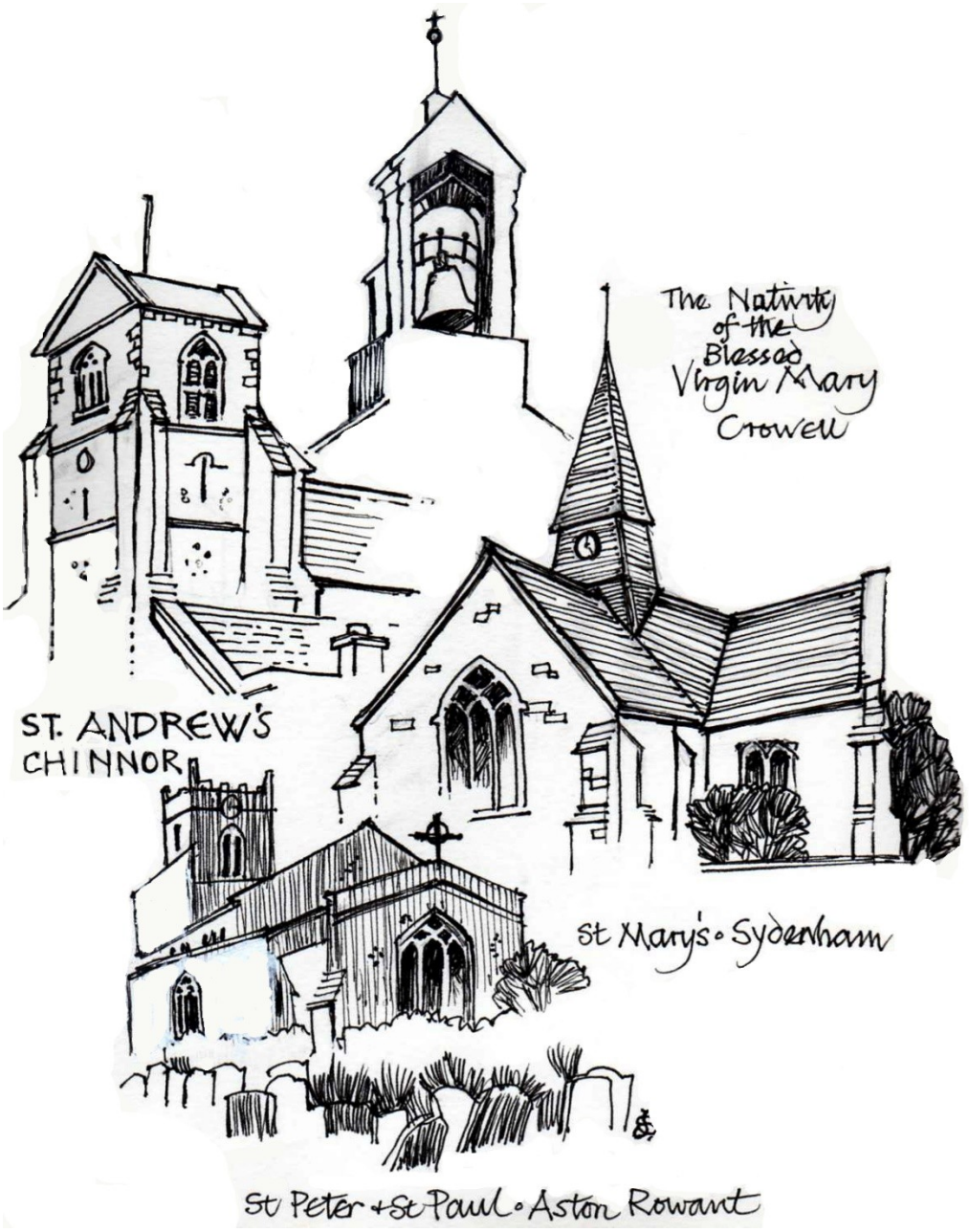
1The United Parish of CHINNOR, SYDENHAM, ASTON ROWANT and CROWELL



2025
ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING
21st May 2025, 7:00pm
The Village Centre Chinnor

The United Parish of Chinnor, Sydenham, Aston Rowant and Crowell

Wednesday 21st May 2025

Agenda for the

Vestry Meeting, APCM and first meeting of the new PCC

(meetings to be held at The Village Centre Chinnor chaired by the Rector, the Rev'd Dr Jacky Barr or in her absence by the Lay Vice Chair Andrew Warman)

VESTRY MEETING 7PM

Election of Churchwardens to
St Andrew's Chinnor
St Mary's Sydenham
St Peter and St Paul's, Aston Rowant
The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Crowell

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING 7:10pm

Opening Prayers by *Rev'd Dr Jacky Barr* (*Rector*)

Apologies for absence

Minutes of Annual Parochial Church Meeting held Wednesday April 24th 2024, available from the Parish Office

Matters Arising

The Reports (available as booklets, summaries only will be given at the meeting)

The Rector's report
Annual report of the PCC and Financial Statements (separate booklet)
Churchwarden's report - St Andrew's Chinnor
Churchwarden's report – St Mary's Sydenham
Churchwarden's report – St Peter and St Paul's Aston Rowant
Churchwarden's report – The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary Crowell
The electoral roll
Annual fabric reports
Deanery Synod report
GDPR report
Safeguarding report
Church hall – Chinnor
The Old School Room – Sydenham
The Old School House – Sydenham
The Children's Minister's report
The Children's Society
Hempton Field – Chinnor
St Andrew's Church Luncheon Club

United Parish magazine
United Parish Website – A Church Near You
Organ and choir - St Andrew's Chinnor
Choir – St Mary's Sydenham
Bellringers -St Andrew's Chinnor
Bellringers – St Peter and St Paul's Aston Rowant
Friends of St Andrew's Church
Flower Guild – St Andrew's Chinnor
St Mary's Flowers
St Peter and St Paul's Flowers
CCGW!
Pastoral Care team

Proposals

The elections and appointments
Election of new PCC members
Appoint independent examiner

Questions ideally submitted in writing before the meeting

Any Other Business

First Meeting of the New PCC 8:15pm

Election and Appointment of

Lay Vice Chair
Secretary
Treasurer
Electoral roll officer
Safeguarding officer
GDPR officer
Standing Committee

Date of next meetings

Reports due: tbc
Standing Committee: tbc
PCC: tbc

Rector's Report: The Rev'd Dr Jacky Barr.
(covering the year 2024)

Dear United Parish

A review of any year, as I prepare to write this annual report always brings with it a sense of what a busy parish we are. And all that we do happens because of the hard work and commitment of so many of you.

Some of you volunteer in very visible roles, others of you take on a more unseen ministry. I hope you know how much you are appreciated by myself and the United Parish as a whole.

Here are some of my highlights of 2024.

Ecumenical Life

In Chinnor, our ecumenical relationships continue to flourish.

The Covenant Service in January and our shared Harvest celebration in September are now confirmed as joint services shared between ourselves and our Methodist friends. And the Lent group and the Remembrance service in November remains a partnership of all three churches in Chinnor.

The Outside Church venture & Families

Our "Outside Church" initiative continued this year, with a winter walk and a summer picnic.

Numbers were small, but I'm not discouraged, and I remain convinced that this will be a way of encouraging families to make connections with us. Things that grow slowly often take deeper root. We're looking at doing another foraging event in 2025 and I'm exploring the idea of a Brick Church (which is code for Lego but without the copyright issues) and theology. And if you're wondering what draws families most, here's my working theory: food. Food builds community, whether it's cake after a service or sandwiches in the orchard.

Welcoming New Faces

We've been blessed and delighted to welcome several people, including whole families, into our worshipping communities this year. In a time when church attendance nationally continues to shift and change, it's a joy and great encouragement to see new people finding their spiritual home among us. Let's cherish and nurture these relationships, while continuing to offer a welcome that's warm, relaxed, and open to prayer that may come in the form of children playing and chattering.

In Loving Memory

We said goodbye to several well-loved members of our church family in 2024.

Among those who died were Jill Carey, Paul Stancliffe, and Mike Ashdown. Their presence is missed; their love and witness remain woven

into the life of our churches. We give thanks for them — and we commend them to God's eternal keeping.

And some dear friends moved away from the Parish: Brian and Gill Skinner and Des and Chris Foote. Over many years, these two couples contributed a great deal to the life of the United Parish and their friendship and ministry to us is much missed.

New Initiatives for 2024

This includes The Rectory Meadow House Group. A group of friendly neighbours (some who are church go-ers, some who are not) now meet regularly for fellowship, tea and cake and some gentle God talk.

The opening up of St Andrew's as the venue for the local Repair Café has been a great success.

Old Favourites, Faithfully Done

Outside of all we do to mark the year in a liturgical way, there is a list of annual events that we do almost automatically. They are invariably successful, and it would be easy to overlook them. But it is important that we don't overlook them, and we should always remember to celebrate them. These events, groups and initiatives are part of the heartbeat of our parish and community, and include the following

School visits, time spent at Hempton Field, Chinnor Churches Go Wild, the Christmas market and Fayre, the Flower festival and the ever-magical Christmas Tree Festival, the Rector's Ramble (blisters optional), the snowdrop walk and many other things.

These are joyful, deeply appreciated events — and they only happen because of you. Thank you.

Sustainability & Volunteers

Of course, events as listed above all rely heavily on volunteers and, we all know that there is genuine challenge around volunteer capacity. And we are not alone in this: churches and volunteer organisations across the country are facing the same problem. I genuinely, deeply and almost daily worry about asking too much of you. And so, I do want to say this to you all very clearly: every request is exactly that — a request.

There is no pressure. Please don't be afraid to say no. The body of Christ needs rest as well as action.

Our United Parish Vision

In the summer, the PCC gathered for an Away Day, where we began to ask big questions and do some holy dreaming. Out of that time came a clarified and succinct vision statement for the United Parish:

"We will share God's love for all and be a visible, loving Christian presence within the wider community."

Challenges for 2025

The first challenge I offer is how do we enact our vision? We now need to take the opportunity to explore what living out this vision might mean. Are we doing enough? Are we doing too much? What is sustainable, and what might need to rest? Are all the things we do in line with our vision? I feel another Away Day coming….

Another challenge we face is replacing Margaret Poole as Children's Minister. This process is underway.

Getting a treasurer in place, with clear transparent processes continues to be a challenge and I extend my thanks to Mike Powell for his help with this.

The time of reflection I enjoyed at St Beuno's at the end of 2024, alongside a review of my ministry in the Diocese, has led me to conclude that the volume of the workload in the United Parish is too much for one incumbent. Therefore, as a Parish, we need to look at making the role a more gentle and more sustainable one. Again, this is a discussion that is now underway with the PCC.

Optimism for 2025

I do continue to enjoy serving alongside you all in the United Parish and remain convinced of my calling to this place. Because this is real life, there are of course challenges and difficulties but there is also friendship, genuine love and laughter, and moments where it's easy to see the Holy Spirit breaking through.

As we continue forward into 2025 my prayer is that we remain rooted in love, bold in our inclusive hospitality and open to the Spirit's gentle nudges (or even firm shoves when necessary!).

Let us find ways (whether they are tried and tested or new and innovative) for us alongside others, to worship joyfully as we share our lives as part of God's creation.

With every blessing, and my heartfelt thanks,

Jacky

The Rev'd Dr Jacky Barr, Rector

Churchwardens' Report
St Andrew's Chinnor

Schedule of Services for 2024

Worship

Sunday service of Holy Communion at 10:30am (Approximately 40 services) Average attendance 46 – 80

Monthly All Age worship at 10:30am (Approximately 12 services) Average attendance 44 – 60

Monthly 8am Sunday service of Holy Communion (Approximately 12 services) Average attendance 15 - 20

Thursday mid-week communion at 10am (Approximately 52 services) Average attendance – 15

Home communions – approximately 3 services a week

Hempton Field – approximately 2 visits a week

Weddings:

No of services - 6 Average Attendance - 85

Baptisms:

No of services - 23 Average Attendance - 60

Funerals:

No of services - 5 Average Attendance - 75

Burial of Ashes - 12 Average Attendance – 15

Service of Thanksgiving – 2 Average Attendance - 80

Other

Taizé – 15–20 attending (Approximately 12 services)

Covenant Service at Methodist Church

Mothering Sunday

Average Attendance – Over 16 – 50/Under 16 - 5

World Day of Prayer 10:30am – 37. 7:30pm – 27

Café church at White's field 100+

Rogation at Manor Farm

Average Attendance – Over 16 – 65/Under 16 - 5

Harvest Service with Methodist congregation

Average Attendance – Over 16 – 107/Under 16 - 4

Service of the Departed Average Attendance - 80

Remembrance - Full church

11 November Monday Remembrance Service
Average Attendance - 10 Adults
80th Anniversary of the D. Day landings. St Andrews to ring bells to commemorate and celebrate the 80th Anniversary of the D. Day landings.

Easter:

Ash Wednesday Average Attendance – 27
Palm Sunday Average Attendance - 65
Maundy Thursday Average Attendance – 25
Good Friday Average Attendance – 45
Easter vigil Average Attendance – 26
Stations of the Cross Average Attendance - 30
Easter Sunday Average Attendance – 70

Christmas:

Christingle
Average Attendance – Over 16 – 64/Under 16 - 20 Children
Nine Lessons and Carol Service
Average Attendance – Over 16 – 105/Under 16 -15
Crib Average Attendance – Over 16 – 92/Under 16 - 55
Midnight Mass in Bethlehem
Average Attendance – Over 16 – 92/Under 16 - 6
Christmas Day
Average Attendance – Over 16 – 66/Under 16 - 15
Candlemas
Average Attendance – Over 16 – 68/Under 16 - 4

Additional Events

Work Parties x 5 (Average 5)

It is difficult to believe that we are already coming to the end of a year but good to take stock of the last 12 months, when a lot has happened. Firstly, we would like to pay homage to Michael Ashdown who sadly passed away in September 2024. Not only was Michael a good friend of Robert and many others in the congregation, but he was also a hard act to follow as churchwarden. Secondly, the numbers attending Services, and Activities, have been steady thanks to the hard work of Jacky and the Ministry Team. The church has had Weddings, Baptisms, Funerals, Fetes, Fund Raisers, Taizé and Seasonal Services (Easter, Christmas, Harvest etc.) and it is wonderful to see that the Church is in great demand. Thank you to all the volunteers who help at the regular Sunday services as well as baptisms, weddings and festival services, with intercessions, serving, verging, Sacristan, candles, counting the collection money and the banking, and lastly but not least the refreshment team. Big thank you to Tricia, our wonderful Church Administrator, for all her hard work. Thank you to the wonderful team who work so tirelessly making connections young people, especially with Chooseday Church and Starboddlers, and

with St Andrew's CofE Primary School and welcoming the school into church for their Christmas and Easter services as well as Year 6 Leaving Service which are very well attended with both children, parents and grandparents. Thank you to our hardworking cleaner Steve Hedges for his care and maintenance of St Andrew's Church, especially when he cleaned and varnished the special paper mâché floor last year. Thank you to Pat Haywood who has cared and maintained the 12th century screen as English heritage has directed over the past years.

The Churchyard

Trees have been trimmed, hedges have been tidied, lawns smartened up and flower beds planted. Thank you to everyone who has worked tirelessly to keep things looking smart and welcoming to all. Additional bat and bird boxes have been installed on trees in the churchyard as part of a Chinnor Churches Go Wild! Initiative. Thanks go to Chris McGuire, Will Drinkwater and Brian Collins for their continued gardening support, and to the Chinnor Parish Council.

Reading University

Students from Reading University started a GPR (Ground Penetrating Radar) survey of the area in front of the porch in the churchyard (colloquially known as the plague pit), in order to establish exactly what archaeology if any is within this area. A GDR Survey was completed May 2024 to establish if it was a plaque pit. From the survey there was no indication that it was a mass grave. Advice from the DAC has been sought and any excavation that would take place in St Andrew's Churchyard would need the full support of the PCC in order for the faculty to be given. If the PCC do not support the excavation and can see no benefit of disturbing the graves, there is no need to take the matter any further.

Robert Pegg and Lauretta Milligan
Churchwardens

PCC and Churchwardens' Report
St Mary's Sydenham

Worship news

Services – 29 (33 last year) services in total. Average attendance to Holy Communion and Evensong – 15

Specials

Mothering Sunday with handmade posies – 29 in attendance

Easter - total attendees over Easter - 63 (47 in 2023) **An increase!**

Harvest Festival – 36 attendees – 31 adults and 5 children (29 (23 + 6) in 2023) An **increase!**

Remembrance Service held outdoors – 70 attendees (53 in 2023) An **increase!**

Christmas at St Mary's– saw 234 through the doors broken down as thus: Carol Service - 70 in attendance with mince pies and sherry served upon entry (same as in in 2023), Countryside Carols – 46 in attendance (45 in 2023), Crib Service c 90 in attendance. Midnight Mass – 28 in attendance (22 in 2023).

Weddings – x1
Baptisms – x1
Funerals/Interments – x6

Sydenham Led Services
Songs of Praise –
Just before the cricket season bowled off, St Mary's resounded with hearty hymns (some adapted), poems and readings led by the Mighty Moles. 38 plus 9 children (47 attended). Andon and family then served up a delicious brunch in The Crown for 40.
Events

- Carols round the Christmas trees on the Green – c 25
- Pancake races on Shrove Tuesday – a fun village event that attracts family and friends with delicious pancakes in the OSR afterwards – c 30.
- Sydenham Village Fayre – June (share of profits to Church)
- We again welcomed the Rambling Rector and her fellow walkers – another enjoyable event.
- Some of the ministry team attended the Sydenham WI Summer party
- Annual Ride and Stride
- Nick Potts organised a classical concert at the end of November Attended by c 80 people with a share of the profits going to St Mary's (see Siobhan's choir report)
- Christmas Fayre - December - raising over £1,800. The successful format included Christmas stalls, tombola, children's activities and a raffle not forgetting crusty home-made bread, soup and puddings. A real village 'coming together' event. c 60
- St Mary's held a village meeting to look ahead and plan events. Some of the PCC attended an Away Day organised by the Rector and office.

Comment
The unwavering support of the villagers for St Mary's continues to shine through in countless ways, for which we are immensely grateful. Whether it's helping with the bustling Christmas Fayre, tending to church cleaning, churchyard upkeep and loving attention to the Queen's Garden, using the church for inspiring concerts, supporting the choir, providing AV equipment and technical support, arranging beautiful floral displays, ringing the bells, winding the church clock (John Church reckons he winds it 100 times a year making the total of winds in his ten

year tenure 1000 times!) or managing the many other tasks that keep our church thriving, it's good to see.
Our family services remain a joyous highlight. This year, the Crib service was ever popular (over 90 folk young and old) bringing delight to everyone involved—a clear testament to what is possible!
We are always looking to explore new ideas to broaden our reach and welcome even more of the community.
Remembrance Day once again found its place in the pretty surroundings of the Queens Garden, where villagers gathered in heartfelt support.
Sydenham's cherished 'Songs of Praise' continues to be a fun tradition and 2024 saw the much-anticipated return of the Cricket Club Service followed by a hearty breakfast in The Crown. It was also a great pleasure to welcome parishioners from across the Parish, strengthening the bonds of fellowship and unity in each gathering.

Highlights of the Year

- The packed Crib service.
- Family services
- Cricket Club Songs of Praise.
- Remembrance Service
- The Choir outing and dinner
- The Christmas Fayre
- The Concert
- The Villagers all coming together to help

Our thanks go as ever to Jacky and Joan and all the Ministry team.

Challenges

- Although we have increased the number of attendees to our special services, it is still disappointing that more villagers especially the new incomers do not attend these, we none the less attract a good number and will continue to encourage more folk through the doors.

Fiona Kermack and Roy Harrison – PCC member /Church Warden

Churchwardens' Report (Including the Fabric report)
The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary – Crowell

Attendance at the two Sunday services per month remained stable.
The current service program continued to work well with no issues being raised.
We have had organist cover for all services, shared between Graham and Hugh with Monica filling in.

The damp has stayed away, and the crumbling of the walls is much reduced.
Our heating regime is working well, with oil usage at a minimum, yet keeping a comfortable temperature for services and assisting to keep the damp out.
The church remained locked except for services and when the Wardens are in attendance...It remains under constant check, is secure and watertight.
Mandatory servicing was carried out.
The car park entrance stood up well but suffered some more settling which again needs to be fixed in 2025. The Shepherds Crook pub is no longer a pub, and the premises have reverted to a residential building. This has permanently reduced carpark usage.
We are still experiencing discarded pairs of number plates and drug items discarded in the car park. We are working with the police. A pair of number plates were stolen from the carpark during a service and arrests were later made for a number of offences.

The grass areas around the attended graves and pathways were kept short and the wildlife areas roped off with signs and explanation. This brought some pleasing comments and will be repeated in 2025. We seem to have the correct balance now and will rotate the 'wild area' around the churchyard.
The rainbow garden continued to be a source of mainly good comment and pleasure from walkers and locals. Many more graves were being tended and so the appearance of the graveyard continued to improve.
We still had a few thoughtless people who insist on throwing plastic wrappings on the old compost heap areas. This causes some distress to the families with graves close by. The heaps have been removed to one area, but old habits die hard. We gained two volunteers to keep areas of the graveyard mown. The cremation area and the area west of the yew tree. Our volunteer who kept the area east of the church mown, using a ride on tractor, has had to give up due to heavy work commitments. A volunteer helps to keep the carpark mown.
We were able to facilitate 8 work parties during 2024, but few volunteers turned up. Despite that, work in the churchyard progresses but not to the degree that is needed.
Sadly, the book restoration project has had to cease due to health and mobility restrictions of our expert volunteer.
We are ever grateful for the support from Surman and Horwood which involves, some mowing, a drinking water fountain in the church and access to their water tap for hose connection when the heating water needs topping up during maintenance. Plus, other help as needed.
The repairs to the damaged stain glass window progressed with a date for removal for repair agreed with the appointed glazier. (March 2025).

Exploratory work into the feasibility of building a toilet and kitchenette has been put on hold. Many questions remain regarding the cost vs the benefits which have to be justified with DAC and to obtain grants. Other more pressing calls on budget exist.

Services

Holy Communion	12
Evening Prayer	9
Weddings	0
Baptisms	4
Funerals	
Interment of Ashes	1
Burial	2
Memorials	1
Other	
Soul Space	10
Harvest	(Bring and Share Supper)
Remembrance	Yes
Carol Service	(Social and Mulled Wine)
Lent Group	Yes
Stations of the Cross	Yes
Mothering Sunday	(an alternative sensitive service)
Social Church	(Hymns and Pimms)
United Parish Service	Yes
Prayer Group	Yes

Additional Events	
Art and Soul	Not this year
Work Parties	8 (little or no attendance)
CCGW events	Not this year

Andy and Maggs Warman
Church Wardens

Electoral Roll Report 2025

The parish church electoral roll is the first building block of the church's governance structure. It is a register of the lay members of the church who are entitled to vote at the APCM. Those on the roll are eligible to be elected to lay representative positions on their PCC and deanery synod.

Deanery synod representatives may then be elected to diocesan synod and general synod. The total number on the parish church electoral roll, as presented at the APCM, is an important factor in determining the number of lay representatives (parochial and deanery synod) that a parish may have, whilst being only a small component of how the parish share allocation is determined.

Given this, each year a formal process is undertaken by the PCC, as preparation for the APCM, to ensure the roll's accuracy. For 2025 a new Electoral Roll has been produced (every 6 years) instead of the usual annual revision.

Electoral Roll Numbers	2024	2025
St Andrew's, Chinnor	83	90
St Mary's, Sydenham	10	13
St Peter & St Paul's, Aston Rowant	27	15
Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Crowell	6	6
TOTAL	126	124

Andrea Oughton
Electoral Roll Officer

Fabric report – St Andrew's Chinnor

The churchwardens have been working through the architect's QI Report of 2023. Some of the points addressed were:
1. Roofing Repairs – The Lady Chapel – the flat roof was repaired and guttering cleared. Over the last year the wall has continued to dry out so that the internal decorating work can be completed. The architect has been approached to provide a specification, a faculty will be applied for, and quotations will be sought for this work to be completed in the summer.
3. Masonry work is ongoing with many areas of brickwork being replaced. The Church is several hundreds of years old, we are todays custodians; sandstone brickwork will be a generational problem. Further stonework repairs as may be necessary including to buttress at the belltower – awaiting architect's specification.

4. Refit window grills to WE1 (Remembrance window) as well as grills to all the stained-glass windows along Church Road. Quotations have been received – ongoing.
5. Repair of the wall in Church Road – this is ongoing due to the insurance company disputing the quotations for the repair.
6. Investigations are ongoing into creating a temporary disabled ramp at the North Door of the church.
7. From the last Archdeacon's Inspection, the oil tank was condemned, and this was replaced in December 2024. St Andrew's Church has also joined an oil consortium which enables the church to purchase oil at a cheaper price.
8. Under general maintenance, all the inside windows were cleaned. Thank you to all those who donated towards this work.
9. The PCC approved the installation of a postbox and with the necessary faculty being granted, this was installed near the noticeboard.

Robert Pegg and Lauretta Milligan
Churchwardens

Fabric report - St Mary's Sydenham

Investigations were carried out in 2023 into the large horse chestnut tree in the church grounds resulting in the need to remove part of the crown. This work was completed successfully in 2024 and now looks much neater.
A Commemoration Stone for the Coronation of King Charles 111 was organised by the Parish Council and erected on the wall by the Queens Garden.
A new Noticeboard was commissioned.
All the above sought and received PCC and Faculty approval
The fire extinguishers were checked and organ serviced.
The **churchyard volunteer group** with the help of a mower purchased with funds from the Summer Fayre continue to keep the churchyard looking neat and tidy whilst protecting wildlife.

The Queen's Garden continues, thanks to Gilly's loving care and attention, to look lovely with freshly planted and maintained flowers and shrubs.

The Church cleaning team comprising village volunteers regularly keep St Mary's as cobweb and droppings free and spic and span as much as possible under the management of Sally Baldwin.

Fiona Kermack and Roy Harrison

Deanery Synod

Three members of the PCC (Margaret Poole, Lauretta Milligan and Andrea Oughton) as well as the Rev'd Dr Jacky Barr sit on the Deanery Synod. The meetings are held three times per annum in one of the churches or church halls in the deanery.
In addition to the reports from the Diocese, and General Synod as appropriate, there is a report from the Treasurer on the deanery's finances.
Rev'd Jane Haslem is now the Chair of the Aston & Cuddesdon Deanery Synod with the Associate Area Dean Mr Thomas Barnabas Jeremy Wallis. The meetings provide an important link between the United Parish PCC and the wider structures of the Oxford Diocese. There have been opportunities to share the good news stories from the United Parish such as the important work with the children and schools in the community. Recently the Synod was addressed by Charles Chadwick and Yvonne Morris to compile a Deanery Plan for Children and Young People which has had input from all the parishes in the Deanery. The Synod also hosted a presentation on faculties by the Area Dean. The meetings provide an opportunity to discuss various issues raised as well as keeping up to date with the going on of other parishes in the Deanery.

Lauretta Milligan

Pastoral Care Team

The Pastoral Care Team was formed two years ago. The members visit people in Chinnor, Aston Rowant, Crowell and Sydenham who are referred by the Rector. The purpose of the team is to show the hand of friendship from the church at times of sickness, loneliness and bereavement and helping otherwise isolated people to feel they are still part of the Church Family. The group`s activities include a monthly meeting when the group prays for the people visited. Each week someone from the team spends time in St. Andrew's Church praying for the people who are mentioned in the book set aside for this purpose in the side chapel and for those who have written the messages. An important part of the team`s care is to take communion to those parishioners who are unable to attend church in person usually through infirmity or illness. A member of the team has been trained by the rector to offer this special time. We team members are privileged to help as we grow in faith.

Barbara Bedford on behalf of the Pastoral Care Team

GDPR report

Each APCM, I as the GDPR officer am required to submit a report to the United parish concerning our GDPR practices and report any lapses or breaches. **I'm pleased to say that nothing has arisen in the January 2024 to December 2024 year which I need to report to the PCC.** Thanks to all Church members for their diligence re data protection.

However, to keep you up to date on things happening on the wider GDPR front, the year 2023 witnessed a groundbreaking GDPR fine of €1.2 Billion to Meta (formerly FaceBook), a significant moment in data protection enforcement. Note, Meta is a social media platform and there is a lesson here in that they process massive amounts of data and therefore are more open for hackers and potential negligence. In comparison to such media giants, the Church/a church is small fry. In a Google search I did on 'Church GDPR failures' there were no hits or even a reference to any church connection. *While big tech continues to be the primary target the regulatory landscape has expanded. Authorities are now increasingly focusing on other industries, including finance, healthcare, and energy, underscoring the broadening scope of GDPR enforcement, even for small enterprises like Churches*. 20 biggest GDPR fines so far [2025] – Data Privacy Manager

From all my research, I conclude that we as a United Parish are at low risk. This is encouraging but we shouldn't be complacent, so please take care if you are involved in keeping data. My guess is that at some stage, a church will be caught up in a big data breach, lets hope and pray it's not us!!

Just as a reminder, I include the table of do's and don'ts I included in my last report. I've culled them from a variety of sources. I hope they are helpful:

Do's	Dont's
➢ Remind oneself of the responsibility of data privacy requirements. ➢ Be vigilant with emails and especially related things like attachments. ➢ Adopt a policy of preferentially using bcc. ➢ Regularly audit the data you are using. ➢ Check with individual's before handing over data. ➢ Report any data breach. ➢ Make sure all your electronic data is password protected ➢ Make sure that all your paper data has at least one lock between it and the outside world. ➢ Shred paper information, don't just bin it.	➢ Treat GDPR as just a series of tick boxes ➢ Open emails and things like attachments without being sure of their validity. ➢ Log onto public wi-fi when processing data. ➢ Grant others access to data you hold unless they give their permission. ➢ Use the same password across platforms. ➢ Reveal passwords to third parties. ➢ Leave physical keys to data cupboards in easy access or sight. ➢ Write any comments that you would not be able to defend if challenged. ➢ Send sensitive information on removable media.

Rev'd Brian Griffiths

Safeguarding report

DBS and Training Update

Total No. of people whose status needs tracking = 42 (excluding Ministry Team members who are all managed at Diocesan level)

Activity	No. needed	No. completed	No. planned/ongoing	No. outstanding
DBS Check	42	41	1	0
Basic Awareness Training	42	40	0	2
Foundation Training	42	36	0	6
Leadership Training	1	1	0	0
Domestic Abuse	11	5	0	6
Safer Recruitment	3	2	0	1

Jane Tucker continues to operate as Parish Safeguarding Officer, but following the departure of Chris Foote, Andrea Oughton and Margaret Poole have agreed to share the role of DBS Administrator, and a handover from Chris has been successfully completed.
We are very grateful to Chris for all her efforts to help establish working DBS practises across the Parish.
There have been a few changes of personnel across various roles, within the Parish, that necessitate DBS checking and varied levels of Safeguarding training. More of our Safeguarding training this year has taken place with individuals working online, via the Diocesan Training Portal. Also, there have been some changes in the details of trainings now required by Diocese/C of E for certain roles, reflecting issues that have arisen within the Anglican Communion. In some cases, existing officers have now got to complete extra training courses, and this need is being addressed.
Across the Parish we have also made significant progress on the back-log of Risks Assessments across activities and events. Risks Assessments have been completed, or are underway, for most of the activities that impact children and vulnerable adults. Also, a format, including a simple questionnaire, has been drafted, piloted and refined to facilitate creating Risk Assessments for any events organised in the name of any of the 4 Churches within the Parish. As we go through 2025 and events are planned and advertised, the individual event organisers can review the

Questionnaire and then work 1-to-1 with Jane Tucker to detail likely risks and document mitigations for any significant ones. Once a whole year of events has been completed and filed centrally with the Church Office; next year it will just be a case of checking for any changes in the annual events from 2025 and documenting them; and/or performing Risk Assessments for any totally new events planned.
The Parish is still at Level 2 for the Safeguarding Dashboard, but this is the standard achieved by most parishes, very few achieve level 3. We have however, following some additional training, progressed to Stage 3 for the Safeguarding Hub, which now means we can use the software to generate Role Descriptions for any of the numerous roles across the Church.
This will make it easier for recruiting new volunteers in a controlled manner in compliance with Safer Recruitment Guidelines. Progress has also been made with defining some of the outstanding policies required.
Across the whole Anglican Communion, 2024/25 was marked by the report of the Makin Review into the activities of John Smyth. The report of this review ran to more than 250 pages and took many hours for Rev Jacky Barr and Jane Tucker to determine how the United Parish should respond, although we did take comfort that it was Oxford Diocese Safeguarding policies that were responsible for Smyth's activities finally being brought to light.
Rev Dr Jacky Barr took over the bulk of one PCC meeting as she guided the PCC members into an analysis of the report and discussions as to how the United Parish should react if something similar occurred here.
Over the past 12 months a few local Safeguarding issues have been raised that have been handled jointly by Rev Dr Jacky Barr and Jane Tucker. We have utilised the Diocesan support facilities available, both during office hours and also the out-of-hours facilities and have found them very helpful in determining the best actions to take to support those involved.
Safeguarding posters across the Parish facilities have been updated and refreshed to keep the matter at the front of everyone's mind.
As previously, email safeguarding@unitedparish.church to raise any Safeguarding questions or concerns, all of which are handled with discretion and understanding.

Jane Tucker – Safeguarding Officer

Children's Minister's Report

With the knowledge that I was retiring from the post as the children's minister for the United Parish, it was important that during 2024 preparations were put in place for the role to continue post my departure at the end of September 2024.

With all the programmes that we present to both Church Schools very much in place we have continued to minister to more than 400 children through Open the Book once a week, along with the additional termly visits to every year group presenting Reinspired.
In addition to this Jacky prepared a Prayer Space Day for St Andrew's school, during the Summer, which every year group tapped into, and seasonal services in the schools and the church.
In my last report there was the mention of SIAMs success for St Andrew's School. During 2024 there has been a focus on helping Aston Rowant School to prepare for another SIAMS mock inspection in the coming year. Some of this has been done through working with and supporting the head and one of the governors, through encouraging the children to give feedback on what they have heard through our sessions, and what they think it means to them personally. Very thought provoking for them and quite a challenge at their tender age.
Chooseday Church continues to thrive, although we had to say a sad farewell to our leader Lyn Watts as she stepped back from leading the team, which we did at the end of term picnic in July. We also said farewell to a few of the older children as they moved to secondary school. We continued to have a very mixed age range of between 15-22 children, which can be very difficult to minister too, especially due to lack of volunteers. We are very grateful to Lyn who returned as a general volunteer and for Sian Stephens who has taken the lead in keeping parents informed etc… Then there is a huge thanks to those who help on a rota in the kitchen and to Jan Miller who is very instrumental in coming up with craft ideas for the 3-year rolling programme. Behind the scenes there are also those that give us donations, make gifts and prepare party and picnic food.
We would like to thank them all as we couldn't deliver what we do without you. Highlights through 2024 were a Bell Tower visit for the older children and a visit for all the children to Hempton Field.
Starboddlers on Thursday mornings in St Andrew's after the Holy Communion service, a time where the young, and not so young come together over coffee and biscuits before the session starts. There continues to be a relaxed and safe environment for the children and parents and childminders, and it's wonderful to see the children engage more as they get older. Highlights for this group were the visit to Hempton Field, having a tree at the Christmas tree Festival, and the children dressing up for the nativity story. We even had a camel!!

At the end of September, I stepped back from the role as Children's Minister for the Parish. As this position remains vacant, I have continued do the admin role and I have been active and available as a volunteer for the school and church work with children.
As a Parish we are far ahead of other parishes in the deanery, with what we offer our young children, both in the school and church setting. But all of this takes energy, time and the support of volunteers. Let us continue to pray that we will be able to appoint a new Children's Minister and that with the help of new volunteers, seeds will continue to be planted in the young hearts of those we minister to.

Margaret Poole

Children's Society

This is an extract from a thank you letter written by the Chief Executive of the Children's Society.
"Thank you so much for your incredible generosity this year. You made it possible for us to support more than 72,000 young people across the country when they were struggling.
You helped us to campaign for the big changes children need, so that the next generation can look forward to the future with hope.
The boxes from the Starboddlers group (£157.37) and individuals raised a total of £252.42
The Christingle service donations raised £132.76
The sale of Christmas cards at St Andrew's church raised more money.
On behalf of everyone at The Children's Society and all the young people we work with, thank you so much for all that you do."

Tricia Prescott

The United Parish Magazine

2024 was a year of change for the magazine, following the departure from our fantastic previous editor (Maggs). We introduced a reduction of issues from 12 to 6 produced annually and went through several reviews in the format. We also successfully tested a special Christmas edition to highlight the amazing work from our volunteers and spread the festive cheer.
At the end of 2024 these were the number of copies being produced each month:

- 40 copies delivered to homes
- 100 plus copies for distribution to churches for 'drop-ins'
- 300 plus e-mailed copies.

Total of books published 440 copies.

Nic Milligan

The United Parish website – A church near you

Each of the four parishes in this United Parish Benefice have web pages hosted on the Church Of England Website 'A Church Near You" (https://www.achurchnearyou.com).

Over the last year these pages combined, have been visited 67,983 times. These pages are updated weekly with a Diary for the week, and people can view and download the 'United Parish Magazine' and @Home Services', along with information about all the events being hosted in the Benefice.
Through these pages people can also contact the Church Office with any enquiries they may have.
We are always very happy to create special pages for one-off events, and post new pages for regular events, and keep them updated throughout the year.
If you want to 'Bookmark' a particular parish or the benefice web pages, the links are below.
www.achurchnearyou.com/St-Andrew-Chinnor
www.achurchnearyou.com/St-Peter-St-Paul-Aston-Rowant
www.achurchnearyou.com/St-Mary-Sydenham
www.achurchnearyou.com/Nativity-Of-The-Blessed-Virgin-Mary-Crowell
www.achurchnearyou.com/Chinnor-Sydenham-Aston-Rowant-Crowell-United-Parish

Tony Whitaker

Friends of St Andrew's Church

The Constitution states the purposes of the charity are to help conserve, maintain, and improve the fabric, furnishings and fittings of St Andrew's Church. Funds are raised through membership subscriptions, donations, and fundraising events to support the restoration and preservation projects in the church and the churchyard.
There are currently 38 Life Subscription members and 10 Annual Subscription members. Continued efforts are being made to attract new members by articles in the Parish Magazine, Chinnor Pump and elsewhere.
Friends Leaflets are circulated amongst the various public places in Chinnor such as the Library, Village Centre, Chinnor Parish Council, as well as St Andrew's Church. These are also available at all fundraising events in church. The Friends hosted their Annual General Meeting on 23

October 2024 at St Andrew's Church with an excellent talk and slide show by Eddy Smythe on his father, the incredible RAF career of Flight Lieutenant John Smythe QC, MBE(MIL), OBE and the pivotal role he played in the Windrush Generation after the war.
Copies of the Annual Report as well as the Statement of Financial Activities for the period 1 October 2023 – 30 September 2024 as well as the Balance Sheet 30 September 2024 were circulated. Thank you to Michael De Val for being the Independent Examiner for the accounts.
The Friends hosted several successful fundraising events in 2024:
10 May 2024: Concert - CANTILENA WINDS CONCERT BAND
1 /2 June 2024: Flower Festival (in conjunction with the Chinnor Open Gardens) with cream
teas (Theme: Hymns in Bloom)
29 June 2024: A Summer Concert with Chinnor Silver Band and Training Band
21 July 2024: Concert - MUSIC FOR A SUMMER AFTERNOON: John Lark and Stephen Brooke
20 September 2024: A Musical Showcase in memory of Oliver Fraser – hosted by Ross Hardman and Friends
28/29 September 2024: Harvest Festival with harvest refreshments
18 December 2024: Floral Christmas Decoration Evening.
These events could not be hosted without the generosity of many hard-working volunteers and friends of St Andrew's Church. A big thank you to them all.
The Secretary, Lauretta Milligan, and Treasurer, Grace Gibbs, both agreed to stand again as well as the other two Trustees.

Lauretta Milligan

St Andrew's Flower Guild

The Guild comprises a small group of extremely talented flower arrangers who give up their time to making each occasion different and special. The Guild is always open to welcoming new members no matter your skill level. Whether it is a wedding, funeral or important date in the church calendar, their dedication and enthusiasm are much appreciated. The Guild are striving to go foam free and using more sustainable ways such as using dried flowers in their Christmas window displays. The Guild is grateful for all donations made to the Flower Fund and if you would like to mark a special birthday or anniversary, please contact the Guild.
As well as providing bi-weekly arrangements to enhance the church's worship, the Guild also produces larger arrangements for Festivals, such as Christmas, Easter and Harvest. The annual Flower Festival – one of

biggest fundraising events in the St Andrew's Church calendar – held in conjunction with Chinnor Open Gardens, will be over the weekend of 7 and 8 June with the theme of "Thank you for the Music".

Thank you to all the volunteers who contribute their time during these events - these events could not be hosted without their support.
More importantly its always wonderful to welcome visitors into St Andrew's Church.
Funds raised go towards the continued care and maintenance of St Andrew's Church.

Lauretta Milligan
Co-ordinator: St Andrew's Church Flower Guild

St Mary's Sydenham Flowers

Rosemary Carter and Adele Stancliffe have continued to arrange the flowers for St Mary's. We are delighted that we have two more ladies willing to help - Heather and Annie, so we look forward to more involvement with both of them. We have had one wedding, two christenings and five funerals, all needing some degree of decoration. We do all the usual festivals and this year an extra one for VE Day.

Adele Stancliffe

St Peter and St Paul Aston Rowant Flowers

We haven't had any special events during the last year but have always managed to have fresh flowers in church and to be able decorate it for the festivals. I'm very grateful to our small but loyal team for their continuing support, it's very much appreciated by all who visit

Rona Knight

Church hall Chinnor

For 2024, the Church Hall had a satisfactory year, with regular bookings from a variety of sources. The level of bookings enabled repairs and maintenance to keep pace with the wear and tear on the hall. The finances are in a satisfactory state, with the income keeping pace with the expenditure, but there is little to spare for capital projects.

There is a need to re-examine the relationship between the Hall and the Church in both financial and practical matters, as the effects of the ageing

of existing volunteers and the shortage of new volunteers continues to increase.
I would like to thank Val Welford for all her hard work on behalf of the hall.

Martin Wright

The Old School House Sydenham

A few events in 2024 requiring attention: a leak in the kitchen, no water and gutter problems. These were all carried out including new gutters, roof installation check and work, repair of porch floor, annual boiler service, x2 new fire alarm sensors, fibre broadband and smart meter installed.
Tenant pays rent on time is very self-sufficient and practical and is generally happy.

Fiona Kermack and Roy Harrison

Hempton Field

All who visit Hempton Field, family and friends, receive a very warm welcome, and this is extended to those who go in to offer entertainment and experience sessions.
The same welcome is also received by the Ministry Team as we go in once every month to offer Holy Communion, and once every month to offer a session of craft, quiz or chat. We also visit with an extra Holy Communion during Easter week and Christmas week.
Through these offering we can learn more about the individual residents who attend them, especially the wonderful memories that they have of their lives. These sessions really help them to unlock those memories and to know that those listening really value what they share.
Two of the high lights that took place in 2024 was when we took our younger church members to meet residents and staff, namely Starboddlers and Chooseday Church.
As you can imagine the logistics were complicated, especially the walking up, yet all worth it when the children and adults were greeted with wonderful refreshments as they walked in.
On both occasions the children shared with the residents' songs and stories of what happens in church at their individual sessions.
A far cry from what it was like for the older generation when they attended Sunday School. All that said though, the residents loved listening and joining in with the songs and were very interested in joining in and interacting with the children. It was delightful to witness.

As there is a focus within the Church of England to bridge the gap between young and old in church and the wider community, we really did feel that we could tick the box on this one, especially when the Starboddlers visit hit the Oxford Mail newspaper the following week. Both these events were such a success that they are being repeated annually.
Sadly, the activities coordinator, Nina, whom I had liaised with over the past 10 years or so, moved on to pastures new, but we didn't let her go without thanking her for the way she had accommodated us over those years. On behalf of St Andrew's Church Jackie Griffiths and I were able to present her with a thank you gift, for which she was extremely grateful and very touched. As said in my previous reports, our commitment to ministering to Hempton Field residents and the staff, continues to be very important part of an extension of our Church Family. The residents know that they are loved and cared for daily by those that look after their physical needs, and that their spiritual needs are met by those of us that visit on a weekly/monthly basis, whether it be the Ministry Team from the Parish, or our Ecumenical partners at The Methodist Church or the Community Church. All of us are committed to taking the Church to those who are unable to worship with us in person at our churches.

Margaret Poole

St. Andrew's Church Luncheon Club

The Luncheon Club is held fortnightly throughout the year, in St. Andrew's Church Hall.
We serve a hot main course, followed by a dessert and tea/coffee.

We have 42 members, who are served by a wonderful team of 22 folk, who take on the following tasks:
Preparing and cooking meals
Driving/escorting members
Putting out tables/chairs
Laying tables
Serving
Washing-up
Clearing-up
We still have a Food Hygiene Rating of the maximum of 5.

Jackie Griffiths

CHINNOR CHURCHES GO WILD!

CCGW! is a group of volunteers from four churches in the United Parish as well as the Chinnor Methodist Church. The group has had commitments from all five churches and the Rector, Rev'd Dr Jacky Barr, to continue their work. CCGW! has been active for several years, previously under the banner of Chilterns Gateway. CCGW! is a Partner in Action with Arocha UK (a Christian nature conservation charity) and works closely with BBOWT and other charities.

CCGW! work hard to celebrate and enhance this uniqueness through:

- Regular plant and other surveys in the churchyards of the United Parish, which are recorded using IRecord
- Creation of reptile and amphibian habitat
- Provision of hedgehog boxes
- Training in plant, pollinator and butterfly surveying from BBOWT and CEH
- Plant identification training from BBOWT and Caring for God's acre
- Engagement with other local environment groups
- Changes to mowing in churchyards, leaving more areas of longer grass and wild flowers
- Community activities for families
- Moth night
- Bird and butterfly walks
- Community talks ie on fungi
- Visits to other groups
- Regular articles in the United Parish magazine and other local magazines and are growing support for their activities amongst the congregations and the wider community. The links to faith and wildlife are often made through the United Parish magazine, with beautiful images of the wildlife in the churchyards.
- Green communion, Rogation, Harvest, Forest and Foraging services are held to celebrate our spiritual blessings.
- Both St Peter and St Paul and St Andrew's Church have recently gained Eco Church Silver Awards.

  CCGW! will be 18 years old this year and are planning a celebration convention on Saturday 28 June inviting several organisations to take part.

Brian Griffiths
Chair : CCGW!

Organ and Choir - St Andrew's Chinnor

Music has continued to play a vital role in our services.
We depend, as ever, on enormous goodwill from willing and very supportive musicians. I am grateful for their patience and readiness to respond to all requests. My personal thanks are due to Judy Thompson,

Jackie Huntingford and John Lark for their unfailing responses month by month.

Graham Smallbone

Choir - St Mary's Sydenham

2024, like last year, was relatively quiet for the choir.
Our numbers have grown, which is wonderful, and we now have a total of 20, but still a shortage of gentlemen, just 3!
A small number of the choir support the twice monthly services in the church. Several of the members are not from Sydenham and have commitments at their own churches.
In July, the choir was invited to sing at Michael and Sue Holland's Garden Party, where the choir sang a selection of pieces. A lovely time was had by all and the singing very much appreciated and enjoyed.
Once again, we didn't have our usual Autumn concert as there was a repeat of the same concert as last year where one of the villagers organised the professional acapella choir, Coro Spezzato, from London to sing in the church. However, again, the choir did sing some pieces at the end of each half, joined by the other choir, which was well received by the audience. After costs, there was a donation to the church which was, very kindly, shared with us.
Our choir outing, with husbands, wives and partners, in November was to the lovely church in Adwell where we were warmly welcomed by Tom Birch Reynardson. After our singing, we were invited back to the house for refreshments.
We had a separate choir supper at The Crown later in November. This is always such a lovely occasion as we don't get to talk to each other very often!
The Christmas period was, as usual, busy. We sang at our own carol service, Emmington's carol service, carols around the trees on the village green, the countryside carol service and the Christmas eve midnight service.
We're very lucky to have Hugh Mackay with us as our accompanist, so that Chris (Hood) can concentrate on us! We're all so grateful to Chris for his hard work with us – we certainly couldn't do any of this without him.

Siobhan McKee

Bell ringers - St Andrew's Chinnor

After the loss of some regular local ringers, the last 12 months have seen a steady rebuilding of our band thanks to some enthusiastic learners, and the mutual support with our friends from Watlington tower. That symbiosis has enabled us to maintain 6 bells ringing when we're short of locals for practices and weddings, and in return to provide training for their band ahead of the refurbishment of Watlington's own bells.
Although their bells are now up and running, I'm pleased to say that we still see them regularly to bolster our numbers on practice nights. Thank you Watlington!
The year has seen several visiting bands from around the country ringing our bells as guests, and for our band, tower-twinning activities with Chalgrove and Dorchester Abbey, which provided valuable experience of ringing very different bells in another setting.
But all is not rosy!
We have always been able to put together a full band for weddings, but usually only with the support of colleagues from other local towers.
However, for Sunday ringing there has historically been a problem assembling a full band, as of course ringers at other towers are often occupied with their own Service ringing.
As our new ringers grow in ability it has become a little better, however more often than not we still fail to ring all 6 and occasionally don't have enough to justify ringing at all. We're very conscious that this is our prime function, and the only solution to that problem is (of course) …….**to recruit more local ringers!**
With that aim we've welcomed various local groups to the tower (Cubs, Scouts, Chooseday Club etc.) and open the tower for the Flower Festival.
We also offer Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme skills accreditation at Bronze and Silver levels. These have been occasionally fruitful, and some of our recent ringers have come directly or indirectly via these routes.
There's no doubt that youngsters find bellringing fascinating, and very different from other modern activities, and our aim is to plant a few seeds which may grow into a future interest.
I guarantee that most who come up the tower will be surprised and interested at what they find, and a few will be engaged enough to take it further.
However, it takes a while to learn to safely handle a bell, and coordinate with other ringers. WE NEED 1 or 2 NEW TRAINEES URGENTLY.
Ringing brings physical, mental and social benefits. Tuition is free, it's for all ages, and we're very nice people! We practice on Friday from 7.30 to 9.00 pm.
Please help us put the word around.

Thank you!

Malcolm Barker - Tower Captain
07425 411681

Bell ringers - St Peter and St Paul Aston Rowant

It is usual for either five or six bells to be rung for Sunday Services. This is possible only with the regular support of ringers from other churches, who kindly travel here before going to ring their own bells. Attendance at our Tuesday evening practice is generally between six and twelve and a variety of different methods are attempted.

We are pleased to have taken on a new recruit who has made great progress towards his D of E Bronze award. We had some positive vibes from some of the visitors to the Tower Tours and Cream Teas afternoon but, sadly, none wished to build on their short 'taster' session.

Quarter peals were rung to celebrate St George's Day and several birthdays – notably Shirley Smith's 90th. Shirley sat in the church throughout this last one and joined us for a short ring at the end.

There are no significant issues with the condition of the bells and their fittings: we check the installation occasionally and a professional bell hanging firm carries out an annual maintenance inspection. During the year we purchased, with the assistance of the United Parish, a replacement set of bell muffles for Remembrance and other solemn occasions. These have Velcro fixings and are much less likely to slip, as well as being easier to fit and remove.

Owing to timing issues and commitments at other churches we could not muster a band to ring for the Nine Lessons and Carols Service, either on tower or hand bells. However, the hand bells were again put to good use by the Aston Rowant School Y6 pupils at their Christingle Service and, to great acclaim, by the school staff!

Robert Newton

Churchwarden's Report
St. Peter and St. Paul - Aston Rowant

1 Summary

Congregations remained static over 2024, while the footfall through the church entrance amounted to some 2,650 people. The church building is generally in good structural condition but in need of decorating internally. The school termly services were a great success and the introduction of lay-led services is helping not maintain regular services. Future options are discussed.

2 Use of the Church

2.1 Attendance for worship at services

	2023	2024
Normal Sunday Services	634	539
Special Services	411	263

Total Regular Services	1376	802
School Services	422	535
Overall Participants in Church	2138	2139

2.2 Attendance at Parish Council Meetings in Church

Five Meetings of the Aston Rowant Parish Council were held in the church with an average of 12 attendees per meeting.

2.3 Bell Ringers

Our happy band of bell ringers ring for every Sunday Service and practice every Tuesday, typically this is 6 ringers and they ring about 45 times a year.

2.4 Other Events

Duck Racing and Cream Teas
Soup Kitchen for homeless (hunger lunch)
Tower tours with Cream Teas
Aston Arms Pub Event
Charity coffee morning

2.5 Casual Visitors

About 250 people from all over the world.

3 The Fabric of the Building

The church building is in pretty good shape. The is some damp on the North side of the tower at the bottom. This is under investigation. Otherwise no structural problem.
The electricity supply and metering systems have been unfit for purpose and the supplier is being changed.
The church clock continues to stop from time to time and this needs more attention.
The protective grill on the East window has been replaced.

In the longer term we are considering the option of removing the pews, replacing them with comfortable chairs which would make the space more usable. This is a long term option which will require much debate and consultation in the future

4 Churchyard

The churchyard is still open and available for burial. The churchyard is kept semi wild with a grand display of primroses in the spring. Mowing and hedge trimming are completed by a local gardener, and we are very happy that the Parish Council has made a contribution to these costs. The churchyard foot paths are becoming muddy during winter and we do plan to re-gravel them during 2025.

5 Other Events

5.4 The Church officers are pleased the Parish Council have decided to increase the number of meetings held in the church.

5.5 The church is available for use for other events and should members of the Parish wish to use the facilities please contact the Church Warden.

6 Highlights and Challenges

We are challenged by an aging population in the Aston Rowant Parish (see the ratio of funerals to marriages and baptisms) and furthermore the retired clergy who help us with services at Aston are also (with great respect) getting older; so use of a lay led morning prayer service about once per month does ease the burden. The real challenge is to see an increase in the younger age groups attending services and if they don't want to attend services then we need to get other events organised in church to get "them in". The Church of St Peter and St Paul's is the oldest and most beautiful building in the Parish, it is our heritage and we want to see it being continued to be used and appreciated in this modern society of ours.

Richard Boarder Church Warden

Closing statement and Prayers by the Rector the Rev'd Dr Jacky Barr

Parochial Church Council of United Parish of:

St Andrew's - Chinnor
St Mary's - Sydenham
St Peter & St Paul - Aston Rowant
Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary – Crowell

Annual Report and Financial Statements for year ended 31st December 2025

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Legal and Administration

The members of the Parochial Church Council (PCC) are Trustees of the Charity. The members of the PCC who have served at any time from 1st January 2025 until 31st December 2025 are:

Rector	Reverend Dr Jacky Barr *	
Vice Chairperson	Andrew Warman	
Retired Clergy	Reverend Joan DeVal	
	Reverend Dr Brian Griffiths	
Churchwardens		
Chinnor	Robert Pegg	
	Lauretta Miligan	
Sydenham	Roy Harrison	
Aston Rowant	Richard Boarder	
Crowell	Andrew Warman	
	Maggs Warman	
Deanery Synod Representatives		
	Lauretta Milligan *	
	Andrea Oughton *	
	Margaret Poole *	
Elected PCC Officers	Mark Prescott	PCC Secretary
	Michael Powell	PCC Treasurer
Elected Members	Sue Ashdown	
	David DeVal	
	Jackie Griffiths	
	Gilly Harrison	
	Fiona Kemack	
	Nic Milligan	
	Andrea Oughton	
	Magaret Poole LLM	
	Patricia Prescott	
	Adele Stancliffe	
	Shane Swaffield	
	Sue W right	
	Tessa Wyatt	

*Member of Deanery Synod

Address	St Andrew's Church Church Road Chinnor Oxfordshire OX39 4PG
Banks	CAF Bank Ltd 25 Kings Hill Avenue Kings Hill West Malling Kent ME19 4JQ
	Lloyds Bank PLC 13 Cornmarket Thame OX39 2BN
Investment Managers	CCLA Investment Management Limited The CBF Church of England Funds 80 Cheapside London EC3V 6DZ
Independent Examiner	Heather Emerson
Charity Number	1142316

Annual Report of the United Parish PCC

The members of the PCC submit their annual report and financial statements for year ended 31st December 2024.

The PCC has adopted the provisions of the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) (FRS 102) issued by the Charity Commission in preparing the annual report and financial statements of the Parish and complying with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 and the Charities Act 2011. More detailed information about all aspects of the life of the Parish is included in the Rector's Report for the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM).

Background

The PCC registered with the Charity Commission on 8th June 2011 under the name The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Andrews Chinnor. The PCC has the responsibility of co-operating with the Rector in promoting in the ecclesiastical Parish, the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social, and ecumenical. It also has maintenance responsibilities for the churches of:

St Andrew's	Chinnor
St Mary's	Sydenham
St Peter & St Paul	Aston Rowant
Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary	Crowell

Membership of the PCC

Members of the PCC are either ex-officio or elected at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting in accordance with the Church Representation Rules.

Structure

The PCC operates through committees, which meet between the full meetings of the PCC as necessary.

Parishioners

There are 126 parishioners on the Church Electoral Roll.

Review of the year

The full PCC met seven times during the year, with an average attendance of 73%. In between meetings of the full PCC, meetings were held at each of the four churches to discuss local matters.

Finance review of the year

Financial statements for year ended 31 Dec 2025 are shown on pages 10 to 13

Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA)
Balance Sheet
Statement of Cash Flows

Accompanying notes are shown on pages 14 to 16.

Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) on pages 8-9 shows Income and Expenditure for 2025 separated between:

Unrestricted Funds
Restricted Funds
Endowment Funds.

The compositions of the Funds and individual lines of income and expenditure are commented on below.

Income

Unrestricted Funds consist of General Fund and Designated Funds. Total income for 2025 was £146,011 compared to £149,801 in 2024.

Income consists of:

Stewardship Giving	£82,497
Legacies	£500
Rents	£4,845
Fees for Occasional Offices	£12,409
Total	**£100,251**

Expenditure

Unrestricted Funds are responsible for paying most of the different types of expenditure shown in SOFA.

Expenditure consists of:

Parish Share	£75,561
Administration costs	£14,486
Building running costs	£66,598

Depreciation charge of £8,076 for 2024 was repeated £8.076 or 2025.

General Fund represents Parish's working capital to fund periodic fluctuations between normal operating income and costs. Two months of operating costs is widely considered the level of working capital a Parish normally requires. Two months operating costs is equivalent to approximately £20,000.

Fundraising activities and actions to raise incomes for Unrestricted and Restricted Funds continued throughout 2025. PCC held appeal days to raise funds for helping relief to major disasters abroad.

Designated Funds

Designated Funds income and expenditure shown in the Statement of Financial Activities reflects the varied activities for the Designated funds that are detailed.

Restricted Funds

Restricted Funds are the Benton and Elsie Pullen Bequests. The Funds are represented by units in the Church of England Investment Fund. Closing investment values are detailed. The investments provide regular income as dividends during the year.

Independent Examiner

At the PCC meeting held on 26 Jun 25, Heather Emerson was appointed as the PCC External Examiner.

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities for the year ended 31 Dec 2025

Charity law requires the Trustees i.e. members of the PCC, to prepare accounts for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the PCC and of the surplus or deficit of the PCC for that period. In preparing those accounts, the Trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently; make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent.
- State whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements.
- Prepare the accounts on the going-concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Trust will continue in operational existence.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the PCC and to enable them to ensure that the Accounts comply with the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act). They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the PCC and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

This report was approved by the PCC on 16 Sep 26 and signed on its behalf by:

Revd Dr Jacky Barr, PCC Chair



Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) as at 31 Dec 25

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total 2025 £	2024 £
Income						
Donated Income		75,088			75,088	102,655
Contactless Donations		1,432			1,432	3,539
Fundraising & trading		3,926	4,643		8,569	1,321
Specific Donations		2,051	27,511		29,562	16,354
Legacy		500			500	1,328
Chinnor Church Hall			6,394		6,394	6588
Rents (net of costs)		4,845			4,845	4,657
Church Fees		12,409			12,409	9,333
Investment income		11,336			11,336	4,476
Investment net gains / (losses)				(4,124)	(4124)	(450)
Total Income		111,587	38,548	(4,124)	146,011	149,801
Expenditure						
Parish Share for Diocese		75,681			75,681	72,806
Chinnor Church Hall			6,023		6,023	8427
The Ministry	1	2,118			2,118	788
Annual Missions and charitable donations		2533			2,533	1323
Upkeep of Services	2	3,246	841		4,087	3,909
Administration	3	14,486			14,486	12,182
Building running costs	4	29,830	36,768		66,598	37,588
Churchyards & car parks			2,431		2,431	6,423
Miscellaneous	5	1,368	5,689		7,057	11,173

Depreciation	8,076			8,076	8,076
Total Expenditure	137,338	51,752		189,090	162,695
Net (deficit) / surplus	(25,751)	(13,204)	(4,124)	(43,079)	(12,894)
Fund balances at 1 January 2025	155,559	132,476	103,177	391,213	404,107
Fund balances at 31 December 2025	129,808	119,272	99,053	348,133	391,213

The accompanying notes on Pages 14-16 are an integral part of the Financial Statements.



M B Powell

PCC Treasurer 5 Sep 26

Balance Sheet as at 31 Dec 25

	Notes	£	2025 £	£	2024 £
Tangible assets			112,990		121,066
Investments	8		99,053		103,177
			212,043		224,243
Current assets					
Debtors	9	23,437		30,115	
Short term Deposits	6	87,641		76,382	
Cash at bank and In hand	7	32,614		66,717	
Chinnor Church Hall Cash at bank and in hand		1,483		1,112	
		145,175		174,326	
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	10	(9,084)		(7,356)	
Net **current assets**			136,091		166,970
Net assets			348,134		391,213
Funds					
Unrestricted					
General			16,818		34,493
Designated Fixed Tangible Assets			112,990		121,066
Total Unrestricted			129,808		155,559
Designated			119,273		132,477
Permanent Endowment	8		99,053		103,177
Total Funds			348,134		391,213

Movement of Funds

		Bal 1 Jan 25	Income	Expenditure	In Year	Revaluation	Bal 31 Dec 25
		£	£	£	£	£	£
	Unrestricted Funds:						
	General	34,493	111,587	(129,262)	(17,675)		16,818
	Designated Fixed Tangible Assets	121,066		(8,076)	(8,076)		112,990
	Sub Total	155,559	111,587	(137,338)	(25,751)	0	129,808
	Designated Funds:						
729	**Aston Rowant Churchyard**	4,102	1,000	(2,386)	(1,386)		2,716
730	**Aston Rowant Village School**	300			0		300
731	**Aston Rowant Fabric**	33,586	1,530	(5,246)	(3,716)		29,870
732	**Aston Rowant General**	6,362	345	(100)	245		6,607
	Chinnor Choir	1,991			0		1,991
735	**Chinnor Discretionary**	7,307	998	(776)	222		7,529
736	**Chinnor Fabric**	8,314	12,571	(20,299)	(7728)		586
737	**Children and Youth Worker**	2,069	6,341	(4,132)	2209		4,278
740	**Chinnor Flower**	3,082			0		3,082
741	**Chinnor Organ Restoration**	6,095		(841)	(841)		5,254
743	**Crowell Fabric**	1,319	6770	(7841)	(1071)		248

745	Crowell Fundraising	480			0		480
746	Crowell General	4,838		(545)	(545)		4,293
748	Chinnor Churches Go Wild	615		(135)	(135)		480
749	Chinnor Church Hall	1,113	6394	(6024)	370		1,483
750	Reinspired	1,324			0		1,324
751	Sydenham Churchyard	802		(45)	(45)		757
752	Sydenham Fabric	18,566	2,269	(3382)	(1113)		17,453
754	Sydenham Fabric & Churchyard	7,840			0		7,840
755	Sydenham General	21,792	330		330		22,122
	Sydenham Choir Fund	580			0		580
	Sub Total	132,477	38,548	(51752)	(13204)		119,273
	Permanent Endowments:						
	Benton Bequest	101,162			0	(4044)	97,118
	Elsie Pullen Bequest	2,015			0	(80)	1,935
	Sub Total	103,177	0		0	(4124)	99,053
	Total Funds	391,213	150,135	(189,090)	(38,955)	(4124)	348,134

Fixed Assets

	School Room Sydenham	School House Sydenham	St. Andrew's Church Hall	Agricultural land with Aston Rowant and Crowell	Capital plant and equipment	Total
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Gross Valuation						
at 1 January 2025	90,562	51,390	90,000	2,200	34,374	268,526
Additions	-	-	-	-	-	-
at 31 December 2025	90,562	51,390	90,000	2,200	34,374	268,526
Depreciation						
at 1 January 2025	50,708	28,779	50,397	-	17,576	147,460
Charge for year	1,811	1,028	1,800	-	3,437	8,076
at 31 December 2025	52,519	29,807	52,197	0	21,013	155,536
Net Book Values						
at 31 December 2025	38,043	21,583	37,803	2,200	13,361	112,990
at 31 December 2024	39,854	22,611	39,603	2,200	16,798	121,066

Notes

1 The Ministry

	Unrestricted Funds	Designated Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2025	2024
	£	£	£	£	£
Rector's expenses	2035			2,035	788
Assistant clergy expenses	83			83	
	2,118			2,118	788

2 Upkeep of Services

	Unrestricted Funds	Designated Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2025	2024
	£	£	£	£	£
Candles, Wafers, Wine	2201			2201	2509
Organ & piano tuning		841		841	900
Organist fees	1045			1045	500
	3,246	841		4,087	3,909

3 Administration

	Unrestricted Funds	Designated Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2025	2024
	£	£	£	£	£
Administrator pay and resources	9,387			9,387	9,023
Copying & printing	2,348			2,348	1,270
Stationery and software	1,640			1,640	1,005
Telephone and internet	1,111			1,111	884
	14,486			14,486	12,182

4 Building running costs

	Unrestricted Funds	Designated Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2025	2024
	£	£	£	£	£
Cleaning and maintenance	2,137			2,137	2,735

Energy	16,218			16,218	12,059
Insurances	11,475			11,475	11,439
Sydenham Fabric Fund		3,382		3,382	388
Chinnor Fabric Fund		20,299		20,299	6,838
Crowell Fabric Fund		7,841		7,841	343
Aston Rowant Fabric Fund		5,246		5,246	3,786
	29,830	36,768		66,598	37,588

5 Miscellaneous costs

	Unrestricted Funds	Designated Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2025	2024
	£	£	£	£	£
Children's and Youth Worker		4,132		4,132	8,575
Subscriptions	178			178	200
Sundries		1,557		1,557	998
Bank charges	68			68	60
Accounting services	522			522	840
Independent examiner	600			600	500
	1,368	5,689		7,057	11,173

6 Short Term Deposits

	Unrestricted	Designated	Endowment	Total Funds 2025	Total Funds 2024
	£	£	£	£	£
CAF Gold account Deposit	28,635			28,635	27,987
CCLA CBF Church of England	59,006			59,006	48,395
	87,641	0	0	87,641	76,382

7 Cash at Bank and In Hand

	Unrestricted	Designated	Endowment	Total Funds 2025	Total Funds 2024
	£	£	£	£	£
CAF Current Account	21,345			21,345	36,847
Lloyds Current Account	11,269			11,269	29,870
Cash in Hand				0	
	32,614	0	0	32,614	66,717

8 Endowments

	Balance at 01 Jan 25	Income	Revaluation	Balance at 31 Dec25
	£	£	£	£
Benton Bequest	101,162		(4044)	97,118
Elsie Pullen Bequest	2,015		(80)	1,935
	103,177	0	-4,124	99,053

9 Debtors

	Unrestricted Funds	Designated Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2025	2024
	£	£	£	£	£
Income Tax recoverable	23,000			23,000	29,691
Insurances pre-paid	437			437	424
	23,437	0	0	23,437	30,115

10 Creditors

	Unrestricted Funds	Designated Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2025	2024
	£	£	£	£	£
Fees owed to Diocese	7,555			7,555	6,356
Independent Examiner	1200			1,200	1000
Accounts payable	329			329	
	9,084	0	0	9,084	7,356

Independent Examiners' report to the PCC of the United Parish

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Parochial Church Council of the United Parish for the year ended 31st December 2025.

Respective Responsibilities of the PCC and Examiner

As the charity trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 (the Act). The PCC consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Act and have chosen instead to have an independent examination.

It is my responsibility to:

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

Basis of Independent Examiners 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 PCC 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 your treasurer or you as PCC members 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 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 Act; and
    - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 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.

HM Emerson

Signed by: Heather Emerson, ACA (Retired)

Date: 06 September 2026

Address: 18 Horseshoes Lane, Benson,

Parochial Church Council of United Parish of:

St Andrew's - Chinnor
St Mary's - Sydenham
St Peter & St Paul - Aston Rowant
Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary – Crowell

Annual Report and Financial Statements for year ended 31st December 2025

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Legal and Administration

The members of the Parochial Church Council (PCC) are Trustees of the Charity. The members of the PCC who have served at any time from 1st January 2025 until 31st December 2025 are:

Rector	Reverend Dr Jacky Barr *	
Vice Chairperson	Andrew Warman	
Retired Clergy	Reverend Joan DeVal	
	Reverend Dr Brian Griffiths	
Churchwardens		
Chinnor	Robert Pegg	
	Lauretta Miligan	
Sydenham	Roy Harrison	
Aston Rowant	Richard Boarder	
Crowell	Andrew Warman	
	Maggs Warman	
Deanery Synod Representatives		
	Lauretta Milligan *	
	Andrea Oughton *	
	Margaret Poole *	
Elected PCC Officers	Mark Prescott	PCC Secretary
	Michael Powell	PCC Treasurer
Elected Members	Sue Ashdown	
	David DeVal	
	Jackie Griffiths	
	Gilly Harrison	
	Fiona Kemack	
	Nic Milligan	
	Andrea Oughton	
	Magaret Poole LLM	
	Patricia Prescott	
	Adele Stancliffe	
	Shane Swaffield	
	Sue W right	
	Tessa Wyatt	

*Member of Deanery Synod

Address	St Andrew's Church Church Road Chinnor Oxfordshire OX39 4PG
Banks	CAF Bank Ltd 25 Kings Hill Avenue Kings Hill West Malling Kent ME19 4JQ
	Lloyds Bank PLC 13 Cornmarket Thame OX39 2BN
Investment Managers	CCLA Investment Management Limited The CBF Church of England Funds 80 Cheapside London EC3V 6DZ
Independent Examiner	Heather Emerson
Charity Number	1142316

Annual Report of the United Parish PCC

The members of the PCC submit their annual report and financial statements for year ended 31st December 2024.

The PCC has adopted the provisions of the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) (FRS 102) issued by the Charity Commission in preparing the annual report and financial statements of the Parish and complying with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 and the Charities Act 2011. More detailed information about all aspects of the life of the Parish is included in the Rector's Report for the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM).

Background

The PCC registered with the Charity Commission on 8th June 2011 under the name The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Andrews Chinnor. The PCC has the responsibility of co-operating with the Rector in promoting in the ecclesiastical Parish, the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social, and ecumenical. It also has maintenance responsibilities for the churches of:

St Andrew's	Chinnor
St Mary's	Sydenham
St Peter & St Paul	Aston Rowant
Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary	Crowell

Membership of the PCC

Members of the PCC are either ex-officio or elected at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting in accordance with the Church Representation Rules.

Structure

The PCC operates through committees, which meet between the full meetings of the PCC as necessary.

Parishioners

There are 126 parishioners on the Church Electoral Roll.

Review of the year

The full PCC met seven times during the year, with an average attendance of 73%. In between meetings of the full PCC, meetings were held at each of the four churches to discuss local matters.

Finance review of the year

Financial statements for year ended 31 Dec 2025 are shown on pages 10 to 13

Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA)
Balance Sheet
Statement of Cash Flows

Accompanying notes are shown on pages 14 to 16.

Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) on pages 8-9 shows Income and Expenditure for 2025 separated between:

Unrestricted Funds
Restricted Funds
Endowment Funds.

The compositions of the Funds and individual lines of income and expenditure are commented on below.

Income

Unrestricted Funds consist of General Fund and Designated Funds. Total income for 2025 was £146,011 compared to £149,801 in 2024.

Income consists of:

Stewardship Giving	£82,497
Legacies	£500
Rents	£4,845
Fees for Occasional Offices	£12,409
Total	**£100,251**

Expenditure

Unrestricted Funds are responsible for paying most of the different types of expenditure shown in SOFA.

Expenditure consists of:

Parish Share	£75,561
Administration costs	£14,486
Building running costs	£66,598

Depreciation charge of £8,076 for 2024 was repeated £8.076 or 2025.

General Fund represents Parish's working capital to fund periodic fluctuations between normal operating income and costs. Two months of operating costs is widely considered the level of working capital a Parish normally requires. Two months operating costs is equivalent to approximately £20,000.

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This report was approved by the PCC on 16 Sep 26 and signed on its behalf by:

Revd Dr Jacky Barr, PCC Chair



Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) as at 31 Dec 25

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Income						
Donated Income		75,088			75,088	102,655
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Specific Donations		2,051	27,511		29,562	16,354
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Chinnor Church Hall			6,394		6,394	6588
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Investment net gains / (losses)				(4,124)	(4124)	(450)
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Administration	3	14,486			14,486	12,182
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Miscellaneous	5	1,368	5,689		7,057	11,173

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Fund balances at 1 January 2025	155,559	132,476	103,177	391,213	404,107
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M B Powell

PCC Treasurer 5 Sep 26

Balance Sheet as at 31 Dec 25

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Tangible assets			112,990		121,066
Investments	8		99,053		103,177
			212,043		224,243
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Short term Deposits	6	87,641		76,382	
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Chinnor Church Hall Cash at bank and in hand		1,483		1,112	
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Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	10	(9,084)		(7,356)	
Net **current assets**			136,091		166,970
Net assets			348,134		391,213
Funds					
Unrestricted					
General			16,818		34,493
Designated Fixed Tangible Assets			112,990		121,066
Total Unrestricted			129,808		155,559
Designated			119,273		132,477
Permanent Endowment	8		99,053		103,177
Total Funds			348,134		391,213

Movement of Funds

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		£	£	£	£	£	£
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	Designated Fixed Tangible Assets	121,066		(8,076)	(8,076)		112,990
	Sub Total	155,559	111,587	(137,338)	(25,751)	0	129,808
	Designated Funds:						
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732	**Aston Rowant General**	6,362	345	(100)	245		6,607
	Chinnor Choir	1,991			0		1,991
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736	**Chinnor Fabric**	8,314	12,571	(20,299)	(7728)		586
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740	**Chinnor Flower**	3,082			0		3,082
741	**Chinnor Organ Restoration**	6,095		(841)	(841)		5,254
743	**Crowell Fabric**	1,319	6770	(7841)	(1071)		248

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746	Crowell General	4,838		(545)	(545)		4,293
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754	Sydenham Fabric & Churchyard	7,840			0		7,840
755	Sydenham General	21,792	330		330		22,122
	Sydenham Choir Fund	580			0		580
	Sub Total	132,477	38,548	(51752)	(13204)		119,273
	Permanent Endowments:						
	Benton Bequest	101,162			0	(4044)	97,118
	Elsie Pullen Bequest	2,015			0	(80)	1,935
	Sub Total	103,177	0		0	(4124)	99,053
	Total Funds	391,213	150,135	(189,090)	(38,955)	(4124)	348,134

Fixed Assets

	School Room Sydenham	School House Sydenham	St. Andrew's Church Hall	Agricultural land with Aston Rowant and Crowell	Capital plant and equipment	Total
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Gross Valuation						
at 1 January 2025	90,562	51,390	90,000	2,200	34,374	268,526
Additions	-	-	-	-	-	-
at 31 December 2025	90,562	51,390	90,000	2,200	34,374	268,526
Depreciation						
at 1 January 2025	50,708	28,779	50,397	-	17,576	147,460
Charge for year	1,811	1,028	1,800	-	3,437	8,076
at 31 December 2025	52,519	29,807	52,197	0	21,013	155,536
Net Book Values						
at 31 December 2025	38,043	21,583	37,803	2,200	13,361	112,990
at 31 December 2024	39,854	22,611	39,603	2,200	16,798	121,066

Notes

1 The Ministry

	Unrestricted Funds	Designated Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2025	2024
	£	£	£	£	£
Rector's expenses	2035			2,035	788
Assistant clergy expenses	83			83	
	2,118			2,118	788

2 Upkeep of Services

	Unrestricted Funds	Designated Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2025	2024
	£	£	£	£	£
Candles, Wafers, Wine	2201			2201	2509
Organ & piano tuning		841		841	900
Organist fees	1045			1045	500
	3,246	841		4,087	3,909

3 Administration

	Unrestricted Funds	Designated Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2025	2024
	£	£	£	£	£
Administrator pay and resources	9,387			9,387	9,023
Copying & printing	2,348			2,348	1,270
Stationery and software	1,640			1,640	1,005
Telephone and internet	1,111			1,111	884
	14,486			14,486	12,182

4 Building running costs

	Unrestricted Funds	Designated Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2025	2024
	£	£	£	£	£
Cleaning and maintenance	2,137			2,137	2,735

Energy	16,218			16,218	12,059
Insurances	11,475			11,475	11,439
Sydenham Fabric Fund		3,382		3,382	388
Chinnor Fabric Fund		20,299		20,299	6,838
Crowell Fabric Fund		7,841		7,841	343
Aston Rowant Fabric Fund		5,246		5,246	3,786
	29,830	36,768		66,598	37,588

5 Miscellaneous costs

	Unrestricted Funds	Designated Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2025	2024
	£	£	£	£	£
Children's and Youth Worker		4,132		4,132	8,575
Subscriptions	178			178	200
Sundries		1,557		1,557	998
Bank charges	68			68	60
Accounting services	522			522	840
Independent examiner	600			600	500
	1,368	5,689		7,057	11,173

6 Short Term Deposits

	Unrestricted	Designated	Endowment	Total Funds 2025	Total Funds 2024
	£	£	£	£	£
CAF Gold account Deposit	28,635			28,635	27,987
CCLA CBF Church of England	59,006			59,006	48,395
	87,641	0	0	87,641	76,382

7 Cash at Bank and In Hand

	Unrestricted	Designated	Endowment	Total Funds 2025	Total Funds 2024
	£	£	£	£	£
CAF Current Account	21,345			21,345	36,847
Lloyds Current Account	11,269			11,269	29,870
Cash in Hand				0	
	32,614	0	0	32,614	66,717

8 Endowments

	Balance at 01 Jan 25	Income	Revaluation	Balance at 31 Dec25
	£	£	£	£
Benton Bequest	101,162		(4044)	97,118
Elsie Pullen Bequest	2,015		(80)	1,935
	103,177	0	-4,124	99,053

9 Debtors

	Unrestricted Funds	Designated Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2025	2024
	£	£	£	£	£
Income Tax recoverable	23,000			23,000	29,691
Insurances pre-paid	437			437	424
	23,437	0	0	23,437	30,115

10 Creditors

	Unrestricted Funds	Designated Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2025	2024
	£	£	£	£	£
Fees owed to Diocese	7,555			7,555	6,356
Independent Examiner	1200			1,200	1000
Accounts payable	329			329	
	9,084	0	0	9,084	7,356

Independent Examiners' report to the PCC of the United Parish

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Parochial Church Council of the United Parish for the year ended 31st December 2025.

Respective Responsibilities of the PCC and Examiner

As the charity trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 (the Act). The PCC consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Act and have chosen instead to have an independent examination.

It is my responsibility to:

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

Basis of Independent Examiners 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 PCC 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 your treasurer or you as PCC members 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 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 Act; and
    - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 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.

HM Emerson

Signed by: Heather Emerson, ACA (Retired)

Date: 06 September 2026

Address: 18 Horseshoes Lane, Benson,