Harwich Peninsula Parish Financial Review 2025

Summary

The financial statements have been drawn up on a ‘Receipts and Payments’ basis and combine three sets of local church accounts, as well as the central parish account. The aggregate bank and cash balances at the end of 2025 amounted to £338,822.79.

Unrestricted income in 2025 amounted to £103,877.57.

Unrestricted expenditure in 2025 amounted to £117,415.68.

The Parish Share for 2025 was only 20% paid, with a target to pay 100% in 2026.

As the figures above show, despite only paying a fraction of the parish share, overall the parish spent £13,538.11 more than it received in 2025. Given reduced use of Esplanade Hall with The Lounge ending its tenancy, and the significant investment required in all of our buildings over the next few years, this raises concerns around the church finances. Whilst there is a significant buffer amount in the bank accounts currently, that will soon diminish if we run a loss each year as well as spending out to maintain our buildings. Serious consideration will need to be given to the financial wellbeing of the parish by the PCC in the coming years.

Throughout 2026 work will progress to combine accounts into a central parish account, reducing the complexity of the financial setup within the parish. The parish treasurer will become the sole treasurer, and will be supported by a finance group, as well as the PCC.

Reserves Policy

It is the PCC policy to maintain a cash balance on unrestricted funds which amounts to at least three months of unrestricted expenditure. This equates to £29,353.92 for the parish as a whole. The aggregate balance at the end of 2025 was in excess of this amount, though it is not evenly distributed between the churches.

Approved by the PCC on 27th April 2026 and signed on their behalf by:

_____ _____

Ian Smith (Chair) Chris Wallace (Treasurer)

Independent Examiners Report

Independent Examiners Report to the Trustees of Harwich and Parkeston PCC

I report to the Charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of Harwich and Parkeston PCC

Charity for the year ended 31 December 2025, which are set out below.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance

with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act")

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act

and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commision under Section 145(5)(b)

Independent examiners's statement

I have completed my examination. I 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:

1 Accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by Section 130

of the Act; or

2 The accounts do not accord with those records

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 accounts to be reached.

Signed: Owen Jones

Date: 08/05/2026

Parish Resources Account - 2025

Opening Balance 1st January 2025	£ 20,184.74	**Closing Balance**	£ 13,621.30
Updated:	26/01/2026	**CCLA Closing Balance**	£ 143,409.68

Cost Centre	Income	Expenditure	Variance	Restricted
Admin Expenses	£ -	£ 1,993.56	-£ 1,993.56	
Administrator	£ 494.00	£ 8,016.56	-£ 7,522.56	
Card Machines	£ -	£ 1,410.00	-£ 1,410.00	
CCLA	£ 5,000.00	£ -	£ 5,000.00	
CDBF	£ -	£ 9,219.00	-£ 9,219.00	
Children's Work	£ -	£ 965.41	-£ 965.41	
Church Contributions	£ 7,650.00	£ -	£ 7,650.00	
Community Carols	£ -	£ 448.00	-£ 448.00	
Donations	£ 2,663.75	£ -	£ 2,663.75	
Esplanade Hall	£ 22,000.00	£ 6,091.73	£ 15,908.27	*£ 44,810.27*
Family Worker	£ -	£ 10,869.46	-£ 10,869.46	*£ 53,988.54*
Funerals	£ 16,818.65	£ 172.00	£ 16,646.65	
Henry Smith Fund	£ 1.63	£ 2,200.00	-£ 2,198.37	
Locum	£ -	£ 419.00	-£ 419.00	
Messy Church	£ -	£ 250.97	-£ 250.97	*£ 5,749.03*
Millenium Room	£ 262.50	£ -	£ 262.50	
Ministry Expenses	£ -	£ 2,457.31	-£ 2,457.31	
Misc.	£ -	£ 536.30	-£ 536.30	
MOF	£ 3,000.00	£ 2,787.00	£ 213.00	*£ 3,213.00*
Parish Share 2024	£ -	£ 10,924.00	-£ 10,924.00	
Parish Share 2025	£ -	£ -	£ -	
Photocopier	£ 12.05	£ 1,777.18	-£ 1,765.13	
Soul Spaces	£ 8,000.00	£ -	£ 8,000.00	*£ 8,000.00*
St Nicholas' Hall	£ 9,000.00	£ 6,562.37	£ 2,437.63	
The Lounge	£ 16,667.00	£ 29,784.09	-£ 13,117.09	*£ 256.91*
TSB	£ 14,419.85	£ 14,419.85	£ -	
Verger/Organist	£ -	£ 3,178.64	-£ 3,178.64	
Weddings	£ 8,373.00	£ -	£ 8,373.00	
Church - All Saints	£ -	£ 129.00	-£ 129.00	
Church - St Michael's	£ -	£ 576.00	-£ 576.00	
Church - St Nicholas	£ -	£ 5,685.24	-£ 5,685.24	
TOTAL	**£ 114,362.43**	**£ 120,872.67**	**-£ 6,510.24**	

Total All Accounts	£ 157,030.98
Amount Restricted	£ 116,017.75
Amount Unrestricted	£ 41,013.23

All Saints Church Account - 2025

ALL SAINTS, DOVERCOURT

General Fund Receipts	2025
Planned Giving	4537.00
Collections	8913.12
Unallocated Receipts	0.00
Fees	0.00
Donations	840.67
Church & Poorland Donations	0.00
Hall Hire	2507.80
Fund Raising	667.10
Income Tax Recovered	6066.90
Legacy	0.00
Interest	0.00
Trust income	351.97
Clock Fund	631.45
TOTAL	**24516.01**

General Fund Expenditure	2025
Parish Share	10800.00
Donations	0.00
Water rates	53.97
Insurance	2359.42
Electric	3317.80
Repairs	-791.50
Candles	301.06
Organ exps	556.00
Payments to PCC	2025.00
Administration Costs	482.24
TOTAL	**19103.99**

NET SURPLUS	5412.02

FUNDS	B/fwd	Receipts	Expenditure	Transfers	31/12/2025
All Saints Fabric Fund (Unrestricted)	0.00	0.00		0.00	0.00
All Saints Fabric Fund (Restricted)	17754.19	0.00	0.00		17754.19
All Saints Organ Fund (Restricted)	3420.03	0.00	-556.00		2864.03
All Saints Lighting Fund (Restricted)	101.67	0.00	0.00		101.67
All Saints Clock Fund		631.45	0.00		631.45
General Reserve Fund	2444.56	24516.01	-19103.99	0	7856.58
TOTAL	23720.45	25147.46	-19659.99	0.00	29207.92

Bank Current Account	29196.71
Bank Deposit Tracker Account	0.00
CCLA Deposit Account	0.00
TOTAL	**29196.71**

St Michael's Church Account - 2025

2025 INCOME - ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH, RAMSEY WITH LITTLE OAKLEY

Month	Standing Prder	Collection	Donation	Interest	Fees	Mill Room	Fees	Total
January	£360.00	£361.10			£50.00	£25.00		£796.10
February	£360.00	£269.00	£25.00	£15.12	£50.00	£25.00		£744.12
March	£280.00	£494.04	£10.00			£25.00		£809.04
April	£280.00	£524.27	£40.00			£25.00		£869.27
May	£340.00	£469.38	£60.00	£20.62		£50.00		£940.00
June	£260.00	£819.39	£60.00			£25.00		£1,164.39
July	£260.00	£265.13	£60.00			£25.00		£610.13
August	£320.00	£647.73		£23.66				£991.39
September	£305.00	£731.39				£25.00		£1,061.39
October	£305.00	£175.13	£75.80			£50.00		£605.93
November	£305.00	£422.08	£50.00	£20.01		£50.00		£847.09
December	£305.00	£872.95					£225.00	£1,402.95
	£3,680.00	£6,051.59	£380.80	£79.41	£100.00	£325.00	£225.00	£10,841.80

2025 Expenditure - St Michael's church, Ramsey with Little Oakley

Date	Parish Share	Ministry Exp.	Insurance	Utility	Church Maint.	Church Costs	Total
January		£225.00	£149.10	£168.63	£132.00		£674.73
February		£225.00	£149.10	£184.14		£55.00	£613.24
March		£225.00	£149.10	£161.56			£535.66
April		£225.00	£149.10	£159.18			£533.28
May		£225.00	£149.10	£134.35		£100.00	£608.45
June		£225.00	£149.10	£185.21	£129.00	£20.00	£708.31
July		£225.00	£149.10	£372.82			£746.92
August		£225.00	£155.94	£106.36			£487.30
September		£225.00	£155.90	£117.00			£497.90
October		£225.00	£155.90	£52.76			£433.66
November		£225.00	£155.90	£81.12	£92.00		£554.02
December		£225.00	£155.90	£218.17			£599.07
	£0.00	£2,700.00	£1,823.24	£1,941.30	£353.00	£175.00	£6,992.54

Bank Balance as at 01.01.2026 = £5,636.31

St Nicholas Church Account - 2025

St Nicholas Church, Harwich

Expenditure 2025

Fete floats	0.00
Charitable giving	0.00
Parish share	0.00
Ministry exp	2475.00
Church upkeep	0.00
Upkeep of services	359.81
Insurance	6283.35
Utilities	2685.91
miscellaneous	2846.35
Total expenditure	**14650.42**

Income 2025

Planned giving bank	2341.00
Planned giving envelopes	0.00
Open plate collections	5578.93
Charity collections	0.00
Tax recovered	0.00
Gift days	151.88
Donations	1318.00
Fund raising	0.00
Beehive	0.00
Internal transfer	0.00
Total income	**9389.81**

Closing Balance 31/12/2025

Closing Current Account Balance	8660.35
Closing Savings Account Balance	12987.29
Closing CCLA (Fabric) Balance	73871.5
Closing CCLA (General) Balance	51439.65
Closing All Accounts	**146958.8**

Restrictions

Beehive	3000
Organ	10000
Fabric	59824.79
Clock	640.07

Total Restricted	73464.86
Total Unrestricted	73493.93

Notes to the financial statements

1. Accounting policies

a. Accounting basis

The financial statements have been prepared on a receipts and payments basis and in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 and current church accounting guidance.

b. Funds

The PCC operates a number of different types of funds, as detailed below:

Unrestricted funds - general funds which can be used for PCC ordinary purposes

Designated funds - monies set aside by the PCC out of unrestricted funds for specific future purposes or projects.

Restricted funds - a) income from trusts or endowments which may be expended only on those restricted objects provided in the terms of the trust or bequest; b) donations or grants received for a specific object or invited by the PCC for a specific object. The funds may only be expended on the specific object for which they were given. Any balance remaining unspent at the end of the year is carried forward as a balance on that fund.

Endowment funds - funds the capital of which must be maintained; only income arising from the investment of the endowment may be used, either as restricted or unrestricted funds, depending on the purpose set out in the terms of the original endowment.

c. Receipts

Receipts are included in the Receipts and Payments Account only when actually received by the PCC. Amounts due but not received at the end of the year (such as income tax claims, legacies or grant awards) are not included, however significant items are noted at the bottom of the Statement of Assets and Liabilities. Receipts for fee income from weddings, funerals etc. relate only to amounts due to the PCC, and exclude amounts collected by the PCC as agent and subsequently paid over to ministers, vergers, organists and the Diocesan Board of Finance.

d. Payments

Payments are included in the Receipts and Payments Accounts only when paid by the PCC. Amounts due but not paid at the end of the year (such as committed grants or unpaid diocesan parish share contributions) are not included, however significant items are noted at the bottom of the Statement of Assets and Liabilities.

e. Fixed assets

Movable church furnishings held by the churchwardens on special trust for the PCC, and which require a faculty for disposal, are treated as inalienable property unless consecrated. They are listed in the relevant church inventories which can be inspected at any reasonable time. Consecrated and benefice property is not included in the financial statements in accordance with Section 10(2)(a) and (c) of the Charities Act 2011. Other significant fixed assets retained for use by the PCC are recognised in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities. Approximate values are stated where available.

f. Investments

Investments held by the PCC are recognised in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities, and are stated at year end market value.

2. PCC members and related parties

Expenses paid to clergy may include a small immaterial proportion which relates to their function as PCC members. No other payments were made to PCC members, or to related parties, either as remuneration or as expenses, other than the occasional reimbursement for routine items and services paid for by them on behalf of the PCC.

3. Investment assets (representing endowment funds)

Dovercourt		Ramsey	Little Oakley	
Tithe Chancel Trust	Miss Ward Trust	Tithe Chancel Trust	Wontner Bequest Fund	Wontner Churchyard Trust
£ 9,033.50	£ 12,160.89	£ 7,723.96	£ 2,002.79	£ 304.01

The above five endowment trust funds are managed by the Diocese on behalf of the PCC.

Income on the Miss Ward Trust fund is mandated to the PCC, and is available for general ecclesiastical purposes. Income on the Tithe Chancel Trust funds is reinvested until required, and is available for restricted use in connection with eligible costs associated with the chancel areas of the above two churches. The Wonter Bequest is set up for any special need for assistance in the parish. The Wonter churchyard trust income is for the upkeep of Little Oakley Churchyard, especially the graves of Revd Wonter and his relatives.

The capital element of all five endowment funds is permanent.

4. Fixed assets retained for church use

Freehold land and buildings comprise St Nicholas Hall, Harwich, Esplanade Hall, Harwich and The Millennium Room, Ramsey. These are stated at estimated cost value.