

All Saints' Church, Dulverton

PCC

Annual Report for 2025

Aims and Objectives

The PCC has the responsibility of co-operating with the Rector in promoting in the Parish the whole mission of the church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical.

The members of the PCC are also Trustees of the Gardiner Trust which includes No 1 Church Walk. They are also responsible for the maintenance of the fabric of the church building, insurance, church finances and No 3 Church Lane. The PCC is also a registered Charity with the number 1142934 and a Charity Commission report and annual return is made yearly by the Warden.

The PCC, working with the people of Dulverton including Dulverton Town Council (DTC), are determined to keep a church presence and facility in this historic town. The church is in the centre of the community and provides services of marriage, baptism and funerals to every member of the community who wish it. We welcome community involvement in our church.

Objectives and Activities

The PCC has been committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship at or with our church and when planning our activities for the year the Rector and PCC have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and in particular the specific guidance to charities for the advancement of religion. We endeavour to enable people to live out their faith as part of our parish community though:

- Worship and Prayer: preaching the gospel in words and deeds through a variety of services.
- Offering pastoral care for people living in the parish through the Ministry Team and other pastoral support workers.
- Providing a warm welcome for the people of the town and visitors when possible.
- Offering facilities accessible to all including the outside altar.
- Providing help, support and guidance to anyone within our parish at the key milestones of life through the occasional offices of baptisms, marriages and funerals.
- Working in and with our community with other Christian and charitable organisations to the benefit of our community (The Dulverton Schools and the Exmoor Youth Project in particular).
- Supporting our Church School and education and provision for young people in our community.

Rector's Report

It has been another busy year here at All Saints' Church.

The Revd Mary Louise Southgate continued her formation with us during the year following her priesting last year. She has been busy getting all the theological and academic work completed for the Diocese, and presiding at our regular services. She hopes to be signed off by the Bishop in early 2026, and we continue to thank God for her ministry and presence amongst us and for that she does. Louise also led two different book courses this year, one in Lent and another in Advent. These proved so popular that we are planning on another one in Lent 2026.

Christopher and Anne Futcher have become regular officiants at our services, and we are delighted that they are here. We are most grateful for their willingness to help, for the ministry and presence, and for their friendship too. Over the course of this year the worship has continued with the laity playing a vital and professional part leading our Family services, Matins and Evensong. My thanks to Andy, and subsequently to Steve, for drawing up the rotas and encouraging people to read, offer intercessions and lead these services. Holy Communion on the second Thursday of each month at 1100 has continued at Hanover House for those members of our community who wish to receive a blessing or the sacrament, and to catch up with news from All Saints. Numbers have unfortunately yet inevitably declined, but what is more important is our connection with these blessed people and to assure them of God's continual loving care for them too. Home communions continue to be taken to the housebound over this year

Our civic Remembrance Day Service was incredibly well attended and deeply moving. I must thank the local Branch of the Royal British Legion, led by Peter Maggs, for attending the rehearsal and adding their superb professionalism to this important annual act of Remembrance.

Our Choir performed a beautiful service of seven lessons and carols, which was very well attended, and my thanks to Gary, them and all our Readers for a lovely festive service. Joyce led a beautiful, prayerful and friendly Crib service, our thanks to Joyce and her team, and Midnight mass, led this year by Christopher and Anne, were also well attended as we welcomed the Christ child.

Gary Cooper, our Director of Music and resident organist, whose abilities, skill and warmth, joyfully continues to add so much to so many events, our regular worship, and our occasional offices. We are so blessed to have him, Sabine and the children here with us. Whilst our choir numbers are steady, we have capacity for more singers to assist in leading our liturgies, but they continue to add so much in hymnody and song throughout the year.

Our Tower Captain, Anne Markwick, has continued to encourage and attract new and established ringers of the bells. Their skills ring forth God's glory across the town and a huge debt of thanks is owed to Anne and to the team of dedicated and gifted ringers. Anne's dedication and enthusiasm is simply wonderful.

Our Flower ladies continue to produce amazing displays and enhance our worship and welcome with miraculously beautiful displays throughout the year. Innumerable people have spoken to me to

make praising comments on their skill, artistry and dedication. A huge thank you to Tina and to all the ladies for giving so much joy and presence to All Saints; it is genuinely and hugely appreciated.

Our finances now seem to be steading under the careful work and guidance of Steve, who has taken over as our Treasurer and guide. His wisdom and experience have brought a clarity and frankness that has been so helpful and valuable to the ongoing mission and ministry of All Saints. Thank you Steve.

The clock has, mostly, worked well this year due in no small part by the team of willing clock-winders. To Jane and all the clock winders thank you for your dedication and patience with our venerable mechanism. It brings such joy to the town and visitors alike to see the time and hear the chimes. Thanks also to Luke from Cumbria Clocks, who we are getting to know well.

The school is doing really well. It is a joy to visit to meet with the staff and the children. A supportive and hugely improved Ofsted inspection and report pay tribute to the work that Nicky and her staff have achieved and continue to achieve during another very busy year. I remain a Foundation Governor to Moorland Federation and am delighted to be able to present to the wider community too.

During Lent and Holy Week, we had the ecumenical blessing of palms down by the war memorial by the Barle. The Maundy Service was particularly poignant. On Good Friday, as well as the midday solemn Liturgy, the wonderful Barle Singers came and delivered an amazingly moving and appropriate Evensong in the evening and our grateful thanks to Steven Pugsley and all their singers for adding such a beautiful occasion on that day.

Thanks also to Steven and to them all for their amazing concert in June Petite Messe Solonnelle, and for an outstanding Christmas Concert, from Bach to Berlioz.

Despite the death of her beloved husband, Howard, Frances Harrison continued to lead ‘Art Talks’ this year. This has, and is, attracting a really good number of people from across the area, and is so well received.’. These talks have been incredible interesting, and I know that we have all learned so much about the wonderfully diverse art subjects she has chosen, produced and delivered. Thank you Frances.

The Lent and Harvest lunches were very well attended this year. These take a huge amount of dedication and hard work to deliver, and without the help of Jenny and her team would not happen. Thank you to Jenny and all the helpers, who provide food, setting up, packing away, cleaning, and serving. I know from the comments of those who came to these two occasions how grateful they are for these lunches, and all credit must and rightly goes to Jenny and her team; thank you. We were blessed with beautiful weather for the Cream Tea at the Vicarage; indeed it was incredibly warm. It takes a huge amount of effort to put up the tentage, tables chairs, make the scones and drinks and to make this event happen, and our thanks to Bill and Jenny and the team and also to everyone who came or helped; thank you. Our thanks also to Michael and Michelle for their donation of delicious prosecco, which, chilled, was refreshing and helped to raise much needed funds too.

A few final ‘thank you’s’ are also needed: To our cleaner Lyndsy, who takes such time and trouble ensuring that the Church is kept to such a high standard, and whose work is so often commented on in such favourable words in our visitors’ book. To Nick Friendship, for his generosity in printing our monthly sheet and especially for his work as our verger and whose assistance and diligence in setting the altar and setting down afterwards, and so much more, is deeply appreciated. From me, a huge thank you to the PCC for all of their help and guidance throughout the year, and especially to Jenny and Ed the Church Wardens, to Bill and to Steve our Safeguarding Officer, without whom none of the above would have happened.

And a final and heartfelt thanks to the Parish and to all the peoples of Dulverton, thank you for all of your kindness and support. May God bless you.

Safeguarding

The PSO (Parish Safeguarding Officer) is pleased to report Safeguarding issues raised with him over the last year have been dealt with locally. There were two individual cases raised relating to All Saints, Dulverton, which have been dealt with locally and are recorded as no further action.
There were no other reported incidents in all other benefice Churches.

The PSO has reported at every All Saints PCC meeting and updated the situation with regard to statutory responsibilities, an update of the Dashboard and The Safeguarding Hub.

The PSO continues to update and maintain the Safeguarding Dashboard and safeguarding Hubs.
The agency dealing with Safeguarding for the diocese is a company called Thirty One: Eight



There are a number of PCC members that have completed safeguarding training and qualifications this year as the courses are to be updated every 3 years. Please make sure that PCC members have completed DBS and relevant Courses

This Year The PSO has attended PSO networking training, Completed Safeguarding Leadership course. Our Warden, Edward, has also completed Safeguarding Leadership Course.

Safeguarding posters, contacts for help and our policy have been updated. The visual display has been removed from the noticeboard by request of the PCC and an A4 folder is available and on display in Church.

All Saint's Church is at level 3 of the Diocesan Parish Safeguarding Dashboard (the levels start at level 1 and count upwards) and has a Safeguarding development plan in place. (Available on request and circulated at PCC meetings to PCC members.

If you feel there are issues of safeguarding that need to be raised, please do not hesitate to contact the PSO:

- E-mail safeguarding@allsaintsdulverton.org.uk
- Other contact: 07812343212
- Ben Goodhind Safeguarding Manager Tel: 01749 588917
  Email:ben.goodhind@bathwells.anglican.org

If someone is in immediate danger or at risk of harm, please contact 999.
This helpline is available via phone at 0303 003 1111 or via email at helpline@thirtyoneeight.org.

All Saints Church ass a supporter of people in need and the people in significant and responsible roles in the church, clearly identify that safeguarding is an important part of our work. Safeguarding is the responsibility of all, we are all God's Children, and we all need to be treated with care and respect. God sees all (omnipresent) We humans are not, it relies on our church and wider community to be our eyes and ears and promote good Christian care and safety.

Steve Ford
PSO (Parish Safeguarding Officer)

Attached for consideration and approval by the PCC is the Safeguarding Action Plan. The Action Plan will be green where there is compliance and PINK where action is urgently needed. There are two PINK sections currently that will be addressed at the first PCC meeting after the Annual general meeting.(APCM)

Safeguarding Action Plan Level 3

Dulverton

Introduction

The Church of England's safeguarding policy statement, *Promoting a Safer Church*, says:
"All Church bodies should ensure that they have a 'Promoting a Safer Church' action plan in place that sets out, in line with national and local priorities, how the policy is being put into action and is reviewed regularly."
To help parishes prioritise their safeguarding work, a *Safeguarding Dashboard* can produce three levels of Action Plan:

- Level 1 - Safer foundations
- Level 2 - Safer foundations and activities
- Level 3 - Safer foundations, activities and practices

The PCC is asked to discuss and approve this Level 3 Action Plan.
A parish must have no overdue actions if they are to comply with all the mandatory safeguarding requirements of the Church of England.

Overall Progress

93% progress has been made towards the mandatory requirements of the Church of England.

Policies and Action Plan

	Status
Safeguarding Policy Approval The PCC must approve a parish safeguarding policy which complies with Church of England requirements.	The PCC has adopted 'Promoting a Safer Church' as its own safeguarding policy.
Safeguarding Policy Promotion 'Promoting a Safer Church' must be publicised and promoted, and all Church Officers must have access to it.	'Promoting a Safer Church' is publicised and promoted, and all Church Officers have access to it.
Safeguarding Action Plan The PCC must approve a Safeguarding Action Plan and review it at least once a year.	**Urgent** The PCC needs to review their Safeguarding Action Plan.
Recruitment of Ex-Offenders The PCC must have a policy regarding the recruitment of ex-offenders.	The PCC last reviewed their policy regarding the recruitment of ex-offenders on 08/01/2024.
Local Ecumenical Partnership Local Ecumenical Partnerships (LEPs) must agree which denomination or organisation's safeguarding policy to follow.	The parish is not part of an LEP.

Safeguarding Procedures

	Status	Notes
Responding to Concerns or Allegations The PCC must approve a procedure to deal promptly with any safeguarding concern or allegation (including any suspicion of abuse).	The PCC reviewed their procedure on 12/01/2026.	Information on specific noticeboard for Safeguarding at the back of Church

Lone Working The PCC must follow the Church of England's safeguarding guidance regarding lone working with children or vulnerable adults.	The PCC is following guidance regarding lone working with children or vulnerable adults.	
Appropriate Boundaries The PCC must follow the Church of England's safeguarding guidance regarding appropriate boundaries with children or vulnerable adults.	The PCC is following guidance regarding appropriate boundaries with children or vulnerable adults.	
Use of Social Media The PCC must ensure that the church is following national guidance regarding the use of social media.	The church does not use social media for any of its activities.	
Known Offenders Known offenders, and others who may pose a risk to children or vulnerable adults, must be effectively managed and monitored in consultation with the Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser.	Anyone who poses a risk to children or vulnerable adults is being effectively managed and monitored.	
Data Protection and Retention The PCC must comply with data protection legislation and Church of England data retention guidance.	The PCC complies with GDPR legislation and data retention guidance.	
Clergy Vacancy Consideration must be given to the secure storage of safeguarding records during a clergy vacancy.	Arrangements have been made for the secure storage of safeguarding records.	
Support for Victims and Survivors Following the disclosure of church-based abuse, the PCC must take reasonable steps to offer appropriate support to the victim or survivor.	Completed	

Safeguarding Roles

	Status	Notes
Parish Safeguarding Officer The PCC must safely recruit a suitable person (not the incumbent or his/her partner) to the role of Parish Safeguarding Officer. The appointment is to be made in accordance with national 'safer recruitment' guidance.	A Parish Safeguarding Officer was appointed on 28/04/2020.	

Churchwardens The churchwardens must be made aware of their safeguarding responsibilities.	The churchwardens are aware of their safeguarding responsibilities.	
DBS Administrator The PCC must appoint at least one DBS Administrator who is responsible for the administration of DBS applications. This role may be carried out by the Parish Safeguarding Officer.	The PCC has appointed at least one DBS Administrator.	

Training for Key Roles

Parish Safeguarding Officer The PCC must ensure that the Parish Safeguarding Officer undertakes the required safeguarding training.	The Parish Safeguarding Officer has completed the required safeguarding training.	
PCC Members The PCC must ensure that all their members undertake the required safeguarding training.	**Urgent** A question needs to be reviewed.	Reviewing PCC compliance 10 Mar 2025

Displayed Information

	Status	Notes
Safeguarding Policy Notice Each church building must display a notice about its safeguarding policy.	A notice about our safeguarding policy is being displayed in each church building.	
Safeguarding Who's Who Each church building must display contact details for people who have safeguarding roles.	Contact details are being displayed in each church building.	
Safeguarding Poster Each church building must display a 'Promoting a Safer Church' poster.	A poster is being displayed in each church building.	
Parish Website Safeguarding arrangements must be clearly visible on the front page of a parish website (if you have one).	We do not have a parish website.	
Information for Victims and Survivors The PCC must provide clear and accessible information for victims and survivors of abuse.	Completed	

Reviews and Reports

	Status	Notes
PCC Agendas Safeguarding must be a standing agenda item at every PCC meeting.	Safeguarding is a standing agenda item at every PCC meeting.	
Reports to the PCC **The Parish Safeguarding Officer must give regular reports to the PCC regarding safeguarding in the parish.**	**The PCC last received a safeguarding report on 12/01/2026.**	PSO reports on Safeguarding, training and updates every PCC meeting i.e. 7 times a year with APCM
Reports to the APCM **At the Annual Parochial Church Meeting, the PCC must report on safeguarding in the parish.**	**The APCM received a safeguarding report on 09/04/2025.**	
Review List of Church Activities **The PCC must confirm that the list of Church Activities on this dashboard is complete.**	**The PCC reviewed the list of Church Activities on 12/01/2026.**	
Review List of Non-Church Activities The PCC must confirm that the list of Non-Church Activities on this dashboard is complete.	**The PCC reviewed the list of Non-Church Activities on 12/01/2026.**	
Promoting a Healthy and Safe Culture The PCC must consider how they can better promote a healthy and safe church culture.	**The PCC has considered how they can better promote a healthy and safe church culture.**	

Church Activities

By approving this Action Plan, the PCC confirms that there are no church activities that involve teaching, training, instructing, caring for, supervising or transporting children (under 18) or vulnerable adults. Nor are there any other church activities that are organised primarily for children or vulnerable adults.

Churchwardens Report

Jenny Barker and Ed Thomson continued as Churchwardens during 2025 and were joined by Bill Gash as Assistant Churchwarden. Bill has taken responsibility for the fabric of the church which has been a great success with several projects undertaken during 2025.

The sale of No 1 Church Walk completed during May 2025.

The tenant in 3 Church Lane gave notice in August 2025 and moved out during September. Webbers Estate Agent were engaged to manage the letting process and the ongoing management of 3 Church Lane. All necessary electrical checks were made, and some decorating was undertaken and new flooring put down in the kitchen. The property was re let early in 2026.

During the year there has been far less anti-social behaviour in the Church so it appears that the CCTV in place is acting as a deterrent. We had one episode of a couple stealing items from the fridge, they were caught doing so on the CCTV and this was reported to the Police.

The Clock that was overhauled in 2024 and placed back into the Tower in December 2024 has required visits during 2025 from the engineer due to several problems where the clock has stopped. If there continue to be problems with the working of the Clock, then a conversation will be held with the Director of Cumbria Clocks to try and understand why we are experiencing the number of problems we are.

We are very fortunate to have a very enthusiastic group of Clock Winders under the leadership of Gerry and Jane Lewis. The Ropes were replaced on all the Bells in the Bell Tower as they were worn out. The Bell Ringers continue to thrive and practice each Wednesday evening a ring on Sundays and at Weddings. They are a great credit to our Tower Captain Anne Markwick.

The Hive system that manages the heating system has been a great success with far less oil being used during the year. The ability to set a timer remotely has led to the heating being on for shorter periods.

Lyndsy continues to clean the Church once a month with several parishioners plus the wardens keeping it clean in between Lyndsy's visits.

The PA system had numerous problems and during early 2025 an Audio-Visual expert visited the Church and completely overhauled our existing system. The now works tolerably well. The Hearing Loop was replaced.

Jenny and Ed attended the Churchwardens Day at Wells in September, as usual this is a very useful meeting where we are given up to date information and exchanged ideas with other Church Warden colleagues.

All necessary returns to the Diocese were made on time by Jenny and Ed.

Sean the Dulverton Lengthsman has retired from his Church gardening duties. He kept the Churchyard looking beautiful. The contract for looking after the Churchyard grounds has been given to a local company who are doing a reasonable job.

In conclusion, it's been a reasonably busy year but has been made easier by the appointment of Bill who has done a fabulous job with sorting out and putting right a number of Building related issues.

Complied by Jenny Barker

Fabric Report

The following works were completed in the year from January 2025 to December 2025.

Roof repairs:

1. After rainwater was noticed entering from the roof valleys at the Eastern end of the Church, these were inspected and the following work carried out
    a. Boarding sections running laterally along the roof valleys were lifted revealing an accumulation of leaf and other debris. This was removed.
    b. The valleys were swept, and condition noted
    c. The hoppers carrying rainwater from the valleys to downpipes, were cleared and condition checked.

2. A secondary roof leak at the Western end, central valley was caused by tiles being broken by a piece of masonry falling from the Church Tower. Most probably caused by frost heave. The broken tiles were replaced and masonry plus a disused floodlight was removed having first been made safe.

    a. Slate tiles from the storeroom were used to ensure an exact match with the others on the roof.

3. For these works to be carried out safely, the Eastern and Southern external walls were fully scaffolded and protected from access by unauthorised persons.

4. Scaffolding was supplied by South Molton Scaffolding, while roof repairs were carried out by Ware & Co, both reliable suppliers of good record.

Heating Repairs:

1. Having sought different explanations and solutions for the cause of the problems with the heating, NJT Plumbing and Heating was selected, based on their ideas and capacity

to carry out the work in a timely manner. The firm has carried out work on other Churches.

2. The heating system, installed in 1926, relies on a gravity feed from a header tank in the roof space of the South West corner of the church. This in turn is feed via mains water travelling up pipework from where the mains enter the Church in the boiler room (in the basement).
3. The original steel pipework providing the mains feed (up) and the gravity feed (down) were totally furred up and non-operative. These were removed.
4. The original zinc header tanks and fixings had also failed and these were removed and replaced. All pipework and fixings use are copper and brass to match material is use in the existing system.
5. Consequently, the pressure of the gravity feed is sufficient to push water and any air through the system, but without placing excess stress on the pipework joints. Another supplier had suggested simply connecting the system to mains pressure. This would have been excessive, and many pipe joints are beneath the floors and inaccessible.
6. The net result is the system is now far more effective at heating the Church and quieter with less gurgling of air caught in the system. The improvement has been noted by the congregation and wider public attending events at the Church during the Winter.

Church Clock Repair and Installation:

The Church Clock which had been removed in 2023 for repairs in Cumbria, was finally returned and installed in the Church tower. Much to the delight of the congregation and community. This chimes the quarter, half and full hours and is part of the aural landscape of Dulverton.

There have been small teething problems with further adjustments needed but this work has been carried out by the repairs company, Cumbria Clocks, under our Service Agreement.

Church Appearance and Presentation:

Also, during the year measures were taken to improve the experience for visitors to the Church with a selection of items that have been donated or that have accumulated over past years, removed or relocated.

The aim being to show of the Church to its best advantage and impress on visitors the care and love shown by the congregation and community in Dulverton towards its Church.

Looking Forward

Works planned:

The Church Warden team, informing the PCC and Clergy has been monitoring the need for further works to be completed ahead of the Quinquennial Inspection in 2026.

Given the role the Church plays in the Community, a key task is to update and improve the Servery which is now showing its age and quotes are being obtained for this and how the Church can be used to serve cold food as well as drink at events like Harvest Supper, Lent Lunch, at Easter and at Advent.

In 2026 the programme of events taking place at All Saints Church has been revised given the current arrangements are no longer deemed acceptable.

Bill Gash, Assistant Church Warden. May 3rd 2026.

Events Report and Volunteers

Numerous events have taken place during 2025. The events schedule seems to follow a similar pattern with the first concert of the year in aid of the Simonsbath Festival and The Honeycote Festival and featured Tamsin Waley Cohen. This was followed by 2 lovely concerts put on by Arwen Bethy and her Recorder group and Windband.

We held the usual Lent and Harvest Lunches, and these were well attended.

The Cream Tea at The Vicarage was held this year and we had a beautifully warm and sunny day for it. Again, we had a large gathering, and beautiful music was played by Gary and Sabine, it was a joyful afternoon.

Two Moors Festival happened in October with 3 beautiful concerts taking place. It was lovely to see the Church full.

For the first time the Dulverton Literary Festival used the Church for one of their talks. Again, the Church was packed to capacity to hear Chloe Hadjimatheou talk about what she had uncovered in relation to Raynor Winn's book The Salt Path.

Starlight took place as usual on the first Sunday of December. As usual we were very busy selling Tea, Coffee, cake, Mulled wine and Mince Pies. We had lovely music during the afternoon thanks to Arwen and her musicians. This year saw Blundells School return with a fabulous selection of Christmas music and again the church was full to capacity. A lovely concert in the run up to Christmas.

Complied by Jenny Barker

Volunteers

We would like to thank all our volunteers who quietly work behind the scenes to keep the Church running smoothly. We do sincerely that you for your time and expertise given so generously and your willingness to help. No matter how large or small the task each is essential to the running of the church and our continuing Ministry.

Music Report

Overall, it has been a relatively quiet and uneventful year on the music front at All Saints. Both of the church's well-used keyboards have been kept in good working order, our church choir has continued to work hard and sing as well as over, and externally-organised music events - such as Blundell's School Christmas Concert, and the Two Moors Festival - have continued to impress and inspire.

State of the historic J.W. Walker Organ

Since discussing in greater depth the historic lineage of our organ in my last report, I feel there is not quite so much to add on this occasion. Joost de Boer of *William Drake Organ Builders* visited before christmas and gave the instrument a thorough tuning and another dose of general maintenance. The one difference on this occasion was a suggestion he entertained concerning the ongoing infelicitous loud resonance sometimes emitted from the organ when in continuous use (at which moments I would be forced to turn off the organ blower switch and restart the instrument while the resonance would gradually abate). His idea was to bring a supporting thick plank of wood, cut to the width of the blower, and place it underneath on one side - to offset a slight differential in the level where the blower is located. To my knowledge, this loud resonance issue has not occurred since, so with any luck Joost may well have solved the problem - by the judicious use of a plank of wood... Were all things in life so easily remedied!

This tuning and maintenance visit also provided us with some evidence, according to Joost, that another rank of pipes had been planned or prepared for on the Great Organ during the original building undertaken by Walkers & Sons in the 1860s. His reasoning being that a portion of the area on the side of the soundboard, where the pipes stand - roughly enough for a large rank of pipes, such as a reed stop like a Trumpet, or sufficient to accommodate a number of smaller pipes such as a Mixture - seems to have been deliberately left free. I suspect he is right on both counts. In fact, the instrument is slightly underpowered for the size of the church, so a Trumpet or Mixture stop would have helped make the chorus quite a notch louder and more present, if that was the original plan. He also mentioned that a thorough cleaning and re-voicing of the existing pipes would help considerably in restoring Walker's own voicing of the pipes thus creating a restored, powerful chorus on both Great and Swell organs, which subsequent restorations as well as years of accumulated dirt have notably muted.

At present, these ideas and suggestions are simply ongoing discussions, without any immediate or formal plans organised. But should I find a means of applying for a grant of funding, or similar, in order to meet costs - and the application is successful - then I shall of course ensure the PCC are informed, and permission is sought.

State of the Grand Piano

Thankfully, there are no problems or issues with this instrument to report. It is, like the organ, well-used and serves a whole variety of functions in church, so its regulation and maintenance is crucial. Aside from services such as the Church Family morning service each month, and both wedding and funeral services (where piano music is requested), it is enjoyed by a variety of music groups, used for piano, vocal and instrumental tuition, as well as for concerts and other church events such as Harvest Lunch. Long may this continue!

All Saints' Choir

Our extraordinary, ever-loyal choir continues to lead and enhance our Sunday morning church worship at All Saints, bucking the wider trend elsewhere in the Church of England towards an increase in recorded music (designed to lead congregations where no choir or organist is present), as well as an overall decline in a live music presence at church. I am sad to see this occurring, but also very grateful that we at All Saints are in no immediate danger of this happening; and that, just as All Saints' church provides many opportunities for concerts and music events on a wider scale, it also enjoys music - and live music at that - at its heart, every Sunday.

Barle Singers

Since the Barle Singers have so long been associated with All Saints, it almost seems sometimes as if we have two choirs linked specifically with our church. Not bad for a rural community hidden away deep in the West Country! During the Barle's last year of concert offerings, we have been uplifted with performances of Rossini's delightful yet powerful *Petite Messe Solenelle*, the colourful, adventurous jazzy 1920s score of Constant Lambert's *Rio Grande*, as well as the regular Christmas carol concert that was very well attended - and which also saw almost a doubling of choir members.

Music Teaching & Arwen's Wind Ensembles

My warmest thanks continue to go to Arwen Lewis for her tireless provision of music opportunities and group-playing for wind instrument players in the whole area, and of course, for using All Saints as a hub to create all of these activities. This year saw the wind band and recorder groups performing en masse during the afternoon of Starlight activities, to a rapt and attentive audience.

As well as the wind instrument groups and their activities, private music tuition and practicing continues apace at All Saints. Nick Friendship's son, Jenson, is currently learning on the piano, as well as practicing on it when able; and a notable variety of local singers are both having lessons in church, as well as being involved in the many choral opportunities on offer in Dulverton.

Sheet Music Donations

I recall touching on this subject last year, but at the risk of repetition - and since the donations continue to arrive - I once again find myself in the pleasurable situation of thanking yet more of those lovely anonymous donors, making contributions to our steadily growing library of organ, piano, instrumental, vocal choral and church sheet music. Almost like the manna of the desert feeding the hungry Israelites in exile, I can turn up to church on any particular Sunday mornings and find a bag of goodies lying innocently on the organ stool, wondering what have we here today? "*If Music be the Food of Love, play on*..." according to Shakespeare, and I'm inclined to agree.

Gary Cooper
Musical Director

Finance Report

Attached are the Income and Expenditure statement and Balance Sheet for the year ended December 2025, These have been examined and signed off by Mr C Cherry of Brunel Ltd. who acquired the business oof the previous examiner on his retirement.

The financial year runs from January to December. The headline figures for 2025 are set out below together with a comparison to the previous year.

	2025	2024	Change
Income	£46,375	£59,356	-£12,981
Legacy /refund	*-£5,158*	*£5,158*	*-£!0,316*
Expenses	£65,714	£76,282	£10,568
Major/minor repairs	*£21,185*	*£12,157*	*-£9,028*
Operating loss	-£19,339	-£16,926	-£2,413
Exceptional items	-£33,836	£14,588	-£48,424
Deficit for the year	-£53,175	-£2338	-£50,837

Beneath the 'Operating' result is an 'Exceptional' minus item of £33,836. Of this amount £29,056 represents the difference between the carrying value in the books of 1 Church Walk -£160,000, and the net sale proceeds - £131,144. The remaining balance of £4,780 is a negative revaluation of the CCLA investment funds (2024 positive £14,588).

Income

Levels of income in 2025 were comparable with the prior year, save for a couple of one-off items. Firstly, the tenant of our investment property in Church Lane gave notice to leave the property in July. The property remained empty for the remainder of the year while renovations took place and a new tenant was sought, resulting in a significant loss of rental income. Secondly, we received a legacy in November 2024 of £5,158 which was recorded as income in that year. However, we were contacted in June 2025 by the solicitors dealing with the probate requesting its return as they had

erroneously paid it to the wrong church. This one item therefore is responsible for £10,316 year on year adverse variance in revenues.

The sources of our revenue for the year, together with a comparison to 2024, are as follows:

	2025	2024	Change
Collection & donations	£21,035	£22,891	-£1,856
Events & church hire	£4,250	£2,985	£1,265
Fees	£4,011	£2,190	£1,821
Property income	£11,331	£13,750	-£2,419
Dividends & interest	£10,728	£9,382	£1,346
Legacy /refund	-£5,158	£5,158	-£10,316
Grants	£178	£3,000	-£2,822
Total	£46,375	£59,356	-£12,981

Expenditure

Total expenditure for the year was £65,714. The impact of both the major repair programme and costs of renovating 3 Church Lane can be seen from the following summary:

	2025	2024	Change
Church running costs	£10,142	£8,963	-£1,179
Clergy, Diocese & Deanery	£24,151	£24,644	£493
Major & minor repairs	£21,185	£12,157	-£9,028
Other	£10,236	£30,518	£20,282
Total Expenditure	£65,714	£76,282	£10,568

Church running costs were impacted by markedly higher payments for electricity.
Significant items within repairs included roof gully repairs (£6,216), water tank and radiator replacements (£4,133), renovations to 3 Church Lane (£2,220), new church audio system (£1,280) and replacement bell ropes (£1,766)

The decrease in 'Other' expenses arises largely from reductions in giving and other charitable spend, notably the Moorland Foodbank (2024 outflow - £9,263).

Balance Sheet and Cash

Due to two principle events, there has been a notable change in the allocation of our assets, leading to a significant increase in our bank balances.

In May 2025 the sale of 1 Church Walk was completed resulting in net proceeds of just over £131,000. On the 30th June 2025 CCLA closed its UK Equities fund resulting in the realisation of £97,131 in cash. While these amounts have been partially consumed by the sums allocated to the building repairs, after allowing for a sum to cover short term operating expenses there remains a balance of c£200k. which is presently on deposit.

While total assets have reduced by £53,175 over the year, much of this is explained by the book loss on the sale of 1 Church Walk.

Summary

On a day-to-day basis the regular income of the PCC broadly covers the routine expenditure. What is not being covered is the amount expended on property maintenance. Given that there is little scope for further trimming of costs, then unless additional sources of revenues can be found, going

forward I would expect that the available funds will be depleted roughly at the rate that the church building needs major repairs.

In 2024 the CCLA funds made an overall contribution to our financial position of £23,242 (distributions and investment performance). For 2025 this was just £3,650. While investing in markets that have been volatile is difficult and should be considered over the long term, even for an ethical investor this performance has been disappointing. We will be reviewing our investment strategy during the current year as an improved performance in this area may be an opportunity to close the funding gap.

Steve Daughtry -Treasurer
28th April 2026

ALL SAINTS CHURCH DULVERTON

ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF THE

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31 DECEMBER 2025

INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS REPORT
TO THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL
OF ALL SAINTS CHURCH DULVERTON

I report on the accounts of the Parochial Church Council of All Saints Church Dulverton (the PCC) for the year ended 31 December 2025, which incorporate the Receipts and Payments Account and Balance Sheet.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The PCC as trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The PCC as trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011. The PCC trustees have requested me to undertake an independent examination and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales.

It is my responsibility to: examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act; to follow procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioner under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and to state whether any particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioner. That examination includes a review of the accounting records maintained by the Trustees and a comparison of the accounts with those records. It also includes considering 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 audit 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 2011 Act; and
    - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the requirements of the 2011 Act as also contained within the Church Accounting Regulations 2006

    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.

Chris Cherry
Brunel Chartered Certified Accountants
3 Marco Polo House
Cook Way
Taunton
Somerset
TA2 6BJ

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ALL SAINTS DULVERTON
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

				TOTAL FUNDS	
		Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	2025	2024
INCOMING RESOURCES	**Note**	**£**	**£**	**£**	**£**
Voluntary Income	2	16,055	-	16,055	31,049
Events for Generating Funds		3,450	-	3,450	2,985
Church Activities	3	4,811	-	4,811	2,190
Income from Investments	4	22,060	-	22,060	23,132
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES		46,376	-	46,376	59,356
RESOURCES EXPENDED					
Charitable Grants		-	-	-	4,703
Church Activities	5	64,656	-	64,656	71,039
Fundraising		765	-	765	356
Governance		384	-	384	184
TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED		65,805	-	65,805	76,282
NET INCOMING/(OUTGOING) RESOURCES		(19,429)	-	(19,429)	(16,926)
Gains and losses on revaluation of fixed assets for the PCC's own use		(4,780)	-	(4,780)	14,588
Loss on disposal of Tangible Fixed Assets		(29,056)	-	(29,056)	-
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		(53,265)	-	(53,265)	(2,338)
Balances brought forward		734,228	3,000	737,228	739,566
BALANCES CARRIED FORWARD		680,963	3,000	683,963	737,228

The notes on pages 4 to 6 form part of these accounts

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ALL SAINTS DULVERTON
BALANCE SHEET
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

	Note	2025 £	2024 £
FIXED ASSETS			
Tangible assets	6	-	160,000
Investment assets	6	452,062	553,972
		452,062	713,972
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors		6,358	4,413
Cash at Bank	7	227,946	19,882
		234,304	24,295
LIABILITIES: Amounts falling due within one year		(2,403)	(1,039)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		231,901	23,256
NET ASSETS		683,963	737,228
FUNDS			
Unrestricted		3,000	734,228
Restricted		680,963	3,000
		683,963	737,228

The financial Statements were approved by the Parochial Church on 12th October 2026 and signed on its behalf by:

The notes on pages 4 to 6 form part of these accounts

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ALL SAINTS DULVERTON
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

1 Accounting Policies

(a) The financial statements of the Parochial Church Council have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations using the accruals basis and Fund accounting.

(b) Fixed assets retained for church use are included at cost or valuation at the time of acquisition. Moveable church fittings held by the church wardens on special trust for the Parochial Church Council and which require a facility for disposal are considered to be heritage assets and inalienable from benefice property and as such are not valued in the financial statements. Consecrated and beneficed property of any kind is excluded from the accounts.

(c) Plant and Equipment used in the church or churchyard are written off to the Statement of Financial Activities on acquisition.

(d) Incoming Resources: All incoming resources are recognised once the charity has entitlement to the resources, it is certain that the resources will be received and the monetary value of the incoming resources can be measured with sufficient reliability.

(e) Resources expended: Liabilities are recognised as resources expended as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to the expenditure. All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs relating to the category.

(f) Funds: Unrestricted funds represent funds of the Parochial Church Council that are not subject to any restrictions regarding their use and are available for application to general purposes. Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by the donor or trust deed.

(g) Offsetting: There has been no offsetting of assets and liabilities or income and expenditure unless required by Church Accounting Regulations.

(h) Legacies: Legacies are included in the Statement of Financial Activities when receipt is probable, that is when there has been a grant of probate and executors have established there are sufficient assets in the Estate.

(i) Donated goods and services: Donated goods and services are not included in the Statement of Financial Activities where they relate to the ongoing work of the Parochial Church Council due to the excess of cost over benefit of this exercise.

		Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	TOTAL FUNDS 2025 £	2024 £
2	**Voluntary Income**				
	Planned giving	3,637	-	3,637	2,831
	Tax recoverable	3,745	-	3,745	4,345
	Collections and other giving	11,193	-	11,193	9,062
	Lgacies and other donations	(2,698)	-	(2,698)	11,811
	Grants	178	-	178	3,000
		16,055	-	16,055	31,049
3	**Church Activities**				
	Church fees	4,011	-	4,011	2,190
	Other income	800	-	800	-
		4,811	-	4,811	2,190
4	**Income from investments**				
	Property	11,332	-	11,332	13,750
	CCLA	8,782	-	8,782	9,382
	Bank interest	1,946	-	1,946	-
		22,060	-	22,060	23,132
5	**Church Activities**				
	Parish Share	22,169	-	22,169	22,628
	Mission and evangelism	2,755	-	2,755	9,851
	Clergy expenses	1,401	-	1,401	2,016
	Church maintenance	8,204	-	8,204	1,297
	Church running costs	3,943	-	3,943	2,424
	Utility bills	4,284	-	4,284	3,835
	Insurance	3,425	-	3,425	2,704
	Major repairs	12,982	-	12,982	10,860
	Outgoing resources	210	-	210	3,000
	Miscellaneous	158	-	158	-
	Salaries and support costs	5,125	-	5,125	11,044
	Repairs - investments	0	-	0	1,380
		64,656	-	64,656	71,039

	Church use assets £	Listed investments £	Investment properties £	TOTAL FUNDS 2025 £	2024 £
6 Tangible Fixed Assets					
Number 3 Church Lane	-	-	105,000	105,000	105,000
Number 1 Church Walk	-	-	-	-	160,000
CCLA Securities Fund	-	73,429	-	73,429	71,674
CCLA Investment Fund	-	112,909	-	112,909	116,901
CCLA Equities Fund	-	-	-	-	97,775
CCLA Passmore-Jones	-	160,724	-	160,724	162,622
	-	347,062	105,000	452,062	713,972

Listed Investments are included at valuations at 31 December as provided by CCLA. Number 1 Church Walk was sold during the year. Number 3 Church Lane is valued on the basis of current invome flows and the expected rate of return of the PCC.

7 Cash at Bank	2025 £	2024 £
Current Account	222,287	14,889
CBF Account -Gardiner	2,597	2,597
CBF Account - Reserve	2,296	2,296
Cash in Hand	766	100
	227,946	19,882

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