St. Christopher's Church

Growing together in Christ

Annual Trustee Report for 2025 as presented at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting 27th April 2026



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Welcome to the St Christopher's Annual Report for the year ending December 2025

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INTRODUCTION

St Christopher's Church, Springfield is located at the junction of Woodlands Road and Springfield Road in South-East Birmingham about 3 miles from the city centre. It is part of the Diocese of Birmingham within the Church of England.

Aim and Purposes

The PCC has the responsibility of co-operating with the vicar in promoting within the parish the whole mission of the church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. The PCC is a registered charity (Charity no. 1151491). Further information about the charity and its trustees can be found in the section of this report headed Key Information on the St Christopher's PCC Charity.

The PCC is also responsible for the maintenance of the church building and fabric. It also owns and uses the Springfield Centre which adjoins the church building; however the maintenance of this building is the responsibility of the Springfield Project.

Objectives and Activities

The PCC is committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship at our church and to become part of our community at St Christopher's. In order to do so it has developed the following vision statement for St Christopher's which it uses to guide its decisions.

Our Vision Statement – We want to be…

- A fellowship that worships God from the heart, displaying the power of the Holy Spirit amongst us to heal, enlighten and transform.
- A loving community where genuine acceptance and deep relationships enable everyone's well-being and continual growth.
- A people responding to Jesus' call to love our neighbours, seeking to understand, serve and partner with our local community.
- A place of caring for, equipping and discipling people in all that life brings.
- A church committed to sharing the good news of Jesus.
- A congregation of all ages that supports our children and young people as they grow and develop; and encourages them to live out their faith in church and 0the wider community.
- A fellowship that values our diversity, and where our rich variety is reflected in leadership roles.
- A fellowship that stands with Christian sisters and brothers throughout the world, praying for the nations, supporting our mission partners, and working for peace, justice and the protections of God's creation.

The PCC has adopted the strapline **'*Growing together in Christ*'** to summarise this vision in a more memorable form. At a recent away-day, the PCC decided to focus on the first three of these points over the coming year and have come up with an action plan to implement this.

When planning their activities, the PCC has considered the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit and, in particular, the specific guidance on charities for the advancement of religion. The PCC therefore seeks to enable ordinary people to live out their faith as part of the parish community through:

- Worship and prayer; learning about the Gospel and developing their knowledge and trust in Jesus;
- Provision of pastoral care for people living in the local area;
- Supporting missionary work in the local area;
- Supporting overseas missionaries involved in Christian mission;

- Providing services to the local community, particularly for local families and children in conjunction with the Springfield Project.

More information on all these activities can be found in the other sections of this report.

Links with other local churches:

St Christopher's has good relationships with several local churches, both Anglican and non-Anglican. However, we are now in a recognised 'Oversight Area' with St Edmund's Tyseley and therefore seek to work together with St Edmund's, sharing resources for mission and ministry as much as possible. St Christopher's is also a member of the Yardley and Solihull deanery within Birmingham Diocese, which represents around 30 churches in South East Birmingham and Solihull.

Links with Other Charities:

The Springfield Project (www.springfieldproject.org.uk) is a charity that is closely connected to St Christopher's. Although it is a separate charity (Charity no. 1134977) with its own trustees, it was founded by St Christopher's, is located in the church buildings, and its activities are closely co-ordinated with those of the Church. Therefore, a short report on its activities is included in this report, although a Trustees Report for the Springfield Project is also available by contacting info@springfieldproject.org.uk

St Christopher's also has close links with the Feast (www.thefeast.org.uk), a charity that brings together teenagers from different faiths and cultures to build friendships, explore faith and change lives.

St Christopher's is a supporter of Open Doors an organisation which helps persecuted Christians across the world (www.opendoorsuk.org). We do this through prayer, giving and keeping informed about the situation of Christians in areas of the world where their faith makes them vulnerable to attack and persecution.

FROM THE VICARAGE

2025 has been another eventful year!

In January it was our privilege to host a dialogue event with friends from the Adam Mosque and Dawah Academy in Sparkbrook. It was wonderful to share time and friendship and learn from one another about those parts of our faith we see as fundamental and non-negotiable, but do so in an atmosphere of trust and respect. We were then welcomed back to the Adam Mosque in November, and we were able to share together again, and fed extremely well! I felt particularly privileged to pray the Lord's Prayer out loud in the mosque whilst Muslim friends listened with respect and courtesy. It is good to remember that whilst Birmingham may have its faults, the ability to live well with difference is something the city does with surprising ease and energy. The flags we see in some areas should not deceive us into thinking negatively about difference, but rather remind us how precious this ability to live with, learn from and love our neighbours really is.

In February we celebrated seeing David licensed as our third reader at St Christopher's and it was a joy to share that service with him at the cathedral. He joins Philippa and Fiona as the third musketeer in the work and ministry of readers in our parish. We thank God as they lead in the ministry of the word, in prayerful pastoral work and in encouraging mission in our church.

Over the year we have together had the privilege of hosting or helping with a number of life-events. At the crematorium I have had the privilege of conducting the funerals of Jennifer and Dorestine Small, a difficult year for the family of these two remarkable women. At church, in January we hosted the service and family celebration for Gurdip Kaur and it was humbling to see how so many family members came together to mark her passing and did so with such energy and commitment. In June it was our honour to hold the funeral for Hudda's father, Qassim Dhallai and to remember his long, eventful and in many ways remarkably joyful life. Then in December we had the tragic news of the death of our friend and brother, Richard Sudworth. Although we couldn't host the funeral itself because of sheer capacity it was our honour to host the reception after the service, when so many friends and former members of St Christopher's gathered to give thanks for the place that Richard held in their lives and in our church. We miss him deeply and continue to pray for Fiona, Nellie and Dylan.

On a joyful note, we hosted the wedding of Vinnie Gharu and Satvir Singh in August and we continue to wish them every blessing in their lives together. Then it was also a joy to celebrate together for the baptism of Isaac and Isabella Tustain at the beginning of this year. It was a wonderful day, and I am so glad they let me persuade them to have this in January rather than the summer of 2026!

In the summer of 2025, we held a prayer walk for our parish and spent an hour or so walking through parts of the area to ask for God's blessing on all those who live and work here. It was good to pray for our community, and it was especially humbling to pray in the part of the park in which the police and the local Street Watch have been targeting patrols to discourage the presence of sex-workers.

It was a reminder that we do not need to travel far to see the need around us, and to remember that the liberating power of Jesus is needed as much today as it has ever been.

It was also good to walk around a little of our parish to sing carols at Christmas. It was a joy to visit different homes and to sing the good news to them and their neighbours. Christmas also saw many other opportunities to tell the story of Christ's coming as the light of the world. This happened as it does every year with the happy bedlam of the Seedlings parties and the faithful telling of the story by our amazing Seedlings leaders. This year we also had a number of visits from Springfield Academy and I was able to share the Christmas story with children of different ages, some of whom will have never stepped foot inside a church before.

Christmas of course wouldn't be Christmas without our carol service and the sterling work of Mags, Lawrence and our wonderful choir. It was a joy to take part in this again under Mags' care and guidance and to be part of that beautiful occasion. Next year, with renewed lighting, people may even be able to see the music without an extra torch!

It has been a joy once again to work within a supportive and encouraging staff team at church, with Kam, Lucy and Debbie all contributing in so many and varied ways to the life and smooth running of our Church and Project. In September we had to say a fond farewell to Debbie as she took up a new post at St John's Harborne as her funding for the Anna Chaplaincy role across our local churches came to an end. By all accounts she is thriving at St John's, but we miss her energy and passion for older people to know life in all its fullness. It was good to welcome her back to St Christopher's to deliver a 'Living with Loss' day at the end of September, and to see the vision that she held for many years to deliver this training realised.

We also said 'goodbye for now' to Paul, Mayah and Levi in September, as Paul continues to explore a calling to ministry within the Baptist church. We know that they will be a blessing wherever they go, and that St Christopher's will always wrap its arms around them whenever they come back to the church where they were married and which we hope will always in some sense be home.

Towards the end of the year, it was another honour to welcome a team from Eco-Church to see the progress of St Christopher's over recent years. Simon Slater has taken the lead on this initiative ably supported and encouraged by Hannah Greenwood, Lucy Emo and our amazing site-manager, Curt Ryder. It was good that the team from Eco-Church were able to meet these folk and they were clearly impressed by what they saw and awarded us Gold! We are one of only a handful of churches nationally to have this award, so it is a real honour. However, as they were at pains to stress, the award is only a milestone, and we want to go further in the journey of learning how to care for God's creation. So much of our learning has been that it is about doing small things well, and the good news is that we can all do small things.

Another part of last year was the sabbatical I was able to take in July-August and I want to say how grateful I am to all those who stepped-up to take responsibility during that time. I was able to spend time with family and to do some further study on Mark (I know, I bet you weren't expecting that!) and I can now talk at some length about Mark's ending, but only ask me when you have time to spare…

It was also during the sabbatical that Jo and I saw the advert for the post of Priest-In-Charge at Wootton Wawen, Aston Cantlow, Claverdon and Preston Bagot. We went to visit the area, saw the churches, asked if we could see the vicarage and ultimately applied. As you know, we begin with a licensing service at Wootton Wawen church on March 17th in a new adventure and a very different context. As we prepare now to leave St Christopher's after sixteen years, we are filled with deep gratitude that we were able to come here and share in the life of our beautiful, remarkable, dynamic, diverse, ever-changing, ever-challenging, wonderful (and slightly scruffy!) church and parish. It has not always been easy, and I am all too aware that I have not always got things right. However, we wouldn't have missed it for the world and are so grateful to have been able to be here as a couple and a family all this time. We will be praying that a new vicar comes soon and, guided by God, leads St Christopher's into renewed growth, vigour and life. Give her or him all the support and encouragement you can, and please keep being amazing!
In Him who unites us wherever we are,

Tom Thomas, March 2026







WORSHIP



What a Great God we Serve

I give thanks to the Lord our God for another year in which we have been able to worship free of fear or persecution.

My thanks go out to all those involved in making this happen. This includes all our worship leaders and groups, service leaders, PA and Zoom operators. None of this would be possible without the servant hearts of all those involved. Our vicar Tom with his organisational skills is instrumental in making this run as smoothly as it does. We have continued to use ISing worship in aiding our worship which in a time with limited musicians has been a valuable resource. Please pray that we would see more musicians come forth.

My heartfelt thanks go out to all who volunteered to take part in our Christmas Carol service last year which once again was a great success!

The reordering of the space within church with a new kitchen and storage at the back of church along with extra space leading up to the stage has made the church more appealing and user friendly.

As we continue to learn more about God's grace and compassion, I pray that as a congregation we continue to shine a light in the darkness.

Amen
Margaret. Gordon, April 2026

PASTORAL CARE

Pastoral care at St Christopher's during 2025 has continued very much as previously. We have had a range of groups and networks meeting and looking after each other, as well as whole-church provision such as shared meals and prayer ministry. These have included:

- Monthly men's brunch and women's breakfast
- Weekly groups for a mix of fellowship, prayer and Bible study, currently on Monday and Tuesday mornings
- Place of Welcome – a shared event with the Springfield Project, on term-time Thursday lunchtimes
- WhatsApp groups to help people stay in touch
- Shared meals and other open celebrations at church
- Caring for families with newborns
- Regular prayer ministry after the 10:45 service
- Under-18s groups, both on a Sunday morning and midweek
- Different areas of service – volunteering for a team helps you to be part of what makes St Christophers run, and you immediately have a group of team-mates to get to know and work with.

Tom, of course, played a large role in overseeing all of this and so while we await our new vicar, it's even more important that we all take a part in looking out for one another. If you haven't seen someone at church for a while, you could drop them a message or give them a call, or chat to one of their friends: 'I haven't seen so-and-so for a few weeks, do you know how they're doing?' - either they know and will put your mind at rest, or they don't and one of you could get in touch to say you're thinking of them, or to ask if everything is all right.

If you are having a tough time, please do speak to (or email/phone) someone on PCC or staff team or prayer ministry, or any of your friends at St Christopher's - whether that's someone you sit near on a Sunday, someone you serve with, or someone you are or have been in a small group/network with. You might feel alone but you don't have to be; you don't need to discuss your concerns if you don't want to, just having a chat about nothing in particular can help you feel more connected.

If you would like to set up a new group or network, please let me know – I am the co-ordinator and would be very happy to support you. We have had groups previously for studying a particular book over a time period (e.g. a term or half a term), for crafting together, eating together, walking together, for people at similar stages of life, for addressing specific social justice issues, as well as "normal" Bible study and prayer and encouragement groups. Your idea might be just what someone else has been looking for!

One of the wonderful things about St Christopher's is that we thrive on the informal pastoral care we provide for each other - choosing to meet up in the week, or chatting after the service with a hot drink. You don't need to join something organised to be an important part of the way we look after each other here! Our Vision Statement says that we want St Christopher's to be "a loving community where genuine acceptance and deep relationships enable everyone's well-being and continual growth", and we all have a part in building this together.

Alex Nance, April 2026

Anna Chaplaincy

"They will still bear fruit in old age; they will stay fresh and green" Psalm 92:14.

The Anna Chaplaincy in our area continued to engage with older people in mutual encouragement and ministry. Debbie Gurling, our Anna Chaplain, visited seniors in the parishes of St Christophers, St Johns and St Edmunds, and a few other people further afield, faithfully assisted by Jean Gethen and Dot Pooler. Alison Roper-Hall continued as practice consultant for Debbie, accountability was through Tom Thomas who managed the finances, and David Harrison remained as chaplaincy mentor.

The report and recommendations that Debbie Gurling gave to the PCC from the steering group on aspects of Accessibility (hearing, lighting, entrance doors) have all been acted on or are in progress this year.

Unfortunately, the funding for this ministry was due to end this year, so Debbie was looking for alternative employment. She was successful in gaining a position at St. John's Harborne, leading ministry with older people there. We managed to squeeze in a workshop 'Living with loss' led by Debbie and Alison in September 2025, before Debbie took up her new post. This was well attended with people from all 3 churches and while it was mutually supportive it was also helpful in equipping people to come alongside others who were living with loss and recognising where God and our faith can support and sustain us during these times.

Alison Roper-Hall, April 2026

Practice Consultant to Debbie Gurling, Anna Chaplain

CHILDREN & YOUTH

Super Stars (under 5's)

What a joy it is to be part of Superstars and to build relationships with our young children. One of the most wonderful things is watching them grow throughout the year—gaining confidence and sharing more of themselves with us as they learn about Jesus through the Bible stories we share each week.

We begin every session with prayer, with the hope and expectation that we will share something of Jesus—whether through a story, a song, a picture, a hands-on activity, a prayer, or simply by sharing a snack together at the end.

Most weeks, children are given a follow-up activity sheet based on the Bible story. This provides a great opportunity for children and parents to continue sharing and exploring the message of Jesus at home.

Of course, none of this would be possible without our wonderful volunteers, who give their time and serve our church family with such dedication. Thank you to each and every one of you.

Carol Gibson, April 2026

JAFFA

Jesus a Friend for All

(4-7's) There are 5 children registered: attendance is generally 3/5, but we occasionally have visitors!

We follow the same format each week. The children sing, play a game, learn from the Bible and have good discussion, while making something together and pray.

We have had a year where only 2 volunteers ran this group which has been a challenge but now we have welcomed Meike onto the team which is brilliant.

Highlight: Having fun and playing games.

Caroline Minchin, April 2026

FROG

Forever Reliant on God

FROG has continued to meet on Sunday mornings throughout the year and caters for young people aged (roughly) 9-14. We have an excellent team of volunteers who give their time to lead and teach the young people as they grow in their understanding and discipleship.

During the year we have learnt about Old Testament characters and the miracles of Jesus along with the major festivals of Easter and Christmas. Each week we play games, read the Bible, discuss what it means and how it applies in our lives and spend time in prayer for ourselves and others. Since the summer the group has been using the Open Doors prayer diary to pray for Christians around the world being persecuted for their faith. It has helped the group get a better understanding of the global church and the hardships Christians in many countries face.

We are always looking for other volunteers who would like to help inspire this group of young people as they grow as young people and as disciples of Jesus.

Andrew Smith, April 2026





Hot Choc Café

Hot Chocolate Café happens on the second Sunday of the month (usually) during the service and gives our older teenagers a chance to meet, drink hot chocolate and discuss what they thought of the sermon, or anything else in their experience of faith. Thank you to Fiona, Sam and Tim as they lead this group and for giving these young people this space to share together. We want them to continue to grow to be vibrant, committed and thoughtful men and women of faith and follow Jesus faithfully in the midst of the many challenges of life for young people today.

blast
Building Lives Around Solid Truth

REAL

Over the last year Blast and Real have seen some changes as well as loads of wonderful joy and laughter together. For the first half of the year, we met as two groups on a Wednesday evening with an overlapping time in the middle for the two groups to be together. This was good and worked well, with around 6-8 children most weeks in Blast enjoying some big games followed by a time of learning and then a shared time of snacks with the Real group, usually alongside doing some activities and table games (some people do celebrate shamefully when they win at Uno!) When Blast then left at 7.30, Real would have their study and enjoy that time together.

However, in September we decided to merge the two groups and have instead just had a Blast session 6-7.30pm with Real folk dropping in to help. It's been absolutely marvellous having Blessing and Leonie helping to lead this time and they have been a joy to work with, providing both helpful practical work and a role model for the younger ones to follow.
Blast will now take a break while the PCC considers options in the interregnum. For anyone who is interested in knowing more about the sessions please have a word with Catriona who has been a sterling assistant to me over the year.
Tom Thoms, March 2026

MISSION

It almost goes without saying that the key expression of our mission as a church fellowship is the witness of individual Christians in our daily lives. The way believers speak, act and interact with others and with the created world is fundamental to what it means to proclaim Christ. Due to this, there is a powerful and wonderful sense in which we are all experts at mission and can point people to Jesus every day (and often without saying a word!)

At a more structured level, we have continued to support Liz and Sameh Khalil, Luke & Margaret Watson and Rachel Smith in their work in different places and contexts. It was wonderful to receive a visit from Rachel and one from Luke recently and to hear more about the joys and challenges which they face. It is always humbling to hear how much they appreciate our prayers!

As well as these individuals we also support three key groups as an expression of our mission and outreach: Seedlings, The Springfield Project and Open Doors. Seedlings is of course the group at the heart of so much of what St Christopher's has been and done in our community over so many years and the seedbed from which the Project has grown. We give thanks for both Seedlings and the Project (OUR Project!) and remember that at their heart they are expressions of the love God has for people in our community. It is so good that we also support Open Doors and I am especially grateful to Lawrence Beyer who keeps us up to date with the issues Open Doors asks us to pray for. Although this is often difficult to hear, it reminds us that however difficult it may be to be a Christian in Sparkhill, so many of our brothers and sisters around the world experience risk and danger which are at an entirely different level. Praise God for their resilience and strength of faith!

As mentioned elsewhere in this report, we were awarded the Eco-Church Gold Award towards the end of 2025. We praise God for this award and for the affirmation which it represents. However, it is a reminder of the challenge to care for God's creation not as a sideshow or something for those that way inclined, but as central to the work of Jesus on the cross bringing redemption to the whole of creation. When we pray, 'your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven' we are saying we want that redemption to come over all that He has created. Moreover, the new creation will be teeming with life (Ezek. 47:9-12; Rev. 22:1-2) so anything and everything we do now to enable that life to thrive here is an act of bringing in the kingdom.

Finally, can I take this opportunity to thank Mike Smith for his work as chair of the Mission Group at our church. He stood down this year after many years of facilitating and encouraging mission and we thank him for his service in this group.

Tom Thomas, March 2026

Parish Missioner

I have continued to serve in the community, focusing on supporting vulnerable individuals and families through both spiritual guidance and practical help. This ministry is rooted in the calling God has placed on my life to reach out, listen, and walk alongside those facing difficult circumstances.

I have been leading and supporting Bible study with individuals, creating a safe space where we can read and reflect on God's Word together. This has helped encourage faith, bring hope, and support people in their daily lives.

I have been working closely with individuals who are going through difficult situations by:

Listening to their concerns
Offering encouragement
Supporting them in their personal challenges
Supporting Single Parents

Part of my work has involved supporting single parents, providing:

Emotional support
Practical help where needed
A space where they feel heard and understood
Signposting them to the relevant services.

I have supported families facing housing difficulties by:

Helping them understand their options
Offering guidance and encouragement
Being present during times of uncertainty

During this period, I supported a family where the mother was expecting a baby. As she was not originally from England, this was a very challenging time for her, especially without strong support around her.

I was able to support her by: Helping provide essential items for the new baby, offering emotional and practical support, Praying with her and encouraging her throughout the journey

By God's grace, she gave birth to a healthy baby boy I truly saw God's hand in this situation, and it was a blessing to be part of supporting her during that time.

I also had the privilege to preach at Knowle Parish Church in front of approximately 180 people. I was very nervous about it as I haven't preached in a large crowd before however, I felt this was what the lord wanted me to do.

This was also an encouraging opportunity, as I was able to share about the mission God has called me to in the community.

I received very positive feedback, which was uplifting and affirmed the work being done.

Praise God for this opportunity and for the encouragement it brought.

> Through this ministry, I have seen: Lives encouraged and uplifted, Faith strengthened through Bible study, Practical needs being met, People feeling less alone and more supported.
>
> Despite my ongoing health problems, I'm determined to continue with my role.
>
> As I remain committed to the calling God has placed on my life to serve others. I will continue to reach out, support those in need, and share God's love in the community.
>
> I trust God to continue guiding this work and opening doors to help more people.
>
> Mattew 20-28
> Just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for man
>
> This is my Mission part of Gods calling to serve and not to be served.

Kam Kaur, April 2026



Seedlings

The mission of **Seedlings Stay and Play** is to provide a welcoming and supportive space for families in the community. It brings together parents, carers, and children from different backgrounds, so they feel included and valued.

The sessions help children develop through play, building confidence, communication, and social skills. Parents and carers also build relationships, share experiences, and receive support from friendly staff and volunteers.



Seasonal events are an important part of the service. The Christmas party was very well attended, with children taking part in a nativity and dressing up.



In March, an Easter party was held where the story of Easter was shared through an adapted puppet story of the Prodigal Son/Daughter and the Father.



A musical group called **Baby Barbour** also ran a session, helping children enjoy singing and using shakers to take part in music activities. My concern was that how will the children stay engaged for nearly 25 mins, but the session leaders were amazing, and the parents joined in. What a brilliant service!!!

Health visitors also refer families to the service, especially when children may need extra support. We also refer families for additional support within the project, and other services refer families to us when they require extra sessions.

Some women have also asked for prayer and later returned to say thank you, sharing that they felt their prayers had been answered. This shows the trusting relationships built within the setting.

As a coordinator, I am supported by experienced leaders who I continue to learn from in my role.

Kam Kaur, April 2026

THE SPRINGFIELD PROJECT

I look back over the last couple of annual reports and have to acknowledge the pattern. They all start, as does this year's, with the sense of delightful surprise, that where we expected to be in financial difficulty we have ended up with a sense of God's provision.

This year was even better than the last two as we learnt that our bid to continue with championing Sparkhill as a Child Friendly Neighbourhood was successful. This represents nearly half a million pounds of funding for this and the next four years.

However, even more than that excellent news, the story of the past year has been God's wonderful provision of people. We have seen some great additions to the staff team including a pattern of people, with very different roles, who arrive with a Christian faith fuelling their desire to be part of the project.

Given that most of what the project does is publicly funded and is providing a service for Health on behalf of the city council, it is easy to look at the project as something not distinctively Christian. In terms of connecting with the church and the vision for the project expressing God's love in our community, having people come to the project identifying with that vision is so encouraging. Please go give thanks for all the people who help project a sense of God's love and care for Springfield on behalf of St Christophers!

The BIG job of the coming year is to be an effective partner in the team of organisations bidding to retain the contract with Birmingham City Council. This is, by a long way, the bread and butter of the project. It pays most of our fixed costs. Please pray that this re award of the health visiting / family support / family hub contract helps us position the Project in the best possible way to flourish in the next few years.

Finally, I continue to be hugely grateful for the work of the Board and hope you will take this opportunity to also thank God for them.

Tim Boyes, April 2026
Springfield Project Chair of Trustees

The Springfield Project

CHURCH GOVERNMENT & ADMINISTRATION

Churchwardens

This past year has seen both joyful and sad events in the life of our church family. Through it all we have seen God support and sustain us and the family gathering round to care for one another. We have welcomed new members including Isabella Tustain and Edwin Quarton both born in 2025. Sadly, we grieved for and celebrated the life of Richard Sudworth and were able to host the wake in church with about 200 guests. Finally, the year ended with us saying Goodbye to Tom, Jo, Aisha and Eve as, after 16 years as our vicar, Tom felt a calling to move to be the priest of the Arden churches in Coventry diocese. We had a wonderful farewell service and shared lunch where we presented them with cards, gifts and cakes, then several of us were able to be at Tom's Licensing at St Peter's church in Wooten Wawen where we were welcomed by his new congregations.

Throughout the year we have continued to be encouraged by the increased numbers of people helping on a Sunday to ensure that the services are well run, welcoming and a place of worship and community. The numbers at the 9am service have continued to be between 6 and 10 and the numbers at the 10:45 average between 75-80 which includes children as well as adults and we continue to be blessed by having members from many different countries and backgrounds, a small picture of God's Kingdom.

The mixture of midweek groups including prayer and Bible study meetings as well as social activities have continued and are an integral part of the life of our church as we seek to grow together in our discipleship and mission. The increased focus on the persecuted church has informed our prayers and giving for both the adults and young people. We give thanks to all who host and/or lead these activities.

We are pleased that the new automatic door opener is now fully functioning, making the building easier to access, especially for those with mobility issues or with prams, buggies, heavy loads etc. We are well underway in the process of having new lighting in the church and hope this will be completed by September 2025.

As we end this year, we start our period of interregnum (the vacancy when we seek a new vicar), the process is underway, but it is likely to take the best part of a year; without a vicar not everything will be able to continue and some things will be different. Unfortunately, we are unable to continue the 9am Sunday service or Blast on a Wednesday and we will be having visiting clergy to preside at our communion services throughout the year. It is also a time for reflection and growth so there will be lots for us to do as we continue to be God's people serving and worshipping in Springfield.

We are so appreciative of all who serve our wider community through the week and those who give their time for our regular worshippers. Thank you.

Andrew Smith and Mike Smith, April 2026

Deanery Synod

Deanery Matters 2025

Diocese of Birmingham	
Bishop Michael (Birmingham) and Bishop Esther (Aston)	Diocesan Synod (mix of clergy and church members) meet on 3 Saturdays a year
Two Archdeacons, Jenny and Phelim, each look after three Deaneries. *Jenny Tomlinson (Birmingham) has Handsworth and Central, Kings Norton, Moseley and Shirley, and Warley and Edgbaston.* *Phelim O'Hare (Aston) has Aston and Sutton Coldfield, Coleshill and Polesworth, and us in Yardley and Solihull.*	
Six **Deaneries** and their Area Deans	
Ours is Rev Tony Rindl, for Yardley and Solihull.	Deanery Synod (mix of clergy and church members) meet on 3 evenings a year
Oversight Areas are a group of parishes that work together, possibly with just one vicar. St Christopher's and St Edmund's are in an Oversight Area together.	

As a member of the Church of England, St Christopher's is connected to churches all over the country. Our local connections are shown above. It's a little bit like a family tree – St Edmund's is our sister church in the Oversight Area, we have lots of cousins in the Deanery, and then all the 'grandparents' get together in the Diocese. Like a family, we love each other but we do not always agree!

During the time we are without a vicar, Tony and Phelim will be helping us out

I have been attending Deanery Synod for three years now. The meetings start with prayer and often singing, then we have up to half an hour of business and information, and about an hour of an interesting speaker and discussion. We have heard from Bishop Esther about the funding awarded from the National C of E last year, from faithful Christians on subjects such as pub church, schools' work resources, environmental work, addressing poverty, the diocese's online educational platform, and recently from one Canon Dr Andrew Smith on interfaith matters. Discussion summaries are fed back to the chair of the meeting who then takes notes on to either Diocesan Synod or other teams within the diocese as appropriate.

Members of churches within Yardley and Solihull Deanery are encouraged to stand for election to both Deanery Synod and Diocesan Synod. The Deanery has 7 lay vacancies for Diocesan Synod, and St Christopher's has an additional two spots for Deanery Synod. People may also attend as guests of an elected member – do let me know if you would like to join me some time to find out more, or if you would like to have a look at meeting minutes. I have enjoyed getting to see many different churches within the Deanery, and meeting different people, and hope to continue doing so for a while longer. It is a valuable opportunity to make the voice of Sparkhill heard throughout the Deanery and Diocese.

Alex Nance, April 2026

Church Council (PCC) Report

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) has an important role to play in the leadership of St Christopher's. PCC members are the trustees of the charity that manages the church assets and income. The PCC has the ultimate responsibility for managing the church finances and deciding the strategic direction of the church. It supports and oversees the activities of the church and encourages those leading the activities.

Since the last AGM on 28th April 2025, the PCC has met 7 times, usually in the Prayer Room here at St Christopher's. All meetings have been well attended, not just quorate.

Our Agenda always attends to matters of Governance, including safeguarding, finance and the Diocese. It also follows consideration of our church life and how we position ourselves looking 'In', 'Out' and 'Up':

> 'In' considers items related to us as a church community, in ministry and fellowship.
> 'Out' considers aspects of our mission, including our relationship with mission partners, the Springfield Project, Seedlings, our community and neighbours.
> 'Up' considers our relationship directly with God in all aspects of Worship and discipleship.

We adjust the sequence on the agenda to make sure all aspects are attended to fairly.

PCC minutes can be requested by church members once they have been agreed.

Each meeting had a particular focus amongst other agenda items discussed:

> **20th May 2025** We focused on Inclusion and Accessibility. Debbie Gurling gave a report and recommendations on aspects of Accessibility (hearing, lighting, entrance doors). Helen Cremins is our Inclusion Lead.
>
> **23rd June 2025** We focused on Discipleship led by Guy Donnegan-Cross. Alex, Jen and Catriona agreed to collate a list for information of St Christopher's Small Groups and Networks currently running or planned.
>
> **15th September 2025** We decided our focus on Social Justice issues this year would be local and linked with the Springfield Project fostering a Child Friendly Neighbourhood.
>
> **20th October 2025** We discussed with Rebecca Slater's help how to proceed with our Children's Ministry after her departure from the role at the end of 2024.
>
> **1st December 2025** This was our Away Day when with Sarah Smith facilitating, we revisited our Vision for 'Growing Together in Christ', considering priorities, and refocusing for the coming year.

19th January 2026 We reviewed our contributions to the Away Day, which had been drawn up as an Action Plan by Tom, Smeee and Sarah. We also reviewed our prospective status with a Gold Award as an Eco Church with a report from Simon Slater. (see https://www.stchristopherspringfield.org.uk/about-us/ecochurch/)

23rd March 2026 With Tom having left now and taken up his new ministry in the Arden Churches, St Christopher's has entered a period of interregnum. This was the main item on the agenda with contributions from Phelim O'Hare, the Archdeacon, and Tony Rindl, our Area Dean. They offered guidance on our next steps. Subsequently we set up a sub-group to draw up the Parish Profile, needed for recruitment, and a Finance Committee to strengthen financial oversight, especially in the absence of a vicar.

We enjoy lively discussions at these meetings and appreciate the contributions that all PCC members make towards our decisions. We thank everyone for giving up their time to attend the meetings and for the work they do between times.

Alison Roper-Hall,
Lay Chair of the PCC, April 2026



Safeguarding

Since the last Annual General Meeting I am pleased to report that we have had no incidents requiring referral to the Church Dioceses Safeguarding Team.

I have responded to possible adult safeguarding issues, but none of these required statutory intervention. As our outreach work in the community grows strengthen Kam in her role.

In order to keep abreast of updating the Parish Dashboard, Seema has volunteered to undertake the administration of this. In addition, I understand that Kam and David Hartley have agreed to be Child Protection Co-ordinators.

I will need to arrange to meet with them and look at providing a checklist for them to ensure clarity of roles.

We have a good number of young families attending the Church, parents need to be reminded to be vigilant as to where their children are at all times.

The Church however continues to exercise good vigilance over activities taking place within the church premises and the automatic door is a great help.

We need to update our Child Protection trained register, and I Seema is looking into this.

It is with God's blessing and consideration that we have had a stable year, and know this will continue.

Claudia Gordon, April 2026

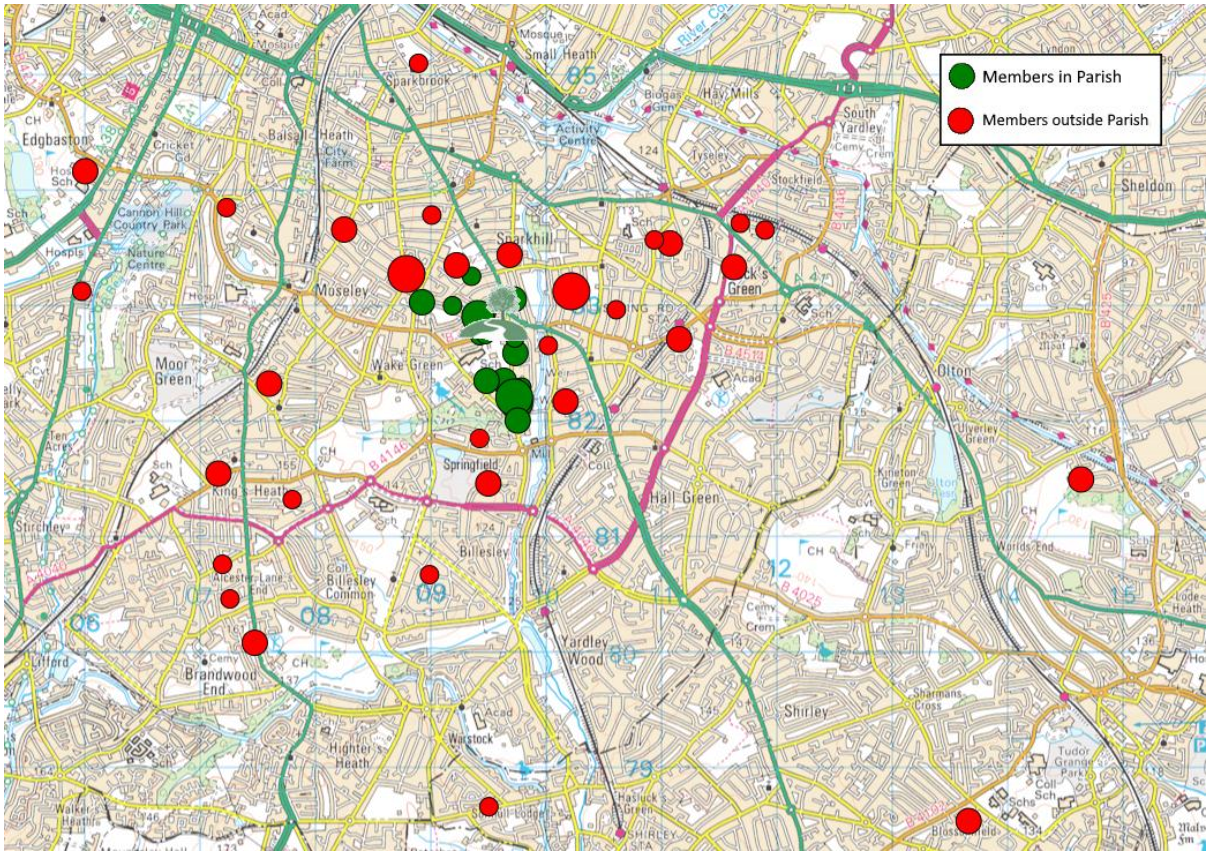
Child Protection Consultant



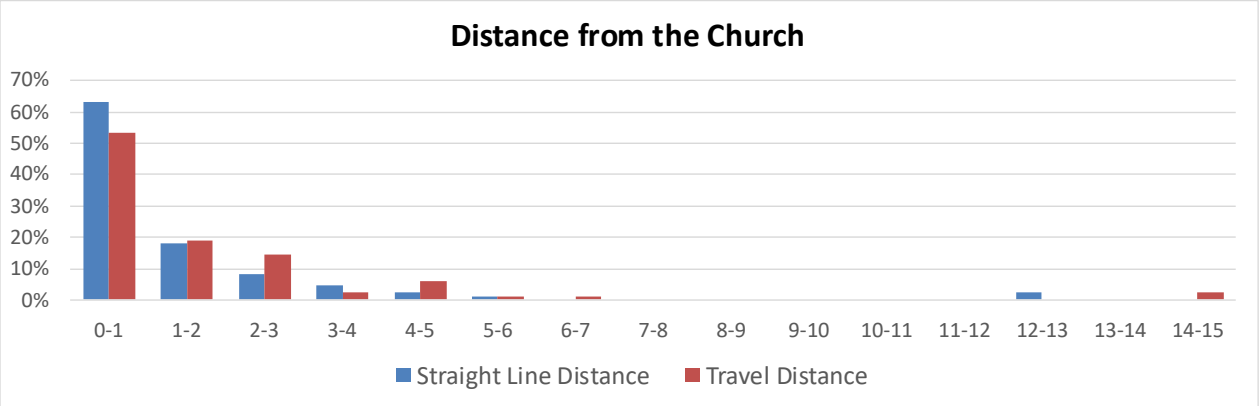
Electoral Roll

Within the Church of England, the Electoral Roll is a list of all the lay members of the church. All baptised Christians over 16, who regularly worship at St Christopher's, or who live in the parish are entitled to be on the Electoral Roll. These church members are then those entitled to attend and vote at the APCM (Annual Parochial Church Meeting) and stand for election to the Church Council (PCC).
A new roll was produced in 2025, therefore for this year we were only required to revise this roll by adding new members and removing old members who had left.

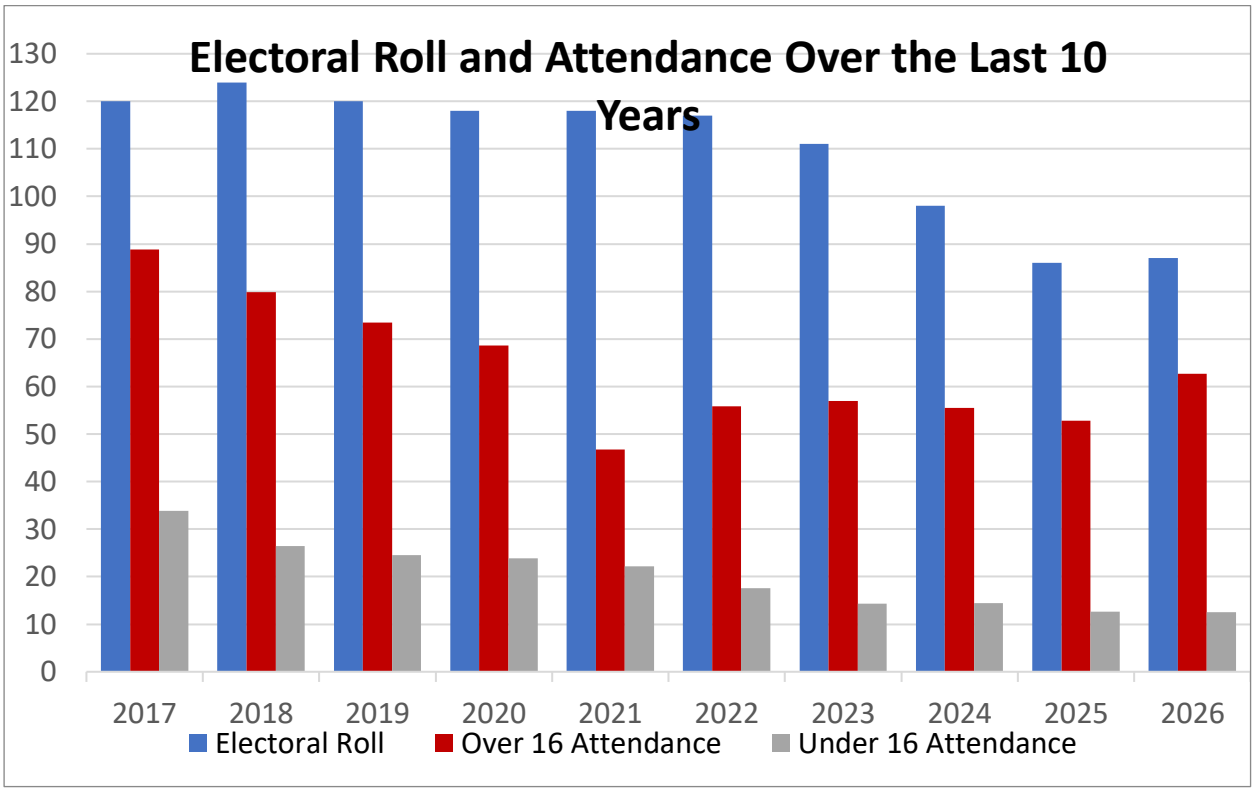
The 2025 had 86 members. 5 members were removed (including 3 members of Rev Tom Thomas's family. 6 new members were added to the 2026 roll. The new 2026 roll therefore has 87 members on it.



The change in membership has reduced slightly the proportion of members who live in the parish from 40% to 37%, as although 2 of the new members live in the parish, 4 of the members removed lived in the parish. However, the parish covers a relatively small area of just 24 streets, with a population of only 7,000, so it is possible to live 200 metres from the Church but not live in the parish. Church members generally live close to the church with over 60% living within 1 mile and over 80% living within 2 miles travel distance of the church building.



At last year's APCM I was asked to present additional information on the trend in church attendance over the last few years as well as the Electoral Roll. With the assistance of the Churchwardens, I have added this to the graph below, which shows attendance at the Sunday 10.45 Service over the last 10 years as well as the number on the Electoral Roll.



Mike Lenton, April 2026
Church Electoral Roll Officer

FINANCIAL REPORT

Treasurer's Report

The financial statements as presented here for the Year Ending 2025 (1st Jan to 31st Dec 2025) shows a cash balance (equity) calculated at £355,407. When compared to the previous financial year figure of (£49,037), this gives a substantial positive increase of £306,370.37 (525%). This has placed the congregation's financial status in a very strong position and significantly improving the cashflow when compared to the previous financial years. This can also be understood and seen as a reflection from the 2025 annual profit and loss statement. The total income (receipts) for 2025 was calculated at £510,335.70 with the total expense (payments) being at £202,195.83 equating to a recorded surplus of £308,139 for the year.

The above was mainly attributed and helped by a Legacy that was left behind for this congregation, that also helped towards the financial commitment and the associated costs that were met with regards to the Church Re-ordering work that commenced in September 2023, which was completed during March 2024. Apart from this Legacy, some of the financial gains and losses that were noted in 2025 are briefly listed below:

Receipts

Areas that saw an increase are:

- Youth Worker Fund £45,961 (825%)
- Open Plate Donations £1062 (173%)
- Gift Aid £24,785
- One-off Donations including Legacy £160,920 (107%)
- Charitable Activities £2,542 (45%)
- Bank Interest £2,118. (142%)

Areas that saw a decrease are:

- None, as all areas of income saw an increase.

Payments

Areas that saw an increase are:

- Use of Springfield Project £3,308 (148%)
- Common Fund £4,524 (11.5%)
- Springfield Project Centre Bills and Other Admin Costs £2,718.39 (725%)

Areas that saw a decrease are:

- Church Running Costs £92,122 (52%)
- Weddings and Funerals £509 (37%)
- Youth Work Costs £20,008 (95%)

I take this opportunity to thank Lucy Emo the Church Financial Administrator for her administrative and record keeping duties and Tom Thomas for his support and help.



Steven Taggar, April 2026 (PCC Treasurer)

Financial Statement

The Financial Accounts for 2025 are contained in a separate finance report.

KEY INFORMATION
ON THE ST CHRISTOPHER'S SPRINGFIELD PCC CHARITY

The St Christopher's Springfield PCC is a body corporate (PCC Powers Measure 1956, Church Representation Rules 2011) and a registered charity. The Charity Registration number is: 1151491. The registered name of the charity is: The Parochial Church Council of The Ecclesiastical Parish of St Christopher's Springfield although it is commonly called St Christopher's Springfield PCC.

Membership of the PCC

The Members of the PCC are the Trustees of the St Christopher's Springfield PCC. PCC Members are elected at the Annual Parochial Church Council Meeting (APCM) for a period of three years. Churchwardens, Deanery Synod members and Clergy are all ex-officio members of the PCC as defined in the Church Representation Rules.

PCC Membership
During 2025 the following people served as members of the PCC:

Clergy:
Tom Thomas (Vicar)

Churchwarden(s):
Andrew Smith
Mike Smith

Deanery Synod Representatives:
Alex Nance

Elected members:

Steven Taggar	(elected 2022 until APCM)
David Hartley	(elected 2023)
Jen Tustain	(elected 2023)
Phil Grimes	(elected 2023)
Helen Cremins	(re-elected 2024)
Alex Nance	(re-elected 2024)
Alison Roper-Hall	(re-elected 2024)
Philippa Grimes	(re-elected 2025)
Catriona Heatherington	(re-elected 2025)
Mike Lenton	(co-opted by PCC from 1st December 2025

PCC Officers:
Chair Tom Thomas

Vice–Chair	Alison Roper-Hall
Secretary	Helen Cremins
Treasurer	Steven Taggar
Electoral Roll Officer	Mike Lenton
Stewardship Secretary	Margaret Gordon

The APCM was held on 28th April 2025. Members elected in 2025 held office from that date. Members standing down held office until that date.

Although the Vicar is the Chair of the PCC as defined by the Church Representation Rules, it is the practice at St Christopher's for meetings to be chaired by a lay member of the PCC i.e. the Vice-Chair.

Governing Documents for the PCC:

As part of the Church of England the PCC follows the agreement between The Church of England and the Charity Commission that for all PCCs the "Governing Documents" for the charity will be:

1. The Parochial Church Councils (Powers) Measure 1956 as amended
2. The Church Representation Rules (contained in Schedule to the Synodical Government Measure 1969 as amended).

The PCC Powers Measure defines the powers of a PCC It states that the principal function, or purpose, of the PCC as "promoting in the parish the whole mission of the Church". The full text of the PCC Powers Measure in its currently amended form can be found on the legislation.gov.uk database at: www.legislation.gov.uk/ukcm/Eliz2/4-5/3/contents The Church Representation Rules define how members are elected to the PCC, the rules for the Electoral Roll and how PCC Officers are appointed. The full text of the Church Representation Rules in its currently amended form can be found on the legislation.gov.uk database at: www.legislation.gov.uk/ukcm/1969/2/schedule/3




St. Christopher's Church
Growing together in Christ

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST CHRISTOPHER'S SPRINGFIELD

Charity No. 1151491

Annual Accounts

31 December 2025

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Independent Examiners Report

Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees of THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST CHRISTOPHER'S SPRINGFIELD

I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST CHRISTOPHER'S SPRINGFIELD for the year ended 31 December 2025.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's financial statements carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

As the charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of ACMA.

I have completed my examination. I can confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
- the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
- the financial statements do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of financial statements set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the financial statements give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the financial statements to be reached.



Jasbir Rai ACMA
BVSC
Latham House
33-34 Paradise Street
Birmingham

B1 2AJ
31 December 2025

Statement of Financial Activities
for the year ended 31 December 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £	Total funds 2024 £
Income and endowments from:					
Donations and legacies	3	417,807	80,713	498,520	220,776
Charitable activities	4	8,206	-	8,206	5,664
Investments	5	3,610	-	3,610	1,492
Total		429,623	80,713	510,336	227,932
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities	6	24,825	646	25,471	181,601
Other	7	89,639	35,714	125,353	125,870
Total		114,464	36,360	150,824	307,471
Net gains on investments		-	-	-	-
Net income/(expenditure)	8	315,159	44,353	359,512	(79,539)
Transfers between funds		-	-	-	-
Net income/(expenditure) before other gains/(losses)		315,159	44,353	359,512	(79,539)
Other gains and losses					
Net movement in funds		315,159	44,353	359,512	(79,539)
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward		4,077	-	4,077	83,616
Total funds carried forward		319,236	44,353	363,589	4,077

Balance Sheet
at 31 December 2025

Charity No. 1151491		2025	2024
		£	£
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	10	56,994	-
		56,994	-
Current assets			
Cash at bank and in hand		355,407	49,037
		355,407	49,037
Creditors: Amount falling due within one year	11	(48,813)	(44,960)
Net current assets		306,594	4,077
Total assets less current liabilities		363,588	4,077
Net assets excluding pension asset or liability		363,588	4,077
Total net assets		363,589	4,077
The funds of the charity			
Restricted funds	12		
Restricted income funds		44,353	-
		44,353	-
Unrestricted funds	12		
General funds		319,236	4,077
		319,236	4,077
Reserves	12		
Total funds		363,589	4,077

Approved by the trustees on 31 December 2025

And signed on their behalf by:

T. Thomas
Trustee
31 December 2025

Notes to the Accounts
for the year ended 31 December 2025

1 Accounting policies

Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic if Ireland (FRS 102) issued on 16 July 2014 and the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.

Change in basis of accounting or to previous accounts

There has been no change to the accounting policies (valuation rules and method of accounting) since last year and no changes have been made to accounts for previous years.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds	These are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objects of the charity.
Designated funds	These are unrestricted funds earmarked by the trustees for particular purposes.
Revaluation funds	These are unrestricted funds which include a revaluation reserve representing the restatement of investment assets at their market values.
Restricted funds	These are available for use subject to restrictions imposed by the donor or through terms of an appeal.

Income

Recognition of income	Income is included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SoFA) when the charity becomes entitled to, and virtually certain to receive, the income and the amount of the income can be measured with sufficient reliability.
Income with related expenditure	Where income has related expenditure the income and related expenditure is reported gross in the SoFA.
Donations and legacies	Voluntary income received by way of grants, donations and gifts is included in the the SoFA when receivable and only when the Charity has unconditional entitlement to the income.
Tax reclaims on donations and gifts	Income from tax reclaims is included in the SoFA at the same time as the gift/donation to which it relates.
Donated services and facilities	These are only included in income (with an equivalent amount in expenditure) where the benefit to the Charity is reasonably quantifiable, measurable and material.
Volunteer help	The value of any volunteer help received is not included in the accounts.
Investment income	This is included in the accounts when receivable.
Gains/(losses) on revaluation of fixed assets	This includes any gain or loss resulting from revaluing investments to market value at the end of the year.
Gains/(losses) on investment assets	This includes any gain or loss on the sale of investments.

Notes to the Accounts

Expenditure

Recognition of expenditure	Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be fully recovered, and is reported as part of the expenditure to which it relates.
Expenditure on raising funds	These comprise the costs associated with attracting voluntary income, fundraising trading costs and investment management costs.
Expenditure on charitable activities	These comprise the costs incurred by the Charity in the delivery of its activities and services in the furtherance of its objects, including the making of grants and governance costs.
Grants payable	All grant expenditure is accounted for on an actual paid basis plus an accrual for grants that have been approved by the trustees at the end of the year but not yet paid.
Governance costs	These include those costs associated with meeting the constitutional and statutory requirements of the Charity, including any audit/independent examination fees, costs linked to the strategic management of the Charity, together with a share of other administration costs.
Other expenditure	These are support costs not allocated to a particular activity.

Taxation

The charity is exempt from tax on its charitable activities.

Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life:

Consecrated and benefice property is not included in the accounts in accordance with section 10 of the Charities Act.

Trade and other debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash at bank and on hand, demand deposits with banks and other short-term highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less and bank overdrafts. In the statement of financial position, bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings or current liabilities. In the Statement of Cash Flows, cash and cash equivalents are shown net of bank overdrafts that are repayable on demand and form an integral part of the company's cash management.

Trade and other creditors

Short term creditors are measured at the transaction price. Other creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

Notes to the Accounts

Pension costs

The charity operates a defined contribution plan for its employees. A defined contribution plan is a pension plan under which the charity pays fixed contributions into a separate entity. Once the contributions have been paid the charity has no further payments obligations. The contributions are recognised as expenses when they fall due. Amounts not paid are shown in accruals in the balance sheet. The assets of the plan are held separately from the charity in independently administered funds.

Receipt of donated goods, facilities and services

All donated goods, facilities and services received are recognised within incoming resources and expenditure at an estimate of the value to the charity.

2 Statement of Financial Activities - prior year

	Unrestricted funds 2024	Restricted funds 2024	Total funds 2024
	£	£	£
Income and endowments from:			
Donations and legacies	129,080	91,696	220,776
Charitable activities	5,664	-	5,664
Investments	1,492	-	1,492
Total	136,236	91,696	227,932
Expenditure on:			
Charitable activities	149,554	32,047	181,601
Other	66,221	59,649	125,870
Total	215,775	91,696	307,471
Net income	(79,539)	0	(79,539)
Net income before other gains/(losses)	(79,539)	0	(79,539)
Other gains and losses:			
Net movement in funds	(79,539)	0	(79,539)
Reconciliation of funds:			
Total funds brought forward	83,616	-	83,616
Total funds carried forward	4,077	0	4,077

Notes to the Accounts

3 Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total 2025	Total 2024
	£	£	£	£
Planned Giving	80,037	80,713	160,750	89,253
One-Off and Open Plate Donations	25,094	-	25,094	63,973
Legacies	306,911	-	306,911	-
Grants	5,765	-	5,765	67,550
	417,807	80,713	498,520	220,776

4 Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted	Total 2025	Total 2024
	£	£	£
Fees for Weddings and Funerals	1,930	1,930	1,036
Income from Use of Church	6,276	6,276	4,628
	8,206	8,206	5,664

5 Income from investments

	Unrestricted	Total 2025	Total 2024
	£	£	£
Bank Interest	3,610	3,610	1,492
	3,610	3,610	1,492

6 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total 2025	Total 2024
	£	£	£	£
Expenditure on charitable activities				
Church Running Costs	23,421	-	23,421	177,235
Costs of Weddings and Funerals	877	-	877	1,386
Outreach Activity	144	-	144	2,005
Youth Work Costs	383	646	1,029	975
Governance costs				
	24,825	646	25,471	181,601

Notes to the Accounts

7 Other expenditure

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total 2025	Total 2024
	£	£	£	£
Common Fund	43,800	-	43,800	39,276
Charitable Giving	10,087	-	10,087	9,513
Employee costs	5,986	35,714	41,700	59,649
Premises costs	17,810	-	17,810	11,411
Amortisation, depreciation, impairment, profit/loss on disposal of fixed assets	6,333	-	6,333	-
General administrative costs	4,663	-	4,663	5,061
Legal and professional costs	960	-	960	960
	89,639	35,714	125,353	125,870

8 Net income/(expenditure) before transfers

	2025	2024
This is stated after charging:	£	£
Depreciation of owned fixed assets	6,333	-

9 Staff costs

	2025	2024
Salaries and wages	40,815	56,949
Pension costs	885	2,700
	41,700	59,649

No employee received emoluments in excess of £60,000.

The average monthly number of full time equivalent employees during the year was as follows:

	2025 Number	2024 Number
Church running	1	1
Outreach Work	2	2
Youth work	1	1
	2	-
	6	4

The charity runs a defined contributions pension scheme which is administered by a third party.

Notes to the Accounts

10 Tangible fixed assets

	£	£
Cost or revaluation		
Additions	63,327	63,327
At 31 December 2025	63,327	63,327
Depreciation and impairment		
Depreciation charge for the year	6,333	6,333
At 31 December 2025	6,333	6,333
Net book values		
At 31 December 2025	56,994	56,994

11 Creditors:
amounts falling due within one year

	2025	2024
	£	£
Other loans	47,853	44,000
Accruals	960	960
	48,813	44,960

12 Movement in funds

	At 1 January 2025	Incoming resources (including other gains/losses)	Resources expended	At 31 December 2025
		£	£	£
Restricted funds:				
Restricted income funds:				
	-	80,713	(36,360)	44,353
Total	-	80,713	(36,360)	44,353
Unrestricted funds:				
General funds	4,077	429,623	(114,464)	319,236
Total funds	4,077	510,336	(150,824)	363,589

13 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds	Total
	£	£
Fixed assets	56,994	56,994
Net current assets	306,594	306,594
	363,588	363,588

Notes to the Accounts

14 Reconciliation of net debt

	At 1 January 2025	Cash flows	At 31 December 2025
	£	£	£
Cash and cash equivalents	49,037	306,370	355,407
	49,037	306,370	355,407
Borrowings	(44,000)	(3,853)	(47,853)
	(44,000)	(3,853)	(47,853)
Net debt	5,037	302,517	307,554

15 Commitments

Operating lease commitments

Annual commitments under non-cancellable operating leases are as follows:

	2025 Land and buildings	2025 Other	2024 Land and buildings	2024 Other
	£	£	£	£
Operating leases with expiry date:				

Pension commitments

	2025	2024
	£	£
The pension cost charge to the charity amounted to:	885	2,700

Statement of Cash flows
for the year ended 31 December 2025

	2025 £	2024 £
Cash flows from operating activities		
Net income/(expenditure) per Statement of Financial Activities	359,512	(79,539)
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation of property, plant and equipment	6,333	-
Dividends, interest and rents from investments	(3,610)	(1,492)
Other gains/losses	-	-
Increase in trade and other payables	-	960
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities	362,235	(80,071)
Cash flows from investing activities		
Payments for property, plant and equipment	(63,327)	-
Dividends, interest and rents from investments	3,610	1,492
Net cash (used in)/from investing activities	(59,717)	1,492
Cash flows from financing activities		
Repayment of borrowings	3,853	44,000
Net cash from financing activities	3,853	44,000
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	306,371	(34,579)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year	49,037	83,616
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	355,408	49,037
Components of cash and cash equivalents		
Cash and bank balances	355,407	49,037
	355,407	49,037

Detailed Statement of Financial Activities
for the year ended 31 December 2025

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £	Total funds 2024 £
Income and endowments from:				
Donations and legacies				
Planned Giving	80,037	80,713	160,750	89,253
One-Off and Open Plate Donations	25,094	-	25,094	63,973
Legacies	306,911	-	306,911	-
Grants	5,765	-	5,765	67,550
	417,807	80,713	498,520	220,776
Charitable activities				
Fees for Weddings and Funerals	1,930	-	1,930	1,036
Income from Use of Church	6,276	-	6,276	4,628
	8,206	-	8,206	5,664
Investments				
Bank Interest	3,610	-	3,610	1,492
	3,610	-	3,610	1,492
Total income and endowments	429,623	80,713	510,336	227,932
Expenditure on:				
Charitable activities				
Church Running Costs	23,421	-	23,421	177,235
Costs of Weddings and Funerals	877	-	877	1,386
Outreach Activity	144	-	144	2,005
Youth Work Costs	383	646	1,029	975
	24,825	646	25,471	181,601
Total of expenditure on charitable activities	24,825	646	25,471	181,601
Other expenditure				
Common Fund	43,800	-	43,800	39,276
Charitable Giving	10,087	-	10,087	9,513
	53,887	-	53,887	48,789
Employee costs				
Salaries/wages	5,101	35,714	40,815	56,949
Pension costs	885	-	885	2,700
	5,986	35,714	41,700	59,649
Premises costs				
Light, heat and power	-	-	-	11,411
Premises repairs and maintenance	17,810	-	17,810	-
	17,810	-	17,810	11,411

Detailed Statement of Financial Activities

General administrative costs, including depreciation and amortisation				
Depreciation of land and buildings	6,333	-	6,333	-
General insurances	-	-	-	2,477
Sundry expenses	4,663	-	4,663	2,584
	10,996	-	10,996	5,061
Legal and professional costs				
Audit/Independent examination fees	480	-	480	480
Accountancy and bookkeeping	480	-	480	480
	960	-	960	960
Total of expenditure of other costs	89,639	35,714	125,353	125,870
Total expenditure	114,464	36,360	150,824	307,471
Net gains on investments	-	-	-	-
Net income/(expenditure)	315,159	44,353	359,512	(79,539)
Net income/(expenditure) before other gains/(losses)	315,159	44,353	359,512	(79,539)
Other Gains	-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds	315,159	44,353	359,512	(79,539)
Reconciliation of funds:				
Total funds brought forward	4,077	-	4,077	83,616
Total funds carried forward	319,236	44,353	363,589	4,077

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST CHRISTOPHER'S SPRINGFIELD

Charity No. 1151491

Annual Accounts

31 December 2025

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Independent Examiners Report

Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees of THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST CHRISTOPHER'S SPRINGFIELD

I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST CHRISTOPHER'S SPRINGFIELD for the year ended 31 December 2025.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's financial statements carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

As the charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of ACMA.

I have completed my examination. I can confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
- the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
- the financial statements do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of financial statements set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the financial statements give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the financial statements to be reached.



Jasbir Rai ACMA
BVSC
Latham House
33-34 Paradise Street
Birmingham

B1 2AJ
31 December 2025

Statement of Financial Activities
for the year ended 31 December 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £	Total funds 2024 £
Income and endowments from:					
Donations and legacies	3	417,807	80,713	498,520	220,776
Charitable activities	4	8,206	-	8,206	5,664
Investments	5	3,610	-	3,610	1,492
Total		429,623	80,713	510,336	227,932
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities	6	24,825	646	25,471	181,601
Other	7	89,639	35,714	125,353	125,870
Total		114,464	36,360	150,824	307,471
Net gains on investments		-	-	-	-
Net income/(expenditure)	8	315,159	44,353	359,512	(79,539)
Transfers between funds		-	-	-	-
Net income/(expenditure) before other gains/(losses)		315,159	44,353	359,512	(79,539)
Other gains and losses					
Net movement in funds		315,159	44,353	359,512	(79,539)
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward		4,077	-	4,077	83,616
Total funds carried forward		319,236	44,353	363,589	4,077

Balance Sheet
at 31 December 2025

Charity No. 1151491		2025	2024
		£	£
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	10	56,994	-
		56,994	-
Current assets			
Cash at bank and in hand		355,407	49,037
		355,407	49,037
Creditors: Amount falling due within one year	11	(48,813)	(44,960)
Net current assets		306,594	4,077
Total assets less current liabilities		363,588	4,077
Net assets excluding pension asset or liability		363,588	4,077
Total net assets		363,589	4,077
The funds of the charity			
Restricted funds	12		
Restricted income funds		44,353	-
		44,353	-
Unrestricted funds	12		
General funds		319,236	4,077
		319,236	4,077
Reserves	12		
Total funds		363,589	4,077

Approved by the trustees on 31 December 2025

And signed on their behalf by:

T. Thomas
Trustee
31 December 2025

Notes to the Accounts
for the year ended 31 December 2025

1 Accounting policies

Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic if Ireland (FRS 102) issued on 16 July 2014 and the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.

Change in basis of accounting or to previous accounts

There has been no change to the accounting policies (valuation rules and method of accounting) since last year and no changes have been made to accounts for previous years.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds	These are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objects of the charity.
Designated funds	These are unrestricted funds earmarked by the trustees for particular purposes.
Revaluation funds	These are unrestricted funds which include a revaluation reserve representing the restatement of investment assets at their market values.
Restricted funds	These are available for use subject to restrictions imposed by the donor or through terms of an appeal.

Income

Recognition of income	Income is included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SoFA) when the charity becomes entitled to, and virtually certain to receive, the income and the amount of the income can be measured with sufficient reliability.
Income with related expenditure	Where income has related expenditure the income and related expenditure is reported gross in the SoFA.
Donations and legacies	Voluntary income received by way of grants, donations and gifts is included in the the SoFA when receivable and only when the Charity has unconditional entitlement to the income.
Tax reclaims on donations and gifts	Income from tax reclaims is included in the SoFA at the same time as the gift/donation to which it relates.
Donated services and facilities	These are only included in income (with an equivalent amount in expenditure) where the benefit to the Charity is reasonably quantifiable, measurable and material.
Volunteer help	The value of any volunteer help received is not included in the accounts.
Investment income	This is included in the accounts when receivable.
Gains/(losses) on revaluation of fixed assets	This includes any gain or loss resulting from revaluing investments to market value at the end of the year.
Gains/(losses) on investment assets	This includes any gain or loss on the sale of investments.

Notes to the Accounts

Expenditure

Recognition of expenditure	Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be fully recovered, and is reported as part of the expenditure to which it relates.
Expenditure on raising funds	These comprise the costs associated with attracting voluntary income, fundraising trading costs and investment management costs.
Expenditure on charitable activities	These comprise the costs incurred by the Charity in the delivery of its activities and services in the furtherance of its objects, including the making of grants and governance costs.
Grants payable	All grant expenditure is accounted for on an actual paid basis plus an accrual for grants that have been approved by the trustees at the end of the year but not yet paid.
Governance costs	These include those costs associated with meeting the constitutional and statutory requirements of the Charity, including any audit/independent examination fees, costs linked to the strategic management of the Charity, together with a share of other administration costs.
Other expenditure	These are support costs not allocated to a particular activity.

Taxation

The charity is exempt from tax on its charitable activities.

Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life:

Consecrated and benefice property is not included in the accounts in accordance with section 10 of the Charities Act.

Trade and other debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash at bank and on hand, demand deposits with banks and other short-term highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less and bank overdrafts. In the statement of financial position, bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings or current liabilities. In the Statement of Cash Flows, cash and cash equivalents are shown net of bank overdrafts that are repayable on demand and form an integral part of the company's cash management.

Trade and other creditors

Short term creditors are measured at the transaction price. Other creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

Notes to the Accounts

Pension costs

The charity operates a defined contribution plan for its employees. A defined contribution plan is a pension plan under which the charity pays fixed contributions into a separate entity. Once the contributions have been paid the charity has no further payments obligations. The contributions are recognised as expenses when they fall due. Amounts not paid are shown in accruals in the balance sheet. The assets of the plan are held separately from the charity in independently administered funds.

Receipt of donated goods, facilities and services

All donated goods, facilities and services received are recognised within incoming resources and expenditure at an estimate of the value to the charity.

2 Statement of Financial Activities - prior year

	Unrestricted funds 2024	Restricted funds 2024	Total funds 2024
	£	£	£
Income and endowments from:			
Donations and legacies	129,080	91,696	220,776
Charitable activities	5,664	-	5,664
Investments	1,492	-	1,492
Total	136,236	91,696	227,932
Expenditure on:			
Charitable activities	149,554	32,047	181,601
Other	66,221	59,649	125,870
Total	215,775	91,696	307,471
Net income	(79,539)	0	(79,539)
Net income before other gains/(losses)	(79,539)	0	(79,539)
Other gains and losses:			
Net movement in funds	(79,539)	0	(79,539)
Reconciliation of funds:			
Total funds brought forward	83,616	-	83,616
Total funds carried forward	4,077	0	4,077

Notes to the Accounts

3 Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total 2025	Total 2024
	£	£	£	£
Planned Giving	80,037	80,713	160,750	89,253
One-Off and Open Plate Donations	25,094	-	25,094	63,973
Legacies	306,911	-	306,911	-
Grants	5,765	-	5,765	67,550
	417,807	80,713	498,520	220,776

4 Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted	Total 2025	Total 2024
	£	£	£
Fees for Weddings and Funerals	1,930	1,930	1,036
Income from Use of Church	6,276	6,276	4,628
	8,206	8,206	5,664

5 Income from investments

	Unrestricted	Total 2025	Total 2024
	£	£	£
Bank Interest	3,610	3,610	1,492
	3,610	3,610	1,492

6 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total 2025	Total 2024
	£	£	£	£
Expenditure on charitable activities				
Church Running Costs	23,421	-	23,421	177,235
Costs of Weddings and Funerals	877	-	877	1,386
Outreach Activity	144	-	144	2,005
Youth Work Costs	383	646	1,029	975
Governance costs				
	24,825	646	25,471	181,601

Notes to the Accounts

7 Other expenditure

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total 2025	Total 2024
	£	£	£	£
Common Fund	43,800	-	43,800	39,276
Charitable Giving	10,087	-	10,087	9,513
Employee costs	5,986	35,714	41,700	59,649
Premises costs	17,810	-	17,810	11,411
Amortisation, depreciation, impairment, profit/loss on disposal of fixed assets	6,333	-	6,333	-
General administrative costs	4,663	-	4,663	5,061
Legal and professional costs	960	-	960	960
	89,639	35,714	125,353	125,870

8 Net income/(expenditure) before transfers

	2025	2024
This is stated after charging:	£	£
Depreciation of owned fixed assets	6,333	-

9 Staff costs

	2025	2024
Salaries and wages	40,815	56,949
Pension costs	885	2,700
	41,700	59,649

No employee received emoluments in excess of £60,000.

The average monthly number of full time equivalent employees during the year was as follows:

	2025 Number	2024 Number
Church running	1	1
Outreach Work	2	2
Youth work	1	1
	2	-
	6	4

The charity runs a defined contributions pension scheme which is administered by a third party.

Notes to the Accounts

10 Tangible fixed assets

	£	£
Cost or revaluation		
Additions	63,327	63,327
At 31 December 2025	63,327	63,327
Depreciation and impairment		
Depreciation charge for the year	6,333	6,333
At 31 December 2025	6,333	6,333
Net book values		
At 31 December 2025	56,994	56,994

11 Creditors:
amounts falling due within one year

	2025	2024
	£	£
Other loans	47,853	44,000
Accruals	960	960
	48,813	44,960

12 Movement in funds

	At 1 January 2025	Incoming resources (including other gains/losses)	Resources expended	At 31 December 2025
		£	£	£
Restricted funds:				
Restricted income funds:				
	-	80,713	(36,360)	44,353
Total	-	80,713	(36,360)	44,353
Unrestricted funds:				
General funds	4,077	429,623	(114,464)	319,236
Total funds	4,077	510,336	(150,824)	363,589

13 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds	Total
	£	£
Fixed assets	56,994	56,994
Net current assets	306,594	306,594
	363,588	363,588

Notes to the Accounts

14 Reconciliation of net debt

	At 1 January 2025	Cash flows	At 31 December 2025
	£	£	£
Cash and cash equivalents	49,037	306,370	355,407
	49,037	306,370	355,407
Borrowings	(44,000)	(3,853)	(47,853)
	(44,000)	(3,853)	(47,853)
Net debt	5,037	302,517	307,554

15 Commitments

Operating lease commitments

Annual commitments under non-cancellable operating leases are as follows:

	2025 Land and buildings	2025 Other	2024 Land and buildings	2024 Other
	£	£	£	£
Operating leases with expiry date:				

Pension commitments

	2025	2024
	£	£
The pension cost charge to the charity amounted to:	885	2,700

Statement of Cash flows
for the year ended 31 December 2025

	2025 £	2024 £
Cash flows from operating activities		
Net income/(expenditure) per Statement of Financial Activities	359,512	(79,539)
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation of property, plant and equipment	6,333	-
Dividends, interest and rents from investments	(3,610)	(1,492)
Other gains/losses	-	-
Increase in trade and other payables	-	960
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities	362,235	(80,071)
Cash flows from investing activities		
Payments for property, plant and equipment	(63,327)	-
Dividends, interest and rents from investments	3,610	1,492
Net cash (used in)/from investing activities	(59,717)	1,492
Cash flows from financing activities		
Repayment of borrowings	3,853	44,000
Net cash from financing activities	3,853	44,000
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	306,371	(34,579)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year	49,037	83,616
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	355,408	49,037
Components of cash and cash equivalents		
Cash and bank balances	355,407	49,037
	355,407	49,037

Detailed Statement of Financial Activities
for the year ended 31 December 2025

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £	Total funds 2024 £
Income and endowments from:				
Donations and legacies				
Planned Giving	80,037	80,713	160,750	89,253
One-Off and Open Plate Donations	25,094	-	25,094	63,973
Legacies	306,911	-	306,911	-
Grants	5,765	-	5,765	67,550
	417,807	80,713	498,520	220,776
Charitable activities				
Fees for Weddings and Funerals	1,930	-	1,930	1,036
Income from Use of Church	6,276	-	6,276	4,628
	8,206	-	8,206	5,664
Investments				
Bank Interest	3,610	-	3,610	1,492
	3,610	-	3,610	1,492
Total income and endowments	429,623	80,713	510,336	227,932
Expenditure on:				
Charitable activities				
Church Running Costs	23,421	-	23,421	177,235
Costs of Weddings and Funerals	877	-	877	1,386
Outreach Activity	144	-	144	2,005
Youth Work Costs	383	646	1,029	975
	24,825	646	25,471	181,601
Total of expenditure on charitable activities	24,825	646	25,471	181,601
Other expenditure				
Common Fund	43,800	-	43,800	39,276
Charitable Giving	10,087	-	10,087	9,513
	53,887	-	53,887	48,789
Employee costs				
Salaries/wages	5,101	35,714	40,815	56,949
Pension costs	885	-	885	2,700
	5,986	35,714	41,700	59,649
Premises costs				
Light, heat and power	-	-	-	11,411
Premises repairs and maintenance	17,810	-	17,810	-
	17,810	-	17,810	11,411

Detailed Statement of Financial Activities

General administrative costs, including depreciation and amortisation				
Depreciation of land and buildings	6,333	-	6,333	-
General insurances	-	-	-	2,477
Sundry expenses	4,663	-	4,663	2,584
	10,996	-	10,996	5,061
Legal and professional costs				
Audit/Independent examination fees	480	-	480	480
Accountancy and bookkeeping	480	-	480	480
	960	-	960	960
Total of expenditure of other costs	89,639	35,714	125,353	125,870
Total expenditure	114,464	36,360	150,824	307,471
Net gains on investments	-	-	-	-
Net income/(expenditure)	315,159	44,353	359,512	(79,539)
Net income/(expenditure) before other gains/(losses)	315,159	44,353	359,512	(79,539)
Other Gains	-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds	315,159	44,353	359,512	(79,539)
Reconciliation of funds:				
Total funds brought forward	4,077	-	4,077	83,616
Total funds carried forward	319,236	44,353	363,589	4,077