


# 2025 Report for the Parochial Church Council of St Peter Broadwater, Stevenage

# THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. PETER, BROADWATER

## MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL VESTRY MEETING OF PARISHONERS AND THE ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

**Sunday 6th April 2025 in the church hall**

(Problems with heating in Church)

The Vestry Meeting and the Annual Parochial Church Meeting were held during and as part of the morning worship

Revd Kate Sharples welcomed all to the meeting and opened in prayer.

Those present:

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Rev Kate | Sharples | Rod | Cutler | Rosie | Hollands |
| Ken | Aknai | Claudia | Davis-Walters | John | Hollands |
| Rose | Aknai | Sue | Dungey | Jacqui | Horbury |
| Annette | Baillie | Phil | Durling | Lynne | Lee-Diep |
| Maurice | Ballard | Paul | Dymond | Jackie | Mitchell |
| Anna | Beckett | Obi | Eneli | Wendy | Newberry |
| John | Bell | Paul | Evenett | Ruth | Pollard |
| Janet | Bell | Lynn | Evenett | Christine | Russell |
| Catriona | Brenton | Simon | Flatman | Dave | Salomon |
| Peter | Briggs | Lynette | Foster | Lizzy | Salomon |
| Saffron | Briggs | John | Greenway | Pauline | Sharp |
| Richard | Brooks | Stella | Harry | Delores | Taylor |
| Rosemary | Busfield | Charles | Harry | Carol | Temple |
| Roger | Busfield | Matt | Haslett | Joan | Ward |
| Kay | Collier | Helen | Henry | Patricia | Wood |
| Kieran | Cooney | Wendy | Hills | Matthew | Wyatt |

Apologies

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Julie | Owen | (in children's church) | Joanie | Gordon |
| Gordon | Baillie | (in children's church) | Maurice | Gordon |
| Debbie | Auburn | (in children's church) | Graham | Hall |
| Vicky | Higgins | (in children's church) | Corinne | Headington |
| Tapiwa | Tungamirai | (in youth) | John | Headington |
| Samuel | Owen | (in youth) | Peter | Sharp |
| | | | Cathy | Smith |
| Claudius | Allen | | Linda | Smith |
| Marion | Burton | | Paul | Smith |
| Doris | Cork | | Laura | Taylor |
| Barbara | Cutler | | Brian | Temple |
| Claire | Derret-Smith | | Aj (Adjustin) | Yau |
| Tracy | Dymond | | Stacey | Yau |

ANNUAL VESTRY MEETING OF PARISHIONERS 2025

1. APOLOGIES: See above
2. TO RECEIVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD IN 2024

Proposed by: Ken Aknai.
Seconded by: John Greenway
Agreed by all

3. ELECTION OF CHURCHWARDENS FOR 2025-26

Rev Kate Sharples announced that the candidates standing for Churchwarden are:
John Hollands: proposed by Lynn Lee-Diep, seconded by Rose Aknai
Matthew Hasslett (Matt): proposed by John Hollands, seconded by Jackie Horbury
There being no other candidate they were duly elected for the year 2025/26.
Rev Kate Sharples prayed for John and Matt.

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

1. APOLOGIES: See above
2. TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE APCM HELD IN 2024

Proposed by: Lynne Evernett
Seconded by: Carol Temple
Agreed by all

3. MEMBERSHIP OF THE PCC

Rev Kate Sharples confirmed that Wendy Hills and Kieran Cooney are standing down and thanked them for their service.

There are 4 candidates in total standing for the PCC:

Adjustin Yau (AJ): proposed by Paul Dymond, seconded by Rose Aknai
David Salomon: proposed by Rosie Hollands, seconded by Wendy Hills
Simon Flatman: proposed by Wendy Hills, seconded by John Hollands
Phillip Durling: proposed by David Owen, seconded by Paul Dymond

There being no other candidates AJ Yau, David Salomon, Simon Flatman, Phillip Durling were formally elected.

4. APPOINTMENT OF THE INDEPENDENT EXAMINER TO THE PCC:

Rev Kate Sharples announced that Sue Viles of Gamlingay is willing to act as our independent examiner for the 2026 accounts. This was proposed by Obi Eneli and seconded by Janet Bell and accepted by the meeting.

5. FINANCE REPORT

Matthew Wyatt gave a short report on the finances in which he explained that donations and grants have risen. Rev Kate Sharples expressed thanks to Matthew and also to John Hollands.

6. REPORT OF YEAR

Rev Peter Briggs read Matthew 6:25-34

Rev. Kate Sharples:-

- 'Do not worry about what you eat, drink or wear' or in St Peter's terms 'Do not worry about heating, finances or size of church
- J.John says 'The main thing is to keep the main thing the main thing' Individually, our main thing is to be on a life long journey of following Jesus; as a church the main thing is for us to do this together.
- How can we ensure that we are doing this? J.John uses the word FIRST to help us.
- F – Finances. God always provides. At the beginning of last church year our finances were not in the best place, but after sharing this with the church more members started giving regularly and some people increased their regular giving. The income from hall bookings increased. Grants were acquired. Noisy Church and Renew wellbeing café were started – God has provided. We are grateful to all who chose to put God first in their finances in supporting St Peter's. This week we heard that a grant for £12,000 has been approved by Garfield Weston for the Warm Church Project. We are still waiting confirmation of a larger grant from the National Church Commissioners Grant – please pray that we hear from them soon.
- I – Interests. This includes our hobbies, careers, interests, day to day activities. We are not a very big church but we do a huge amount.

  Tea & Co stopped last year and after a time of reflection and prayer Renew Café was started.

  Noisy Church started last year. It has started small but is now starting to grow.

  Stepping Stones continues to go well

  These are all areas where we can talk to people about Jesus and pray for people; places where the Kingdom of God is growing. Thanks was expressed to God who provides the volunteers and to all those who have stepped up and volunteered.

  In 1 Corinthians 10:31 it says 'Whatever you do, do it for the glory of God'. This is our aim as a church. As individuals as work, we should work for our bosses as if we are working for Jesus. As individuals at home, we should do everything for God's glory.
- R – Relationships. Church is the people not the building. When the new people joined the PCC last year they came with new ideas. Out of these came ideas for more social events and as a church this year we have enjoyed a quiz night, big breakfast, family days etc. We celebrated baptisms in the paddling pool in July. Thanks were expressed to everyone for serving,

praying and being part of our church community. Thanks was also expressed for our staff team Stacey, Lynn and Emma. We welcomed Peter & Saffron Briggs in July. Peter is our curate.

- S – Schedules. We all have busy lives and have lots to do but we must ensure that we are not too busy for God. Anyone who has ideas about how we can worship and pray together more should speak to Kate.
- T – Troubles. We all have troubles at times. When Jesus says 'Do not worry' he does not say it in a way to make us feel bad when we worry, he wants to help us know we don't need to worry. This is because he holds the whole world in his hands; he looks after the birds and the flowers; we are precious to him, we can rely on his love; when we trust him, he will provide.

  The more we try not to worry, the more we worry! We need to think about something completely different – 'Seek first the Kingdom of God', fill our minds with God and his word.

  The more we look to Jesus – the more we feed our faith.

  The more we look at the problem – the more we feed our fear.

  So as we go into this new Church year, let's chose to feed our faith and seek first the Kingdom of God.

7. REPORT ON THE BUILDINGS

John Hollands gave a report on the buildings and church fabric:

" As stated in my report, the church buildings and fabric generally remain in good condition.

Last year I said that the main ongoing concern in 2023 was the high cost of heating the church and that we were working hard to get a replacement. This continues to be the case. During 2024 we agreed to proceed with a heat pump/air conditioning system, to insulate the roof spaces and replace the windows (except the stained glass windows at the west and east end of the church). We received planning permission and the faculty from the Church of England in the Summer of 2024. We have spent the bulk of 2024 seeking to obtain the rest of the funding for the project that will now cost around £110,000. We currently have around £65,000.

This is made up of:

Gifts from the congregation: £24,000

Grant from SBC: £3,700

Net zero carbon grant from St Albans Diocese £18,000

Grant from Beds and Herts Historic Churches Trust: £7,500

And just received grant from Garfield Weston: £12,000

We applied for a further grant from the National Church Commissioners Fund for £46,500 (of which £19,500 will come from the Benefact Trust) back in May 2024. We have provisional acceptance but had to put in a lengthy application in order to meet their criteria to actually release any money. Please pray that we hear soon as we want to complete the work in the Summer.

During 2024 we looked again at the front entrance with a view to having a smaller project that would be more financially viable. This means retaining the current porch but putting in a large window and doors with lots of glass so that we can still meet the objective of people being able to see in and the front entrance more obviously being the entrance. In addition, we will put in an accessible entrance to meet one of our other objectives of making the entrance accessible to all. We have planning permission for this project and have received the faculty from the Church of England.

We are now obtaining a number of quotes.

Thanks go to Roger again for his work on the building and grounds, including mowing the lawn regularly and keeping the shrubbery trim and tidy. And also, to Gordon for his work on various maintenance issues and keeping our Health and Safety programme up to date. In addition, we thank Emma Stilling for her hard work keeping all areas of the buildings clean and safe during the year.

I am looking forward to working with Matt – our new church warden."

8. DEANERY SYNOD AND ELECTORAL ROLL

Deanery Synod

There were 2 meetings of the Stevenage Deanery Synod last year. The main highlights were:

Looking at Disability and the Church. They were shown a 20-minute video in which Baroness Sal Brinton spoke about disability and the Church. They discussed how each local parish cared for their disabled parishioners and made them feel welcome and included in the life of the church.

Elections were held to appoint representatives to the Diocesan Synod for both clergy and laity. 2 appointments were made for the clergy and there is currently 1 vacant seat. 3 appointments were made for the laity, there is no vacant seat.

Electoral Roll

We have 91 names on the electoral roll, 35% are male and 65% female. 47% are resident in the parish and 53% are outside the parish

Thanks were expressed to Lynne Lee-Diep for all her hard work behind the scenes.

9. QUESTIONS

John Bell raised a question about Our Children & Families Worker – Stacey Yau; when the grant money is used up will we be able to keep employing Stacey?

Rev Kate Sharples replied: Stacey's wages are covered by a grant from Maidenhead Malaki and a grant from the Diocese – these cover her current contract that ends in March of next year. Kate has asked for another grant from Maidenhead Malaki and this with other money gifted will potentially pay Stacey's salary for another 2 years. Stacey has expressed a desire to continue working for St Peter's.

No Other questions were raised.

# 2025 ANNUAL REPORT

# FOR THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST. PETER BROADWATER, STEVENAGE

## Review of the year

- **Growth of our outreach activities**. The numbers attending Renew Wellbeing café grew significantly over the year, with several people saying how valuable it is to their wellbeing. Play and Praise has also grown this year with a core of families established who have made it "their church". The foodshed has increased the number of households helped each week, and the partnership with Vineyard Church has strengthened.

- **Good Friday lunch.** This year we stopped the Good Friday evening service and instead had a lunch together after the walk of witness. It was great to have so many people attend, including those on the fringe of church.

- **Peter Briggs priested**. A number of us went to St Albans Abbey for Peter's ordination as priest and had a picnic in the grounds afterwards. Peter has developed our discipleship and youth work this year and has been a fantastic asset to the church in many areas of ministry.

- **National Church Commissioners Fund grant.** This year we had a frustrating wait to hear whether we'd been awarded the grant required for the warm church project. It was wonderful to finally get awarded the grant in October, and we plan for the work to happen in 2026.

- **St Peter's is 70.** We celebrated the churches' 70th birthday in November with a special service and birthday cake, remembering some of the founding church members.

- **Front entrance**. The front entrance of the church has been made accessible with a new ramp and steps. The work was completed just before Christmas and we put a Christmas tree in the central square, which the community appreciated. We have also put in a mobility scooter and bike park outside the accessible entrance.

- We are hugely grateful to everyone for being part of St Peter's Church. It's you who make the church what it is. Thank you for being present, for joining in by praying, chatting, caring and serving. And thank you to everyone who gives their time, skills and money. We partner together with Jesus to be witnesses to his love and saving power, to serve the community and give God the glory.

## Aim and Purpose

St Peter's Parochial Church Council (PCC), in cooperation with the incumbent, Revd Kate Sharples, is responsible for the whole ministry and mission of the church to the Parish of Broadwater. This includes pastoral, evangelistic, social action and ecumenical work and involvement in initiatives across Stevenage with "Churches Together in Stevenage". The PCC is also responsible for the maintenance of the Church and hall buildings

## Vision

A missional church – showing God's love to the community – and to be a relevant and visible presence, providing pathways by which people can seek and know God.

- We want to continue to be a welcoming community that loves people of all ages and cares for them. To enable all ages to become mature followers of Jesus and to rely on him through prayer and Bible reading and the infilling of the Holy Spirit.
- We want to be "A Furnace" where people meet with Jesus, where lives are transformed by his presence, where miracles happen and where people are sent out by the Holy Spirit on fire for God.
- We want to serve the community, helping to meet the needs of the parish.

## Mission Action Plan (MAP)

### 1. Warm Church Project – new heating system that is net zero carbon

This will be achieved by replacing the current gas heating system with heat pumps, insulating the roof areas and replacing all the high level windows. We have already received a faculty and planning approval from Stevenage Borough Council. We have now raised the funds required and plan to do all the work in 2026.

### 2. Discipleship Growth

A discipleship audit was achieved by visiting all the home groups and discussions with individuals. Out of this the daytime "Community" was launched as new "middle tier" of church life designed to sit between Sundays and weekly homegroups. The next step will be to create 1 or 2 evening communities. Material has been provided to homegroups which follows the sermon series to give consistent discipleship across the church

### 3. Front Entrance Project

To make the front entrance accessible, visible and welcoming. The outside work has been completed with a new ramp and steps. The glazing to the porch, front door and internal door will be completed in 2026

# Activities and Highlights - Building the Church

**Music Ministry** - *Ken Aknai*

It continues to be such a pleasure to see the Music Ministry Team grow over 2025 and to impact the musical worship at St Peters.

During 2025, St Peters Music Ministry Team hosted worship nights, which have been amazing times of encounter with the Lord. For one of the worship nights other churches across CTIS were invited and it was fantastic to worship together. We believe that the Lord uses these evenings to take us into deeper encounter with him, and we hope to expand worship nights over 2026. Please do come along and bring your friends.

During 2025, Paul Dymond left St Peters Church for pastures new. We are very grateful for his drumming at St Peters over the years.

In April 2025, we led the sung worship in Stevenage Town Centre at the end of the Good Friday Walk. In June 2025 we led sung worship with other churches from CTIS at a united Songs of Praise to end the week of the Stevenage Festival.

As always, we would like to express a huge thank you to everyone in the band, and on sound desk/AV, for the time and effort (and early Sunday morning starts!) you all devote to serving the Lord in music and song.

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**Prayer Ministry** - *Rosie Busfield*

The purpose of prayer ministry is to allow people to respond to the talk or other words given during the service, however, we also encourage people to come forward with any need they may have.

During 2025 we continued to use our model of prayer ministry which places the emphasis on waiting for the Holy Spirit to do his work. Members of the prayer ministry team pray short prayers with the people who come forward and are continually open to the guidance of the Holy Spirit. We have encouraged people to stay in God's presence for as long as they feel comfortable rather than returning to their seats immediately after being prayed for. At our meeting in March, we agreed to continue with this model of prayer ministry but at the same time retaining the right to be flexible according to how we feel the Holy Spirit is leading us.

We are happy to pray with people after the service ends on an informal basis as the need arises. We agreed that this was helpful and we would continue to do this.

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**Youth Work** - *Peter Briggs (Curate)*

In 2025, our youth work at St Peter's has remained steady. We have not seen marked growth or decline, but we do have a faithful core of 4 young people and around eight who consistently attend our socials. Beyond that, up to fifteen young people connect with us more intermittently across the year.

Our team currently consists of four committed leaders who meet monthly on Zoom to pray and discern direction, alongside three additional helpers who step in to fill rota gaps. I'm deeply grateful for their generosity and faithfulness.

We've intentionally structured the youth time around the fourfold shape: Welcome, Word, Witness, and Worship. The young people have been encouraged not just to attend, but to contribute, which has been a great development. They have brought games for Welcome, chosen passages for Word, shared reflections, and asked thoughtful questions of one another.

We also held two socials this year. These followed a simple but effective pattern: arrival games (consoles, board games, table tennis), dinner around the table to build community, and a whole-group game to finish. These evenings have been well enjoyed, and the young people have asked for them to happen more frequently.

In 2025, we also began aligning our Sunday "Word" discussions with the homegroup material used by the wider church, effectively treating the youth as their own homegroup. This has given greater focus and theological coherence to our discussions.

The most significant fruit of 2025 has been growth in ownership and encouragement. The young people increasingly affirm one another's contributions and take responsibility for shaping their sessions. There is a growing sense that this is their group, not simply something run for them.

Looking ahead to 2026, the key themes are sustainability and leadership. The group is stable but not growing, and the demands on volunteers are significant. We need to consider how to recruit and release more leaders and helpers.

I am grateful for what God is doing quietly among us, and I invite your prayers as we seek wisdom for the next step.

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**Kids Church** - *Stacey Yau (Children & Families Leader)*

This year we transitioned to 'The Biggest Story' as our teaching resource, which has been very well received. Its calmer and more structured approach has created a more focused learning environment. Initially, there were concerns that the children might struggle to engage with material that is less fast-paced and stimulating; however, they have demonstrated a far greater capacity for attentiveness than anticipated. We have also begun to explore more substantive theological questions, particularly with the 6–11 age group. For example, rather than simply noting that John the Baptist ate locusts and honey, we have discussed the meaning and significance of baptism—what it represents, why individuals choose to be baptised, and what it means personally. We intend to continue developing this deeper level of teaching. The children are asking thoughtful questions and are visibly growing in their understanding and faith, which is a privilege to witness.

We are currently encouraging one individual to become a child leader who can work together with the adult leaders to conduct the sessions. They are doing a great job, and I hope to see them taking further steps in this area as they get older.

We currently have a consistent core group of ten children attending weekly, alongside several who attend more intermittently. Additionally, several younger children are nearing the age at which they will transition into Kid's Church, which is positive for future continuity.

Kid's Breakfast continues to take place on the first Sunday of each month and has now been running for over two years. While it remains an enjoyable and positive experience for those who attend, no new families have joined during this period. As the initial relationships have already been established and the anticipated strengthening of parent–teacher connections has been limited, it would be wise to review its ongoing purpose and potential for growth.

Finally, there have been persistent IT issues affecting the live service feed into the crèche. Although families can still use the space, the inability to view the service has been disappointing and has resulted in us welcoming children into Kid's Church who would ordinarily be too young. This situation requires further review to ensure we are serving families effectively while maintaining appropriate provision for each age group.

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## Pastoral Care

We have continued to offer pastoral care support as requested, either by phone or face to face contacts. Each person is offered support as appropriate to their needs and this is reviewed on a regular basis. Much pastoral support is provided by homegroups, and friendship groups and we aim to complement, or add additional support to the care given by these groups. We try to signpost people on to other agencies when appropriate, and have a file that anyone in the church can use either for helping others or for their own personal use.

Rosie Busfield has led the pastoral care team for several years and was recently assisted by Ruth Pollard. They both stepped down in July this year, and we are extremely grateful to them for all their care and support of people at St Peter's. Pastoral care continues with Kate and Peter leading the small team.

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## Home Groups

We currently have 6 Home Groups – 2 daytime groups, 3 evening groups and 1 on-line group. Here are reports from some of them to give a flavour of what they have been doing during 2025.

Wednesday Morning Group – Rosie Hollands: After many years of leading this group, Maurice Gordon felt it was time to stand down from this responsibility. We thank him and Joanie for all that they have done over the years to nurture and support the members of this group. I offered to look after the group while a new leader was found but the love and support of this group made me want to stay as their group facilitator. The members of this group have been an example to me of community – caring for each other in practical ways, in supporting each other and in praying for each other. We have been following the Sunday morning sermons and have learnt so much from each other.

Group led by Janet & John Bell: 'Our homegroup has continued meeting weekly during the past year; our aim being to grow and mature in our Christian discipleship and with each other. Together and with the church we have done the Shema course, and as a group continued with our study on the book of Hebrews.

Zoom group led by Paul Evenett: Our group meets weekly using Zoom. This enables people who live away to be part of a praying and learning fellowship. This fellowship continues throughout the week through our WhatsApp group where we post prayer requests and encouragement to one another. We are not strict in our learning structure and often just meet for prayer and fellowship.

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# Activities and Highlights - Engaging with the Community

**Stepping Stones** – *Stacey Yau*

Stepping Stones has remained consistent and reasonably attended throughout this year. We have built strong relationships with our regular guardians and children, enabling us to provide a safe, welcoming environment that offers both refuge and genuine community.

Following conversations with the adults about what draws them to Stepping Stones, we compiled their responses and developed a dedicated "Stepping Stones Prayer" based on their expressed needs and experiences. This has now replaced the previous generic prayer before song time. Although still in its early weeks, we have already seen a significant increase in engagement during prayer time, with both adults and children demonstrating a greater desire to participate and be involved.

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**Play and Praise (Previously Noisy Church)** - *Stacey Yau*

After significant thought and prayer, we renamed Noisy Church to Play and Praise. The original name was chosen in response to feedback from families who felt their children were "too noisy" for church and didn't feel they belonged. Many held a perception of church as formal and restrictive, and we wanted to communicate clearly that families were welcome even if they felt they did not naturally "fit" that mould. While the name did encourage some to attend, it also unintentionally created the impression that we were promoting noise, which was off-putting. The new name more accurately reflects the heart of the ministry and the balance we aim to achieve.

We reversed the order of craft and teaching, integrating the main lesson into craft time and then reinforcing the key message with a short talk at the end. The talk has changed too from a formal, you sit and listen, to us all talking on the carpet. Children are more engaged during craft, asking thoughtful questions, and are noticeably more settled during the closing talk. While there is still progress to be made in fostering calm, reflective discussion at the end of sessions, it may be that the families we are reaching particularly value a space that feels accessible and informal—one of the reasons Play and Praise continues to be important.

There has been a small increase in numbers, and we have observed a deeper level of understanding and meaningful seeds of faith being planted. A Bible giveaway was especially impactful, with each family receiving a free Bible and therefore having direct access to God's Word at home.

**Schools Work** – *Kate Sharples*

Assemblies were taken throughout the year in Roebuck Academy and Shephalbury Park Primary School. The schools came into church for Christmas and Easter services, having practiced their songs, and the daytime home group also enjoyed attending! We had 6 classes of Y2 children attend The Christmas Journey which was brilliant, and the baby Jesus was the star of the show as usual!

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**Love Stevenage 05.07.25** - *Stacey Yau*

As in the previous years, we hosted a carnival-themed event featuring a bouncy castle, games and puppets. However, it has become clear that this format is no longer as effective as it once was. With numerous similar community events taking place in July, our event has not attracted the same level of attendance or engagement as in previous years. In response, we recognise the need to reflect and pray over our approach. Over the coming year, we will commit this to prayer and carefully consider how best to serve and bless our community, with the expectation that a revised format or new direction may be more fruitful.

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**Food Shed** – *Annette Baillie*

Our Foodshed outreach has grown significantly during the year with an increase in both the number of clients and the volume of food, toiletries and baby goods being distributed.

This year a few members of St. Peters joined others to participate in the Foodshed Donation Rallies at Tesco, Broadwater. Donations are central to the work of Foodshed and we are grateful to all those who have contributed to special appeals at Harvest, Christmas and on other occasions.

Thank you also to those who are part of our Tuesday distribution team and those who help to transport and sort the weekly collection of goods from the Foodshed offices,.

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**Communities** – *Peter Briggs*

In 2025 we launched Communities at St Peter's — a new "middle tier" of church life designed to sit between Sundays and weekly homegroups. The vision has been simple: to create an accessible next step for those exploring faith or considering joining a smaller group, by gathering monthly around a shared meal with established homegroup members. Communities are intended to make belonging visible and participation easy.

The Daytime Community was formed from the core of two daytime homegroups, alongside anyone they wished to invite. It has averaged around 15 people per gathering and has successfully drawn in those within church life who are not currently part of a weekly group. On occasion, we have also welcomed guests connected to Renew Café. It has begun to function as the "on-ramp" we hoped for — a space where people can taste community without the commitment of weekly attendance.

The format of our gatherings has remained simple and consistent: gather, sit for food, say grace, eat and connect, pause for Christian reflection and prayer, share dessert, and depart. The simplicity of the rhythm has helped lower barriers and foster genuine conversation around the table. A huge thanks goes to Rosie for the amazing cooking and to "sou chef" John.

Looking to 2026, there are two main areas of focus. First, strengthening leadership and ownership within the existing Community. Second, exploring how to expand the model to include our evening homegroups, so that this "middle tier" becomes embedded more widely across church life.

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**Renew Wellbeing Café** – *Kate Sharples*

Renew Wellbeing is an organisation that helps churches open spaces of welcome and inclusion to improve mental and emotional wellbeing. It's based on the 3 principles of being prayerful, being present and being in partnership. We started the café in November last year with 15 to 20 people each week. Numbers have grown steadily to 20 to 27 and there is a real sense of belonging and ownership within the group. We continue to offer a meditative prayer towards the end of each session, which a few people from outside of St Peter's have joined in with, and it was also encouraging to see a few people at the Christmas Carol service.

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# Making it Happen

**Deanery Synod** - *Obi Eneli (Deanery Synod Rep)*

There were 3 meetings of the Stevenage Deanery Synod last year. Revd Andy Thomas stepped down from being rural dean at the end of 2024 and Revd Charles King was appointed at the start of 2025. There were presentations from the Diocesan Board of Finance and the Dispute Advisory Service, and we discussed the appointment of the New Bishop of St Albans, giving our views on what kind of Bishop we wanted. A motion was passed expressing concern about the lack of diversity on the Crown Nominations Commission (who appoint the new bishop).

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**Finance Report** – *Matthew Wyatt & John Hollands*

Thank you so much to everyone who gives financially to the work of God at St Peter's. We are grateful for all gifts, whatever the size. Regular, committed giving helps us to budget for the year, but one off gifts are a welcome addition, especially when there are unexpected expenses.

This year we were overspent by about £3,500 on the budget (unrestricted funds). Income from the hall increased by £4000 and Gift aided giving and corresponding tax recoverable has increased slightly, giving an increase of £6000. However, our biggest issue was the continued high cost of energy and other utilities, costing us around £15,000. Expenditure on building maintenance and consumables was also more than expected. The largest expenditure is the parish share of £59,534, an increase of £1000 on last year. This money goes to the Diocese and pays for the housing and stipends of all clergy, and the Diocese overheads. We ended our financial support for Oak Church in February but continued to support our two mission partners (Bridgebuilders and Miriam & Owen Pugh) giving a total of £3,458.

The big announcement is that we were successful in obtaining funding for the warm church project, £52,834 being received in total. It is anticipated that the work will be completed in 2026. Grants and donations of £17,800 were received towards our Children & Families Leader.

The Church bank and savings accounts has £135,313. This can be accounted for as:

Front Entrance £15,991
Children and Families £24,446 (money from grants and a donation 3 years ago)
Reserve £25,000 (3 months costs for emergencies)
Warm Church Project £69,323 (gifts from the congregation and grants)

This year the general accounts show a deficit of £23,500 largely due to writing off depreciation costs of £20,000 which should have been deducted in previous years. Restricted funds have a surplus of £41,400 largely due to receipt of grants totalling £68,000
This leaves very little in general unrestricted funds going forward, so in 2026 we will be very dependent on our general giving to pay for the ongoing running of the church.

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**Hall Report** – *Lynne Lee-Diep*

The hall continues to be a valuable space for both community activities and church use. We started 2025 with continued hall hire to another church who held their weekly Sunday services in the church and also choir practice on Saturday evenings. They found a new location with better parking facilities and stopped hiring in April.
Nevertheless, our existing taekwondo, dance, support, and Slimming World groups have continued with their weekly hire sessions.
In September, the taekwondo class added an extra hour's hire to their existing Tuesday evening session on a fortnightly basis which brings us a little more income.
Hall hire for weekend parties is quiet over the warmer months and is busier in late Autumn and Winter seasons.
Stepping Stones moved their weekly group into the hall in November and continue to meet weekly in term-time.
The installation of the acoustic tiles on the hall ceiling in late December, has made a great improvement to minimise the echo and noise in the hall. Sound levels are now at a comfortable level and is much appreciated by all hall users.

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**Electoral Roll**

We have 86 people on the electoral roll, with 1 person joining and 6 people were removed from the roll, 3 left to worship at a different church, 1 moved away and 2 deceased. 35% are male and 65% female. 47% are resident in the parish and 53% are outside the parish.

**Parochial Church Council (PCC)**

The PCC and the Vicar, Revd Kate Sharples, continue to work well together, overseeing the work and activities of St Peter's. The PCC met 5 times in 2025.

**Administration**

Lynne Lee-Diep has continued to work 12 hours a week as the church administrator and hall booking manager. She does a fantastic job in making sure everything runs smoothly.

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**Buildings and Fabric** – *John Hollands*

The church buildings and fabric generally remain in good condition.

Warm Church Project

We have an ongoing concern at the high cost of heating the church and the age of the gas heating system. During 2024 we agreed to proceed with a heat pump/air conditioning system, to insulate the roof spaces and replace the windows (except the stained glass windows at the west and east end of the church). In October 2025 we were pleased to receive confirmation that we would receive a grant from the National Church Commissioners Fund. Since then, we have been responding to the Church Commissioners conditions to the grant and planning to start the work. It will be completed in 2026.

Front Entrance Project

As you will be well aware the work on putting in an accessibility ramp to the front entrance and the mobility scooter park have been completed.

In the new year we will be completing the work on the porch including putting in a large window and new doors with lots of glass. This will enable us to meet our objective of people being able to see in and the front entrance looking much nicer and more obviously being the entrance.

There were a number of maintenance issues carried out during the year; some work in the gents toilet and replacement of the hall heating flue amongst others. We had a working day in June when we carried out some cleaning and repairs to the church chairs as well as some decorating jobs. Thank you to all who volunteered their time.

Thanks go to Roger again for his work on the building and grounds, including mowing the lawn regularly and keeping the shrubbery trim and tidy. And also, to Gordon for his work on various maintenance issues and keeping our Health and Safety programme up to date. In addition, we thank Emma Stilling for her hard work keeping all areas of the buildings clean and safe during the year.

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**Safeguarding** – *Paul Evenett*

Here at St Peter's Church, we are totally committed to enabling our congregation, visitors, clergy and staff to be as safe as possible we are equally committed to the safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults and to supporting those who have been victims of abuse, as well as those who may present a risk to others.

The PCC has complied with the duty under Section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016 (duty to have due regard to the House of Bishop's guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults).

The PCC have adopted the House of Bishops' "Promoting a Safer Church" (child protection and vulnerable adults policy) and Domestic Abuse statement, which are displayed in church. We have a Parish Safeguarding Officer, Paul Evenett, assistant safeguarding officer, Liz Carter, and Lead Recruiter, Lynne Lee-Diep.

Those who work with children, youth and vulnerable adults are recruited in accordance with the Practice Guidance Safer Recruitment.

DBS checks are renewed every 3 years and all those who have been safely recruited and all members of the PCC, have undertaken the appropriate safeguarding training within the last 3 years.

Contact details for those wishing to obtain advice, raise any concerns or make referrals to the statutory authorities are displayed on the posters. Safeguarding information is displayed in the church, church hall and on the church website.

There is insurance cover for all activities involving children or adults undertaken in the name of the Parish.

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**Administrative Information**

St Peter's Church is situated on Broadwater Crescent, Stevenage, part of the Marymead neighbourhood hub. It is part of the Diocese of St Albans within the Church of England. The correspondence address is The Willows, Stevenage Herts SG2 8AN. Registered charity number is 1152921. PCC members who have served at any time during 2025:

**Ex Officio members:**

| | |
|---|---|
| Clergy: | Vicar: Reverend Kate Sharples (Chair)<br>Curate: Reverend Peter Briggs |
| Readers: | Gordon Baillie<br>Obi Eneli (and Deanery synod rep)<br>Paul Evenett |
| Wardens: | John Hollands, Matthew Hasslet (from April 2025) |

**Elected Members**

Wendy Hills – term of office finished April 2025

| Name | Role | Date of election | Due for re-election |
|---|---|---|---|
| Aknai, Rose | Elected member (vice-chair) | April 2024 | 2027 |
| Brooks, Richard | Elected member | April 2024 | 2027 |
| Durling, Philip | Elected member | April 2025 | 2028 |
| Flatman, Simon | Elected member | April 2025 | 2028 |
| Haslett, Matthew | Church warden | April 2025 | 2026 |
| Hollands, John | Church warden | April 2025 | 2026 |
| Owen, Julie | Elected Member | April 2023 | 2026 |
| Owen, Samuel | Elected Member | April 2024 | 2027 |
| Salomon, David | Elected Member | April 2025 | 2028 |
| Wyatt, Matthew | Elected Member (Treasurer) | April 2023 | 2026 |
| Yau, AJ | Elected Member | April 2025 | 2028 |

**Co-opted Member**

Rosie Hollands (PCC Secretary) co-opted May 2025

*Approved by the PCC on Fri 20 March 2026*

*and signed on their behalf by the Reverend Kate Sharples (PCC Chairperson)*



# Report from the Treasurer for the PCC of St Peter's Church Broadwater for the year ending December 2025

Report for the accounts

This year the general accounts show a deficit of £23,545 largely due to writing off depreciation costs of £20,086 which should have been deducted in previous years. Restricted funds have a surplus of £41,456 largely due to receipt of grants totalling £68,072.

Gift aided giving and corresponding tax recoverable has increased slightly, as has hall hire income. The income streams in the general fund increased by a total of around £10,000 during 2025.

The big announcement is that we were successful in obtaining funding for the warm church project, £52,834 being received in total. It is anticipated that the work will be completed in 2026.

Grants of £16,500 were received towards our Children's and Families worker. There was also a donation of £1,320 for the same purpose.

Despite lower Interest rates, our income from investments grew to £4,428 from £4,277.

Income from the hall was £18.555, up from £14,647.

The largest expenditure is the parish share of £59,534, up from £58,452 in 2024. This money goes to the Diocese and pays for the housing and stipends of all clergy, and the Diocese overheads.

Our biggest issue was the continued high cost of energy and other utilities, costing us around £15,000.

We ended our financial support for Oak Church in February, but continued to support our two mission partners giving a total of £3,458.

Overall, for the general (unrestricted funds) funds there was a deficit over the year of around £3,500

The Church bank and savings accounts has £135,313. This can be accounted for as:
Front Entrance £15,991
Children and Families £24,446 (money from grants and a specific donation 3 years ago)
Reserve £25,000 (3 months costs for emergencies)
Warm Church Project £69,323 (gifts from the congregation and grants)
This leaves very little in general unrestricted funds going forward, so in 2026 we will be very dependent on our general giving to pay for the ongoing running of the church.

Matthew Wvatt Treasurer to the PCC.

# Parochial Church Council of St Peter's, Broadwater
# Annual Accounts
## Year ending 31st December 2025

## Section A Statement of financial activities Section A

| Recommended categories by activity | Unrestricted funds £ | Restricted funds £ | Total funds £ | Prior year funds £ |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Incoming resources (Note 2)** | | | | |
| **Income and endowments from:** | | | | |
| Donations and legacies (notes 2a-b) | 82,025 | 8,587 | 90,612 | 77,864 |
| Charitable activities (note 2c) | 22,015 | 1,485 | 23,500 | 17,750 |
| Other trading activities | | | 0 | 0 |
| Investments (note 2d) | 4,428 | 0 | 4,428 | 4,277 |
| Other (note 2e) | 1,157 | 68,072 | 69,229 | 12,538 |
| ***Total*** | 109,625 | 78,144 | 187,769 | 112,429 |
| **Resources expended (Note 3)** | | | | |
| **Expenditure on:** | | | | |
| Raising funds | | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Charitable activities (notes 3a-c) | 133,169 | 36,688 | 169,857 | 131,185 |
| ***Total*** | 133,169 | 36,688 | 169,857 | 131,185 |
| **Net income/(expenditure) before investment gains/(losses)** | (23,544) | 41,456 | 17,912 | (18,755) |
| Net gains/(losses) on investments | | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| **Net income/(expenditure)** | (23,544) | 41,456 | 17,912 | (18,755) |
| **Extraordinary items** | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| **Transfers between funds** (note 8) | 4,039 | (4,039) | 0 | 0 |
| Gains and losses on revaluation of fixed assets for the charity's own use | | | 0 | |
| Other gains/(losses) | | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| ***Net movement in funds*** | (19,505) | 37,417 | 17,912 | (18,755) |
| ***Reconciliation of funds:*** | | | | |
| Total funds brought forward | 40,442 | 72,344 | 112,786 | 131,540 |
| ***Total funds carried forward*** | 20,937 | 109,761 | 130,697 | 112,785 |

## Section B Balance sheet

| | Unrestricted funds £ | Restricted income funds £ | Designated funds £ | Total this year £ | Total last year £ |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Fixed assets** | | | | | |
| **Tangible assets (Note 4)** | -0 | - | - | -0 | 20,085 |
| ***Total fixed assets*** | -0 | - | - | -0 | 20,085 |
| **Current assets** | | | | | |
| **Debtors (Note 6)** | - | - | - | - | - |
| **Investments (Note 5)** | 262 | - | - | 262 | 241 |
| **Cash at bank and in hand (Note 6)** | 25,291 | 109,761 | - | 135,051 | 96,344 |
| ***Total current assets*** | 25,552 | 109,761 | - | 135,313 | 96,585 |
| **Creditors: amounts falling due within one year (Note 7)** | 4,616 | - | - | 4,616 | 3,885 |
| ***Net current assets/(liabilities)*** | 20,936 | 109,761 | - | 130,697 | 92,700 |
| ***Total assets less current liabilities*** | 20,936 | 109,761 | - | 130,697 | 112,785 |
| ***Total net assets or liabilities*** | 20,936 | 109,761 | - | 130,697 | 112,785 |
| | | | | | |
| **Funds of the Charity** | | | | | |
| **Designated funds** | - | | - | - | |
| **Restricted income funds (Note 6)** | | 109,761 | | 109,761 | 72,344 |
| **Unrestricted funds** | 20,937 | | - | 20,937 | 40,442 |
| ***Total funds*** | 20,937 | 109,761 | - | 130,697 | 112,785 |

| Signed by two PCC members on behalf of all the PCC | Print Name | Signature | Date of approval dd/mm/yyyy |
|---|---|---|---|
| | | | |
| | | | |

## Parochial Church Council of St Peter, Broadwater

## Notes to the Financial Statements

### For the Year Ended 31 December 2025

**1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2015 together with the Charities Act 2011, and the Statement of
Recommended Practice for Accounting by Charities. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

**Funds**

Unrestricted funds represent the funds of the PCC that are not subject to any restrictions regarding their use and are available for application on the general .
purposes of the PCC. Funds designated for the particular purpose by the PCC are also unrestricted.

**Incoming resources**

***Voluntary income and capital sources***

Giving is recognised when received by or on behalf of the PCC. Planned giving receivable under Gift Aid is recognised when received.
Income tax recoverable on Gift Aid donations is recognised when the associated income is recognised.

***Other income***

Rental income from the letting of the church hall is recognised when rent is due.

***Income from investments***

Interest is accounted for as earned. All interest earned is credited to the Unrestricted Fund unless monies are separately invested.

**Resources used**

***Grants***

Grants and donations are accounted for when paid over, or when awarded, if that award creates a binding obligation on the PCC.

**Activities directly relating to the work of the Church**

The diocesan parish share is accounted for when it falls due.

**Fixed Assets**

**Consecrated property and movable church furnishings**

Consecrated property of any kind is excluded from the accounts by Part 1, Chapter 2 (10) of the Charities Act 2011.Even though it is not technically consecrated property, the Church Hall is not recognised in the accounts.

Movable church furnishings held by the Vicar and Churchwardens on special trust for the PCC, and which require a faculty for disposal, are accounted for as inalienable property unless consecrated. They are listed in the church's Inventory, which can be inspected (at any reasonable time).

Expenditure incurred on consecrated buildings or individual items under £5,000 is written off as incurred.

**Other fixtures, fittings and office equipment**
Individual items of computer and office equipment are capitalised and written off over three years.

**Current assets**
Amounts owing in respect of fees, rents or other income are shown as debtors.
Short-term deposits include cash held on deposit either with the DBF, Church of England Funds or at the bank.

## 2 INCOMING RESOURCES

| | | Unrestricted Funds | Restricted Funds | TOTAL 2025 | TOTAL 2024 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| 2(a) | *Incoming Resources from donors* | | | | |
| | Planned Giving | | | | |
| | Gift Aid Donations (0101, 0110, 0120) | 54,123 | | 54,123 | 50,761 |
| | *Income Tax recoverable | 16,339 | | 16,339 | 12,950 |
| | Other planned giving (0115, 0201, 0210) | 5,155 | | 5,155 | 5,136 |
| | Loose cash at services (0301) | 908 | | 908 | 1,504 |
| | | 76,525 | - | 76,525 | 70,351 |
| 2(b) | *Other Voluntary incoming resources* | | | | |
| | Donations, contributions, appeals etc (0550, 0560, 0804) | 5,500 | 8,587 | 14,087<br>- | 7,512<br>- |
| | | 5,500 | 8,587 | 14,087 | 7,512 |
| 2(c) | Income from operating activities | | | | |
| | Church Hall (1230) | 18,555 | | 18,555 | 14,647 |
| | *Fees** (1101, 1102, 1104, 2215) | 1,495 | 1,485 | 2,980 | 1,446 |
| | Other (1402, 1410, 1411, 1414, 1417) | 1,965 | | 1,965 | 1,657 |
| | | 22,015 | 1,485 | 23,500 | 17,750 |
| 2(d) | *Income from investments* | | | | |
| | Bank interest receivable (1020) | 4,428 | | 4,428 | 4,277 |
| | | 4,428 | - | 4,428 | 4,277 |
| 2(e) | *Other incoming resources* | | | | |
| | Other income (1415) | 278 | | 278 | 38 |
| | Grants (0803, 1416) | 879 | 68,072 | 68,951 | 12,500 |
| | | 1,157 | 68,072 | 69,229 | 12,538 |
| | TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES | 109,625 | 78,144 | 187,769 | 112,429 |

* Fees from restricted funds shown in note 2 ( c ) are fees due to the Diocese in respect of set fees for weddings, funerals, baptisms etc.

## 3 RESOURCES EXPENDED

| | | Unrestricted Funds | Restricted Funds | TOTAL | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | 2025 | 2024 |
| 3(a) | *Grants* | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| | Charitable giving: | | | | |
| | International Charities & Causes | | - | - | - |
| | National Charities & Causes (1830) | | - | - | - |
| | Local Charities & Causes (1802) | 3,458 | | 3,458 | 4,788 |
| | | 3,458 | - | 3,458 | 4,788 |
| | Missionary giving: | | | - | |
| | International Charities & Causes | | - | - | - |
| | National Charities & Causes | - | - | - | - |
| | Local Charities & Causes | - | - | - | - |
| | | - | - | - | - |
| | Total Charitable and Missionary giving | 3,458 | - | 3,458 | 4,788 |
| 3(b) | *Activities relating to the church* | | | | |
| | Ministry : Diocesan Parish Share (1910) | 59,534 | | 59,534 | 58,452 |
| | Clergy expenses + house (2101,2102,2130,2145) | 715 | | 715 | 233 |
| | Funeral and wedding fees (2208) | 1,311 | 1,485 | 2,796 | 871 |
| | Events (2201} | 680 | | 680 | 404 |
| | Work & outreach with Children (2203, 2213,2216, 2146) | 265 | 18,808 | 19,073 | 18,307 |
| | Work with Youth (2217) | 293 | | 293 | 279 |
| | Church running expenses (2207,2219,2331,2401,2410,2420) | 14,065 | | 14,065 | 14,956 |
| | Church maintenance (2330,2701,2710) | 8,990 | | 8,990 | 2,130 |
| | New building work (2920) | | 15,512 | 15,512 | 2,160 |
| | Equipment (2332) | 350 | | 350 | 5,108 |
| | Church Hall (2530, 2540, 2560) | 6,910 | | 6,910 | 4,396 |
| | Sub-Total | 93,113 | 35,805 | 128,918 | 107,296 |

## 3 RESOURCES EXPENDED

| | | Unrestricted Funds | Restricted Funds | TOTAL | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | 2025 | 2024 |
| | | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| 3(c) | Church Management & Administration | | | | |
| | Administrator/Cleaner (2050, 2591) | 13,039 | - | 13,039 | 11,743 |
| | Administration (2360) | | - | - | 203 |
| | Other costs (2301, 2303, 2362) | 2,303 | - | 2,303 | 2,525 |
| | Printing & stationery (2361) | | - | - | 46 |
| | Examination Fees (2601) | | - | - | 250 |
| | Office telephone & internet (2310) | 1,170 | - | 1,170 | 603 |
| | | 16,512 | - | 16,512 | 15,370 |
| 3(d) | **Other** | | | | |
| | Other (2212, 2221) | | 883 | 883 | 2,172 |
| | Depreciation (2841) | 20,086 | | 20,086 | 1,559 |
| | | | | - | - |
| | | 20,086 | 883 | 20,969 | 3,731 |
| | **TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED** | 133,169 | 36,688 | 169,857 | 131,185 |

## 4 FIXED ASSETS

| | Kitchen | Meeting Rooms | Building roof | Access for all | Chairs | AV System | Total 2025 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Cost** | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| Brought forward | 23,130 | 6,965 | 16,320 | 42,028 | 12,502 | 4982 | 105,927 |
| Additions | - | - | | | | | - |
| Disposals | - | - | - | | | | - |
| Carried forward | 23,130 | 6,965 | 16,320 | 42,028 | 12,502 | 4982 | 105,927 |
| **Depreciation** | | | | | | | |
| Brought forward | 23,130 | 6,965 | 12,068 | 27,224 | 12,470 | 3984 | 85,841 |
| Charge for year | | | 4,252 | 14,804 | 32 | 998 | 20,086 |
| Disposal | - | - | - | | | | - |
| Carried forward | 23,130 | 6,965 | 16,320 | 42,028 | 12,502 | 4,982 | 105,927 |
| Net Book Value 2024 | - | - | 4,252 | 14,804 | 32 | 998 | 20,086 |
| Net Book Value 2025 | - | - | - | - | -0 | - | -0 |

## 5 ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BY FUND

| | Unrestricted Funds | Designated Funds | Restricted Funds | TOTAL |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| Fixed Assets | 0 | | 0 | -0 |
| Cash at bank and at hand* | 25,291 | 0 | 109,761 | 135,051 |
| Short term deposits | 262 | | 0 | 262 |
| | 25,552 | 0 | 109,761 | 135,313 |

## 6 DEBTORS

| | 2025 | 2024 |
|---|---|---|
| | £ | £ |
| Income tax recoverable | | 495 |
| Hall Hire | | |
| | - | 495 |

**7 CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR**

| | 2025 | 2024 |
|---|---|---|
| | £ | £ |
| Accruals | | |
| Trade creditors | 4,616 | 3,885 |
| | 4,616 | 3,885 |

**8 FUND DETAILS**

| | 2024 | Income | Expenditure | Transfers | 2025 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Unrestricted Funds | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| General Funds | 40,442 | 109,625 | 133,169 | 4,039 | 20,937 |
| | 40,442 | 109,625 | 133,169 | 4,039 | 20,937 |
| Restricted Funds | | | | | |
| New Building (Front Entrance Project) | 25,503 | 6,000 | 15,512 | | 15,991 |
| Children and Families Project | 30,023 | 17,820 | 18,808 | -4,589 | 24,446 |
| Warm Church Project | 16,817 | 52,839 | 883 | 550 | 69,323 |
| Diocese Board of Finance (DBF) | 0 | 1,485 | 1,485 | | - |
| | 72,344 | 78,144 | 36,688 | (4,039) | 109,761 |
| **TOTALS** | **112,786** | **187,769** | **169,857** | **-** | **130,697** |

**Independent Examiner's report to the PCC of St Peter, Broadwater**

I report on the accounts of the church for the year ended 31st December 2025, which are set out on pages 1 to 10.

**Respective responsibilities of the PCC and the examiner**

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

It is my responsibility to:

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

**Basis of independent examiner's report**

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Church Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the church and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

**Independent examiner's statement**

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Act; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Act

have not been met; or

(2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Name: Susan Viles
Address: 14 St Marys, Gamlingay SG19 3ET
Date: 7th April 2026