St Nicholas Church, Stevenage
Parochial Church Council

Report of the Trustees
for the year ending 31 December 2025

The Annual Report and Accounts of the Parochial Church Council of St Nicholas Stevenage

Registered Charity Number – 1161229

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INTRODUCTION

The Parochial Church Council as trustees of St Nicholas Church, Stevenage presents its annual report and financial statements for the year ending 31 December 2025.

The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

Definitions

PCC	The Parochial Church Council comprising clergy and elected representatives, the trustees under the PCC powers measure 1956.
Hawkes Trustees	The Rector and Churchwardens appointed trustees under the will of the late Robert Hawkes who died in 2008.
Friends of St Nicholas	An independent charitable trust established to raise funds for the maintenance and improvement of St Nicholas Church Stevenage.
Bury Mead Trustees	The Rector and Churchwardens are the trustees of the Bury Mead recreation area. The land is rented by Stevenage Borough Council (SBC) for a peppercorn rent and they are fully responsible for managing it.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Aims and Purposes

In co-operation with the incumbent, the PCC has the responsibility of promoting the pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical mission of the church in the ecclesiastical parish of St Nicholas Stevenage. This includes the management of the church building on Rectory Lane, Stevenage.

Resources

The parish is served by a full-time cleric licenced by the Bishop of St. Albans. The Rector Rev. Edward Keene has been in post since June 2023.

Mr David Sydenham was appointed as full time lay Assistant Minister for St Nicholas Church during the year and began work in July 2025. Mrs Alison Hare is the secretary to the benefice and provides administrative support to the clergy. She receives an honorarium. Vergers and organists are appointed on an irregular basis to support many of the occasional offices.

The mission of the church would not be fulfilled without the many volunteers who willingly serve in many areas of church life.

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Objectives

A new mission action plan was developed and adopted in 2025, which includes the objective to draw people in to church, to build people up in Christ, and to send people out to serve Him in the world.

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE IN DELIVERING PUBLIC BENEFIT

The PCC confirms that it has referred to the Charity's Commission's guidance on public benefit and believes that its objectives are in accordance with the guidance. The Mission Action Plan (MAP) approved by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) in April 2018 sets targets relating to each of the PCC objectives. Some of the achievement highlights over the last 12 months have been as follows:

- A New Year's Day service of prayer and praise on 1 January.
- On 5th January Bishop Rob (Bishop of Ebbsfleet) presided over our confirmation service.
- On 1st February the women's faith and fellowship held a women's breakfast in church.
- During February we ran a pre marriage course which was for several weeks.
- On the 17th to 19th February Martin and Sue Bailey held a music club for S-Club members.
- On 26th February we had we had Evensong to close the week of prayer for Christian unity on behalf of the Churches Together in Stevenage. This event also commemorated the 1,700th anniversary of the Nicene Creed.
- During March Dr Trevor Allin led seminars over several Fridays on "Can we trust the Bible."
- On 28th March we held an Easter service for years 3 through to 6 for the Leys school.
- On 2nd April Giles Junior school year 3 visited the church to learn about worship and prayer.
- On 13th April we had an Easter concert by the Jubilate Choir for the Friends of St Nicholas.
- During Holy Week we held our Maundy Thursday communion service with a Bring & Share meal.
- On Good Friday we had meditations at St Mary's at 3pm.
- On the 26th of April we held the "Weston Music Society" concert which was well received.
- On the 1st May we opened the church as a polling station for the Stevenage Borough council elections.
- During the 2nd to 5th May the church had its weekend away at "Bible by the Beach" in Eastbourne. The theme for the conference was "In all things God at work".
- On the 11th May we held our APCM.
- During May and June Mike and Evelyn Wilton held a "marriage enrichment course".
- On 28th May our children and youth held a prayer and praise evening.
- On 30th May there was a youth event which was held at the vicarage.
- On the 7th June we had our 'PCC Away Day' at Christ Church, Bushmead.
- On 10th June the deanery chapter met at St Nicholas Church.
- On 21st June Momentum (Men's group) held a Breakfast meeting
- On 12th July the 'Women Fellowship & Faith' held a Breakfast meeting.
- On the 19th of July the summer party for all church family was due to be held at the vicarage but due to the rain it was held in church.
- On 27th July, a Compassion representative updated us on current charity activities and offered an opportunity to sponsor a child.
- On 14th September MoMentum held an afternoon meeting.
- On 12th October we held a bring and share harvest lunch.
- During November St Nicholas was the main Stevenage dropping-off point for Operation Christmas Child, Stuart Marshall and his team travelled many miles to the central depot.

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- On 22nd October, MoMentum hosted a men's social.
- On 19th November Momentum held a Men's ten pin bowling evening.
- From the 25th to 28th November we hosted Bridgebuilders 'Christmas Journey'.
- During December Christine Chambers organised the Tree Festival which took place at St Nicholas church with many organisations decorating their own tree. The church was filled with many beautiful Christmas trees!
- Christine and the flower ladies keep the church looking beautiful throughout the year with their wonderful flower arrangements.
- We held a concert in aid of Bridgebuilders on 6th December where half of the proceeds went to Bridgebuilders and the other half to "Welwyn Brass Band" many people turned up and much needed funds were raised.
- Stevenage Singers held a concert on 7th December.
- Thomas Alleyne School held their year 7 carol service in the church on 11th December. 180 children attended and 20 adults.
- On 12th December, the Women's Faith and Fellowship held a Christmas craft event, during which participants created festive flowerpot decorations.
- Carols by candlelight were held on 14th December. 217 adults attended and 38 children.
- Almond Hill School held their carol service in church on 16th December, 120 children attended.
- On Christmas Eve we held a Fellowship lunch and two Christingle services. The first one had 66 adults and 53 children. The second Christingle had 143 adults and 78 children. The midnight mass service had 114 adults and 16 children attending.
- We had a family service on Christmas Day.

Worship and Prayer

Throughout the year we have maintained our weekly schedule of services, keeping to similar times and styles wherever possible.

Prayer Times. We have a time of corporate prayer every Wednesday at 7pm and Prayer & Praise at 7pm on the Wednesday following the first Sunday of the month. We have corporate prayer every Thursday afternoon 2.30 – 3pm.

Main Sundays service, 9:30am. A service up to 90 minutes in length with hymns and songs and a longer talk. Children go to their own groups after the first 10 minutes and re-join the service later. On two Sundays per month the service includes Holy Communion.

Home Groups. Home Bible study groups meet throughout the week. All home groups now meet at someone's house. The home groups meet every other week.

Data. On 31 December 2025 the Church Electoral Roll numbered 108, of whom 59 lived in the parish and 49 lived outside the parish. The average weekly attendance of adults and children, counted during October was 94

As well as regular services, the church enables the community to celebrate and thank God at the milestones of the journey through life. Through baptism we thank God for the gift of life, in marriage public vows are exchanged with God's blessing and, through funeral services, friends and family express their grief and give thanks for the life which is now complete in this world and to commend the person into God's keeping.

In 2025 we had 8 baptisms and 7 weddings and 1 Wedding Blessing and 17 confirmations. There were 14 funerals in the church with clergy taking 4 other funeral services at the crematorium or cemetery chapel.

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Church Buildings and Churchyard

In 2008 the will of the late Robert Hawkes bequeathed the residue of his estate in trust to the Rector and Churchwardens for the maintenance and repair of the fabric of the St Nicholas church building. The funds are held by the Diocesan Board of Finance as custodian trustee.

The PCC determines the scope of any work for which the support of the will trust is sought. The PCC also obtains the necessary consents and then applies for grants from the trustees. In previous years invoices for grant financed work were settled directly from trust funds. To avoid potential accounting difficulties, from 1 January 2018 the trustees agreed that all invoices should be approved by and settled from PCC funds. The expenditure is then reimbursed by the Hawkes trustees.

During 2025 the following grants were paid/provided from the Hawkes Trust to the PCC

Recurring general maintenance

Item	£
Recurring Maintenance	
Church buildings insurance (Ecclesiastical 90%)	3,695
Non-Recurring Maintenance	
Pathway Lighting (2024 expense)	342
Roof Repairs – Architect Fees	600
Total Grants	**4,637**

The Hawkes Will Trustees have indicated that during 2026 they intend to continue their funding of church repairs and insurance using the Trust's funds.

The last quinquennial inspection was completed on 5 November 2025. The next inspection is due in 2030. The Hawkes trustees have agreed a 10-year funding commitment of planned repairs and will release funds as repairs take place.

The PCC thanks Paul Drakes and Stuart Marshall who regularly inspect and carry out minor maintenance on the inside and outside of the building.

Mission and Evangelism

The continuing work of mission and evangelism is a major part of our life as a church which seeks to proclaim the gospel of Jesus across our parish and across the town.

- On Thursday afternoons we offer hot chocolate and biscuits to the children passing the church, these children are normally from Thomas Alleynes or Barclay school. We have got to know some of the children. We also sometimes have parents with younger children coming in for hot chocolate, and people out for a walk.
- As part of our initiative to increase our witness and presence on the local estates we again delivered Christmas invitations to over two thousand homes in the parish.
- We have now produced a new a welcome pack containing information about our church which we use for people moving into the area, especially the new builds in Forster country.
- We have the church opened several times a week; Tuesday 2-4 Wednesday 12-2, Thursday 10-12 and Thursday afternoons 2.30 – 4pm. This also allows people to come in and have a look at the church and we can share the gospel with them.

- The mission of the wider church is supported by donations to four external Christian charities: Church Mission Society (CMS) with a particular link to Katia Rocks in Brazil; Bridge Builders, our local gospel partners in the primary schools in Stevenage; Open Doors; and Crosslinks with a particular link to Rachel and Bernie Muluuta working in Kampala, Uganda, to reach, teach, disciple and train young adults. Bridgebuilders receive 40% of our mission giving and the remainder 20% each.
- During 2025 the church continued to support the worldwide Anglican movement GAFCON, and the UK based RENEW movement which is working for the renewal of the Church of England and the growth and planting of healthy Bible-teaching Anglican Churches.

Ecumenical Relationships

Whilst we work most closely with other Anglican churches across the Stevenage area our strongest link is with St Mary's Church in Graveley, with whom we form a joint benefice. Sermon series are shared and both churches share baptism and marriage preparation.

We are also part of Churches Together in Stevenage and are continuing to deepen our working relationships with other churches who share our vision for mission and evangelism. As part of this we have continued our partnership with Grace Community Church and Longmeadow Evangelical Church.

Church Building

We have been able to open our church building to various organisations.

Apart from the music concerts that we have here Stevenage Steps AA hold their meetings here along with the Stoke Association.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Full details of the accounts are provided in pages 13 – 24 of this report.

Total receipts of unrestricted funds were £95,778. This comprised the following:

Source of funds	*Amount (£)*
Planned giving	68,320
Unrestricted voluntary donations	1,615
Collections in church	5,282
Wedding and funeral fees	4,258
HMRC Gift Aid	14,693
Other Income	864
Interest	746

FINANCIAL REVIEW (Cont'd)

Total receipts of restricted funds were £6,537. This comprised the following:

Source of funds	*Amount (£)*
Away Day 2025	1,900
Hawkes Bequest	4,637

Compared to 2024, *our planned giving increased by 20% and collections in church increased by 32%.*

The PCC wishes to record its thanks to all those who, through their generous financial giving, demonstrate our growing commitment to the work that God is doing in this corner of his kingdom.

Provision has been made in our balance sheet for the following monetary assets:

£7,314 gift aid reclaim from HMRC for the period July – December 2025
£2,079 prepaid away day 2026
£875 funeral income
£4,295 Grant Hawkes Bequest

Provision has been made in our balance sheet for the following monetary liabilities:

£1,320 independent examination fee
£41,788 parish share
£500 occasional fee deposits

£115,660 was spent from unrestricted funds to provide the Christian ministry from St. Nicholas' Church, including the contribution of £52,378 to the diocesan parish share that largely provides the stipends and housing for the clergy. The amounts that the churches in the deanery must find are shared between the churches according to a formula that is based mainly on a headcount of the congregations, and local demography. We must find more of the total required at our church in relation to others because of our location in the town.

£6,640 was spent from the unrestricted funds on the four charities (CMS, Bridge Builders, Crosslinks and Open Doors) selected by the PCC.

£5,898 was spent on maintenance of the church building from unrestricted funds and £2,861 spent from restricted funds.

The result for the year was a loss of income over expenditure of £17,62 on unrestricted funds, and loss of £2,074 on restricted funds giving an overall loss of £19,695. Adding bank and deposit balances brought forward at the beginning of the year, together with outstanding assets and liabilities (including long term deferred parish Share £41,788) there are **net reserves** of £46,172 to carry forward at 31st December 2025.

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FINANCIAL REVIEW (Cont'd)

Reserves policy

It is our practice to maintain a balance in the current account of approximately £8,000 to cover the monthly forecast of planned expenditure.

As of 31st December 2025, £54,7467 is held on easy access deposit to smooth out fluctuations in cash flow and to meet emergencies.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. At St Nicholas Church, the membership of the PCC consists of the incumbent (our Rector), churchwardens, other ex-officio members, and members elected by those who are on the electoral roll. All those who attend our services are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC.

The PCC members are responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance to the parish, including deciding on how the funds of the PCC are to be spent.

The full PCC met four times during the period with an average attendance of 76%. Given its wide responsibilities the PCC has a number of committees, each dealing with a particular aspect of parish life. These committees, which include worship, pastoral, giving and support for mission, finance, buildings and fabric, social and hospitality, are all responsible to the PCC and report back to it as appropriate. The full PCC discusses and ratifies any decisions as necessary.

Risk Management Policy

The Rector and Churchwardens on behalf of the PCC have considered the risks to which it is exposed. They relate to the following major areas:

Risk Area	*Nature of Risk*	*Management Arrangements*
Financial Risks	Fraudulent misappropriation of PCC assets and funds	Financial controls are in place including oversight of bank accounts and payment processes. Insurance cover against theft
Damage to buildings	The church may be damaged by weather, neglect, external abuse	Insurance cover against the usual perils backed by a bequest for the maintenance of the building
Health and safety of people using church premises	Users of the building may suffer injury because of an incident on the premises	Regular reviews of safety arrangements backed by public liability insurance
Abuse to children and vulnerable adults	Children or vulnerable adults may be abused by members of the church in the context of church activities	Care policy in place with screening of individuals by the *Disclosure and Barring Service*

A surveyor appointed by Ecclesiastical Insurance visited the Church and submitted a formal Risk Management Report in June 2023. This inspection is required every 5 years. The following two actions have been completed:

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STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT (Cont'd)

Risk Management Policy (Cont'd)

- A church *Health and Safety Policy* has been compiled in the format supplied by Ecclesiastical Insurance.
- An asbestos register has been generated.
- The Safeguarding Policy has been reviewed and updated.

Volunteers

We should like to thank all the volunteers who work so hard to maintain our church as a lively and vibrant community, including:

- Paul Schimmel and Karen Walker (church wardens)
- Steve Bamford (assistant warden)
- Jason Cox (treasurer)
- Christine Chambers (flower team and safeguarding officer)
- John Knight and Hannah Keene (children's & youth work)
- Martin Bailey (music director)
- Paul Drakes (health & safety)
- Robin Bailey (planned giving officer)
- John Forster (sacristan)
- Chris Forster (tower captain)
- All those who serve on church teams and rotas

They have all worked tirelessly on our behalf.

Administrative Information

St Nicholas Church is situated in Rectory Lane, Stevenage, Herts SG1 4DA. It is part of the Diocese of St Albans within the Church of England. The correspondence address is St Nicholas House, 2A North Road, Stevenage, Herts SG1 4AT.

The PCC is a body corporate (PCC Powers Measure 1956, Church Representation Rules 2006) and is registered with the Charity Commission.

PCC members who have served at any time from 1st January 2025 until the date this report was approved are:

Clergy (ex-officio):
Rev Edward Keene (Chairman)

Churchwardens (ex-officio):
Karen Walker
Paul Schimmel (from June 2024)

Deanery Synod Reps (ex-officio):
Cathy Bibby

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STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT (Cont'd)

Administrative Information (Cont'd)

Diocesan Synod Members (ex-officio):
Hannah Keene
Stuart Marshall

Elected Members:
Edward Kaahwa (to May 2025)
Chris Taplin (to May 2025)
Charlotte Seifi-Lorimer (to May 2025)
Mark Parker
Christine Chambers (Parish Safeguarding Officer)
Sue Bailey
Elaine Forster
Daniel Seifi-Lorimer
Miranda Dillsworth (from May 2025)
Rona Otogbade (from May 2025)
Ella Houghton (from May 2025)
Jason Cox (from May 2025) (Treasurer)

In attendance
Jane Luff – Secretary

Approved by the PCC on 21.07.26 *and signed on their behalf by Edward Keene (PCC Chairman)*

Eileen RECTOR

St Nicholas Church, Stevenage
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Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of
St Nicholas Church, Stevenage, Parochial Church Council

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the St Nicholas Church, Stevenage, Parochial Church Council, for the year ended 31 December 2025.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the St Nicholas Church, Stevenage, Parochial Church Council, 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 St Nicholas Church, Stevenage, Parochial Church Council's accounts 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

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 St Nicholas Church, Stevenage, Parochial Church Council as required by section 130 of the Act; or

2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or

3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part on 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 accounts to be reached.

C Wilkinson FCCA

Barker Wilkinson Limited
19-21 Middle Row
Stevenage
Hertfordshire
SG1 3AW

Date 21/07/26

St Nicholas Church, Stevenage
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Income and Expenditure Account
(Incorporating Statement of Financial Activities)

	Note	2025 Unrestricted	2025 Restricted	2025 Total	2024 Total
Incoming Resource					
Planned Giving		68,320	-	68,320	57,008
Other Donations		1,615	-	1,615	35,826
Legacy		-	-	-	38,250
Collections		5,282	-	5,282	3,996
Gift Aid Recovered		14,693	-	14,693	20,598
Total		**89,910**	**-**	**89,910**	**155,678**
Interest Received		746	-	746	169
Weddings & Funerals		4,258	-	4,258	5,291
Other Income	2	864	6,537	7,401	12,222
Total		**5,868**	**6,537**	**12,405**	**17,682**
Total of Incoming Resources		**95,778**	**6,537**	**102,315**	**173,360**
Resources Expended					
Charitable Activities					
Parish Share		52,378	-	52,378	63,057
Clergy & Staffing Costs		21,211	-	21,211	1,901
Church Running Expenses	3	26,764	5,750	32,514	33,499
Mission Giving and Donations	4	6,640	-	6,640	8,407
Repairs and Renewals		6,298	2,861	9,159	6,421
Deanery and CTIS		108	-	108	107
Total		**113,399**	**8,611**	**122,010**	**113,392**
Excess of Expenditure Over Income		**(17,621)**	**(2,074)**	**(19,695)**	**59,968**
Transfer between funds		342	(342)	-	(25)
Net movement of funds		**(17,279)**	**(2,416)**	**(19,695)**	**59,968**
Total funds brought forward		**63,041**	**2,827**	**65,868**	**5,900**
Total funds carried forward	5	**45,762**	**411**	**46,173**	**65,868**

The notes on pages 15 to 24 form part of these accounts

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Balance Sheet
As At 31 December 2025

	Note	2025 Unrestricted	2025 Restricted	2025 Total	2024 Total
Cash Funds					
General Current Account		26,675	(6,529)	20,146	94,312
General Reserve Account		54,180	566	54,746	6,440
Wedding Current Account		200	-	200	2,408
Total Cash Funds		**81,055**	**(5,963)**	**75,092**	**103,160**
Other debtors					
Gift Aid - Recoverable		7,314	-	7,314	6,471
Away Day		-	2,079	2,079	-
Hawkes Bequest		-	4,295	4,295	-
Weddings & Funeral Fees		875	-	875	-
Total Current Assets		**89,244**	**411**	**89,655**	**110,149**
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year					
Independent Examiners fee		1,194	-	1,194	1,194
Weddings & Funeral Deposits		500	-	500	1,299
Deferred Parish Share – 2019		29,177	-	29,177	29,177
Deferred Parish Share – 2024		12,611	-	12,611	12,611
Total Liabilities		**43,482**	**-**	**43,482**	**44,281**
Totals Funds	5	**45,762**	**411**	**46,173**	**65,868**

The notes on pages 15 to 24 form part of these accounts

Approved by the PCC on 21.07.26 and signed on their behalf:

Jason Cox
Treasurer

Paul Schimmel
Churchwarden

Karen Walker
Churchwarden

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Notes to the Financial Statements
Year Ended 31 December 2025

1. Accounting Policies

The accounts for the year ended 31 December 2025 have been prepared using the accruals basis of accounting.

Basis of preparing the financial statements.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

The financial statements have been prepared under the Church Accounting Regulations 2006, the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

The financial statements include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible in law. They do not include the accounts of church groups that owe their affiliation to another body, nor those that are informal gatherings of church members.

The trustees are not aware of any material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue and therefore the Charity's financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis.

Incoming resources

Planned giving, collections and similar donations are recognised when received.

Tax refunds are recognised when the incoming resource to which they relate is received.

Grants and legacies are recognised when the PCC is entitled to the use of the resources, their ultimate receipt is considered reasonably certain and the amounts due are reliably quantifiable.

Interest as and when accrued by the payer. All incoming resources are accounted for gross.

Resources expended.

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

The diocesan parish share expected to be paid over is recognised when due.

All other expenditure is generally recognised when it is incurred.

Notes to the Financial Statements
Year Ended 31 December 2025
(Cont'd)

1. Accounting Policies (Cont'd)

Fixed assets

Consecrated and benefice property is not included in the accounts in accordance with s10(2)(a) and (c) of the Charities Act 2011.

Individual items of equipment with a purchase price in excess of £1,000 are capitalised and depreciation is charged from the year of acquisition on a straight-line basis over the estimated useful lives.

Fund accounting

Restricted funds comprise revenue donations or grants for specific PCC activities intended by the donor.

Unrestricted funds are income funds which are to be spent for the PCC general purposes.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds set aside by the PCC trustees for use in the future.

Project funds are unrestricted funds designated for projects or for administration purposes only. Designated funds remain unrestricted and the PCC will transfer any surplus/deficits to/from other general funds and the end of the designated project.

Financial Instruments

The charity only has financial assets and liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at settlement value.

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Notes to the Financial Statements
Year Ended 31 December 2025
(Cont'd)

2. Other Income

	2025 Unrestricted	2025 Restricted	2025 Total	2024 Total
	£	£	£	£
Graveley PCC (Clergy)	450	-	450	450
Easy Fund Raising	114	-	114	-
Other Revenue	300	-	300	79
Away Day	-	1,900	1,900	6,660
Hawkes Bequest Fund	-	4,637	4,637	5,033
	864	**6,537**	**7,401**	**12,222**

3. Church Running Expenses

	2025 Unrestricted	2025 Restricted	2025 Total	2024 Total
	£	£	£	£
Services Upkeep	670	-	670	357
Copyright Licences	693	-	693	673
Software Costs	464	-	464	706
Insurance	410	3,695	4,105	3,449
Flowers	236	-	236	386
Gas, Electricity, Water and Other premises costs	7,759	-	7,759	7,435
General expenses	2,684	-	2,684	1,745
Independent Examiner's Fee	1,320	-	1,320	1,356
Kitchen Upkeep	566	-	566	495
Mission Action Plan	2,259	-	2,259	2,481
Away Day	-	2,055	2,055	6,685
Safeguarding	-	-	-	25
Stationery, Printing etc.	394	-	394	780
Sunday Club & Youth Work	275		275	738
Equipment Hire	190	-	190	420
Parish Administrator	8,844	-	8,844	5,768
	26,764	**5,750**	**32,514**	**31,754**

Notes to the Financial Statements
Year Ended 31 December 2025
(Cont'd)

4. Mission Giving and Donations

	2025 Unrestricted	2025 Restricted	2025 Total Funds	2024 Unrestricted
	£	£	£	£
Church Overseas				
Church Mission Society	1,560	-	1,560	1,560
Crosslinks	1,560	-	1,560	1,560
Barnabas Fund	-	-	-	1,430
Open Doors	260	-	260	-
General Charities				
Bridge Builders	3,200	-	3,200	3,734
Church Society	-	-	-	73
LICC	-	-	-	50
Friends of St Nicholas	60	-	60	-
	6,640	**-**	**6,640**	**8,407**

Notes to the Financial Statements
Year Ended 31 December 2025
(Cont'd)

5. **Movement in Funds**

	On 1st January 2025	Net Movement in Funds	Transfers Between Funds	On 31st December 2025
	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted Funds				
General Fund	63,041	(17,631)	342	45,752
Restricted Funds				
Friends of St Nicholas	2,500	(2,261)	-	239
Hawkes Bequest Fund	327	342	(342)	327
Away Day	-	(155)	-	(155)
Total Funds	**70,228**	**(19,695)**	-	**46,173**

Net movement in funds are as follows:

	Incoming resources	Resources Expended	Gains and Losses	Movement in Funds
	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted Funds				
General Fund	95,778	(113,599)	-	(17,821)
Restricted Funds				
Friends of St Nicholas	-	(2,261)	-	(2,261)
Hawkes Bequest Fund	4,637	(4,295)	-	342
Away Day	1,900	(2,055)	-	(155)
Total Funds	**102,315**	**(122,010)**	-	**(19,695)**

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for the year ending 31 December 2025

Notes to the Accounts.
Year Ended 31 December 2025
(Cont'd)

6. **Fund Details**

UNRESTRICTED FUNDS

General fund

The general funds are available for the furtherance of the PCC's charitable objectives.

General funds are largely maintained by member's donations and collections.

RESTRICTED FUNDS

Friends of St Nicholas

The Friends of St Nicholas have made a donation towards the maintenance of the Church building.

Funds have been carried forward for use on a specific maintenance project as and when identified.

Away Day

Monies collected to be spent on the congregation annual away day.

Hawkes Bequest Fund

The Hawkes Bequest funds all maintenance and insurance costs of the church building of St Nicholas. The maintenance cost is paid by the PCC and then a request is made to the Trustees of the Hawkes Bequest to reimburse the maintenance cost.

Notes to the Accounts.
Year Ended 31 December 2024
(Cont'd)

7. Trustees Remuneration and Related Party Transactions

No trustee received any remuneration, benefits or expenses other than as disclosed below:

During the period under review, Alison Hare received £8,844 (2024 £5,768) in payments and expenses for administrative support.

Trustees receive payment for reimbursed expenses incurred on the PCC's behalf as agent for the PCC.

The Rev'd E Keene, Karen Walker and Mike Wilton are or were trustees of The Hawkes Will Trust during the period under review, the PCC received restricted grants of £4,637 (2024 £5,033) from The Hawkes Will Trust during the year.

During the year total donations received, both regular and one-off, from trustees who have served during the period was £11,440 (2024 £12,910).

8. Legal Status

The Charity is a trust registered at the Charity Commission at St Nicholas Church, Rectory Lane, Stevenage, Herts, SG1 4DA. The charity is a public benefit entity.

Notes to the Accounts.
Year Ended 31 December 2025
(Cont'd)

9. Movement in Funds Comparatives

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	On 1st January 2024	Net Movement in Funds	Transfers Between Funds	On 31st December 2024
	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted Funds				
General Fund	3,400	59,666	(25)	63,041
Restricted Funds				
Friends of St Nicholas	2,500	-	-	2,500
Hawkes Bequest Fund	-	327	-	327
Away Day	-	(25)	25	-
Total Funds	**5,900**	**59,968**	**-**	**65,868**

Net movement in funds are as follows:

	Incoming resources	Resources Expended	Gains and Losses	Movement in Funds
	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted Funds				
General Fund	161,667	(102,001)	-	59,666
Restricted Funds				
Friends of St Nicholas	-	-	-	-
Hawkes Bequest Fund	5,033	4,706	-	327
Away Day	6,660	6,685	-	(25)
Total Funds	**173,360**	**113,392**	**-**	**59,968**

Notes to the Accounts.
Year Ended 31 December 2024
(Cont'd)

9. Movement in Funds Comparatives (Cont'd)

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined position is as follows:

	On 1st January 2024	Net Movement in Funds	Transfers Between Funds	On 31st December 2025
	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted Funds				
General Fund	3,400	39,784	317	43,501
Restricted Funds				
Friends of St Nicholas	2,500	-	-	2,500
Hawkes Bequest Fund	-	669	(342)	327
Away Day – 2024	-	(180)	25	-
Total Funds	**5,900**	**40,273**	-	**46,173**

Net movement in funds are as follows:

	Incoming resources	Resources Expended	Gains and Losses	Movement in Funds
	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted Funds				
General Fund	257,445	(215,400)	-	42,045
Restricted Funds				
Friends of St Nicholas	-	(2,261)	-	(2,261)
Hawkes Bequest Fund	9,670	(9,001)	-	669
Away Day – 2024	8,560	(8,740)	-	(180)
Total Funds	**275,675**	**(235,402)**	-	**40,273**

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Notes to the Financial Statements
Year Ended 31 December 2025
(Cont'd)

10. Comparatives for the statement of Financial Activities

	Note	2024 Unrestricted	2024 Restricted	2024 Total	2023 Total
Incoming Resources					
Planned Giving		57,008	-	57,008	53,126
Other Donations		35,826	-	35,826	3,987
Legacy		38,250	-	38,250	-
Collections		3,996	-	3,996	4,262
Gift Aid Recovered		20,598	-	20,598	12,269
Total		**155,678**	**-**	**155,678**	**73,644**
Interest Received		169	-	169	-
Weddings & Funerals		5,291	-	5,291	2,881
Away Day		-	6,660	6,660	-
Other Income		529	5,033	5,562	23,817
Total		**5,989**	**11,693**	**17,682**	**26,698**
Total of Incoming Resources		**161,667**	**11,693**	**173,360**	**100,342**
Resources Expended					
Charitable Activities					
Parish Share		63,057	-	63,057	60,099
Clergy & Staffing Costs		1,901	-	1,901	1,844
Church Running Expenses		23,710	9,789	33,499	24,715
Mission Giving and Donations		8,407	-	8,407	10,857
Deanery and CTIS		107	-	107	157
Repairs and Renewals		4,819	1,602	6,421	10,515
Total		**102,001**	**11,391**	**113,392**	**108,187**
Excess of Expenditure Over Income		**59,666**	**302**	**59,968**	**(7,845)**
Transfer between funds		(25)	25	-	-
Net movement of funds		**59,641**	**327**	**59,968**	**(7,845)**
Total funds brought forward		**3,400**	**2,500**	**5,900**	**13,745**
Total funds carried forward		**63,041**	**2,827**	**65,868**	**5,900**