Presentation of Church Accounts

10. Deanery Synod Report

11. Reports of Church Groups

12. Any Other Business (Must be notified in writing to the PCC Secretary 72 hours prior to the meeting).

13. Date of next year's Annual Parochial Church Meeting

Closing Prayers

**MINUTES OF A MEETING FOR THE ELECTION OF CHURCHWARDENS (VESTRY MEETING)**

**HELD ON SUNDAY 27TH APRIL, 2025**

**AT ST HILDA'S CHURCH, ASHFORD, MIDDLESEX**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **PRESENT** | Incumbent | Rev Father Julius Anozie |
| | Secretary | Liz Brian |

and 58 other attendees.

**Apologies** Brenda & John Ellaway, Bobbie Bedford, Elizabeth Bate, Paula Gething, Sarah Wrightson and Barbara Warne.

1. Prayers and Welcome - Father Julius Anozie began the meeting with a prayer and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Minutes of the Vestry Meeting held on Sunday 27th April, 2024 had been circulated beforehand and were agreed to be a correct record. Proposed by Ann Bilias and seconded by Valerie Wrightson.

3. Election of Church Wardens.

There were 2 nominees for 2 posts:

| Name | Proposer | Seconder |
|---|---|---|
| Alison J Garner | Paula Gething | Chris Davenport |
| Stuart G Young | Paula Gething | Deborah (Liz) Brian |

There being no other nominations, Alison Garner and Stuart Young were duly elected as Churchwardens for the coming year.

That concluded the Vestry Meeting and the election of Churchwardens.

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING**

**OF ST HILDA'S CHURCH, ASHFORD, MIDDLESEX**

**HELD ON SUNDAY 27TH APRIL, 2025.**

**PRESENT** As for the Meeting for the Election of Churchwardens (Vestry Meeting).

The meeting was chaired by Father Julius Anozie.

1. **Apologies for absence** – as for the Meeting for the Election of Churchwardens.

2. **Minutes of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting held on Sunday 27th April, 2024**

That the minutes of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting held on Sunday 27th April 2024 be accepted was agreed by Ann Bilas and seconded by Christine Davenport.

3. **Matters Arising –** no matters arising.

4. **Report of the Electoral Roll Officer : Jane Dobbie**

A full copy of the report can be found in the booklet – Reports for the 2025 meeting. At the last APCM there were 183 names on the roll. This year there has been a total revision and there are now 136 members on the Electoral Roll.

5. **Election of Representatives** – to serve on the St Hilda's Church Parochial Church Council. There are 8 nominations for 8 places.

To serve a 2nd term

| Name | Proposed | Seconder |
|---|---|---|
| Elizabeth (Liz Brian) | Roberta (Bobbie) Bedford | Rosemary Greenwood |
| Paula Gething | Stuart Young | Deborah (Liz) Brian |
| Rosemary Greenwood | Dorothy Reid | Ann Bilas |

New nominations

| Name | Proposed | Seconder |
|---|---|---|
| Ann Bilas | Elizabeth Bate | Dorothy Reid |
| Frances Forsbrey | Barbara Warne | Juliet Griffith |
| Juliet Griffith | Rosalyn Young | Rosemary Greenwood |
| Jubin Jacob | Paula Gething | Christine Makriel |
| Tyler Pannone | Paula Gething | Rosalyn Young |

All members were elected to serve for the period 2025 – 2028 and were thanked for agreeing to take this on.

6. **Appointment of the Independent Financial Examiner**

Recommendation that Mr Peter Connolly continue as our Independent Financial Examiner. Agreed by Stuart Young and seconded by Nick Gething.

7. Vicar's Reflection – Father Julius spoke about his arrival on 16th December, 2024 and the warm welcome he received and his delight at finding a congregation that is involved in so many activities. He expressed thanks for all the groups involved with the church and church hall.

8. Church Warden's Report – in her absence Nick Gething spoke on Paula Gething's behalf thanking everyone for their support and sending good wishes to Stuart and Alison as the Churchwardens for the coming year. Also thanks were expressed to Khadijeh for her continuing work on the Church accounts.

9. All other reports can be found in the booklet – Reports for 2025 Meeting but other comments that were made included:-
    - From Nick Gething thanks for the Choir on behalf of the Gething family for their stirring performance of Calon Lan at the wedding of Will and Vicky.

- Father Julius emphasised St Hilda's as a Church that studies the Bible and thanked those who lead the Bible Study groups.
- Father Julius also expressed thanks for the wonderful floral display for his licensing in December.
- Thanks were also expressed to Farhad, John Swaffield and Jon Bate for their work on St Hilda's House.
- St Hilda's Entertainers are celebrating 65 years this year and Sue Pinfold said that tickets are available for their forthcoming performance of Blithe Spirit in May.

All the reports were accepted. Valerie Wrightson stated that it was a wonderful report covering everything that is happening at St Hilda's and expressed thanks to Fr Julius for all his work and that it is through team work that it is such as happy church.

10. There was no any other business.

11. Date of Next Meeting – Sunday 26th April, 2026 at 11:15 am.

The meeting ended with The Grace.

Saint Hilda's Church, Ashford, Surrey Annual Report of the Parochial Church Council for the year ended 31 December 2025

St. Hilda's Church, Ashford, which is part of the Diocese of London within the Church of England, works with the minister in promoting the mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. It also has maintenance responsibilities for the Church, Church Hall, Vicarage and 34, Woodthorpe Road, Ashford, Surrey TW15 2RU. The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is a charity, the Charity Number being 1134119 Incumbent Rev Father Julius Anozie Licenced Lay Ministers Rosalyn Young.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL 2026 Appointments are for 3 years in the first instance with the option of serving for a second term of 3 years. After a total of 6 years members must come off the PCC but can be re-elected to serve again for 3 years after a break of one year.

**Elected APCM 2023-2026**

Jane Dobbie 1st term
Nick Gething 1st term
Valerie Scott 1st term
John Swaffield 1st term

**Elected APCM 2024-2027**
Rosalyn Young 1st term

**Elected APCM 2025-2028**
Tyler Pannone 1st term
Jubin Jacob 1st term
Juliete Griffith 1st term
Liz Brian 1st term
Rosemary Greenwood 1st term
Frances Foresbrey 1st term
Ann Bilias 1st term
Paula Gething 1st term

Three Deanery Synod representatives are elected for three-year terms.
**Elected APCM 2023-2026**
Elizabeth Bates
Chris Maddock
Christine Makriel

Members of the PCC are either ex-officio or elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting in accordance within the Church Representation Rules. All Church attendees are encouraged to

register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC. During the year, the Council met 8 times. The PCC operates through the Standing Committee.

Standing Committee is the only committee required by law. It has the power to transact business of the PCC between PCC meetings, subject to any directions given by the Council. The Standing Committee oversees the finances of the PCC. The committee includes the Churchwardens, Deputy Churchwarden, Treasurer, Secretary and Chairperson**.**

## Vicars Report- Rev Fr Onyekachi Julius Anozie

Dear beloved in Christ,

The words of Scripture, "Unless the Lord builds the house, those who build it labour in vain" (Psalm 127:1), remain very profound and instructive. We have come to this point in the year and in the life of the Church because God has preserved us and is working in us for His mission and ministry in this world of evil. We must show our gratitude to God for all He is doing in our midst. We also ought to thank the people of God for their faithfulness in the ministry to which St Hilda's has been called.

We have come to this meeting not just to look at the events and/or activities that have taken place in this place of worship, but to see the movement of the Spirit of God among us. St Hilda's is not just another charity, not just another organisation or social gathering: it is the living body of Christ, built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus Himself being the cornerstone (Ephesians 2:20).

This last year has been eventful and powerful, not because of activities but because of faithfulness. It has been successful not by effort but by the grace of God. In this ever-changing world, St Hilda's is called to remain rooted in Christ, unashamedly proclaiming the truth of the Gospel that "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever" (Hebrews 13:8).

1. **Finance**
   The financial life of this church is not about numbers, but about stewardship in response to the generosity and goodness of God. We must thank every one of you for your active participation in the fundraising events in this parish, whether it be jumble sales, fairs, or fundraising for the toilet project. We also extend thanks to every external organisation that supported us.

The finances of our church are looking healthier, thanks to your faithful giving and the work of the finance team. We also thank those who help manage utilities, whether through heating or securing good utility deals.

2. **Mission and Ministries**

The vitality of St Hilda's is expressed most clearly in its people. We thank God for the different ministries in our church and all the wonderful things they do.

3. **3.Mission to the Schools**

Our engagement with schools is a vital expression of mission. Assemblies, visits, and the contemporary carol service have all borne fruit. In these moments, seeds are sown seeds that may grow in ways we cannot yet see.

4. **Services**

a. Regular Worship: Week by week, we gather around Word and Sacrament. Here we are formed, nourished, and sent.

b. Festivals: At Christmas, Easter, and beyond, our church has been filled with worshippers. These moments remind us that the Gospel still speaks powerfully into the lives of many.

5. **Lent Course on Prayer**

Prayer is the heartbeat of the Church. This year's course deepened our understanding and practice, reminding us that "the prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective" (James 5:16). We thank all who engaged with the Lent course. My hope is that it will strengthen your Christian life and make a real difference.

6. **Mission Action Plan**

We continue to discern God's call, seeking not our will but His. "Write the vision; make it plain" (Habakkuk 2:2). It is with pleasure that I now place before this congregation our final Mission Action Plan. Your participation is essential, as this is not the vicar's job description, but the parish's discerned mission in Ashford and beyond.

7. **Safeguarding**

To safeguard is to love. We remain vigilant and committed to ensuring that all are safe within our care. Remember, safeguarding is everyone's responsibility. Please remain attentive to the protection of all.

8. **Wider Church**

Our connection to the Diocese, Deanery Synod, and Churches Together reminds us that we are not alone but part of the wider Body of Christ.

9. **Thanks to Our Leaders**

I want to express my deep gratitude to the churchwardens. Their leadership and service are an inspiration to us all. To the PCC, both outgoing and incoming members, thank you for your dedication to the mission and governance of our parish. Your contributions are vital to the life of our church.

10. Finally, I encourage everyone to read the reports from the various ministries and committees included in this meeting. These reports provide a fuller picture of the incredible work being done across our parish and the many ways in which God is moving among us.

**Final Thanksgiving**

"Now to Him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine" (Ephesians 3:20). As we look ahead, we do so not with fear, but with faith. God is at work among us. The story is not finished. Let us press on, "forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead" (Philippians 3:13).

In Christ,

Rev Fr Onyekachi Julius Anozie
Vicar, St Hilda's Church, Ashford

## Church Warden- Alison Garner

Stuart Young and I were accepted as your Churchwardens at the APCM in April and were formally inducted to the Office of Churchwardens by the Archdeacon, The Venerable Richard Frank in June at All Hallow's Church in Twickenham.

I can confirm that Stuart and I, in accordance with the law governing the Office of Churchwardens during the last year, have: -

- Carried out duties assigned by the Bishop or Archdeacon
- Maintained in good order and safe keeping the plate, ornaments and other articles committed to our charge.
- Kept the church records in the same and good order and safe keeping
- All offerings and collections have been recorded and paid into the relevant bank.
- The bread and wine have been provided for the Holy Communion as we are bound and directed.
- The seating and good order of the congregation have been maintained.

For those members of St. Hilda's who are housebound, or are further afield, we continue to livestream the services each Sunday. This gives a lifeline to all who use it and keeps them very much a part of our Church family.

Thanks go to those who make it happen – Chris Maddocks, Rosemary Greenwood and Nick Gething.

Due to the financial situation the Church was in at the end of 2024 going into 2025, we had to say goodbye to Laura our administrator. The many jobs she did have been shared amongst our amazing members of the congregation, with several jobs being taken on by myself. I would like to thank Rosemary for organising the weekly services for the online service sheets and then printing copies with the pew sheets for the congregation each week.

We have supported Fr. Julius as he found his way around his new Church and the planning throughout the Church Year. We wished him well after he completed his first year and returned to Nigeria for a well-earned holiday and his marriage to Esther.

**The VISITATION**

Every five years a Terrier must be completed of the Church, it's contents and the Grounds with a Visitation by the Area Dean or Archdeacon to check all is above board and the Church is being run correctly. The Visitation was arranged for Thursday 2nd October, which meant Stuart and I counted everything, photographing as we went so that there is a definitive list of everything held within the Church. Our Area Dean, Revd Carole George was impressed with the display of our Silverware, the state of our Vestry cupboards looked after by our Servers and all our records which must be kept up to date by law. The Inventory and all our Files covering the running of the Church were also laid out for inspection. The report completed and sent ahead of the visit covers Property, Maintenance with Health and Safety, Inventory, Lettings, Safeguarding, Finances, Children, Employees and Volunteers, PCC Governance, Social Media and Parish Mission. I am happy to say we passed with a handful of minor concerns which have since been addressed. We continue to keep this Terrier up to date so the next Visitation in five years' time will be as successful.

**MISSION**

Sadly, the project with Hope into Action, Bronzefield Prison and St Hilda's House has now finished. Moving on it was decided to rent the St. Hilda's House to provide income. John Swaffield is the manager and with a team of people, including Farhad, readied the house for the new inhabitants. A family is now living at St. Hilda's House, which is generating income to the Church.

The Church is open daily throughout the week thanks to Liz and her team of Keyholders. This gives the Parish the option to enter and spend time in prayer and contemplation. They also make sure the pages are turned on the Memorial Books so families can pay their respects to their loved ones recorded within.

Our Church is spring cleaned during Lent by our congregation and is looked after throughout the year by our Cleaning Team, keeping the brass polished and the carpets clean. The grounds have been kept tended by the Gardening Team, which includes the Lawn Mowers, Farhad, Paul Goulden, Gary Milton and Fr. Julius

Our Church members took part in our Mission Weekend beginning on Friday 26th September with a talk by The Archdeacon, Ven Richard Frank, where we discussed "What is Mission?" and how we as a Church go about creating our new plan.

The following day we attended the local secondary school, Thomas Knyvett, to discuss our thoughts and intentions for the future of St. Hilda's and it's mission to the congregation and the Parish as a whole. We were joined by several speakers who guided us through group discussions in the afternoon. The information gleamed at this away day will be used to create a Mission Action Plan which will be published in 2026.

Our Sides people, Welcomers, and Refreshment teams, organised by Valerie Scott, continue to faithfully greet all those arriving at the Church on Sunday morning and provide tea and coffee after the service.

The Flower team, with Pauline Milton at the helm, continue to arrange beautiful displays throughout the Church Season, despite the ongoing rising cost of flowers. The Easter Lilies and the Christmas displays never fail to be admired.

The Wednesday Services at 11am have a regular attendance, who, after the service, stay for refreshments and a chat. We then offer a Community Lunch of soup and bread and supplement it with the provisions brought to us by Surplus to Supper. We have on average 30 people attend, a mixture of Church and Parish participants.

Thanks goes to Bobbie and her team for providing the lunch and to Rosemary for organising the food parcels from the Surplus to Supper items which are given out on Thursday mornings.

Two local schools, Ashford Primary School and St. James Senior Boys' School, use the church during the year, especially for their Christmas Carol Services and Lodge Brothers hold their annual service of remembrance.

And last, but not least, my thanks goes to Chris Maddock, who, with his music team and the Choir provide wonderful music throughout the year to enrich our services.

**FUNDRAISING**

Our Jumble Sales organised by Chris Davenport and supported by the congregation continue to be a huge success. The two fairs in Summer and Winter this year had both our traditional Church stalls and members of the local community selling their crafts and products. These

events take place within the Church, and it allows the local community to see how wonderful our Church is with it's beautiful interior and experience our Church family running the events. We have held several events covering Line Dancing, Burn's Night Supper and a Persian meal - Yalda at Christmas. All these events have raised a considerable amount of money throughout the year.

The "Spend a Penny" Fundraiser was launched on Sunday 27th July with a flush of Louie the Loo and her cohort Lou with the hope of raising £70,000 to refurbish the toilets in the Church Hall. The Toilet Shaped collecting pots have been out in Church and at all our events to collect loose change. The "Spend a Penny, Buy a Loo" boxes have been available for people to take and fill with their pennies and pounds. We have been fortunate to receive three grants from the Council, a local Councillor and the Ashford Relief In Need Charity. We have also received donations from the Church Family, either from the Louie boxes and several very generous donations for which we are very grateful. Most of our events this year have gone towards the "Spend a Penny" fund. This fundraiser will be closing on Easter Sunday 2026, and it is planned for the new toilets in the front foyer to be fitted in August 2026 and the rear toilets in October 2026.

**THANKS**

This year has been an interesting learning curve, especially with the Visitation to deal with. I am very impressed that Paula was able to do this as sole Warden during an Interregnum and I am thankful she is still around as our Financial Manager. With Khadijeh as the Treasurer, supported by the Gift Aid Team and Parish Giving Team our financial future is beginning to look brighter.

The role of Warden cannot be done without the support of the members of the congregation, and I am very grateful for all the unseen people silently going about their duties. I would like to thank the Standing Committee and PCC who have worked hard to keep St. Hilda's Church a vibrant part of the Parish and available to all who need our services and help. Finally, I would like to thank my fellow warden Stuart, for his guidance and support this year. I hope we can find someone to fill your shoes as you step down for a well-earned rest.

## Church Warden report (Fabric)- Stuart Young

## Church Hall

Last year 2025 saw our hall continue to function at full capacity with Christ Davenport managing the high demand of requests from hirers from both regular and one off hirers. Chris has continued as Hall Booking Secretary, keeping precise records, which has enabled us to maintain much needed income revenue.

**Happytots** run the Nursery School who use the Main Hall area Monday to Friday during term time.

During the year various service visits were arranged and carried out, **MHL** inspected and serviced the gas boiler, and the gas hob to the kitchen oven, **3MG Fire Protection** inspected and serviced our portable fire appliances and fire blankets, **Kingsmead Testing Services Limited** carried out the PAT testing of our portable appliances, weekly cleaning services to the entire Hall continue to be provided Monday to Thursday and twice on Friday by a new cleaning company **ELFA Cleaning Limited**.

In addition to these usual maintenance activities, complete redecoration of the main hall was carried out by church members with assistance from members of the Entertainers Group, these works included major plastering works in the hall foyer, main kitchen, stage area, internal corridor areas by **James Plastering Limited** followed by repainting of the new plaster work by members of the St Hilda's Entertainers.

The Hall fire alarm system has been completely replaced by **Kinetic Security** so that the new system complies with current regulations.

We have continued to experience problems with the Hall **PV system** inverters tripping out from time to time. The power side has been inspected by **SSEN engineers**, and engineers from **Utilitytrade** who designed and installed the PV system however no final solution has been found so action continues with **Utilitytrade** to resolve the problem.

## Church

The gardening team have continued to clear weeds and tend to the various flower beds and shrubs around the church grounds.

Annual servicing of the church boilers has been carried out by **MHL,** the church organ was tuned by **BC Shepherd & Son**, the organ amplifier and blower were serviced by **Watkins & Watson Limited**, our fire extinguishers and fire blankets were serviced by **3MG Fire Protection**, PAT testing was carried out by **Kingsmead Testing Limited**, the Lightning Conductor was tested by **Bacon Lightning Protection Limited**. **Fullers** carried out cleaning of the church gutters and rainwater pipe system, external lights were repaired by qualified electricians from **Dr Sparky Limited**.

The Church Log Book has been kept up to date and copies of relevant documents including photographs of the church gutters cleaning have filed into the folder.

As a result of the retirement of Bob Wilson our longstanding Quinquenial Inspector Architect, the Church Wardens and the Vicar carried formal interviews of 3 candidates to select a new

Quinquenial Architect Inspector. The person selected is **Mr Michael Swords** who has now been formally appointed by the Archdeacon of Middlesex and the DAC

The weekly cleaning of the church continues to be carried out by members of the congregation which highly appreciated.

## Vicarage

A water meter has now been installed by **Affinity Water** which should reduce water costs, our new Budget has made allowance for redecorating a room in the vicarage when required.

## St Hilda's House

Annual boiler service of the gas boiler has been carried out, the smoke detector system has been upgraded along with various maintenance works including upgrading of the decorations all done prior to a new tenant moving in during October 2025 , all of the garden fence has also been replaced which will improve security for the new tenants , **John Swaffield** has accepted the post of Building Manager to enable a single point of contact between the church and the new tenants.

## Treasure report

## PCC report- Tyler Pannone

**Jan-** The PCC reviewed finances, noting a £13k deficit due to high building costs, reduced rental income, and lower giving, and agreed to pursue stewardship efforts while approving the financial report. They also decided to withdraw from the St Hilda's House project, address significant maintenance issues (including tree removal and wall repairs), plan upcoming fundraising events, and follow up on safeguarding, health & safety, and operational actions.

**Feb-** The PCC reviewed church operations and upcoming services (including Easter planning), noted ongoing financial pressures with a monthly deficit and reduced income, and agreed to increase church hall hire charges by 5% while continuing fundraising efforts. They also addressed maintenance and safety matters (tree removal, PV panels, risk assessments), safeguarding updates, and several actions to improve communication, facilities, and church activities.

**Mar-** The PCC discussed preparations for Lent and Easter services, parish engagement, and upcoming events, while progressing actions on hall charge increases, audio/CCTV issues, and

policy updates. They also focused on safeguarding improvements, health and safety concerns, APCM preparation, and a range of fundraising plans, alongside ongoing maintenance and administrative updates.

**June-** The PCC focused heavily on financial challenges, noting reduced income and approving new interim policies to strengthen reserves and control spending, alongside forming a finance committee and restructuring staffing due to budget pressures. They also set up subgroups to boost income (fundraising, stewardship, and grants), addressed safeguarding and health & safety matters, and discussed plans to improve giving and church operations

**July-** The PCC reviewed ongoing actions and subcommittee reports, focusing on stewardship, fundraising, and potential grants, alongside plans for major upcoming events including a children's weekend and mission weekend in September. They also noted positive community engagement with local schools, a successful summer fundraiser, and ongoing financial and maintenance matters, with several actions agreed to support giving, administration, and future projects.

**Sep-** The PCC reviewed strong progress in finances and operations, including increased income, Gift Aid receipts, fundraising for major projects, and preparing St Hilda's House for a new tenant, while also committing to significant parish giving and approving a new printer lease. They adopted a wide range of updated policies, advanced safeguarding and governance processes, and planned upcoming services and events, alongside ongoing maintenance and future growth initiatives

**Oct-** The PCC reviewed strong financial performance boosted by Gift Aid and donations, progressed major projects like the toilet fund and fire alarm upgrade, and planned upcoming services, events, and the 2026 calendar. They also advanced safeguarding compliance, administrative improvements, and development of a long-term Mission Action Plan focused on growth, outreach, and resourcing the church's future needs

**Nov-** The PCC reflected positively on 2025, noting improved financial stability, strong worship, growing community engagement, and strengthened teamwork, while planning ahead for 2026 services, mission priorities, and events. They also approved a new church website, reviewed safeguarding and operational matters, and discussed a projected budget deficit with plans for staffing, fundraising, and continued development of church activities

## SPELTHORNE DEANERY REPORT 2025- Area Dean – Rev Carole George, Lay Chair – Mr Norman Head

Spelthorne Deanery Synod met three times to consider current matters within the Anglican Church. Meetings also provide opportunities for sharing news and enjoying fellowship with clergy and lay representatives from the eleven churches in the Spelthorne Deanery. The current three year term began on 1st July 2023. We have been reminded that there is a lot of advice and support available from the Diocese of London.

Clergy moves within the Deanery – Rev James Bunyan has been appointed as vicar of Christ Church Staines, Rev Clay Amira was appointed to serve a curacy at St Saviour's Sunbury and Fr John Hillman has left St Matthew Ashford to take up an appointment as vicar within the Diocese of Winchester.

Annual Finance meetings were hosted by Archdeacon Richard Frank & Dawn Baker (Diocesan Finance Officer)

During the year reports were given by Nick Wood-Dow and Hannah Lawes on issues discussed at the London Diocesan Synod.

The speakers and themes of the three meetings during 2025 were:

In February, Rev Kate Hartley, Managing Chaplain at HMP Bronzefield spoke on the subject "Journeying with those doing time – a Prison Chaplain perspective" then hosted a discussion on issues faced by prisoners and prison officers and on possible support from local churches.

In June, Mrs Sue Willsher, leader of Net zero carbon for the Diocese of Kensington, and Paul Cook of the ARISE charity, spoke on "Bringing social and environmental justice alive in our churches: support from ARISE and the London Diocese"; and discussed a range of issues including modern slavery, poverty, social justice and protection of the environment; together with advice on our role in campaigning, lobbying and prayer.

At the October meeting Rev Derek Winterburn (Kensington Area Environment Lead) and Jack Edwards (Diocesan Environment Officer) gave a presentation on Creation Care and EcoChurch and made constructive suggestions on how we can all be involved in supporting progress on EcoChurch and in adjusting our life-styles towards a more responsible use of resources.

## CHOIR AND MUSIC REPORT 2025- Chris Maddock, Paula Gething, Rosemary Greenwood, Jane Dobbie

St Hilda's church choir continues to provide musical accompaniment for the main services during the course of the year. We continue to practise in the church each Friday from 7pm and whilst we still manage four-part harmony, it would be nice to have a few more voices—particularly basses.

The music for services is based on the lectionary readings and carefully selected by the team listed above. Efforts are made to include both well loved, traditional items alongside some contemporary music. We prepare a *Taizé* chant most weeks.

In addition to singing at the weekly family Eucharist and festival days, the choir also led choral Evensongs during Holy Week with a responsorial psalm and *faux bourdon* canticles (*Magnificat* and *Nunc Dimittis*); two choral devotions on Good Friday (*Last words* and *Good Friday liturgy*); several funerals; Lodge Brothers *Candles of Remembrance* service in December and our traditional service of readings and Christmas carols. This year, we enjoyed an additional, Contemporary Carol Service, with some lovely solo and choral contributions from local schools.

We have enlarged both our traditional and contemporary repertoire, and have, this year, added German, French, Maori and Zulu to our list of languages sung!

During Trinity, the choir was encouraged to offer some solo items during Communion, and a number of members bravely (and beautifully) stepped forward—including the Vicar.

We continue to rely heavily on recorded accompaniments, but huge thanks to Peter Pritchard for supporting us with organ accompaniments on occasion.

We would very much welcome new members, so please get in touch with one of us and give it a go!

## Altar Servers' Report- Frances Forsbrey

Altar servers fulfil an important function within the church. Their role dates back to the early days of the church when priests were accompanied by an acolyte on their travels.
Today altar servers' roles in the church are as listed below.

The **Crucifer** is the person who carries the big processional cross. We have different crosses for various times in the year. Normally we have a large, decorated cross but in Advent and Lent a small wooden cross is used to reflect the mood of the season.

The **Acolytes** work in pairs, and they both carry candles. In the olden days, when churches weren't lit quite so brightly, they had a very important role ensuring that when the Gospel procession went down into the body of the church there was enough light on the Gospel book

for the priest or deacon to be able to read it. The duties of servers at St Hilda's has evolved over the years and now includes sacristan duties (preparing for and cleaning up after liturgical services), ringing the church bell 5 minutes before the service, opening the memorial bookcase and ensuring the book is open to the current date.

Up until October this year we had 8 servers reducing to 6, (as listed below) by the end of the year, who are always willing to help with any task to keep our services in Church running smoothly. They serve at weekly Sunday and Wednesday morning services, with additional duties at special services through the church year,

During the last twelve-month period the number of altar servers increased by one as we were pleased to welcome back Emma Wrightson to the team.

In accordance with the Church of England's new requirements all servers and chalice assistants are now required to undertake Safeguarding (Basic and Foundation) as well as Domestic Abuse Awareness training.

Alan Sloan was Head Server/serving team liaison representative acting as the focal point between the servers and the vicar. This entailed:
Updating altar servers about any changes in process/procedure
Completion of the end of year report
Production of both the server's and chalice duty rotas.
During October, with much sadness we learnt of Alan's resignation from the team and at the end of December Emma's.

We always welcome new members to our team especially now as with our number reducing to 6 and the number of services we need to cover throughout the year this will leave us fully stretched.

If you are interested, please contact Fr. Julius or a Churchwarden in the first instance.
St. Hilda's Servers Team

**List of servers:**

| | |
|---|---|
| Frances Forsbrey* | Peter Makriel* |
| Sally Goulden* | Christine Makriel* |
| Chris Holliday | Barbara Warne |

An asterisk* signifies where a server has additionally been appointed by the Bishop of Kensington to assist with Holy Communion.

## Sides Persons Report

I prepare the rotas for sidespersons and Sunday morning refreshments. There are twelve people on each list and on the whole it works quite well. The problems arise when people are on holiday or are sick. We need more volunteers. With more volunteers everyone would be on duty less often.we don't have many men, just one male sidespersons and two who help with refreshments.

## Facility Manager's 2026 Report to APCM for St Hilda's House

This report covers the period June 2025 to present.

I took over responsibility for St Hilda's House, 34 Woodthorpe Road in June 2025. The previous tenants of St Hilda's House had been asked to vacate the premises.

A large fallen branch from a tree in the garden was the first job to be tackled. Farhad cut it into pieces and I transported it to Charlton dump.

The house was originally a furnished let, so there was a considerable amount of furniture to be disposed of as the new tenant wanted an unfurnished let. This was achieved by sale, church members having some and the remainder being removed by Nick Gething. Additionally, there was a 750-cc motor cycle in the garden, which Stuart Young arranged to be moved by the Council.

The house needed to be fairly empty as new flooring was to be fitted by a flooring contractor in the front living room, box bedroom, stairs, hall. landing, bathroom and WC. Three quotes were obtained.

Next, a full deep clean followed by complete redecoration.

The target was to get the house ready to rent by 1st October 2025.

This time would not have been possible without Farhad and Nima doing the decoration.

The garden was cleared by a contractor ready for take-over by the new tenant.

Negotiations with local Estate Agents took place and one was employed on the Church's behalf.

The tenant who was chosen from the church community came with her own white goods, which required the further sale of a washing machine from the house.

The family moved in in early October 2025.

In the intervening months a number of necessary small jobs have been carried out to central heating, mostly in the loft and bathroom.

The fencing on one side of the garden will be replaced.. This is to raise the height for security reasons. It was an agreement made as part of the negotiations with the tenant. The fencing has been delivered to 34 and it is proposed for this to be installed by Farhad and Nima at the beginning of April 2026, weather permitting.

A roof leak into the main bedroom was discovered at the end of last year. Three roofers were asked for quotes. One was chosen for the work, but it was delayed due to the rain, but has now been completed.

Other members of the church have been involved in aspects of getting St Hilda's House ready, and I thank them for their assistance then and in the future.

John Swaffield

## Child Protection Nick Gething (Safeguarding Officer)

The Church of England, in all aspects of its life, is committed to and will champion the protection of children and young people both in society as a whole and in its own community.

It fully accepts, endorses and will implement the principle enshrined in the Children Act 1989, that the welfare of the child is paramount. The Church of England will foster and encourage best practice within its community by setting standards for working with children and young people and by supporting parents in the care of their children.

It will work with statutory bodies, voluntary agencies and other faith communities to promote the safety and well-being of children and young people. It is committed to acting promptly whenever a concern is raised about a child or young person or about the behaviour of an adult, and will work with the appropriate statutory bodies when an investigation into child abuse is necessary.

The Church of England is committed to encouraging an environment where all people and especially those who may be vulnerable for any reason are able to worship and pursue their

faith journey with encouragement and in safety. Everyone, whether they see themselves as vulnerable or not, will receive respectful pastoral ministry recognising any power imbalance within such a relationship.

In line with the Church of England's policies we continue to require that all those responsible for the care of children under the auspices of St Hilda's Church have clear DBS checks that that the leadership of Junior Church have completed the appropriate safeguarding training.

If any member of the congregation has regular contact with children on behalf of the church are unsure as to whether they should have safeguarding training and a DBS check, please feel feee to speak to me or contact me through safeguarding@sthilda.org.

## Safeguarding Adults - Nick Gething

All church workers involved in any pastoral ministry will be recruited with care including the use of the Criminal Records Bureau disclosure service when legal or appropriate. Workers and volunteers will receive training and continuing support.

Any allegations of mistreatment, abuse, harassment or bullying will be responded to without delay. Whether or not the matter involves the church there will be cooperation with the police and local authority in any investigation.

Sensitive and informed pastoral care will be offered to anyone who has suffered abuse, including support to make a complaint if so desired. Help to find appropriate specialist care either from the church or secular agencies will be offered.

Congregations may include people who have offended in a way that means they are a continuing risk to vulnerable people. The risks will be managed sensitively with the protection of adults and children in mind.

Nick Gething retains the role of Safeguarding Officer while Elizabeth Bate continues as the Children's Champion. Since the induction of Fr Julius, there has been an ongoing review of our safeguarding action plan, and we continue to seek members to strengthen the safeguarding team to support minority groups within the congregation.

## Health and Safety Report- Christine Makriel

The PCC has maintained its commitment to ensuring that St Hilda's Church remains a safe and secure environment for worship, community activities, and all who use its buildings and facilities. Health and safety continues to be regularly reviewed as a standing item within PCC business, with appropriate actions taken where necessary.

During the year, there was one recorded incident involving a fall, which was appropriately managed and documented, with no serious injury sustained . The PCC has reinforced the importance of consistent incident reporting and monitoring to ensure that any risks are identified and mitigated promptly.

Significant progress has been made in fire safety. A new compliant wireless fire alarm system has been installed, representing a major improvement in safety provision. Additional actions have included the replacement of emergency lighting, review of fire exit signage, and ongoing liaison with the Fire Brigade regarding evacuation procedures and assembly points . Risk assessments are also undertaken for larger services and events to ensure safe management of increased attendance.

The PCC has also ensured that appropriate safety equipment and systems are maintained. This has included arrangements for PAT testing, monitoring of electrical and technical systems, and the maintenance of the defibrillator. Necessary replacements and servicing have been identified and actioned where required.

## Bible Study Group report for 2025- Rosemary Greenwood

The group has continued to meet weekly. There are usually 5 to 8 people at a meeting. Leadership of the study is rotated but there is no pressure to take a turn if you do not wish to; similarly, there is no pressure to read aloud or share an opinion if members do not wish to do so. We begin and end with prayer. We work from Small Group Study books from various publishers. The subjects studied are chosen after group discussion.

For the first months of the year we continued our study of John's Gospel, continuing with it through Lent as the second half of the Gospel covers the last week of Jesus' life. We then moved to USPG's study of the Nicene Creed which included insights from Christians other parts of the world. This was followed by Peter's and Jude's epistles, then selected Psalms took us to Advent when we used a study Coming of the Saviour which looked at how different people responded to the events around Jesus' birth.

We made several changes this year: in October we moved our meetings from 7.45pm on Wednesdays to 7.30pm on Mondays as people generally have fewer commitments at the start of the week. During the colder weather we moved from Church to the Hawley Room in the hall to save heating costs. We also started sharing our meetings online to enable our friends in Dorset to keep joining us; this has also been useful for other members who are away or unwell. We continue to keep in touch with each other through an optional WhatsApp group.

We do not expect everyone to come every week. We enjoy many lively discussions (not always on topic), and appreciate the fellowship we share.

We welcome visitors and those who would like to see what goes on each week.

## FEED MY SHEEP- Rosalyn Young

We met 10 times to consider our chosen topic. Tea and cake accompanied our exploration of these topics.

Caves in the Bible, Bishop Morley and the Winchester Cathedral Library, St Patrick and St George,

Letters from James and Peter and John, Female Hymn Writers, The Oxford Movement, John Wycliffe 700th Anniversary and some Jargon Busting where we look at some theological words and phrases and a Pick and Mix session: with several unrelated small topics.

Extra funds from the donation for the refreshments have been used to buy items for the Food Bank.

## Ambling Through Acts – Rev Stephen Brian

We have continued our unhurried but close reading of the book of Acts, following Luke's account of the beginnings of the church. The characters, the politics, the controversies of the time can all find their equivalents today, and we have some good discussions. Sometimes we go off at tangents, which is also fine. Each session finishes with the short, said service of compline, followed by coffee/tea and decent biscuits. We usually have between eight and a dozen or so people at a session, with about fifteen or sixteen overall. Newcomers are always welcome - no previous knowledge required. We meet at 7:30pm on the first Thursday in the month, in church.

## Social Committee Report- Bobbie Bedford

Another busy year for church events. The Parish Breakfasts continues to be well attended, the food is good and the range of after breakfast speakers on various subjects always interesting. The Wednesday lunches after the service are very popular, a good time for a chat, especially for those who don't manage t get to our Sunday services. We had a great Burns Night in February always good fun. We are trying to get callers for January Burns night as it's felt that February is a little too late to celebrate. We had a ladies night out in February and June, a great social occasion for the ladies of the church, we always aim to have a least two a year but sometimes the months just fly past. The Jumble Sale and Auction is one of our biggest fund raisers and people come from near and far hoping to get a bargain, they even queue outside at least an hour before we open. In April there was an evening in Church with Red Hot Strings, a great night, so good they were invited to come again. There was also a really well attended evening Coldplay by Candlelight. It's great to have these events in church, it shows off our great acoustics and brings people into the church that don'tusually come, hopefully encouraging them to give our Sunday services a try. The Summer Fayre in July was another great fund raiser with a great variety of stalls and good food enjoyed by all. In September we had a bring and share Harvest Lunch, we have some great cooks at St Hilda's, Alice's Pavlova is a winner. We had another such occasion on St Hilda's day, always good to sit down and have a meal together. November saw our Frost Fayre, a countdown to Christmas and a fund raiser for the refurbishment of the Church Hall toilets. We always enjoy the mulled wine and mince pies after the Carol service. We have some great events and St Hilda's and long may they continue. Here's looking forward to this year.

## St Hilda's Entertainers Report- Sue Pinfold

The Entertainers' Committee met six times during the year, with further casting and production meetings for the Play and Pantomime.

Our May Play was Noël Coward's 'Blithe Spirit', directed by Sue Pinfold. We had previously performed it in 1991 so, 34 years on, our 65th Anniversary year, was very appropriate timing for a repeat performance of such a classic script.

In between the two Saturday performances we held a very successful 65th Anniversary celebration in Church, attended by past and present members.

Our Pantomime 'Robin Hood', written by Tom Whalley and directed by Laura Allen, was our best attended show to date with over 1000 tickets sold in total.

We have a new NODA regional councillor, who attended the pantomime, as did our district councillor. In 2025 we won a NODA regional accolade for dramatic excellence for 2024's

production of The Midnight Raiders. 4 members attended the AGM in Alton last June to receive the certificate.

We laid a wreath at the Remembrance Sunday service at Ashford War Memorial.

We took part in the Spelthorne Christmas Parade.

We have made various charitable donations including

| | |
|---|---|
| St Hilda's Loo Fund | £1,750 |
| White Lodge Centre | £1,000 |
| Shooting Star Hospice | £1,000 |
| Alzheimers Society | £500 |
| British Heart Foundation | £500 |

Mike Davenport has stepped down as Secretary, with Sue Pinfold taking the position she previously held over 20 years ago. Craig Entwistle, who many will have seen as Nanny Fanny Flapjack in Robin Hood, is now chairman

Rehearsals are well under way for this year's play, a very funny comedy called 'Reading Between the Lines', written by Geoff Bamber and directed by Steve Smith. (May 15th and 16th – tickets on sale now!)

We very much appreciate being part of the St Hilda's family, as we have been for 66 years now.

Sue Pinfold

Secretary

## Junior Church Annual Report- Christine Taylor

The format of Junior Church remains virtually unchanged. We meet each Sunday during term time withdrawing to the Hall after the welcome where we complete child friendly age-appropriate activities returning to Church just before the Eucharist. We often use "Roots on the Web" as our main teaching resources but sometimes we follow our own themes. On the first Sunday of the month, we have our Messy Church session when we begin and remain in the Hall throughout the Service. The sessions are going from strength to strength include a variety of activities and we have been able to experiment with a variety of teaching methods.

In addition to these activities at the end of the summer holiday we ran our first children's and young people's weekend. Saturday was one of games, craft, and activities to prepare for

participation in the Sunday service. Although the attendance was small it proved quite successful, and another is planned for this year but at a more appropriate date

Over the year seventy-four (74) children have attended at least one season of Junior Church and/or Messy Church.

Rosalyn, Elizabeth, and I were pleased to welcome Esmarie, Lynette and Charolotte who have shown an interest in helping Junior Church. A few Junior Church teenagers have also been extremely helpful assisting with the younger children and helping them settle and cope with the activities which is particularly gratifying. If you are interested in our work and would like to help, please speak to one of us.

## Young Adults Group report- Tyler Pannone

In 2025 we had our ingural social event in April. This was attended by 6 young adults plus fr. Julius. Ellie kindly cooked fajitas for the group. We then had a second social in June hosted by Nima and third in July which due to poor weather became an indoor bbq. We met a further two more times in 2025. In 2026 we had a social event at Nostromo lounge in February which was followed in March by our first bible study session on John chapter 1. The average attendance of events is 6.

## 3rd Ashford Rainbows, Brownies and Guides – Chris Davenport

The girls of 3rd Ashford Rainbows, Brownies and Guides, their Guiders and Young Leaders meet each week at St Hilda's Church Hall.

All the Units have been working on their Theme Awards of Know Myself, Express Myself, Be Well, Have Adventures, Take Action and Skills For My Future. All these challenges are gauged for the abilities of the various age groups from 5 years to 14 years. With the girls keen to earn such a variety of badges, some of them have been able to complete Girlguiding Bronze, Silver and Gold Awards.

During the year, the Guides take part in service in the community. In 2025 it included Helping with the Civic Awards Ceremony at the Mayor's Parlour in April, and running the Tombola stall at St Hilda's Frost Fair, raising £150 for Church funds. They also helped with Front of House duties for the two weekends of St Hilda's Entertainers' pantomime, 'Robin Hood'.

The Brownies enjoyed 'Mayhem', a day of activities at Ardingly Showground, Sussex. At their fundraising evening in June the girls raised £200 and they donated £100 to St Hilda's Toilet Fund.

All the Units took part in the Ashford Remembrance Parade and Service at the War Memorial.

As the months go by, we are pleased to see how the girls grow in confidence and rise to the various challenges as they progress from Rainbows, to Brownies and Guides. It is not only rewarding for the girls, but also for their Guiders, who give their time voluntarily. They encourage and guide the girls and boost their self-confidence in their efforts by organising and running exciting activities for the girls.

Taking the next step up from Guides, two of our girls have become Young Leaders with Units in Ashford District.

We are thankful that St Hilda's Church Hall continues to provide us with a much-appreciated safe environment in which our 85 girls can come together for the fun and friendship of weekly meetings.

Chris Davenport
Guide Guider

## St Hilda's Mothers' Union, Report for 2025

Our AGM in March, followed by afternoon tea and our Lady Day Service, was attended by 22 members.
Five Long Service Awards were presented.

We continue to hold our monthly Mothers' Union Corporate Communion Services.

We have all enjoyed our lunchtime meetings:

| | |
|---|---|
| January | One of our Church members gave us an illustrated talk about her trip to Australia, which was very interesting. |
| February | Father Julius, our new Vicar, gave a talk about the MU in Nigeria, where his mother is very involved, and where he grew up and became a member. |
| March | Reflections for Lent, when we all made a coloured bead cross with the colours signifying different meanings. |
| April | Meeting cancelled. |
| May | One of our members told us her 'Life Story' of how she became involved in the Church and how she developed over the years to become a Lay Reader. |
| June | One of our members showed us some of her handiwork of Stoles for various clergy and clothes she has made. We then had a 'Mindfulness in Stitch' session when, with her guidance, we all did some sewing while listening to music to help us relax and meditate. |
| July | Fundraising for the Summer of Hope, MU Project, when £100 was raised. We also enjoyed scones, jam, cream and fresh fruit. |
| September | We held our Wave of Prayer Service, led by Rosalyn Young, our Lay Reader. |

| | |
|---|---|
| October | One of our members, who has been involved in the world of entertainment, talked on the theme 'There's No Business Like Show Business' |
| November | As this was Remembrance Day, we shared our memories, interspersed with war poems. |
| December | Carols and Christmas Music with mince pies. |

Our programme has given us another very successful year of meetings of St Hilda's Mothers' Union, which our members continue to attend and enjoy.

*Chris Davenport.*

# APPENDIX A

## PAROCHIAL COUNCIL OF ST. HILDA'S ASHFORD MIDDLESEX

**For the year ending 31st December 2025**

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**

| | UNRESTRICTED FUNDS | RESTRICTED FUNDS | TOTAL 2025 | TOTAL 2024 | TOTAL 2023 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **INCOMING RESOURCES** | **£** | **£** | **£** | **£** | |
| Voluntary income | 61,217.08 | 21,105.00 | 82,322.08 | 114,023.50 | 53,217.00 |
| Activities for generating funds | 54,517.11 | 6,921.00 | 61438.11 | 59,570.20 | 60,355.00 |
| Income from Investments | 22,456.78 | | 22,456.78 | 11,259.37 | 11,290.00 |
| Church activities | 1,897.00 | | 1,897.00 | 1,261.00 | 4,118.00 |
| Other incoming resources | 16,387.89 | | 16,387.89 | 19,653.67 | |
| **TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES** | **156,475.86** | **28,026.00** | **184,501.86** | **205,767.74** | **128,980.00** |
| **RESOURCES EXPENDED** | | | | | |
| Cost of generating voluntary income | | | | | |
| Fundraising costs | 982.16 | | 982.16 | 2,627.24 | 3,020.00 |
| Church activities | 89,480.40 | | 89,480.40 | 214,245.00 | 142,280.00 |
| Investment management costs | 1,479.93 | 5,255.17 | 6,735.10 | 6,869.00 | 4,308.00 |
| Common Fund | 54,000.00 | | 54,000.00 | | |
| **TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED** | **145,942.49** | **5255.17** | **151,197.66** | **223,741.24** | **149,608.00** |

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **NET INCOMING RESOURCES** | **10,533.37** | **22,770.83** | **33,304.20** | **- 17,973.50** | **- 20,628.00** |
| Gains & Losses on investments | | | | - | |
| Transfer between funds | | | | - | |
| Accounting adjustments | | | | | |
| NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS | 10,533.37 | 22,770.83 | 33,304.20 | - 17,973.50 | - 20,628.00 |

## 2. INCOMING RESOUCES

| | Note | UNRESTRICTED FUNDS | RESTRICTED FUNDS | TOTAL 2025 | TOTAL 2024 | TOTAL 2023 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **2(a) Voluntary income** | | | | | | | |
| Planned giving | 1 | 30,270.62 | | 30,270.62 | 29,932.41 | 32,650.00 | |
| Tax recovered on planned giving | | 4,214.12 | | 4,214.12 | 4,338.88 | 3,451.00 | |
| Planned giving - other | | | | 0.00 | | | |
| Loose plate / Wall boxes (Cash) | | 5,906.78 | | 5,906.78 | 6,853.19 | 6,847.00 | |
| Donations / refreshments, appeals etc | 3 | 11648.36 | 15,537.00 | 27,185.36 | 9,817.23 | 8,541.00 | Split out refreshemnt, candles tree etc into unrestricted |

| | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| DONA credit card donations | 2 | 7,828.20 | | 7,828.20 | 3,969.49 | | |
| Other tax recovered | | | | 0.00 | | | |
| Grant income | 4 | | 5,568 | 5,568.00 | 48,000 | 1,100.00 | SHH |
| Legacies | | | | 0.00 | 10,000 | | |
| Memorial Book | | 400 | | 400.00 | 105 | | |
| Flowers | | 949 | | 949.00 | 1007.3 | 560.00 | |
| **TOTAL VOLUNTARY INCOME** | | **61,217.08** | **21,105.00** | **82,322.08** | **114,023.50** | **53,149.00** | |
| | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| **2 (b) Activities for generating funds** | | | | | | | |
| Fetes, bazaars & other fund raising events | | 3,428.11 | 6921 | 10,349.11 | 11,521.12 | 10,515.00 | |
| Church Hall lettings | 5 | 50,739.00 | | 50,739.00 | 45,849.60 | 49,840.00 | |
| Church letting | | 300.00 | | 300.00 | 2,200.00 | | |
| Sundry income | | 50.00 | | 50.00 | - | - | |
| **TOTAL ACTIVITIES FOR GENERATING FUNDS** | | **54,517.11** | **6,921.00** | **61,438.11** | **59,570.72** | **60,355.00** | |
| | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| **2 (c) Income from investments** | | | | | | | |
| Interest | 6 | 1,563.65 | | 1,563.65 | 2,066.51 | 1,969.00 | |
| Rent | 7 | 5,284.20 | | 5,284.20 | 9,192.86 | 9,321.00 | |
| PV Income / Solar energy | 8 | 15,608.93 | | 15,608.93 | - | - | |
| **TOTAL INCOME** | | **22,456.78** | | **22,456.78** | **11,259.37** | **11,290.00** | |

| | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **FROM INVESTMENTS** | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| **2 (d) Income from church activities** | | | | | | | |
| Weddings | | 100 | | 100 | 54 | 1,070.00 | |
| Funerals | | 1,797 | | 1,797 | 1,207 | 3,048.00 | |
| **TOTAL INCOME FROM CHURCH ACTIVITIES** | | **1,897** | | **1,897** | **1,261** | **4,118.00** | |
| | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| **2 (e) Other ordinary incoming resources** | | | | | | | |
| Gift Aid recovered | 9 | 10,629.58 | | 10,629.58 | 8,947.98 | | |
| VAT Refund | | 2,873.60 | | 2,873.60 | 10,705.69 | | |
| Reinbursement of Prior Year expenses | 10 | 2,884.71 | | 2,884.71 | | | |
| **TOTAL OTHER ORDINARY INCOMING RESOURCES** | | **16,387.89** | | **16,387.89** | **19,653.67** | **-** | |
| | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| **TOTAL INCOME** | | **156,475.86** | **28,026.00** | **184,501.86** | **205,768.26** | **128,912.00** | |
| | | | | | | | |

## 3. RESOURCES EXPENDED

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | | |
| | | **UNRESTRICTED FUNDS** | **RESTRICTED FUNDS** | **TOTAL 2025** | **TOTAL 2024** | **TOTAL 2023** |

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **3 (a) Church activities** | | | | | | |
| Missionary Giving | | | | | | |
| Flowers | | 674.29 | | 674.29 | 1,039.54 | 521.00 |
| Insurance Church & Hall | | 10,963.01 | | 10,963.01 | 11,025.19 | 10,519.00 |
| Junior Church | | 17.90 | | 17.90 | 237.37 | 128.00 |
| Maintenance Church & Hall, vicarage | | 24,925.02 | | 24,925.02 | 93,542.56 | 9,146.00 |
| Purchases church & Hall | | 2,096.03 | | 2,096.03 | 1,484.20 | 4,245.00 |
| Memorial Book | | 300.00 | | 300.00 | | 175.00 |
| Ministry Clergy expenses | | 543.13 | | 543.13 | | 451.00 |
| Ministry - visiting clergy | | 41.00 | | 41.00 | | |
| Mission activities | 11 | 655.93 | | 655.93 | | |
| Ministry wedding fees | | | | - | | 7,000.00 |
| Organist & choir costs | | 1,177.76 | | 1,177.76 | 1,014.00 | |
| Operating cost church | | 6,048.81 | | 6,048.81 | 6,577.42 | 3,278.00 |
| Operating cost hall | | 671.85 | | 671.85 | 610.78 | 2,688.00 |
| Sundry | | | | - | 109.45 | 700.00 |
| Utilities Electric | | 4,489.76 | | 4,489.76 | 5,058.86 | 3,674.00 |
| Utilities Gas | 12 | 11,283.35 | | 11,283.35 | 16,563.43 | 20,154.00 |
| Utilities other | | 4,326.68 | | 4,326.68 | 3,143.90 | 550.00 |
| Cleaning Costs | 13 | 11,697.21 | | 11,697.21 | 18,204.70 | 12,840.00 |
| **TOTAL CHURCH ACTIVITIES** | | **79,911.73** | **-** | **79,911.73** | **158,611.40** | **76,069.00** |
| | | | | | | |
| **3 (b) Cost of Generating Voluntary Income** | | | | | | |
| Cost of appeals | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| **3 (c) Administration** | | | | | | |
| Administration | | 4,607.87 | | 4,607.87 | 12,585.90 | 9,306.00 |
| Bank Charges | | 214.14 | | 214.14 | | |
| Payroll | | 3,385.12 | | 3,385.12 | | |
| Printer expenses | | 1,361.54 | | 1,361.54 | | |
| **TOTAL ADMINISTRATION** | | **9,568.67** | | **9,568.67** | | |
| | | | | | | |

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **3 (d) Fund raising event costs** | | | | | | |
| Fetes / bazaars etc | | 982.16 | | 982.16 | 2,627.24 | 3,020.00 |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| **3 (e) Investment Management costs** | | | | | | |
| Insurance St Hilda's House | | 345.07 | | 345.07 | | |
| Maintenance costs St Hilda's House | 14 | | 5,255.17 | 5,255.17 | 1,317.70 | 556.00 |
| Running costs St Hilda's House | | 301.36 | | 301.36 | 5,012.78 | 2,885.00 |
| Admin cost St Hilda's House | | 833.50 | | 833.50 | 540.00 | 58.00 |
| Running cost Grounds | | | | - | | 287.00 |
| **TOTAL INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT COSTS** | | **1,479.93** | **5,255.17** | **6,735.10** | **6,870.48** | **3,786.00** |
| | | | | - | | |
| Comon Fund | | 54,000.00 | | 54,000.00 | 43,010.00 | 54,000.00 |
| | | | | - | | |
| **TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED** | | **145,942.49** | **5,255.17** | **151,197.66** | **211,119.12** | **136,875.00** |
| | | | | | | |

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | **Note** | **UNRESTRICTED FUNDS** | **RESTRICTED FUNDS** | **TOTAL 2025** | **TOTAL 2024** | **TOTAL 2023** |
| FIXED ASSETS | | | | | | |
| Functional property | | 850,000 | | 850,000 | 850,000 | 850,000 |
| Investment Property | | 325,000 | | 325,000 | 325,000 | 325,000 |
| | 5 | **1,175,000** | **0** | **1,175,000** | **1,175,000** | **1,175,000** |
| | | | | | | |

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| CURRENT ASSETS | | | | | | |
| Debtors & prepayments | | 269 | | 269 | 614 | 662 |
| Cash in hand and bank | | 50,191 | 44,461 | 94,652 | 44,694 | 61,826 |
| | 6 | **50,460** | **44,461** | **94,921** | **45,308** | **62,488** |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| CURRENT LIABILITIES | | | | | | |
| Creditors | | 1557 | | 1,557 | 190 | 600 |
| Accrual | | | | | 830 | |
| Tax & National Insurance | | 293 | | 293 | 374 | |
| Prepaid Rent | | 15853 | | 15,853 | | |
| | 7 | **17,703** | | **17,703** | **1,394** | **600** |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| Net assets less current liabilities | 8 | **1,207,757** | **44,461** | **1,252,218** | **1,218,914** | **1,236,888** |
| | | | | | | |
| Creditors - amounts falling due after 1 year | | - | - | | - | - |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| **TOTAL NET ASSETS** | | **1,207,757** | **44,461** | **1,252,218** | **1,218,914** | **1,236,888** |
| | | | | | | |
| Funds | | | | | | |
| Unrestricted | | | | 1,207,757 | 1,196,911 | 1,214,885 |
| Restricted | | | | 44,461 | 22,003 | 22,003 |

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 9 | | | **1,252,218** | **1,218,914** | **1,236,888** |

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**4. People costs**

During the year the PCC used the service of part time cleaners for the Church Hall and for some of the year, an administration assistant for the Parish Office. The Admin Assistant was made redundant in May due to lack of funds. No payments were large enough to attract social security payments

No other payments or expenses were paud to any other PDD member, persons closely related to them or related parties other than for professional services rendered.

| **5. Fixed Assets** | **£** | **Church Hall** | **St Hilda's House** | **Total** |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Opening Balance** | | **850,000** | **325,000** | **1,175,000** |
| Gains & Losses in year | | - | - | - |
| **Closing Balance** | | **850,000** | **325,000** | **1,175,000** |

St Hilda's Church Hall in Stanwell Road, Ashford was brought on to the balance sheet in 2007 in order to comply with the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) for charities as revised 2005 and the Church Accounting Regulations 2006. The initial valuation was based on its current value to the PCC. The PCC believes that the residual value of the property exceeds its current use value and therefore has decided to adopt a policy of doing annual impairment review rather than depreciating its value over its useful life.
The property known as St Hilda's House, being 34 Woodthorpe Road, Ashoford is held for investment ppurposes and is shown in the accounts at market value. The last valuation was 31st December 2011 and was carried out by The Frost Partnership, Ashford.

| | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Debtors & prepayments** | | | **2025** | **2,024** | **2,023** | | |
| Receivables Church | **15** | | 269.00 | 614.81 | 662.00 | | |
| Receivables Hall | | | | | | | |
| Receivables SHH | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| **7.Creditors** | | | | | | | |
| Creditors & Accruals Church | **16** | | 1,557.00 | 190.92 | 600.00 | | |
| Creditors & accruals Hall | | | | | | | |
| Creditors & Accruals SHH | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| **8. Cash at bank and in hand** | | | | | | | |
| Natwest Current Account | | | 1,500.00 | | | | |
| Natwest reserve Account | | | 14,456.81 | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| **8a. CBF reserve account** | | | **Unrestricted** | **Alford** | **St Hilda's House** | **Toilets** | **Total** |
| Balance at 1 January 2025 | | | **3,268.00** | **10,502.00** | **11,501.00** | | **25,271.00** |
| Incoming resources | | | **30,903.79** | | | **22,458.00** | **56,629.79** |
| | | | | | | | |

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Balance at 31 December 2025** | | **34,171.79** | **10,502.00** | **11,501.00** | **22,458.00** | **78,632.79** |
| | | | | | | |
| **NOTES** | | | | | | |

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | Planned Giving has increasd slightly for the first time in several years, the PCC wish to continue to encourage the use of Parish Giving in order to minimise administration. |
| 2 | Giving by Credit Card has enabled us to reach many more people, Just Giving - Social Media, contributed £1,200 to the Toilet Appeal |
| 3 | The appeal for funds to replace the toilets in the church hall has raised £22,458 in donations since it was launched in the summer. |
| 4 | A community grant was received from B&Q which funded refurbishment of St Hilda's House |
| 5 | Letting of the Church Hall continues to be our main source of income |
| 6 | Slightly lower interest was earned as the funds held in the CBF account were rebuilt |
| 7 | The partnership with Hope into Action was disolved at the beginning of 2025. St Hilda's House was let commercially from October 2025 bringing some stability to the income. |
| 8 | After two years of hard work, the back payments for the energy generated by the solar panels on the church roof (since 2023) was finally recovered and regular payments are now being received. We anticipate about £3000 per year going forwards. |
| 9 | The Gift Aid recovered was for 2023 and 2024 and represents an increase in donations - particularly using non-cash / direct payment methods. Gift aid for 2025 will show in the 2026 accounts. |
| 10 | We were able to recover the cost of visiting clergy during the Vacancy |
| 11 | Mission activities listed was in support of enabling church attendance for a short period of time |

| | |
|---|---|
| 12 | Gas bill has reduced as a result of moving activities out of church into hall in order to reduce the number of times we heat the church building. Q4 gas bill estimated following meter exchange, final number will be slightly different. |
| 13 | Cleaner changed in 2025, better quality, lower bills |
| 14 | Decorating and repairs at St Hilda's House carried out before commercial let, funded by a grant. |
| 15&16 | Payments made / received after the books closed |
| 17 | Rent for St HH was paid for the full year in advance and recognised in the month it is due |

| |
|---|
| **1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES** |
| The financial statements have been prepared under the Church Accounting regulations 2006 in accordance with the applicable accounting standards and the current Statement of Recommended Practice, Accounting and Reporting by Charities (SORP 2005). |
| The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention except for investment assets, which are shown at market value. The financial statements include all the transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible in law. They do not include the accounts of church grous that owe their affiliation to another body nor those that are informal gatherings. |
| **FUNDS** |
| Restricted funds comprise (a) revenue donations or grants for a specific PCC activity intended by the donor and (b) monies set aside for a specific purpose as agreed by the PDD. Where the funds have unspent balance, interest on their pooled investment is |
| Unrestricted funds are income funds which are to be spent on the PCC's general purpose. |
| |
| **INCOMING RESOURCES** |
| **Voluntary Income** |

| |
|---|
| Planned giving, collections and similar donations are recognised when received. Tax refunds, unless stated are recognised when the incoming resource to which they relate is received. Grants and legacies are accounted for when the PCC is entitiled to the use of the resources, their ultimate receipt is considered reasonably certain and the amounts are reliably quantifiable. Dividends are accounted for when declared receivable, interest as and when accrued by the payer. All incoming resources are accounted gross. |
| **Other income** |
| Rental income from the letting of church premises is recognised when rental is due. |
| Gains and losses on investments |
| Realised gains and losses are recognised when the investments are sold. |
| |
| **RESOURCES USED** |
| Grants and donations are accounted for when paiud over or when awarded, if that award creates a binding constructive obligation on behalf of the PCC. The diocesan parish share expected to be paid over is accounted for when due. |
| |
| **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) and © of the Charities Act 2011. |
| Movable church furnishings held by the vicar and the 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 2000 there is insufficient cost information available and therefore such assets are not valued in the financial statements. |
| |
| **OTHER FIXTURES, FITTINGS AND OFFICE EQUIPMENT** |
| 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 market value at 31st December |

## Independent Examiner's Report to the Members of the Parochial Church Council ('PCC') of St Hilda's Church, Ashford, Middlesex

I report to the members of the PCC on the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2025 as set out on the attached pages.

This report is made solely to the members of the PCC in accordance with Sections 145 of the Charities Act 2011. My work has been undertaken so that I might state to the PCC members those matters I am required to state to them in an Independent Examiner's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the members of the PCC for my examination work.

Respective responsibilities of PPC Members and Examiner

The PPC members are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. They consider that an audit is not required for this year (under Section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act')) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

examine the accounts under Section 145 of the Charities Act;

to follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners (under Section 145 (5) (b) of the Charities Act); and

to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiner's statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the members of the PCC concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no view is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent Examiner's statement

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

1. 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 Charities Act;and

to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act

have not been met; or

2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Name: Peter Connolly

Address: 33 Carlyle Road, Staines, TW18 2PU

Date: 18 March 2026

# APPENDIX A

## PAROCHIAL COUNCIL OF ST. HILDA'S ASHFORD MIDDLESEX

**For the year ending 31st December 2025**

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**

| | UNRESTRICTED FUNDS | RESTRICTED FUNDS | TOTAL 2025 | TOTAL 2024 | TOTAL 2023 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **INCOMING RESOURCES** | £ | £ | £ | £ | |
| Voluntary income | 61,217.08 | 21,105.00 | 82,322.08 | 114,023.50 | 53,217.00 |
| Activities for generating funds | 54,517.11 | 6,921.00 | 61438.11 | 59,570.20 | 60,355.00 |
| Income from Investments | 22,456.78 | | 22,456.78 | 11,259.37 | 11,290.00 |
| Church activities | 1,897.00 | | 1,897.00 | 1,261.00 | 4,118.00 |
| Other incoming resources | 16,387.89 | | 16,387.89 | 19,653.67 | |
| **TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES** | **156,475.86** | **28,026.00** | **184,501.86** | **205,767.74** | **128,980.00** |
| **RESOURCES EXPENDED** | | | | | |
| Cost of generating voluntary income | | | | | |
| Fundraising costs | 982.16 | | 982.16 | 2,627.24 | 3,020.00 |
| Church activities | 89,480.40 | | 89,480.40 | 214,245.00 | 142,280.00 |
| Investment management costs | 1,479.93 | 5,255.17 | 6,735.10 | 6,869.00 | 4,308.00 |
| Common Fund | 54,000.00 | | 54,000.00 | | |
| **TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED** | **145,942.49** | **5255.17** | **151,197.66** | **223,741.24** | **149,608.00** |

24-02-2026

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **NET INCOMING RESOURCES** | **10,533.37** | **22,770.83** | **33,304.20** | **- 17,973.50** | **- 20,628.00** |
| Gains & Losses on investments | | | | - | |
| Transfer between funds | | | | - | |
| Accounting adjustments | | | | | |
| NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS | 10,533.37 | 22,770.83 | 33,304.20 | - 17,973.50 | - 20,628.00 |

## 2. INCOMING RESOUCES

| | Note | UNRESTRICTED FUNDS | RESTRICTED FUNDS | TOTAL 2025 | TOTAL 2024 | TOTAL 2023 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **2(a) Voluntary income** | | | | | | | |
| Planned giving | 1 | 30,270.62 | | 30,270.62 | 29,932.41 | 32,650.00 | |
| Tax recovered on planned giving | | 4,214.12 | | 4,214.12 | 4,338.88 | 3,451.00 | |
| Planned giving - other | | | | 0.00 | | | |
| Loose plate / Wall boxes (Cash) | | 5,906.78 | | 5,906.78 | 6,853.19 | 6,847.00 | |
| Donations / refreshments, appeals etc | 3 | 11648.36 | 15,537.00 | 27,185.36 | 9,817.23 | 8,541.00 | Split out refreshemnt, candles tree etc into unrestricted |

| | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| DONA credit card donations | 2 | 7,828.20 | | 7,828.20 | 3,969.49 | | |
| Other tax recovered | | | | 0.00 | | | |
| Grant income | 4 | | 5,568 | 5,568.00 | 48,000 | 1,100.00 | SHH |
| Legacies | | | | 0.00 | 10,000 | | |
| Memorial Book | | 400 | | 400.00 | 105 | | |
| Flowers | | 949 | | 949.00 | 1007.3 | 560.00 | |
| **TOTAL VOLUNTARY INCOME** | | **61,217.08** | **21,105.00** | **82,322.08** | **114,023.50** | **53,149.00** | |
| | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| **2 (b) Activities for generating funds** | | | | | | | |
| Fetes, bazaars & other fund raising events | | 3,428.11 | 6921 | 10,349.11 | 11,521.12 | 10,515.00 | |
| Church Hall lettings | 5 | 50,739.00 | | 50,739.00 | 45,849.60 | 49,840.00 | |
| Church letting | | 300.00 | | 300.00 | 2,200.00 | | |
| Sundry income | | 50.00 | | 50.00 | - | - | |
| **TOTAL ACTIVITIES FOR GENERATING FUNDS** | | **54,517.11** | **6,921.00** | **61,438.11** | **59,570.72** | **60,355.00** | |
| | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| **2 (c) Income from investments** | | | | | | | |
| Interest | 6 | 1,563.65 | | 1,563.65 | 2,066.51 | 1,969.00 | |
| Rent | 7 | 5,284.20 | | 5,284.20 | 9,192.86 | 9,321.00 | |
| PV Income / Solar energy | 8 | 15,608.93 | | 15,608.93 | - | - | |
| **TOTAL INCOME** | | **22,456.78** | | **22,456.78** | **11,259.37** | **11,290.00** | |





| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **FROM INVESTMENTS** | | | | | | |
| **2 (d) Income from church activities** | | | | | | |
| Weddings | | 100 | | 100 | 54 | 1,070.00 |
| Funerals | | 1,797 | | 1,797 | 1,207 | 3,048.00 |
| **TOTAL INCOME FROM CHURCH ACTIVITIES** | | **1,897** | | **1,897** | **1,261** | **4,118.00** |
| **2 (e) Other ordinary incoming resources** | | | | | | |
| Gift Aid recovered | 9 | 10,629.58 | | 10,629.58 | 8,947.98 | |
| VAT Refund | | 2,873.60 | | 2,873.60 | 10,705.69 | |
| Reinbursement of Prior Year expenses | 10 | 2,884.71 | | 2,884.71 | | |
| **TOTAL OTHER ORDINARY INCOMING RESOURCES** | | **16,387.89** | | **16,387.89** | **19,653.67** | **-** |
| **TOTAL INCOME** | | **156,475.86** | **28,026.00** | **184,501.86** | **205,768.26** | **128,912.00** |

## 3. RESOURCES EXPENDED

| | | UNRESTRICTED FUNDS | RESTRICTED FUNDS | TOTAL 2025 | TOTAL 2024 | TOTAL 2023 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **3 (a) Church activities** | | | | | | |
| Missionary Giving | | | | | | |
| Flowers | | 674.29 | | 674.29 | 1,039.54 | 521.00 |
| Insurance Church & Hall | | 10,963.01 | | 10,963.01 | 11,025.19 | 10,519.00 |
| Junior Church | | 17.90 | | 17.90 | 237.37 | 128.00 |
| Maintenance Church & Hall, vicarage | | 24,925.02 | | 24,925.02 | 93,542.56 | 9,146.00 |
| Purchases church & Hall | | 2,096.03 | | 2,096.03 | 1,484.20 | 4,245.00 |
| Memorial Book | | 300.00 | | 300.00 | | 175.00 |
| Ministry Clergy expenses | | 543.13 | | 543.13 | | 451.00 |
| Ministry - visiting clergy | | 41.00 | | 41.00 | | |
| Mission activities | 11 | 655.93 | | 655.93 | | |
| Ministry wedding fees | | | | - | | 7,000.00 |
| Organist & choir costs | | 1,177.76 | | 1,177.76 | 1,014.00 | |
| Operating cost church | | 6,048.81 | | 6,048.81 | 6,577.42 | 3,278.00 |
| Operating cost hall | | 671.85 | | 671.85 | 610.78 | 2,688.00 |
| Sundry | | | | - | 109.45 | 700.00 |
| Utilities Electric | | 4,489.76 | | 4,489.76 | 5,058.86 | 3,674.00 |
| Utilities Gas | 12 | 11,283.35 | | 11,283.35 | 16,563.43 | 20,154.00 |
| Utilities other | | 4,326.68 | | 4,326.68 | 3,143.90 | 550.00 |
| Cleaning Costs | 13 | 11,697.21 | | 11,697.21 | 18,204.70 | 12,840.00 |
| **TOTAL CHURCH ACTIVITIES** | | **79,911.73** | - | **79,911.73** | **158,611.40** | **76,069.00** |
| **3 (b) Cost of Generating Voluntary Income** | | | | | | |
| Cost of appeals | | | | | | |
| **3 (c) Administration** | | | | | | |
| Administration | | 4,607.87 | | 4,607.87 | 12,585.90 | 9,306.00 |
| Bank Charges | | 214.14 | | 214.14 | | |
| Payroll | | 3,385.12 | | 3,385.12 | | |

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Printer expenses | | 1,361.54 | | 1,361.54 | | |
| **TOTAL ADMINISTRATION** | | **9,568.67** | | **9,568.67** | | |
| **3 (d) Fund raising event costs** | | | | | | |
| Fetes / bazaars etc | | 982.16 | | 982.16 | 2,627.24 | 3,020.00 |
| **3 (e) Investment Management costs** | | | | | | |
| Insurance St Hilda's House | | 345.07 | | 345.07 | | |
| Maintenance costs St Hilda's House | 14 | | 5,255.17 | 5,255.17 | 1,317.70 | 556.00 |
| Running costs St Hilda's House | | 301.36 | | 301.36 | 5,012.78 | 2,885.00 |
| Admin cost St Hilda's House | | 833.50 | | 833.50 | 540.00 | 58.00 |
| Running cost Grounds | | | | - | | 287.00 |
| **TOTAL INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT COSTS** | | **1,479.93** | **5,255.17** | **6,735.10** | **6,870.48** | **3,786.00** |
| | | | | - | | |
| Comon Fund | | 54,000.00 | | 54,000.00 | 43,010.00 | 54,000.00 |
| | | | | - | | |
| **TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED** | | **145,942.49** | **5,255.17** | **151,197.66** | **211,119.12** | **136,875.00** |

| | Note | UNRESTRICTED FUNDS | RESTRICTED FUNDS | TOTAL 2025 | TOTAL 2024 | TOTAL 2023 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| FIXED ASSETS | | | | | | |
| Functional property | | 850,000 | | 850,000 | 850,000 | 850,000 |
| Investment Property | | 325,000 | | 325,000 | 325,000 | 325,000 |

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 5 | **1,175,000** | **0** | **1,175,000** | **1,175,000** | **1,175,000** |
| CURRENT ASSETS | | | | | | |
| Debtors & prepayments | | 269 | | 269 | 614 | 662 |
| Cash in hand and bank | | 50,191 | 44,461 | 94,652 | 44,694 | 61,826 |
| | 6 | **50,460** | **44,461** | **94,921** | **45,308** | **62,488** |
| CURRENT LIABILITIES | | | | | | |
| Creditors | | 1557 | | 1,557 | 190 | 600 |
| Accrual | | | | | 830 | |
| Tax & National Insurance | | 293 | | 293 | 374 | |
| Prepaid Rent | | 15853 | | 15,853 | | |
| | 7 | **17,703** | | **17,703** | **1,394** | **600** |
| Net assets less current liabilities | 8 | **1,207,757** | **44,461** | **1,252,218** | **1,218,914** | **1,236,888** |
| Creditors - amounts falling due after 1 year | | - | - | | - | - |
| **TOTAL NET ASSETS** | | **1,207,757** | **44,461** | **1,252,218** | **1,218,914** | **1,236,888** |
| Funds | | | | | | |
| Unrestricted | | | | 1,207,757 | 1,196,911 | 1,214,885 |
| Restricted | | | | 44,461 | 22,003 | 22,003 |
| | 9 | | | **1,252,218** | **1,218,914** | **1,236,888** |

**4. People costs**

During the year the PCC used the service of part time cleaners for the Church Hall and for some of the year, an administration assistant for the Parish Office. The Admin Assistant was made redundant in May due to lack of funds. No payments were large enough to attract social security payments

No other payments or expenses were paud to any other PDD member, persons closely related to them or related parties other than for professional services rendered.

| 5. Fixed Assets £ | Church Hall | St Hilda's House | Total |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Opening Balance** | **850,000** | **325,000** | **1,175,000** |
| Gains & Losses in year | - | - | - |
| **Closing Balance** | **850,000** | **325,000** | **1,175,000** |

St Hilda's Church Hall in Stanwell Road, Ashford was brought on to the balance sheet in 2007 in order to comply with the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) for charities as revised 2005 and the Church Accounting Regulations 2006. The initial valuation was based on its current value to the PCC. The PCC believes that the residual value of the property exceeds its current use value and therefore has decided to adopt a policy of doing annual impairment review rather than depreciating its value over its useful life.
The property known as St Hilda's House, being 34 Woodthorpe Road, Ashoford is held for investment ppurposes and is shown in the accounts at market value. The last valuation was 31st December 2011 and was carried out by The Frost Partnership, Ashford.

| Debtors & prepayments | 2025 | 2,024 | 2,023 |
|---|---|---|---|

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Receivables Church | 15 | 269.00 | 614.81 | 662.00 | | |
| Receivables Hall | | | | | | |
| Receivables SHH | | | | | | |
| **7.Creditors** | | | | | | |
| Creditors & Accruals Church | 16 | 1,557.00 | 190.92 | 600.00 | | |
| Creditors & accruals Hall | | | | | | |
| Creditors & Accruals SHH | | | | | | |
| **8. Cash at bank and in hand** | | | | | | |
| Natwest Current Account | | 1,500.00 | | | | |
| Natwest reserve Account | | 14,456.81 | | | | |

| **8a. CBF reserve account** | **Unrestricted** | **Alford** | **St Hilda's House** | **Toilets** | **Total** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Balance at 1 January 2025 | **3,268.00** | **10,502.00** | **11,501.00** | | **25,271.00** |
| Incoming resources | **30,903.79** | | | **22,458.00** | **56,629.79** |
| **Balance at 31 December 2025** | **34,171.79** | **10,502.00** | **11,501.00** | **22,458.00** | **78,632.79** |

| NOTES | |
|---|---|
| 1 | Planned Giving has increasd slightly for the first time in several years, the PCC wish to continue to encourage the use of Parish Giving in order to minimise administration. |
| 2 | Giving by Credit Card has enabled us to reach many more people, Just Giving - Social Media, contributed £1,200 to the Toilet Appeal |
| 3 | The appeal for funds to replace the toilets in the church hall has raised £22,458 in donations since it was launched in the summer. |
| 4 | A community grant was received from B&Q which funded refurbishment of St Hilda's House |
| 5 | Letting of the Church Hall continues to be our main source of income |
| 6 | Slightly lower interest was earned as the funds held in the CBF account were rebuilt |
| 7 | The partnership with Hope into Action was disolved at the beginning of 2025. St Hilda's House was let commercially from October 2025 bringing some stability to the income. |
| 8 | After two years of hard work, the back payments for the energy generated by the solar panels on the church roof (since 2023) was finally recovered and regular payments are now being received. We anticipate about £3000 per year going forwards. |
| 9 | The Gift Aid recovered was for 2023 and 2024 and represents an increase in donations - particularly using non-cash / direct payment methods. Gift aid for 2025 will show in the 2026 accounts. |
| 10 | We were able to recover the cost of visiting clergy during the Vacancy |
| 11 | Mission activities listed was in support of enabling church attendance for a short period of time |
| 12 | Gas bill has reduced as a result of moving activities out of church into hall in order to reduce the number of times we heat the church building. Q4 gas bill estimated following meter exchange, final number will be slightly different. |

| | |
|---|---|
| 13 | Cleaner changed in 2025, better quality, lower bills |
| 14 | Decorating and repairs at St Hilda's House carried out before commercial let, funded by a grant. |
| 15&16 | Payments made / received after the books closed |
| 17 | Rent for St HH was paid for the full year in advance and recognised in the month it is due |

## 1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The financial statements have been prepared under the Church Accounting regulations 2006 in accordance with the applicable accounting standards and the current Statement of Recommended Practice, Accounting and Reporting by Charities (SORP 2005).

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention except for investment assets, which are shown at market value. The financial statements include all the transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible in law. They do not include the accounts of church grous that owe their affiliation to another body nor those that are informal gatherings.

### FUNDS

Restricted funds comprise (a) revenue donations or grants for a specific PCC activity intended by the donor and (b) monies set aside for a specific purpose as agreed by the PDD. Where the funds have unspent balance, interest on their pooled investment is

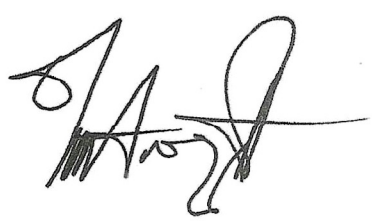
Unrestricted funds are income funds which are to be spent on the PCC's general purpose.

### INCOMING RESOURCES

#### Voluntary Income

Planned giving, collections and similar donations are recognised when received. Tax refunds, unless stated are recognised when the incoming resource to which they relate is received. Grants and legacies are accounted for when the PCC is entitiled to the use of the resources, their ultimate receipt is considered reasonably certain and the amounts are reliably





quantifiable. Dividends are accounted for when declared receivable, interest as and when accrued by the payer. All incoming resources are accounted gross.

**Other income**

Rental income from the letting of church premises is recognised when rental is due.

Gains and losses on investments

Realised gains and losses are recognised when the investments are sold.

**RESOURCES USED**

Grants and donations are accounted for when paiud over or when awarded, if that award creates a binding constructive obligation on behalf of the PCC. The diocesan parish share expected to be paid over is accounted for when due.

**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) and © of the Charities Act 2011.

Movable church furnishings held by the vicar and the 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 2000 there is insufficient cost information available and therefore such assets are not valued in the financial statements.

**OTHER FIXTURES, FITTINGS AND OFFICE EQUIPMENT**

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 market value at 31st December



24-02-2026

# Independent Examiner's Report to the Members of the Parochial Church Council ('PCC') of St Hilda's Church, Ashford, Middlesex

I report to the members of the PCC on the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2025 as set out on the attached pages.

This report is made solely to the members of the PCC in accordance with Sections 145 of the Charities Act 2011. My work has been undertaken so that I might state to the PCC members those matters I am required to state to them in an Independent Examiner's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the members of the PCC for my examination work.

**Respective responsibilities of PPC Members and Examiner**

The PPC members are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. They consider that an audit is not required for this year (under Section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Charities Act')) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under Section 145 of the Charities Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners (under Section 145 (5) (b) of the Charities Act); and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

**Basis of Independent Examiner's statement**

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the members of the PCC concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no view is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

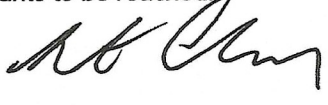
**Independent Examiner's statement**

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

1. 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 Charities Act ;and
   - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act

   have not been met; or

2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Name: Peter Connolly

Address: 33 Carlyle Road, Staines, TW18 2PU

Date 18 March 2026