St Mark's Church, Colney Heath, Hertfordshire

Annual Report and Financial Statements of the Parochial Church Council

For the year ended 31st December 2025

Incumbent:
The Revd Caroline Keightley
The Vicarage
St Mark's Close
Colney Heath, Herts
AL4 0NQ

Bank:
Barclays Bank plc
The St Albans Group
P.O. Box 104
St Albans, Herts
AL1 3AN

Independent Examiner:
A. J. Bennewith Esq
18, Farnham Road
Guildford
Surrey GU1 4XA

Registered Charity no. 1134735

Index

Page i	Index
Page 1-6	St Mark's Church 2025 Charity Trustees Annual Report
Page 7	Statement of Financial Activities 2025
Page 8	Balance Sheet
Page 9	Notes to the Financial Statements
Page 13	Accounting policies
Page 14	Independent Examination Report

St Mark's Church 2025 Charity
Trustees Annual Report

Aim and Purposes

St Mark's Parochial Church Council (PCC) has the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the church: pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical.

The PCC is also specifically responsible for the maintenance of the Church of St Mark's, Colney Heath and the Church Centre.

In 2025 we had four focus areas where we have progressed and hope to continue to develop. These were:

1. Focus on under 11s
2. Encourage and enhance Discipleship
3. Review of Spur groups
4. Equip the church for Evangelism

Objectives and Activities

The PCC is committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship at our church and to become part of our parish community at St Mark's. Our services and worship put faith into practice through prayer and scripture, music and sacrament.

When planning our activities for the year, the incumbent and the PCC have considered the Commission's guidance on the public benefit and, in particular, the supplementary guidance on charities for the advancement of religion. In particular, we try to enable ordinary people to live out their faith as part of our parish community through:

Worship and prayer; learning about the Gospel; and developing their knowledge and trust in Jesus.
Provision of pastoral care for people living in the parish.
Missionary and outreach work.

To facilitate this work it is important that we maintain the fabric of the Church of St Mark and the Church Centre.

Achievements and Performance

We have been able to continue and grow our worship and services throughout the year.

Worship and Prayer

Services
As a church we offer a range of services on a Sunday and over the course of the year. The 8.30am service is a quieter, reflective communion service; 10.30am follows a pattern of morning worship including children's provision with the 3rd Sunday being communion. A new evening service -Refuel, was trialled in October.
Our online ministry has continued with live stream throughout the year, except for August.

Prayer
In person and WhatsApp prayer meetings have been taking place regularly, on a Monday morning, Thursday evening and a prayer evening called 'Prayer Hour' on some Sundays. Prayer texts were sent to church members during Advent.

Fresh Expressions
In line with the Church of England's wider strategy of developing new forms of church, Fresh Expressions, we have continued to develop our ideas. The Gathering is a monthly informal, interactive service for the retired and older members of the community, meeting in the church, and attracting around 25 people per month, enjoying an informal service, fellowship and friendship.

St Mark's Church 2025 Charity
Trustees Annual Report

Attendance
At present there are 99 persons on the Church Electoral Roll (completely renewed in 2025), 64% of whom are not resident within the parish. This represents 76 households. The average Sunday attendance was 79 adults and 18 children. This number is increased significantly when we include all of our services (not just those that take place on a Sunday morning). We estimate that our worshipping community (those who join us for worship at least once a month) is 174. For our services on Christmas Eve/Day we welcomed 265 people to worship with us. The St Mark's YouTube channel views average between 40-100 per week.

Occasional offices
As well as our regular services, we enable our community to celebrate and thank God at the milestones of the journey through life. Through baptism we commit ourselves to following Jesus Christ, in marriage public vows are exchanged with God's blessing and through funeral services friends and family express their grief, give thanks for the life which is now complete in this world and commend the person into God's keeping. We held an annual service of Thanksgiving and Remembrance in June, for those who have been recently bereaved.

During 2025 we have celebrated 0 weddings, 10 baptisms, 6 confirmations, held 4 funerals, and 9 Interment of Ashes at our church. We also conducted 4 funerals at the crematorium.

A service of Baptism, Reaffirmation of Baptism Vows and Confirmation, was held in June, with Bishop Jane Mainwaring.

Deanery Synod
We have had three representatives to the Deanery Synod this year. This provides the PCC with an important link between the parish and the wider structures of the church. Our Treasurer is also Deanery Treasurer, providing us with a further link.

The buildings
In March, repairs were carried out to the gutters and roof of the church requiring scaffolding, and cleaning of gutters on the Centre, all identified in the latest Quinquennial Inspection (Oct 24). In May/June, scaffolding went up again for Lodge builders to inspect and repair cracks to the Copings and lead flashings at the east and west end walls of the church. When we are sure the leaks are fixed and the building has dried out, some replastering and redecoration will be required in 2026.

A faculty was obtained from the diocese for the installation of an 86 inch screen in the church, to replace the projector which was failing through age. This was completed in time for Christmas. Many thanks are due to Iain Harvey-Smith for all his help in installing the new screens and upgrading the AV system in church.

Work has continued to produce plans and seek quotes to refurbish the centre toilets, providing disabled facilities to the latest requirements, and some storage capacity, which we have needed in the centre for a long time. Some quotes have been received and it is hoped to apply for a Tarmac Grant to help towards the cost of this project in 2026.

The grounds
The conservation group has continued to work on our church grounds, supporting the Wardens and Assistant Wardens with numerous activities and improvements.

New bespoke regulations for the Open Graveyard have been drafted and approved by the Chancellor.

We continue to monitor the Oak Processionary moths discovered round the churchyard in the summer. This meant that The Big Lunch had to be held at Colney Heath school in August, as the PCC were not happy with the risks involved of holding it at St Marks. Hopefully a way of making it work safely in 2026 will be found.

Pastoral care
Every member of St Mark's is encouraged to be part of a Connect group (formerly Spur group), which meet at different times during the week: evening and daytime. Pastoral care takes place within these groups, as well as study and prayer. A comprehensive review of these small groups was completed in 2025, with a refresh announced in September. Everyone had the opportunity to change group, and leadership roles were also revisited.

A pastoral care visiting team supports those from within and outside of our church community that may be in particular need or not part of a Connect group.

Discipleship and Teaching
Biblical teaching takes place primarily through Sunday morning sermons and Connect group bible studies.

During Lent, the whole church met on Wednesday evenings to follow 'The Bible Course'.This course gives an understanding of the big picture of the Bible.

From the Autumn, a year of 'Engaging with Contemporary Issues' was announced. These included Sexuality, Caring for Creation, persecuted Christians, Local Foodbank and AI, and continues into 2026.

Youth and Children's Work
Many activities took place this year including, two youth breakfasts and a lunch, a family film afternoon, Illuminate Cathedral, Beacon Socials (Mini golf and Beacon on the Beach), Fuel Adventure, Youth Alpha, Satellites fundraising Lunch and Satellites Festival in August in Shepton Mallet. All this, along with weekly groups on most Sunday mornings, and Connect Youth Club on Thursdays in term time.

Shannon, our Youth and Family's Pastor, has also been involved in local Youth Events at Nicholas Breakspear School, Townsend, and Colney Heath School, partnering with STEP and 2:67.

Mission and Evangelism
Helping others in need is a demonstration of our faith. Our Mission Tithe is calculated as 10% of all non-restricted giving and Gift Aid. Our Tithe is divided into four, with donations to Open Doors (for the persecuted church), the 2:67 Project (benefiting youth in the local area), Verso Care (formerly 'Vineyard Food Bank') (helping people in need in the local area) and The Bulgarian Support Fund (for the church in Varna). A donation was also allocated to STEP (benefiting youth in schools in the area). A small remainder was used by Connect groups for their own projects. Among those supported were Amos Trust and the local Women's Refuge. For our Harvest project this year we supported the Bishop of St Alban's Harvest Appeal 'rewrite their future' – partnering with Mission Direct working in Zambia and Uganda building schools and improving access to education. A Tear Fund Big Quiz Night was again held in October, raising money for Tear Fund's work throughout the world.

We have partnered with Samaritans Purse for the shoebox Christmas Appeal again in 2025. The Church Centre was used as a collection/drop off centre for shoeboxes, which were then transported to the processing centre.

Our partnership with Acts435 has continued, a charity which matches people who want to give money, with those in genuine need (who might be of any faith or none).

A Discovery group ran in March and April and an Alpha course from November to January 2026.

The Big Saturday Night event was held in April, with entertainment from a Christian magician and a Christian Singer, who performed and spoke about their lives. This was well attended and enjoyed!

Community and Outreach
We have continued to respond to the needs of the Local Community, and the cost of living crisis.

We held a Big Lunch event, for 1 day in the Easter holidays, over 2 days in August (At Colney Heath School), and for 1 day in October half-term, providing lunch and activities for all ages.
We have also been supporting Verso Care (Local food bank) by collecting items they require.

The Gathering has continued to meet once a month on a Tuesday afternoon. This is for the retired and older members of our community.

The monthly Saturday Men's breakfast has continued this year along with some curry nights (home cooked!) throughout the year.

The monthly Community Cafe provides a gentle welcome and introduction to church for anyone available on a Thursday morning. This is another social occasion to build community in the village. The October Cafe was held as a Macmillan Coffee morning and raised £375!

The craft groups (Daytime and evening) and Knit and Natter, provide further opportunities for people to interact in a friendly, relaxed environment.

The Vicar, Associate Vicar and Youth and Family's Pastor have shared the taking of assemblies in the local primary school on a regular basis. The school normally holds services in the church at Christmas and Harvest, and visits at other times for class projects.

Smartees has continued meeting on a Wednesday morning in the Church Centre. This is a group for carers and children under Nursery age, with toys, group singing and a craft activity for the children.

The weekly Connect Youth Club, continued this year, offering a welcoming place for young people to connect, relax and have fun with friends, old and new. This is now for school years 6 to 11.

This year's Remembrance Service included a parade and attendance from the local Rainbows, Brownies and Guides.

Financial Review

Income
Total receipts on unrestricted funds were £174,704 (£175,320 in 2024). Restricted donations of £24,634 were also received (£30,781 in 2024) and are detailed in the Financial statements. Total giving (excluding bequests) increased by 5%.

Currently 60 households give regularly to St Marks, of the 76 households on the Electoral Roll (79%), mainly by standing order or bank transfer. During the year, 3 planned givers stopped and none started. Planned giving to general funds increased by just under 10%, due to the pledges that were made in late 2024. Lump sum gifts decreased by 22%, as a large amount had been pledged and received in late 2024. All gift aid claims are up to date.

Expenditure
£207,019 (including restricted funds of £21,611) was spent to provide the Christian ministry from St Mark's Church (the previous year £185,907 was spent, including restricted funds of £12,323). The increase in expenditure was mainly due to the Quinquennial work on the Church Building; £14,155 was spent on the guttering and roof, and repairs to the coping stones and lead flashings.
Costs included the contribution to the diocesan Parish Share of £73,751. The Parish Share provides the stipends, housing and pensions for clergy, and training costs for new ordinands. The sum that the deanery has to find is shared between the churches according to a formula that is based mainly on a head count of the congregations. In 2026 our Share will be £71,817, a decrease of 2.6%!. This is due to the Diocese releasing some money to help all the Parishes.

Overall Position

The result for the year was a net decrease of £8,301 on overall funds.
When we entered 2025, we carried forward £23,664 in general funds and had a predicted budget deficit of £12,500. During 2025 the budget deficit was funded by money from General funds, and the significant quinquennial work on the church building was funded by lump sum gifts, from pledges in 2024.

Adding bank and deposit balances brought forward at the beginning of the year, the balances carried forward at 31st December on unrestricted funds totalled £12,960. Restricted funds of £28,500 were also carried forward.

A Pledge Sunday is planned for February 2026 to enable us all to review our giving. The 2026 Budget currently shows a deficit of £17,500 for the year, and capital expenditure will be needed to redecorate the church, and centre. It is also hoped to apply for a grant to enable us to renovate the toilets in the Church centre.

Reserves Policy
The PCC has a reserves policy of maintaining sufficient funds, minimum of £10,000, in the general fund in order to maintain operational liquidity. This has been met this year.

It is our policy to invest our fund balances with the CBF Church of England Deposit Fund.

Volunteers

We would like to thank all the volunteers who work so hard to make our Church what it is. In particular we want to mention our churchwardens David and Nigel, for all their work, both seen and unseen, and all other members of the PCC, for their valuable contribution to our ministry and for keeping the church running and flourishing.

Plans for the Future

As we look ahead St Mark's recommits it's plans and aims to fall in line with what God is calling us to do next, in the pursuit of our overall aims and objectives.

Structure, Governance and Management

The method and appointment of PCC members is as set out in the Church Representation Rules. At St Mark's the membership of the PCC consists of the incumbent (our Vicar), Associate Vicar, Churchwardens, Deanery Synod representatives, and lay members elected by those members of the congregation who are on the Electoral Roll of the church. All those who regularly attend our services/members of the congregation are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC. The Treasurer is co-opted each year and others may be co-opted to perform specific roles, as required eg Safeguarding Officer. The PCC has decided on the rule that PCC members are elected for a maximum of two consecutive 3-year terms and thereafter have to stand down for at least 1 year before seeking re-election.

The PCC members are responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance to the parish including deciding on how the funds of the PCC are to be spent. The full PCC met six times during the year, chaired by the lay vice-chair or our Vicar. The Standing Committee has power to transact the business of the PCC between meetings, subject to any directions given by the Council. The Standing Committee has met before each PCC to check outstanding actions and to set the Agenda for the next meeting of the PCC.
Key items discussed at PCC during 2025 have included:

- Safeguarding procedures and progress
- Contemporary issues
- Centre toilets refurbishment
- Churchyard and graveyard management

Safeguarding

The PCC has had due regard to the House of Bishops' guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults. The PCC are working through the "Parish Dashboard" to ensure that St Mark's meets Diocesan safeguarding requirements, and we are currently at level 3. Our Parish Safeguarding Officer (PSO) has continued to be supported by a small group who review the safeguarding policies produced by the Diocese and Church of England before taking them to the PCC for ratification.

We aim to ensure that all volunteers are recruited safely using the Diocesan policy. We work to ensure that all volunteers have the appropriate DBS and have completed safeguarding training as appropriate.

Administrative Details and Trustees

St Mark's Church is situated in Colney Heath, near the A414 Longabout. It is part of the Diocese of St Albans within the Church of England. The correspondence address is The Church Office, Church Lane, Colney Heath, Hertfordshire. AL4 0NH. The PCC is a body corporate (PCC Powers Measure 1956, Church Representation Rules 2006) and as a charity with income of over £100,000 is registered with the Charity Commission: Registered Charity No. 1134735.

PCC members who have served from 1st January 2025 are:

Ex Officio members		
Incumbent:	Revd Caroline Keightley	
Associate Vicar:	Revd Jill Suttie	
Wardens:	Mr Nigel Gibbins	
	Mr David Levy	
Deanery Synod Reps:	Mrs Lorraine Pizan	(1 yr to run)
	Miss Heather Bennett	(1 yr to run)
	Mrs Claire Oliver	(From APCM April 2025 1yr to run) Lay Vice-Chair
Hon Treasurer (co-opted):	Mrs Pam Fox	
Safeguarding Officer (non-voting):	Mrs Claire Mearing	
Secretary (non-voting):	Mrs Jackie Shaw (To APCM April 2025)	
	Mrs Lorraine Pizan (From APCM April 2025)	
Elected members (7)	Mrs Amanda Furlong	(To APCM April 2025)
	Mrs Sara Martin	(To APCM April 2025)
	Mr Sheldon Stoutt	(1 yr to run)
	Mrs Kirstie Palin	(2 yrs to run)
	Mr Derek Wilcox	(2 yrs to run)
	Mrs Lorna Connery	(2 yrs to run)
	Mrs Marcia Stairmand	(From APCM April 2025)
	Mr Rob Hagon	(From APCM April 2025)
	Mrs Louise Newlove	(From APCM April 2025)

Approved by the PCC on **7th April 2026**

and signed on their behalf by Mrs C Oliver PCC Lay Vice-Chair .....C Oliver.....

Parochial Church Council of St Mark, Colney Heath
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
For the year ending 31 December 2025

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	TOTAL FUNDS 2025 £	TOTAL FUNDS 2024 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM:						
Donations and Legacies	2(a)	159,782	22,463		182,245	187,221
Charitable activities	2(c)	10,485			10,485	11,202
Investments	2(b)	2,033	21		2,054	2,237
Other	2(d)	2,404	2,150		4,554	5,441
Total		174,704	24,634	0	199,338	206,101
EXPENDITURE ON:						
Charitable activities	3	185,408	21,611		207,019	185,907
Total		185,408	21,611	0	207,019	185,907
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		(10,704)	3,023	0	(7,681)	20,194
Gains on investment assets: on revaluation	4			(620)	(620)	322
Transfers between Funds						
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		(10,704)	3,023	(620)	(8,301)	20,516
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS						
Total Funds brought Forward		23,664	25,477	14,498	63,639	43,123
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		12,960	28,500	13,878	55,338	63,639

CONTINUING ACTIVITIES

All income and expenditure has arisen from continuing activities

The notes on pages 9 to 13 form part of this account

Parochial Church Council of St Mark, Colney Heath
Balance Sheet at 31 December 2025

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	TOTAL FUNDS 2025 £	TOTAL FUNDS 2024 £
FIXED ASSETS:						
Tangible	6			0	0	0
Investment	7		51	13,878	13,929	14,546
Total fixed Assets			51	13,878	13,929	14,546
CURRENT ASSETS:						
Debtors	10	2,525	0		2,525	6,023
Short term deposits	9	5,744	28,449		34,193	32,714
Cash at bank and in hand	8	23,400	0		23,400	27,802
Total current Assets		31,669	28,449	0	60,118	66,539
LIABILITIES:						
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	11	(18,709)			(18,709)	(17,446)
Net current Assets or liabilities		**12,960**	**28,449**	**0**	**41,409**	**49,093**
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		12,960	28,500	13,878	55,338	63,639
TOTAL NET ASSETS OR LIABILITIES:		12,960	28,500	13,878	55,338	63,639
PARISH FUNDS						
Unrestricted	12	12,960			12,960	23,664
Restricted			28,500		28,500	25,477
Endowment				13,878	13,878	14,498
		12,960	**28,500**	**13,878**	**55,338**	**63,639**

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 10th March 2026 and signed on its behalf by:

Claire Oliver (Lay Vice-chair)



Pamela Fox (Member, Hon. Treasurer)



PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MARK'S CHURCH, COLNEY HEATH
Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2025

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Based on the model set of accounting policies, published by the Central Board of Finance of the Church of England; full details given on page 13.

2 INCOME

		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	TOTAL FUNDS 2025	TOTAL FUNDS 2024
2(a) Donations and Legacies						
Bank Direct		126,847			126,847	115,694
Loose gifts (Including card reader)		2,142			2,142	2,395
Other Donations		125	15,950		16,075	20,540
Gift Aid tax recovered		28,397	3,675		32,072	31,145
Bequests		2,271			2,271	15,700
Centre Fund			375		375	375
Acts 435			632		632	400
Bishop's Harvest Appeal			418		418	827
Collection FOR SAWR			1,413		1,413	
Spur Groups supported organisations			0		0	145
		159,782	22,463	0	182,245	187,221
2(b) Investments						
Interest CBF Deposit Fund		1,403			1,403	1,562
Interest Current Accounts		167			167	191
Interest Easement Deposit Account		78			78	87
Interest Roberts Bequest	Note 7		21		21	21
Cemetery Interest (Pugh and East)	Note 7	385			385	376
		2,033	21	0	2,054	2,237
2(c) Charitable activities						
Income -Centre hire		3,570			3,570	3,635
Weddings/Funeral Fees		3,710			3,710	3,807
Marksmen		1,393			1,393	1,104
Women's Events		0			0	285
The Big Lunch		60			60	106
The Big Saturday Night		520			520	
The Tearfund Quiz		415			415	434
Community Cafe		409			409	372
Smartees		408			408	409
24 Hours Away					0	1,050
		10,485	0	0	10,485	11,202
2(d) Other income						
CHPC Grant for Closed Graveyard Maintenance			1,650		1,650	1,650
Diocesan Youth Grant for Satellites			250		250	500
Government Grant for VAT recovery Quinquennial		1,979			1,979	1,421
County Council Grant for The Big Lunch 2025			250		250	250
Parish Council Grant for The Big Lunch 2023					0	200
Parish Council Grant for The Big Lunch 2024					0	500
St Albans District Council Grant for The Big Lunch					0	500
Special Collections		425			425	420
		2,404	2,150	0	4,554	5,441
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES		**174,704**	**24,634**	**0**	**199,338**	**206,101**

3 EXPENDITURE

		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	TOTAL FUNDS 2025	TOTAL FUNDS 2024
Ministry	Note 14	3,734	0	0	3,734	4,709
Office and Staff						
Staff Salaries and NICS	Note 5	50,228	2,250		52,478	48,277
Pensions	Note 5	2,772			2,772	2,455
Training		333			333	667
Telephone and Broadband		387			387	517
Office Equipment		0			0	
		53,720	2,250	0	55,970	51,916
Church Centre						
Gas (Church and Centre)		5,674			5,674	7,258
Water (Church and Centre)		940			940	278
Electricity (Centre)		1,292			1,292	1,719
Insurance (Church and Centre)		2,781			2,781	2,593
Maintenance		2,273			2,273	491
Car Park					0	1,555
Emergency Exit Ramp					0	1,650
Cleaning/hygiene materials		262			262	409
		13,222	0	0	13,222	15,953

		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	TOTAL FUNDS 2025	TOTAL FUNDS 2024
Church Building and Services						
Services expenses		2,049			2,049	1,590
Refreshments		655			655	513
Electricity (Church)		2,104			2,104	2,429
Maintenance		1,619			1,619	808
New Boiler					0	3,215
New Screen		2,000	2,112		4,112	
Quinquennial Inspection					0	857
Quinquennial Work		1,979	12,176		14,155	
		10,406	14,288	0	24,694	9,412
Stationery						
Photocopier costs		1,759			1,759	1,765
Other stationery		217			217	254
Texts		102			102	101
Church Suite Database		726			726	726
		2,804	0	0	2,804	2,846
Other						
Youth Work		1,736	480		2,216	1,436
Smartees		857			857	259
Marksmen		513			513	644
Women's Events		0			0	185
Flowers		377			377	212
Training/Conferences		150			150	50
Deanery		0			0	45
Publicity (Christmas and Easter)		444			444	290
Monthly fee for CAF Bank Account/ Bank Charges		60			60	61
Website		721			721	624
The Gathering		46			46	26
24 Hours Away					0	773
Other		357			357	266
Acts 435			632		632	400
SAWR Flooring			1,260		1,260	
The Big Lunch		1,298	750		2,048	1,657
The Big Saturday Night		1,058			1,058	
Special Collections		425			425	420
Cemetery Interest (Pugh and East)	Note 4	385			385	376
		8,427	3,122	0	11,549	7,724
Mission						
Mission Tithe 2025	Note 13	16,000			16,000	16,000
Bishop's Harvest Appeal			418		418	827
Evangelical Alliance		130			130	130
CVM		60			60	60
The Tearfund Quiz		415			415	434
Spur Groups supported organisations			0		0	145
		16,605	418	0	17,023	17,596
Diocesan Parish Share		73,751			73,751	72,752
Open Graveyard		1,299			1,299	668
Closed Graveyard			1,533		1,533	1,011
Governance costs						
Independent Examination of Accounts		1,440			1,440	1,320
TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED		**185,408**	**21,611**	**0**	**207,019**	**185,907**

4 GAINS AND LOSSES ON INVESTMENTS - UNREALISED

Pugh Bequest	1st Jan 2025	8,694	31st Dec 2025	8,347	Net gain	(347)
I. F. East	1st Jan 2025	5,134	31st Dec 2025	4,888	Net gain	(246)
For Graveyard						
Roberts Bequest	1st Jan 2025	670	31st Dec 2025	643	Net gain	(27)
						(620)

Interest arising on the Roberts bequest accrues to the Church maintenance fund.
'Cemetery Interest' arising on the Pugh and East bequests is paid to the Parish Council for maintenance of the closed graveyard.

5 STAFF COSTS

Honoraria and Wages

During the year the PCC employed two Parish Administrators, a cleaner and a Youth and Family's Pastor, all of whom earned less than £60,000.

	TOTAL 2025	TOTAL 2024
Wages and Salaries	52,478	48,277
Employers contributions to defined contribution pension Schemes	2,772	2,455
	55,250	50,732

6 FIXED ASSETS FOR USE BY PCC

The Church and Centre are insured for £5,000,000 and are not shown on the balance sheet as the Church is a consecrated building and the Centre is built on consecrated ground, both unsaleable without a faculty.

7 INVESTMENTS

Miss Pugh Bequest -Endowment Fund	376 shares at bid price on 31st Dec 2025	8,347
Income restricted (Churchyard upkeep). CBF Investment Fund	Shares, held by St Albans DBF as custodian trustee	
Mrs Roberts Bequest -Endowment Fund	28.97 shares at bid price on 31st Dec 2025	643
Income restricted (Church and Churchyard upkeep). CBF Deposit Fund, held by St Albans DBF as custodian trustee		
I.F.East for Graveyard -Endowment Fund	253 shares at bid price on 31st Dec 2025	4,888
COIF (Charities Official Investment Fund) Charity Fund		

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Endowment	TOTAL 2025	TOTAL 2024
Pugh			8,347	8,347	8,694
Roberts		51	643	694	718
East			4,888	4,888	5,134
	0	51	13,878	13,929	14,546

8 CASH AT BANK AND IN HAND

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	TOTAL FUNDS 2025	TOTAL FUNDS 2024
Bank (Current Account)	610			610	594
Bank (Business Premium Account)	11,449			11,449	8,782
CafCash Account	11,341			11,341	18,426
	23,400	0	0	23,400	27,802

9 DEPOSITS

CBF Deposit Fund	3,938	28,449		32,387	30,986
Easement	1,806			1,806	1,728
	5,744	28,449	0	34,193	32,714

10 DEBTORS

Gift Aid	2,525			2,525	6,023
Other				0	0
	2,525	0	0	2,525	6,023

11 CURRENT LIABILITIES: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

Mission Tithe	17,150			17,150	16,050
Other	1,559			1,559	1,396
	18,709	0	0	18,709	17,446

12 MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.1.25	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	Net movement in funds	Transfers between funds	At 31.12.25
Unrestricted Funds						
General Fund	22,188	174,296	184,505	(10,209)		11,979
Smartees	900	408	857	(449)		451
The Gathering (Old WB)	576		46	(46)		530
Subtotal of Unrestricted funds	23,664	174,704	185,408	(10,704)	0	12,960
Restricted Funds						
Centre Fund	3,375	375	0	375		3,750
Youth Pastor Fund	6,250		2,250	(2,250)		4,000
Maintenance Fund	1,160		1,160	(1,160)		0
Capital Expenditure Fund	9,163	19,125	13,128	5,997		15,160
Diocesan Youth Grant/Gifts	1,000	750	480	270		1,270
The Big Lunch	500	250	750	(500)		0
Hardship Fund	1,820	0	0	0		1,820
SAWR	0	1,413	1,260	153		153
Acts 435	0	632	632	0		0
Short Term Mission	756	0	0	0		756
Mission (General)	0	418	418	0		0
Closed Graveyard	963	1,650	1,533	117		1,080
War Memorial Fund	221	0	0	0		221
Church Maintenance Fund	269	21	0	21		290
Subtotal of Restricted funds	25,477	24,634	21,611	3,023	0	28,500
Endowment Funds						
Church Maintenance Fund	670	(27)	0	(27)		643
Churchyard Fund	13,828	(593)	0	(593)		13,235
Subtotal of Endowment funds	14,498	(620)	0	(620)	0	13,878
Total Funds	63,639	198,718	207,019	(8,301)	0	55,338

Fund Descriptions

Smartees	Funds that have been raised by the Smartees mornings, for replacing equipment and other costs
The Gathering (Old WB)	Funds that have been raised by the Welcome Break termly events, for use in future events eg The Gathering
Centre Fund	Donations for work on the Church Centre building
Youth Pastor Fund	Youth Pastor employment Fund
Maintenance Fund	Church and Centre Capital maintenance Fund
The Big Lunch	Funds to be used for the Big Lunch events, grants received

Hardship Fund	Fund created to help those locally in need
Acts 435	Funds held and administered for Acts 435
Short Term Mission	Donations for grants toward Short term mission opportunities for members of the church
Mission (General)	Mission Fund
Closed Graveyard	Maintenance of Closed Graveyard
War Memorial Fund	Maintenance of War Memorial
Church Maint Fund	Historic Church maintenance fund
Churchyard Fund	Endowment Funds for maintenance of Graveyard and specific Graves

13 MISSION TITHE

	Expenditure in 2025	From Gen Funds
Mission Tithe 2025	(16,000)	16,000
2:67 Proj (£4,800),Open Doors, Food Bank, Bulgarian Support Fund (£3,200 each) STEP £400 Spur Groups/PCC to use in 2026 £1200		

14 TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND EXPENSES

No Trustees received Remuneration for their role as Trustees.
Revd C Keightley,Revd J Suttie,G Shaw(Lay Reader)and S Horner (Youth Minister) received working expenses.
Total Expenses paid were £4,709 in 2024 and £3,734 in 2025.

15 RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

There were no Related Party Transactions in 2025.

16 COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	TOTAL FUNDS 2024 £	TOTAL FUNDS 2023 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM:					
Donations and Legacies	160,061	27,160		187,221	153,873
Charitable activities	11,202			11,202	10,580
Investments	2,216	21		2,237	1,688
Other	1,841	3,600		5,441	3,430
Total	175,320	30,781	0	206,101	169,571
EXPENDITURE ON:					
Charitable Activities	173,584	12,323		185,907	187,662
Total	173,584	12,323	0	185,907	187,662
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	1,736	18,458	0	20,194	(18,091)
Gains on investment assets:					
on disposal				0	0
on revaluation			322	322	1,223
Transfers between Funds					
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS	1,736	18,458	322	20,516	(16,868)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total Funds brought Forward	21,928	7,019	14,176	43,123	59,991
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	23,664	25,477	14,498	63,639	43,123

ST MARK'S CHURCH, COLNEY HEATH - ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The financial statements of the charity, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)(effective 1 January 2019), Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Charities Act 2011.
The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention except for valuation of investment assets, which are shown at market value.

Funds
General funds represent the funds of the PCC that are not subject to any restrictions regarding their use and are available for application on the general purposes of the PCC. Funds designated for a particular purpose by the PCC are also unrestricted.
Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for a particular restricted purpose.

Incoming Resources
Voluntary income and capital sources
Collections are recognised when received by or on behalf of the PCC. Planned giving receivable under gift aid is recognised only when received. Income tax recoverable on gift aid donations is recognised when the income is recognised.
Grants and legacies to the PCC are accounted for as soon as the PCC is notified of its legal entitlement and the amount due.

Other ordinary income
Rental income from the letting of church premises is recognised when received.

Income from investments
Dividends and interest are accounted for when received. Tax recoverable on such income is recognised in the same accounting year.

Gains and losses on investments
Realised gains or losses are realised when investments are sold.
Unrealised gains or losses are accounted for on revaluation of investments at 31 December in any given year.

Resources used
Grants
Grants and donations are accounted for when paid over, or when awarded, if that award creates a binding obligation on the PCC.
Activities directly relating to the work of the Church
The Diocesan Parish share is accounted for when payable, Any share unpaid at 31 December is provided for in these accounts as an operational (though not a legal) liability and is shown as a creditor in the Balance Sheet.

Fixed Assets
Consecrated land and buildings and moveable church furnishings.
Consecrated and beneficed property is excluded from the accounts by s.10(2) of the Charities Act 2011.
No value is placed on moveable church furnishings held by the churchwardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal since the PCC considers this to be inalienable property. All expenditure incurred during the year on consecrated buildings and moveable church furnishings, whether maintenance or improvement, is written off as expenditure in the SOFA and separately disclosed.

Other buildings
Expenditure on maintenance or improvement is written off as incurred.

Other fixtures, fittings, and office equipment
Equipment used within the church premises is written off when the asset is acquired.

Investments
Investments are valued at market value at 31 December in any given year.

Current Assets
Amounts owing to the PCC at 31 December in any given year are shown as debtors less provision for amounts that may prove uncollectable.
Short-term deposits include cash held on deposit either with the CBF Church of England Funds or at the bank.

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of St. Mark's Church, Colney Heath

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2025 set out on pages 7 to 13.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner
The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year (under Section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act)) and that an independent examination is required.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under Section 145 of the 2011 Act
- to follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission (under Section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act); and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of the independent examiner's report
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 you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion 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 statements 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 2011 Act; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 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.

A J Bennewith, FCA, FCPA, FFA, FFTA, FIPA, DChA, FRSA
Upper Ground Floor
18, Farnham Road
Guildford
Surrey
GU1 4XA

A. J. Bennewith

Date: 21 October 2026