THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND

Parish of St. Swithin, Lincoln

Annual Report
2025

for presentation at the
Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM)
Monday 11th May, 2026

ST SWITHIN'S CHURCH LINCOLN
TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31 DECEMBER 2025
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1. LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St. Swithin Lincoln, Diocese of Lincoln.

Correspondence Address: St. Swithin's Church, the Salthouse, Free School Lane, Lincoln, LN2 1EY.

The St. Swithin's PCC is a charity registered with the Charity Commission, registered number 1162338.

St. Swithin's banks with NatWest Bank, High Street, Lincoln and The Co-operative Bank Business Customer Services, PO Box 4931, Swindon, SN4 4PL.

The St. Swithin's PCC Independent Examiner is Mr Zachary Ramsden FCA, 63 Deakin Leas, Tonbridge, Kent, TN9 2JT.

2. CHARITABLE OBJECTS

The primary aims of the Charity are to promote the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. For us specifically this means we aim to be an Anglican church which plays our part in seeking to help people encounter the LOVE>of God, LIVE>in the way of Jesus and GO>in the power of the Spirit to see lives changed and communities transformed. We exist to be a city centre resourcing church.

We are seeking to build a community of people who are exploring and going deeper in their understanding, knowledge and experience of God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. We are a community of people influenced by Jesus. A community for whom Acts 2: 42- 47 and John 10: 10 has been influential in our desire to be marked by Home, Real and Courage.

Our hope is that:

a. amongst us people will find a welcome and safe place to explore faith and their own identity while receiving love, acceptance, support and encouragement in life, and that;
b. we will be good news to the parish, city and region by partnering with others to see social transformation, and that;
c. we will be able to resource other churches and plant other churches.

In particular, though not exclusively, we have a focus on reaching the younger generations - children and families, young people, students and young adults. To do this effectively, we recognise we need a church of all ages joining, praying, serving and giving.

3. FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 along with the FRS 102 SORP 2019.

Financial Review

Total income during 2025 was £267,718 (2024: £420,573). Total expenditure during 2025 was: £323,272 (2024: £454,465).
At the end of 2025 total funds (represented by cash and other assets) was £130,695 (2024: £186,249).
Within these funds we had general total unrestricted funds of £120,137 (2024: £155,636) and restricted funds of £10,558 (2024: £30,613).

We received the following grants:

- ACTS Trust £8,370
- Bridge Church "Community Hub" £1,815
- Church Revitalisation Trust "Love Christmas" £1,700
- City of Lincoln Council "A Greener Church" £900
- LCVYS (Lincolnshire Council for Voluntary Youth Services) £250
- St. Martins Parish Hall Trust £1,000

4. VICAR/CHAIR OF TRUSTEES REPORT – Revd. Canon Jim Prestwood

I have written this Vicar's Report across both churches. Whilst we are currently held in plurality and are awaiting the final decision and paperwork as we move towards becoming one parish, we have increasingly been sharing and collaborating in mission and ministry. Over the past year in particular, this has found expression not only in how we lead and serve, but also in opportunities to worship together — for example at baptism services — which have been a tangible sign of our growing unity and shared life.

There is far too much to cover in the life of St. Swithin's and St. Faith's over the 12 months of 2025. This has been a year in which we have increasingly sensed a shared call to grow in faith and grow in family — deepening our life with God and strengthening our life together as a church community.

Unlike previous years, this has not primarily been a year of launching new activities or programmes, but rather one of intentional focus. We have been concentrating as much on the movement between the words of our vision — Love, Live, Go — as on the words themselves. In other words, not simply what we say we are about, but how we are actually helping people to move and grow as disciples of Jesus. Which, helpfully, is harder to measure than how many events we can fit into a calendar. How are we creating pathways for people to encounter the love of God, to learn to live more like Jesus, and to go in the power of the Spirit? And alongside this, how are we continuing to develop what it means to be an intergenerational church — not just in the style or structure of a Sunday service, but as a culture that shapes the whole of our life together, where all ages are growing, belonging and being formed as disciples side by side?

Across the year, we have continued to see encouraging signs of life and growth — in Sunday worship, in midweek communities, and in the many ways people are exploring faith, encountering Jesus, and finding their place within the life of the church. There remains a quiet but real sense that God is at work among us.

I have sensed a deepening in prayer and hunger over the last 12 months and have been personally so encouraged by the small but faithful group of intercessors who gather in our prayer room each Thursday morning, as well as at other times during the week. Their quiet, consistent faithfulness is a vital part of the life of the church, often unseen, but foundational to all that God is doing among us.

I also want to record my thanks to all those who are involved in the life of the church — those who join, pray, serve and give in so many varied and different ways. This really is the heartbeat of the church family here: everyone playing their part in serving one another and participating in God's mission and ministry among us.

TRANSFORMATION AND TRANSITION

The St. Swithin's Church Building and Joining of Parishes

We have continued to move forward in bringing St. Swithin's and St. Faith's more closely together in our shared life and mission. Whilst some of the formal processes continue, the direction remains towards a more unified parish, with St. Faith's as the parish church and the Salthouse as a city centre hub.

As before, this is not primarily about buildings, but about how we best resource mission and ministry — stewarding what we have in a way that enables us to grow in faith and grow in family, and to serve our communities well.

We were also pleased to receive local planning permission for the Welcome Project at St Faith's. This is a significant step forward in enabling the building to better serve both church and community, helping to make it more welcoming, accessible and hospitable. The plans include a new entrance area facing the street, providing level access into the church, as well as the addition of toilets and a refreshment servery. There are also proposals to reconfigure the existing vestry spaces to create more usable meeting and storage areas. Together, these

changes will help us to use the building more effectively as a place of worship, community gathering and mission.

Intergenerational Ethos

This continues to be a defining and shaping part of who we are. What we are seeking to build is not simply a style of service, but a culture in which all ages are known, valued, discipled and released.

Over the last 12 months, this has continued to develop across the life of the church — through midweek groups, rhythms of prayer, discipleship spaces for different ages and stages, and in our worship and shared community life. It has been particularly encouraging to see younger members of the church stepping into roles of leadership and service, and to see relationships growing across generations in ways that feel natural and life-giving.

We remain convinced that this is central to our calling — not only for now, but for long-term health and fruitfulness.

Staffing, Clergy and Lay Ministry

This year has seen a number of significant changes within the staff team.

We said goodbye to Revd. Ben Brady and his family as they moved to York following Ben's appointment as Rector. We are deeply grateful for all that Ben has given to the life of the church.

We also said farewell to Beth Glenfield and her husband Mick as they moved to Oxford for Mick to begin ordination training. As part of the original plant team, Beth has made an extraordinary contribution over many years — particularly through Alpha and leadership development — and we want to record our heartfelt thanks for all she has poured into the church.

Alongside these departures, we have welcomed and seen transition within the team:

- Revd. Juliette Willis was appointed as Associate Vicar
- Revd. Victoria Lawrence completed her second curacy year with us and moved to St. John's Ermine for her final year, gaining experience in estates ministry
- Emily Clark was appointed in April as Church Life Administrator and Facilitator
- Gabby Aikins was appointed as Worship Pastor in October

- Jack Fiedler was appointed as Ministries Coordinator for a one-year post, supporting Love Your Neighbour, 18–25s and Alpha

I also want to express a huge thank you to our staff team. Much of what they do is unseen, but it makes an enormous difference to the life of the church, enabling so much of our ministry and mission to take place week by week.

As ever with staffing transitions, whilst we wouldn't necessarily plan for quite this much change at once, we are grateful both for those who have gone and for those who have come — and for God's faithfulness in the midst of it all.

As we continue to grow in faith and grow in family, a key priority remains the training, equipping and releasing of lay ministry across the church, alongside developing a sustainable and focused staff team.

MINISTRY AND MISSION

Please do read the ministry and mission reports that follow, which give a fuller picture of all that has taken place over the last 12 months.

Looking back over the year, a number of themes stand out:

There has been a continued deepening in our life of prayer and discipleship — a growing sense that God is calling us to abide more intentionally in Him, trusting that fruitfulness flows not from striving, but from staying connected to Jesus.

We are also seeing increasing depth of relationship across the church. Our intergenerational ethos continues to strengthen this, helping us to become not just a collection of congregations, but a genuinely shared life together — growing in family as well as in faith.

Overall, Sunday numbers have remained relatively steady. Whilst we have been encouraged by new people joining, we have also said goodbye to others — the majority moving out of the area, but some moving to other churches, and sadly a few drifting away.

At the same time, our wider church family and fringe continue to grow. Across the life of the church — in our midweek ministries, community spaces and relationships — there is a widening circle of connection and opportunity.

There are also significant opportunities for growth. Through ministries such as Stay Toasty, Babyccinos, and the LYN Café, we are engaging with many people each week — with the café in particular full of conversations, relationships and moments of connection that are often the starting point for faith. Amongst students, we continue to see increased openness to trying church, real encounters with Jesus, and a growing spiritual curiosity.

As we look ahead, we are praying for and anticipating growth in this next season — not only through these relationships, but through a renewed confidence and intentionality in each of

us personally. That we would grow in invitation, in sharing Jesus, and in being fruitful on our frontlines — in the everyday places God has placed us.

FOCUS in July was a significant moment in the year — a valuable opportunity to gather with the wider HTB network, to be encouraged and equipped, and to be reminded that we are part of something much bigger than ourselves — and also a reminder of quite how many people you can fit into one field.

At the same time, we recognised that FOCUS is not accessible for everyone — particularly for families, and for some of our older generations. In light of this, and in line with our desire to grow in faith and grow in family, we have planned a church weekend away for March 2026. Our hope is that this will enable as many people as possible to spend extended time together — worshipping, learning, praying, and simply enjoying being together as a church family.

FINANCES

This year marks an important moment financially.

The grant funding streams on which we have relied over recent years — particularly SDF and the Henry Smith Charity — have now come to an end. We are immensely grateful for these, which have enabled staffing, ministry development and church planting in ways that would not otherwise have been possible.

Looking ahead, this presents both a challenge and an opportunity: to develop a financially sustainable model that supports ongoing mission and ministry without compromising our calling.

This will require continued growth in generosity and stewardship, alongside careful prioritisation and planning. As ever, we do this with both realism and faith — recognising the responsibility before us, whilst also trusting in God's provision, which we have seen so clearly over many years.

As we look ahead, our prayer is not simply that we would do more, but that we would remain — rooted and grounded in Christ. That we would abide in Him, and in doing so bear much fruit. Not fruit measured only in numbers or activity, but in lives changed, in deeper discipleship, in a growing sense of family, and in communities transformed — which is, thankfully, a better measure than attendance at meetings. And as we do, our hope is that others would come and taste and see that the Lord is good — and find their place within this growing family of faith.

5. MINISTRY REPORTS

ALPHA – Revd. Juliette Willis

In 2025 Alpha continued to be a foundational ministry in our church life with all our courses this year being joint across the two churches. We ran the course three times this year (in January, May and October), enabling those who attend church or connect with us through one of our other ministry areas that are curious about the Christian faith and want to know more, to attend a course.

In the summer of 2025, we said goodbye to Beth Glenfield from our staff team. Beth has been heading up the Alpha team since 2014 and we are incredibly grateful for the energy, creativity and committed way in which she has led each and every course and for the hard work and prayer that she has put in over those 11 years.

This year a range of people attended the course from those who have no faith, to those who are new to faith through to people who have been Christians for years but perhaps want a reminder of the basics.

	No. of sign ups	Average no. of guests per week	No. of team
Jan - Mar (evening) The Salthouse	41	23	19
May - July (evening) The Salthouse	24	14	9
Oct - Dec (evening) The Salthouse	22	7	13

We had a dedicated team which were a real mix of ages, some who are long term Alpha team members and others serving for the first time, they did a great job of welcoming the guests, creating space for open discussion and providing a range of food.

The Alpha day is a key part of the course where we focus on the Holy Spirit through talks and discussion and allow time and space to offer prayer for the guests to be filled with the Holy Spirit. We joined with St Mark's for this day in March and November.

Feedback from guests:

> "I've enjoyed being in a small group! Everyone has been open and honest with their answers and it has been very inspiring to hear other testimony and opinion. Our group leaders have been amazing."
>
> "Coming to Alpha solidified my Christian Faith. Before coming I knew I believed and know Jesus but was too afraid to say/commit to it. Going to Alpha gave me courage to pray out loud for the first time, ask God for signs and announce myself as Christian."
>
> "I really enjoyed Alpha, I wanted to start getting back into faith and this has been the first step."

> "I enjoyed the live talks. Appreciated the honesty of the group. Felt like a safe space and no pressure from anyone!"

We've had Alpha guests this year who did not previously attend church that have become regular members of our congregation.

We continue to be a designated Alpha 'Hub church', recognising that we run Alpha regularly and in line with their 'best practises 'and encouraging us to be advocates for Alpha among other churches and encouraging them to run it. We have continued to work in partnership with St Mark's, Grimsby and provide support to other churches where welcomed.

LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOUR – Revd. Juliette Willis

Our Love Your Neighbour ministry has continued to develop over the past 12 months, with our cafe on Thursday mornings continuing to be well attended. We often welcome between 45-55 guests each week and we love witnessing strengthening relationships among the guests and volunteers.

Food donations from Aldi (in partnership with Neighbourly, a food re-distribution platform), donations from Tesco via community food bank collection, as well as donations from our two schools in St. Faith's parish and our church congregations are gratefully received - thank you! We were especially grateful for the Harvest Service where hundreds of items were donated - these donations built-up our stock levels at the Salthouse for many months and enabled us to distribute many more food parcels than would have been possible otherwise.

We continue to partner with the team from Voluntary Centre Services who use the LYN Café as a meeting place for social prescribers and their clients. Citizens Advice in Lincoln also continues to connect with café guests offering advice with energy costs plus any government benefits to which they may be entitled.

Once again, we ran Love Christmas and were grateful for the support from both St. Swithin's and St. Faith's congregation and our local schools in the West End to raise money and bring in donations. In 2025 we were able to make up 400 bags of kindness which we distributed to individuals and families that were in need across Lincoln via LYN Café and partnering with local schools and other churches and charities. In a similar way earlier in the year we were grateful for the support given to our Love Easter campaign, in which Easter eggs were generously donated and distributed across the city.

We also hosted our annual LYN Christmas meal and catered for 65 guests and team for a Christmas dinner, where we were entertained by the LYN team scratch choir. A Christmas Quiz completed the entrainment and was very much enjoyed by all!

As we look ahead into 2026, we are looking forward to continuing to develop and establish the connections within the community and continue to be a place of home and belonging to guests that make use of the LYN Café space on a Thursday.

STAY TOASTY – Vicky Prestwood

Stay Toasty is an after school drop in for children and their families, where toast is served and families can take part in activities. Over the year we have seen numbers grow significantly, with regular families coming along and relationships deepening. On a weekly basis we have around 30 children and their families attending, and also a consistent group of young people from Castle Academy, resulting in around 60 - 70 people in total coming along.

We have seen a large number of families who come to Stay Toasty interested in church activities at St Faith's, and over the course of the year over 50% of those attending have attended a 4.15 service.

Stay Toasty has a thriving team of committed leaders who come along to help either weekly or fortnightly. The team is still highly supported by staff and ministry year students so a challenge for the next year would be to grow the lay leadership of this group still further. This remains a challenge because of the timing of the session, which impacts availability of team.

NIGHT LIGHT CAFÉ – Emma Bell

It has been a fruitful year for the NLC, which meets every Saturday at The Salthouse from 7-10pm. Attendance has risen with most Saturdays seeing an average of 25 guests. Despite being busy, there is a peaceful and relaxed atmosphere, and we have seen most guests using the facility well with groups scattered around the room with plenty of movement between groups. Additionally, the craft table has been extended to accommodate increased numbers who are engaging with those activities. This is heartening because the majority of our guests, whose mental health problems range from moderate to severe, live alone, so seeing peers supporting one another and even developing friendships is good- even if there are, at times, some complications that arise from these!

We are sometimes low on volunteers (we need a minimum of 3 fully trained volunteers to run a session) but as many guests are content to mingle it leaves us free to give our attention to those who are really needing support and intervention. We regularly see people who are suicidal and desperate who prefer to attend the café than hospital because they feel safe with us- that said, there are times when emergency services need to be called and guests referred.

We have lost a couple of first-rate volunteers for work and health reasons and recently had to close a session for the first time because of last minute sickness and work duties called away those on the rota leaving just myself. This was very regrettable but highlights the vulnerability of having a lower than healthy bank of available volunteers.

One stand-out moment for me from this year was with a gentleman who has severe mental and physical health issues. He was still living with his parents when he lost them both around 2020. He has no family and friends and struggles to cope. He is first to arrive and takes all the support we can give. Getting to know him better I learned that his 40th Birthday was approaching. Knowing he had no one to mark this with, we bought a simple cake and card and gathered the guests to sing happy birthday to him. He was chuffed to bits. What made it

more special was seeing other guests move to talk with him and make him feel special. One guest, an artist, presented him with a painting. This perhaps extends from the primary purpose of NLC to listen, to let people talk, to making people feel seen and known, something that is close to God's heart, which is at the heart of what we do.

MIDWEEK GROUPS – Revd. Juliette Willis

Midweek Groups intentionally look a little different in their style, location, timings and group-makeup. We have groups meeting in a range of locations and in the autumn term of 2025 we also offered "the NETWORK" for those that wish to gather centrally at the Salthouse for taught content followed by group discussion. Alongside the more traditional weekly or fortnightly gathering of adults to discuss sermon-series content, we have continued with some of our monthly family midweek groups continuing our "Worship Together" ethos within a small group setting.

We re-launch midweek groups at the beginning of each term to give people the opportunity to change groups if they felt they wanted to whilst maintaining the option to continue on together if they'd prefer. The range of groups available has created a greater breadth of engagement across our congregations with many finding a home and experiencing opportunities to build a greater depth of relationship with one another.

It's been encouraging to see stable regular engagement in midweek groups over the course of 2025. The stats from 2025 can be seen in the table below. These do not include numbers from Midweek Youth, 18-25s collective which run throughout the year or the NETWORK which was run in autumn of 2025:

Term	Number of groups	Average Total Attendance (inc children attending family groups)
JAN - APRIL	12	111
MAY - JULY	13	115
SEP - DEC	11	113

Our prayer as we head into 2026 is for new leaders & helpers of midweek groups to be established, and an increase in the average engagement in Midweek Groups to over 150 adults and children.

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT – Revd. Juliette Willis

We continued with our Leadership Development Year programme offering training in theology and leadership. Alongside this the Leadership Development Year students served within a ministry to gain experience and put their learning in practice. The areas our 24/25 cohort focused on were storytelling and worship as well as getting stuck in with whole church events. We continued to open the LDY training wider to those from other Churches. We had one LDYer from St Michael's, Waddington and two from St Mark's, Grimsby who joined us over the course of the year. Together they went to the HTB leadership conference to broaden their understanding of leadership and church and finished the year serving on teams at FOCUS.

In the Summer of 2025, we said goodbye to Beth Glenfield who has been heading up the Leadership Development Year since its establishment. Beth has invested significantly in the lives of many leaders across our Churches, including those on our leadership development stream - we are incredibly grateful for her leadership since she joined the planting team in 2014.

We welcomed a new cohort of four Ministry Year Students beginning in September, they are serving on: worship, youth, kids and 18-25s. Our four MYSs have slotted into the staff team, and have been keen to get involved in the life of the church, including working together at whole Church events at Christmas.

Since September 2025 we have established a core team who lead some teaching and reflection time for our Ministry Year Students on a Tuesday afternoon. This comes alongside setting up our Ministry Year Students with mentors who they have the opportunity to meet with on a regular basis.

We hope to continue to offer the Ministry Year next academic year.

18-25s OUTREACH - Mads Brown
Awakening generation
2025 has been an incredibly encouraging year as we've seen many 18-25s encounter the love of Jesus for the first time. Over the past year, we have intentionally focused on ***equipping young adults for mission and evangelism,*** and we are now excited by the opportunity to disciple a growing number of new Christians.

Honestly, we have been ***blown away by the number of students and young adults who have come to faith in the last twelve months.*** God is truly on the move, and we are ready to respond!

In the first month of 2025 we received a message on Instagram from a student who had grown up in an atheist household but had picked up a Bible over Christmas and wanted to know more. Little did we know that stories like this would begin to happen more and more often…

At our 18-25s weekend away just a few months ago, we noticed something we had never seen before: ***around 50% of those who came to the weekend had not known Jesus before coming either to university or to St Swithin's.*** Last year in this report I shared how amazed I was that three 18-25s had joined us who were new to faith. This year, it is incredible to look around the room and see just how many people God has called home in the last twelve months.

Taking Alpha to the students
Unity between churches has played a vital role in creating space for mission and intercession among students in Lincoln. Three years ago we began hosting annual *Wide Awake* nights, gathering students from churches across the city to pray for revival. Again and again, we have seen how these moments of prayer & boldness in mission lead to real

fruit, as students accept invitations to church, pick up Bibles unexpectedly, and give their lives to Jesus.

It was out of this place of church unity that we were able to pioneer ***"Alpha on Campus"*** at the Swan pub in the heart of the university. We saw ***45 students sign up,*** with many going on to connect with local churches across the city. We were also amazed by the favour we experienced with the university and are excited to continue developing ***relationships with the campus chaplaincy*** as we explore the potential for long-term partnership in reaching students with the love of Jesus.

Following Alpha, we also launched *"**Tables**"*, a space for all 18-25s to gather in an Alpha-style setting to explore questions around faith and discipleship together. After the autumn term proved challenging in the area of small groups, reshaping our approach into the "tables" format has made a significant difference, creating a more accessible and engaging environment for young adults to grow in their faith.

Our 18-25s are full of passion and faith. They are sharing the gospel, inviting their friends to church, and ***stepping out boldly in evangelism.*** We are excited to see what God will do in the next twelve months as He continues to awaken a generation by the power of His Holy Spirit. Amen

SCHOOLS MINISTRY – Revd. Juliette Willis

We are continuing to provide Collective Worship on a regular basis in both St. Faiths Infants and St. Faith's and St. Martin's Junior Schools. Collective Worship follows a yearly pattern where each school value is explored alongside times and season of the church calendar, biblical themes and inspirational stories. We also work with both schools to support them with elements of the RE curriculum. These visits have included:

Year 1: Baptism
Reception - Year 2: How do Christians celebrate Easter
Year 4 Parables
Year 5: Jesus as Messiah
Year 6: Science and faith

In July 2025 we also provided moving on workshops for Year 6 children as they made the transition into Year 7. It was a delight to be able to hear their own reflections about how they are feeling and approaching Year 7, plus it was a good opportunity to reflect biblical values on God's presence and peace in the midst of change.

Each term we welcome both schools and their parents for their end of term services which has been a great platform for us to provide further invitations for example our 4:15 services.

RISING GENERATIONS

Babyccinos – Vicky Prestwood

Babyccinos has continued to thrive and grow; we have around 30 - 40 babies and toddlers, along with their parents or carers, regularly attending. Each week there are new families engaging and the feedback is always that it's a really friendly group in a really lovely and welcoming space. Many new people come along because of recommendations from other parents. We continue to have no need to advertise because the group is so popular by word of mouth. Over the past year the relationships between the team and the attendees have been deepening and growing, with the team providing emotional support, practical advice and care for those who come along. We have had a number of opportunities to pray for people. We've been able to come alongside families by advising them on housing and support, advice on children with additional needs, provide a listening ear to some families during times of critical illness and in some cases be a real lifeline to those with little support from their own families.

The real strength of Babyccinos is the strong team of leaders, some with particular key areas of expertise. The hospitality team is also a real consistent and key asset. Babyccinos really embodies our church values of being a place where people feel at 'home', a place where 'real' relationships are formed and a place where people can step out and open-up in 'courage.'

We have seen a number of families from Babyccinos come along to other things at St. Swithin's and St. Faith's. This has been so encouraging. We have seen people attending the 10am services at the Salthouse, and in particular the 4.15 services at St. Faith's. Over the past year it's been a privilege to see someone who came to St. Swithin's and to faith through Babyccinos affirm this faith through confirmation. We long to see more stories like this and pray for this weekly as a team.

Youth – Revd. Juliette Willis

There are three main spaces that our young people connect in with us over the course of the week. Our Wednesday night Youth sessions hosted at the Salthouse, our fortnightly Friday drop-in hosted at St Faith's Church Hall and Sunday Connect which takes place between our morning services at the Salthouse. As a youth team we are seeking to create spaces across the week where young people can encounter the LOVE of God, learn to LIVE more like Jesus and GO in the power of the Spirit to see their lives, their friends lives, and their schools and colleges transformed.

Throughout 2025 we've met regularly during term time on a Wednesday evening seeking to create space for community and peer-to-peer discipleship alongside some teaching input from the Youth team or wider staff team at St Swithin's. We continue to find that separate spaces for Older Youth and Younger Youth have released opportunities for deep discussion. This has given space for some of our sixth formers to really take a lead in this space and we've seen a number of young people grow in confidence in their own faith through opportunities to discuss things with one another. On average we've seen 23 young people connect with us every week on Wednesday evenings, this is an average increase of between 3-4 young people each week from last year.

In January 2025 we launched Alpha Youth, a space for young people to explore questions of life, faith and meaning. We ran this during the Winter Term on Wednesday evenings. We regularly saw young people inviting friends and college mates to explore faith and amazingly had a really good uptake from young people connected to Westend Youth. These young people have stuck with us over the course of 2025 and would now consider themselves regular members of the Youth group.

West End Youth has continued to meet twice a month at St Faith's Church Hall with a core team of leaders being established over the course of the year. The group is aimed at school years 6 - 9, seeking to create a safe space for young people to have fun, invite their friends and build relationships with one another. Over the course of the year, the average attendance at the group has dropped to around 10 young people but with around 15 different young people that connected with us over that time.

Sunday Connect continues to create space for our youth who regularly attend Church to build relationships with one another on a Sunday morning. There are a number of young people we have the opportunity to connect with in this space and it has become a vital touch point between our young people and the youth team to support, equip and encourage our youth.

Some of our highlights from 2025 have been running Alpha Youth and seeing a number of our Young People lead Alpha Youth in Schools through their Christian Unions. Other highlights included taking a number of young people away on the Weekend Away in March (which we combined with the Alpha Youth Holy Spirit Away Day) and to Focus in July. Both of these events have created real momentum in the faith journeys of the young people attending.

As we head into 2026 our prayer is for funding towards a Youth & Schools Outreach Worker which will help embed the spaces we already have and pioneer new opportunities in local secondary schools.

Kids Connect – Vicky Prestwood

Kids Connect time has moved to after the service from 11 - 11:30am. This new time is working well as all the children arrive at the same time having all been to the same service, and therefore, the sense of community and the quality of engagement has improved.

Over the past few years, we have struggled for leaders, but at the moment there is a capable and consistent team.

Feedback from parents has been positive suggesting that the slightly longer Connect time and the tweaks to content have been well received.

WORSHIP – Gabby Aikins

Throughout 2025, worship within our services has continued to grow from strength to strength. Since stepping into the role of Worship Pastor at the end of October, it has been a

genuine privilege to serve the church in this way. We have seen encouraging growth in participation, increasing confidence within the team, and a deepening sense of unity and engagement across the congregation. I would like to sincerely thank everyone who has faithfully served within the worship ministry this year; your time, commitment, and willingness to serve are deeply appreciated.
Looking ahead to 2026, the desire is not only to continue developing the quality and expression of our worship gatherings, but also to grow in our understanding of what worship truly means. As we sense a rising spiritual hunger and ongoing conversations around revival, we recognise that worship often sits at the forefront of spiritual renewal. It is my hope that we would increasingly embrace worship as a lifestyle not confined to Sunday services, so that when we gather together, our praise is the natural overflow of lives lived for God throughout the week.

6. CHURCHWARDEN'S REPORT – Richard Lambert and Jen Moat

The Churchwardens have a duty to represent the laity and co-operate with the incumbent. They are responsible for two main areas – maintain the Inventory, Terrier and Log-book, and support the incumbent in the orderly running of the church.

Inventory - Maintain the inventory of the church treasure and other paraphernalia - we can confirm that all articles cited in the 2024 inventory have been accounted for in 2025.

Terrier - Maintain a full register of all land owned by the church - we can confirm that no land or property has been sold. Building insurance continues in place and routine lightning protection assessments are maintained.

Log-book – The lease agreement between the Traditional Anglican church and PCC was signed by both parties for a 2-year term, in March 2025. The Treasurer and one of the Church Wardens will be signatories, on behalf of St. Swithin's PCC. A condition of the lease is that St. Swithin's hold an act of worship in the church once a week. Any work the Traditional Anglicans want to do whilst leasing the church will be subject to faculty.

Merger with St Faith's Parish – Plans to merge St. Swithin's and St. Faith's Parishes and form a single PCC body are underway with the Diocese. The merger is expected to be completed during 2026, after which the diocese will advise the Church Commissioners that the PCC no longer need St. Swithin's church building. This will likely result in the church building being taken on by the Traditional Anglicans.

The term of the faculty, on behalf of Lincoln City Council for the temporary use of the Church's curtilage as a construction compound to facilitate works to refurbish Greyfriars, was extended due to delays in the works. The associated tree works, agreed with the Council were not completed in 2025, as promised. It is hoped these will be pursued and completed in 2026. The Council also provided four parking permits to compensate for the loss of the parking bays on the south side of the Church, for the duration of the works.

It has been an honour to support Jim & Vicky and Juliette & Ben, as well as the wider staff team, throughout this year. They have provided steadfast and inspiring leadership in a year where we have navigated several staffing changes, as well as beginning the process of changing service times. Supporting them is our privilege as we seek to grow in faith and grow in family as a Church.

7. SAFEGUARDING – Rosemary Brooks

We comply with all regulations and duties and have due regard to House of Bishops' guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults. Safeguarding is very important to us and is at the heart of all our activities. Safeguarding is a standing item on the PCC agenda for both churches and is reviewed at every PCC meeting. The PSO is an elected member of the PCC at St Swithin's, and in her capacity as PSO is invited to attend St Faith's PCC meetings and speak to and report on safeguarding matters.

Current Team

Rosemary Brooks is the Parish Safeguarding Officer for both churches, with Helen Tomlinson, Church Warden at St Faith's, supporting in the role of Deputy PSO. The other members of the Safeguarding Team are Revd. Jim Prestwood (Safeguarding Lead) and Revd. Juliette Willis, with Sue Watt being responsible for DBS checks and safeguarding training administration.

We continue to work closely with the Diocesan team, seeking their advice and guidance where appropriate. The Diocese Safeguarding Advisor is Jack Redeyoff and the Case Worker that has supports us with regard to any concerns is Jonny Fluck.

Dashboard

The Parish Safeguarding Dashboard helps us to monitor our practice and compliance with national Church of England guidance and generates an Action Plan which enables us to identify areas for improvement. Both St Swithin's and St Faith's procedures and processes are compliant with the dashboard requirements.

Safeguarding Hub Update

The Hub is a tool designed to assist parishes in tracking DBS and training expiry dates. However, it involves a significant amount of data to be inputted for each individual which can be found in Sue's own records already. Using the Hub for the number of volunteers involved at St Swithin's and St Faith's seems to be an unnecessary duplication of data we already have recorded. The use of the Hub was trialled for PCC members, but Sue's record system has proved to be more effective and has invariably pre-empted any alerts from the Hub with regard to DBS and training expiry dates. As Sue is the primary administrator for DBS and training and the PSO has access to her records the conclusion is that our own system is effective and efficient.

DBS Guidance

In accordance with current guidance (Jan 2022), DBS checks now have to be renewed every 3 years rather than every 5 years. It is really helpful to Sue when you are going through the recruitment or renewal process if you check your emails regularly to ensure the process is completed as smoothly as possible. At St. Swithin's and St. Faith's we currently have 125 roles

requiring DBS checks over a variety of teams and roles. There were 44 new or renewed DBS checks in the year being reported.

Training

All online training is provided via the Church of England bespoke training portal and are specifically tailored to the needs of the Church and address the spiritual dimension that the previous courses via the local authority were unable to address. The cycle is three years and trainees are only required to refresh training at the highest level previously completed. In the year being reported 128 courses were completed.

All members of the PCC are required to complete safeguarding training. The module on Domestic Abuse is no longer a required course for PCC members but the PCCs at both St Swithin's and St. Faith's have taken the decision that this training will still be a required course for our members. It was felt that this module is particularly pertinent to our commitment to safeguarding vulnerable adults.

If you have any questions about DBS checks or Safeguarding training, please contact Sue Watt sue.watt@stswithins.org.uk

Safeguarding Processes & Practice

We have continued to review the safeguarding process to ensure that not only are we compliant with the new guidance but that also our practice promotes and supports a safe environment for all. Our report form was amended in 2024 to align more closely with the recommended format.

The Parish Safeguarding Officer maintains a central log of concerns. This is particularly important where you have several people responding to safeguarding concerns. It contains headline information with regard to the nature of the safeguarding concern and the outcome status and is only accessible to the safeguarding team. The log enables any team member to quickly identify if there are any previous concerns relating to any individual and also if there are any trends that might indicate an area of concern that needs addressing. All concerns, including those where no further action was deemed appropriate, are logged. All safeguarding records are maintained in accordance with the guidance and in a secure storage area online that only the safeguarding team can access.

Safeguarding Enquiries

Safeguarding enquiries relate to policy and how this is implemented in practice. Such enquiries are now formally recorded and shared with PCC. There was one enquiry relating to a member of youth transporting themselves by car to an organised youth event where it was determined that this was properly a matter for parental consent. The second enquiry related to access to toilets for children aged 10 and under. Now we are regularly worshipping in the Upper Room, it was felt that children accessing the toilets on their own in what is often an unsupervised space could face situations that could put them at risk of harm. It was determined that the welcome team could intervene and get children to ask their parent or other responsible adult to escort them downstairs. Signage to support this approach would also be posted in toilet facilities.

Safeguarding Team Review Meetings
The core safeguarding team meet quarterly to review the central log and actions taken. This ensures that all team members are aware of current cases and any learning from those cases can be shared.

An area of concern that has been reported on several occasions is with regard to people experiencing a mental health crisis. As a Safeguarding Team we have been concerned that people seeking support from our staff and volunteers in an emergency is unsafe for two reasons: 1) there is a curfew of 9pm for responding to work calls and emails and 2) they do not have the expertise or access to NHS resources that the emergency services can provide. However, we do want to be able to support pastorally and through prayer. We are therefore putting together an emergency support card which will list key numbers for accessing emergency support and also how to access pastoral and prayer support. There will also be information included as part of our safeguarding information on our websites.

Volunteer Reviews
The recruitment guidance requires that all volunteers in activities that require a DBS check have an annual review. The PCC view this as not only an opportunity to reflect on best practice with regard to safeguarding but also one where we can celebrate and acknowledge the very valuable contribution that so many volunteers make. It also enables ministry leads to foster and develop leadership qualities within their teams and ensure that ministry teams remain resourced with committed volunteers who feel appreciated.

The review form is now made available and completed via ChurchSuite. This enables the PSO and ministry leads to review and respond to completed forms. In accordance with safer recruitment guidance, the following teams are asked to complete these reviews: Children, Youth, Worship and AV. Worship and AV teams do include minors hence their inclusion.

Reported Concerns 2025-2026
There have been 26 logged concerns or cases this year and we have worked closely with individuals concerned and the diocese team to best support all involved and continue to make the church a welcoming and safe place for everyone.

We continue to hold safeguarding at the heart of all our activities. If anyone has any concerns with regards to safeguarding, they should alert Rosemary Brooks, Jim Prestwood or Juliette Willis in person or by emailing safeguarding@stswithins.org.uk

8. DEANERY SYNOD REPORT – Sue Watt

The Church of England is governed synodically - by Deanery synods, Diocesan synods and the General Synod. Matters affecting the church are discussed and decisions made at the relevant synod. Christianity Deanery includes the Church of England churches within the city of Lincoln. Alongside the clergy, lay representatives from local churches are elected at their APCM's to serve on their Deanery synod, for a three-year term.

Deanery synod met in February, June and November 2025 to discuss issues affecting our local churches, share news and give support and encouragement and to receive reports from the proceedings at Diocesan and General synod to share with PCCs. In accordance with the Deanery plan, parishes which are in vacancy are encouraged to develop partnerships with other parishes in the deanery, like our partnership with St. Faith's.

At February's synod The Dean, Simon Jones and The Canon Missioner, Rowena King spoke about the new 5-year vision and strategy for the Cathedral, explaining that the cathedral should be seen as 'our cathedral' where everyone was welcome. We were reminded that the cathedral is open from 8am daily, with the Morning Chapel freely available all day for prayer and free entry outside the core hours of 10am - 4pm. Later in the year, a Deanery Pilgrimage took place, starting from local churches and ending with Evensong at the cathedral.

Then at our June synod, Andy Wright from the Diocesan Generous Living Team talked about Cornerstone – a tool to help churches understand their giving culture and financial situation and how to grow their church's giving, income and culture of generosity. It also includes a list of grant funders which is already proving to be very helpful as we seek to finance our growing mission and ministry.

In November our speaker was Revd. Canon Hugh Jones from College of St. Hugh who reminded us that the College is there to promote a culture of lifelong Christian learning and support people to take the next step in their journey of discipleship. He spoke about ALM training, different resources available and how to access them including the Digital Learning Platform 'Learn, Grow, Share' which is accessed from the Diocesan website.

9. ELECTORAL ROLL REPORT – Sue Watt

The number of members on the Electoral Roll at the APCM held in April 2025 was 110. The Electoral Roll Officer will present the number on the revised 2026 Electoral Roll to the APCM during the meeting.

10. PCC REPORT – Sue Watt

The Parochial Church Council is a corporate body established by the Church of England, which operates under the Parochial Church Council (Powers) Measure 1956. The PCC is excepted by order from registering with the Charity Commission. The appointment of PCC members is governed by and set out in the Church Representation Rules and comprises the clergy licensed to the church, the Churchwardens who are elected annually at the Annual Meeting of Parishioners, and lay members of the PCC and Deanery synod who are elected at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) and relevant members of Diocesan and General synods.

The PCC met seven times during 2025 to discuss and conduct the business of the church and a further two times as a Joint PCC with members of St. Faith's PCC.

PCC members are required to be DBS checked and to undergo regular safeguarding training. As trustees they are responsible for the business of the parish, including health and safety, compliance with relevant legislation and for safeguarding. Rosemary Brooks is the Parish Safeguarding Officer.

Safer recruitment (including DBS checks) is always undertaken before volunteers are engaged to work with children or vulnerable adults. Policies, procedures and risk assessments are in place and are kept under review.

Safeguarding statement

The PCC has complied with the duty under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016 (duty to have regard to House of Bishops' guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults) and works closely with the Diocesan Safeguarding team.

Risk Statement

In common with other churches and charities the PCC considers the major areas of risk to which it is exposed, be they operational, financial or reputational, and establishes systems to mitigate those risks. As part of a continual process we will continue over 2025 to review our policies, procedures and wider governance.

Public Benefit

The PCC is aware of the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit in 'The advancement of religion for the Public Benefit'; and have had regard to it in its administration of the church. The PCC believes that by promoting the Christian faith it provides a benefit to the public by: providing facilities for public worship, pastoral care and spiritual development, both for existing church members and for anyone who wishes to benefit from what the church offers; and promoting Christian values, and service by members of the church in and to their communities, to the benefit of individuals and society as a whole.

PCC Statement of Responsibilities

The PCC has prepared the Annual Report and financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice, which gives a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the church and of its financial activities for that year and adequately distinguishes any material special trust or other restricted fund of the church. In preparing those financial statements the PCC has:

- Selected suitable accounting policies and then applied them consistently; complied with applicable accounting standards, including FRS 102, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- Stated whether a Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) applies and has been followed, subject to any material departures which are explained in the financial statements;
- Made judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- Prepared the financial statements on a going concern basis;
- The PCC has kept proper accounting records, which disclose, with reasonable accuracy at any time, the financial position of the church. Financial statements comply with applicable Accounting Standards and Statements of Recommended Practice and the regulations made under section 154 of the Charities Act 2011; and

- The PCC has taken reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities. All the current members of the PCC have taken all the steps, which they ought to make themselves aware of any information needed by the independent examiner for the purposes of their independent examination and to establish that the independent examiner is aware of that information. The current members of the PCC are not aware of any relevant information of which the independent examiner is unaware.

Reserves Policy
The PCC recognises the importance of holding in reserve the equivalent of three months operating costs (being salaries and building utilities) along with enough to meet our policy of each year giving away a 10% tithe of our unrestricted giving to support the work of other mission agencies with aims in-keeping with our own.

The PCC also acknowledges in their reserves policy that they have a duty to expend any surplus income on activities that further the objectives of St. Swithin's within the year and not to build up reserves beyond the operating needs of the charity.

Trustees in 2025
Revd. Canon Jim Prestwood (Vicar and Chair of PCC)
Revd. Ben Brady (Associate Vicar to 03.02.25)
Revd. Juliette Willis (Planting curate to 26.06.25, then Associate Vicar from 26.06.25)
Revd. Victoria Lawrence to 14.07.25
Revd. Benjamin Willis
Revd. Cameron Watt
Revd. Hannah Grivell (from week commencing 02.06.25 - 06.11.25)
Mrs Rosemary Brooks (Parish Safeguarding Officer)
Mr Dan Chard (Deanery Synod representative, PCC Treasurer)
Ms Esther Chard (from APCM 2025)
Mr Caleb Connors (from 25.05.25)
Mr John Crowder (to 01.05.25)
Mr Jack Fiedler (from APCM 2025)
Dr Mick Glenfield (Deanery Synod representative – to 01.09.25)
Mrs Emma Harper Lawrence (from 25.05.25)
Mr Michael Helen (from APCM 2025 to 01.10.25)
Mr Tom Herbert (to APCM 2025)
Miss Gail Jackson
Mr Richard Lambert (Churchwarden)
Mrs Jen Moat (PCC representative to APCM 2025, then Churchwarden from APCM 2025)
Mr Dale Newman (to 17.09.25)
Mr Mark Perry
Ms Jane Pickersgill
Mr Ryan Rawlinson (to APCM 2025)
Mr Callum Roper
Dr Helen Sheehan (from APCM 2025)
Mr Andrew Shepherd
Mrs Rachel Tyrrell (Churchwarden to APCM 2025, then PCC representative from 13.07.25)

Mrs Susan Watt (Deanery and Diocesan Synod representative, PCC Secretary)
Dr Phil Williams (Deanery Synod representative to 01.05.25, then ex-officio from 18.06.25)

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the Parochial Church Council of St Swithins Lincoln

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity for the year ended 31st December 2025.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act"). I report in respect of my examination of the charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 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

The charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales.

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

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did 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 of an independent examination.

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

Signed: Zachary Ramsden

Name: Zachary Ramsden FCA

Chartered Accountant

63 Deakin Leas, Tonbridge, Kent TN9 2JT

Date: 8th May 2026

ST SWITHIN'S LINCOLN

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

	Note	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2025	*Total Funds 2024*
		£	£	£	*£*
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM:					
Donations and legacies	3	184,836	52,243	237,079	*331,914*
Charitable activities	4	24,955	4,912	29,867	*42,274*
Income from Investments	5	-	772	772	*2,105*
Other Income	6	-	-	-	*44,280*
Total income and endowments		209,791	57,927	267,718	*420,573*
EXPENDITURE ON:					
Charitable activities:	7	269,911	53,361	323,272	*454,465*
Total expenditure		269,911	53,361	323,272	*454,465*
Net income/(expenditure)		(60,120)	4,566	(55,554)	*(33,892)*
Transfers between funds	13	24,620	(24,620)	-	-
		(35,500)	(20,054)	(55,554)	*(33,892)*
Net movement in funds		(35,500)	(20,054)	(55,554)	*(33,892)*
Reconciliation of funds:	13				
Total funds brought forward		155,637	30,612	186,249	*220,141*
Total funds carried forward		120,137	10,558	130,695	*186,249*

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

All income and expenditure derive from continuing operations.

The notes on page 18 to 30 form part of these accounts.

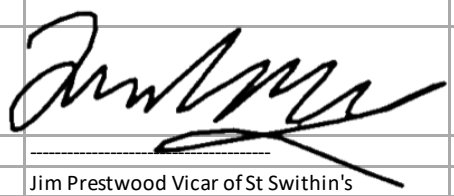
ST SWITHIN'S LINCOLN

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2025

	Note	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total Funds 2025	*Total Funds 2024*
		£	£	£	£	*£*
FIXED ASSETS						
Tangible assets	9	-	-		-	*359*
CURRENT ASSETS						
Stock	10	-	380		380	*380*
Debtors	11	16,848	-		16,848	*9,205*
Cash at bank and in hand	10	120,639	10,178		130,817	*179,993*
		137,487	10,558	-	148,045	*189,578*
CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year	11	17,350	-		17,350	*3,688*
Net current assets / (liabilities)		120,137	10,558	-	130,695	*185,890*
Total assets less current liabilities		120,137	10,558	-	130,695	*186,249*
CREDITORS: Amounts falling due after more than one year	12	-			-	-
Provisions for liabilities					-	-
TOTAL NET ASSETS		120,137	10,558		130,695	*186,249*
FUND BALANCES	13					
Unrestricted Funds						
General funds		52,540	-	-	52,540	*74,347*
Designated funds		67,597	-	-	67,597	*81,290*
		120,137	-	-	120,137	*155,637*
Restricted Funds		-	10,558	-	10,558	*30,612*
		120,137	10,558	-	130,695	*186,249*

The financial statements were approved by the members of the Parochial Church Council and were signed on its behalf by:



27/4/26

Jim Prestwood Vicar of St Swithin's — Date

The notes on page 18 to 30 form part of these accounts.

ST SWITHIN'S LINCOLN

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

1 Statutory Information

The Parochial Church Council of St Swithin's PCC Lincoln is a charity registered in England & Wales. The charity's registered number and principal address can be found on the Charity Information page.

2 Accounting Policies

These financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis, under the historical cost convention. The financial statements include all activities for which the PCC is legally responsible; the activities of informal gatherings of church members and groups that owe their main affiliation to another body and are excluded.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with The Church Accounting Regulations 2006, the 'Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)' ("the Charities SORP"), with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland ("FRS 102") and with the Charities Act 2011. The charity meets the definition of a public benefit entity as set out in FRS 102.

The Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 (the '2008 Regulations') requires charities to prepare their accounts in accordance with 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice effective from 1 April 2005' but this accounting standard has since been withdrawn and has been replaced by the Charities SORP mentioned in the preceding paragraph. The charity has prepared these financial statements in accordance with the new Charities SORP; this departure from the 2008 Regulations is believed to be necessary for these financial statements to give a 'true and fair view'.

The principles adopted in the preparation of the financial statements are set out below.

a) Going concern

The PCC have assessed whether the use of the going concern basis is appropriate and have considered possible events or conditions that might cast significant doubt on the ability of the charity to continue as a going concern. The PCC have made this assessment for a period of at least one year from the date of approval of the financial statements. In particular the PCC have considered the charity's forecasts and projections and the possible implications should projected income and / or expenditure vary unexpectedly. The PCC have concluded that there is a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue to operate for the foreseeable future. The charity therefore continues to adopt the going concern basis in preparing its financial statements.

b) Income

Income (which includes planned giving, collections and other donations) is recognised in the period in which the charity becomes entitled to receipt, the amount receivable can be measured with reasonable certainty, and receipt is probable. For the most part income is generally recognised when it is received by, or on behalf of, the PCC. Income is only deferred when the charity has to fulfil conditions before becoming entitled to it or where the donor has specified that the income is to be expended in a future period.

Income from donations and legacies includes:

i) Recoverable gift aid. This is recognised when the related donation is received. Gift aid that has not been recovered by the balance sheet date is included as a debtor.

ii) Donated facilities, services and goods. Goods donated for distribution to beneficiaries are recognised as income when receivable at fair value (being an estimate of the amount it would cost to purchase those items). Facilities, services and goods donated for the charity's own use are recognised as income when receivable at their value to the charity.

The charity relies on volunteers to carry out many of its activities. However, in accordance with the SORP, the value of these services has not been included in these financial statements as they cannot be reliably measured.

2 Accounting Policies (continued)

When donated goods, services and facilities are distributed or consumed, an expense in respect of those items is included in the Statement of Financial Activities. At the year end any goods that have not been distributed or consumed are recognised as stock; donated fixed assets are capitalised.

	Income from charitable activities represents income receivable from goods, services and facilities supplied in furtherance of the charity's charitable objects. It includes income from church retreats and other events and courses.
	Income from other trading activities represents income receivable from activities undertaken to generate funds for the charity. It includes income from reimbursement of staff time on secondment.
c)	Expenditure
	Expenditure, including irrecoverable VAT, is recognised when it is incurred or, if earlier, when a legal or constructive obligation for a payment arises provided that it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.
	Contributions in respect of the diocesan parish share are included in the Statement of Financial Activities for all amounts agreed to being payable for the financial year. Any contributions that have not been paid over by the year end are included as a creditor.
	The charity makes grants to other institutions and individuals to further its charitable objectives. Grants payable are recognised as constructive obligations arise, which is generally when the charity expresses a commitment to the recipient that can be measured reliably and then only to the extent that any conditions associated with the grant are outside of the control of the charity.
	The cost of raising funds is not significant and has not been separately disclosed.
	Governance costs, which are included in expenditure on charitable activities but are identified separately in the notes to the accounts, includes costs associated with the independent examination of the financial statements, compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements and any other expenditure incurred on the strategic management of the charity.
d)	Fund accounting
	General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the PCC in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity. Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the PCC for particular purposes. Restricted funds are donations which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors; they include donations received from appeals for specific activities or projects.
e)	Tangible fixed assets
	Consecrated and beneficed property is not included in these financial statements by virtue of s.10(2) of the Charities Act 2011. All expenditure on consecrated or beneficed buildings is written off in the year in which it is incurred.
	Movable church furnishings held by the incumbent and Churchwardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal are capitalised in accordance with the policy set out below. These items are regarded as inalienable property and are listed in the church's inventory which can be inspected at any reasonable time. Inalienable property acquired prior to 2014 has not been capitalised as there is insufficient cost information available.
	Items purchased or donated for the charity's own use are capitalised when the cost of purchased items, or the fair value of donated items, is more than £1,000 and the item is expected to benefit the charity over more than one accounting period. Depreciation is charged on a straight line basis so as to write down the value of each asset to its estimated residual value (if any) over its expected useful economic life. To achieve this objective the following rates of depreciation are charged:
	Equipment — 3 years
2	**Accounting Policies (continued)**
f)	Stocks:
	Stocks of donated items held for distribution to beneficiaries are measured at fair value.
g)	Leased assets
	Leases which do not transfer substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership to the charity are classified as operating leases. Operating lease payments are recognised as an expense on a straight-line basis over the lease term (unless another systematic basis is more representative of use).
h)	Pension scheme arrangements
	The charity operates defined contribution pension schemes for its employees. Obligations for contributions to these schemes are recognised as an expense when the liability arises. The assets of these schemes are held separately from those of the charity in independently administered funds.
i)	Taxation

The charity has taken advantage of the various reliefs from taxation available to charities and no tax is payable on the charity's income.

j) Financial instruments

The charity's financial assets and financial liabilities all qualify as basic financial instruments, as defined by FRS102. Except for loans, creditors and debtors are measured at their expected settlement value (normally the amount of cash that the charity expects to pay or receive). The charity recognises liabilities for the principal of those loans that remains outstanding at the year end (i.e. the liabilities exclude any interest chargeable on the loans in future years).

k) Exemption from preparing a cashflow statement

The charity has taken advantage of an exemption conferred by the Charities SORP and has not prepared a cash flow statement.

l) Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgement

In preparing financial statements certain judgements, estimates and assumptions have to be made that affect the amounts recognised in the financial statements. The members of the PCC consider the following to be significant:

i) The annual depreciation charge for property, plant and equipment is sensitive to changes in the estimates for useful economic life and residual value. These estimates are reassessed annually and, when necessary, adjusted to reflect current circumstances.

ii) The constructive obligation for grants payable is based on an assessment of the likely duration of the supported activity. Again this estimate is re-assessed annually and the obligation is adjusted to reflect current expectations.

3	**Donations and legacies**	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2025	*Total 2024*
		£	£	£	£	*£*
	Donations of cash and similar	150,427	8,970		159,397	*181,866*
	Donations in kind	-	4,578		4,578	*10,502*
	Other grants receivable	2,715	36,069		38,784	*91,148*
	Income tax recoverable	31,694	2,626		34,320	*48,398*
		184,836	52,243	-	237,079	*331,914*

Donations in kind comprise the following:	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2025	*Total 2024*
	£	£	£	£	*£*
Food for LYN received for distribution to beneficiaries	-	4,578		4,578	*10,502*
	-	4,578	-	4,578	*10,502*

4	**Income from charitable activities**	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2025	*Total 2024*
		£	£	£	£	*£*
	Church events	24,955	4,912		29,867	*42,274*
		24,955	4,912	-	29,867	*42,274*

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2025	*Total 2024*
	£	£	£	£	*£*
5 Dividends and Interest					
Dividends Received	-	772		772	*2,105*
	-	772		772	*2,105*

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2025	*Total 2024*
	£	£	£	£	*£*
6 Other Income					
Insurance claim and bank refund	-	-		-	*44,280*
	-	-		-	*44,280*
	209,791	62,505		272,296	

7	**Charitable expenditure**	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2025	*Total 2024*
a	**Costs incurred directly on specific activities**	£	£	£	£	*£*
	Ministry expenses:					

		Parish share		42,000		-			42,000			*35,000*
		Mission and evangelism		22,567		2,925			25,492			*31,013*
		Other ministry expenses		18,018		6,479			24,497			*21,904*
		Salaries, wages & pension costs		114,809		26,749			141,558			*165,350*
		Donated goods (note 5c)		-		4,578			4,578			*10,502*
	Total Ministry expenses			197,394		40,731			238,125			*263,769*
	Property expenses:											
		Church running expenses		9,329		10,550			19,879			*30,541*
		Utilities and insurance		29,282		-			29,282			*22,107*
		Routine maintenance		7,483		-			7,483			*4,516*
		Major repairs & structural work		-		-			-			*102,025*
	Total Property expenses			46,094		10,550			56,644			*159,189*
	Grants payable (note 5d)			7,159		2,000			9,159			*12,120*
				250,647		53,281		-	303,928			*435,078*
b	**Costs incurred on support & administration**											
	Governance costs											
		Cost of independent examination		925		-			925			*925*
		Other		1,990		-			1,990			*1,920*
	Total Governance costs			2,915		-		-	2,915			*2,845*
	Other support costs			15,990		80			16,070			*14,667*
	Property and equipment depreciation			359		-			359			*1,875*
				19,264		80	-	-	19,344	#		*19,387*
	Total expenditure			269,911		53,361		-	323,272			*454,465*
7	**Charitable expenditure (continued)**											
c	**Donations in kind expensed in year**			Unrestricted		Restricted		Endowment	Total			*Total*
				Funds		Funds		Funds	2025			*2024*
				£		£		£	£			*£*
	Food for LYN distributed to beneficiaries			-		4,578			4,578			*10,502*
				-		4,578		-	4,578			*10,502*
d	**Grants payable**					Institutions			Individuals			2025
						£			£			£
	Missionary support					7,159			-			7,159
	Church Planting					2,000			-			2,000
	Relief of poverty					-			-			-
						9,159			-			9,159
	The comparatives for the previous year are as follows:											
						Institutions			*Individuals*			*2024*
						£			*£*			*£*
	Missionary support					*11,120*			-			*11,120*
	Church Planting					*1,000*			-			*1,000*
	Relief of poverty					-			-			-
						12,120			-			*12,120*
	The charity's principal grants to institutions comprised:								2025			*2024*
									£			*£*
		St Mark's Grimsby							1,000			*1,000*
		StFaith's lincoln							1,000			
		Charis Foundation							1,010			*2,000*
		CP Africa							-			-
		Fusion UK							1,000			*2,000*
		Hope for Justice							1,500			*3,000*
		Lincoln Active Faith Network							-			-
		Tearfund							1,649			*2,500*

	Baby's Basket	250	*370*
	Safe Families for Children	1,000	
	Lincoln Street Pastors	750	*1,250*
	Unallocated	-	*1,000*
	Grants for less than £100 each	-	-
		9,159	*13,120*

8 Analysis of staff costs, the cost of key management personnel and remuneration of members of the PCC

	2025	*2024*
	£	*£*
Gross wages, salaries and other direct employment costs	129,473	*150,926*
Social security	11,418	*8,884*
Pension and Life Insurance costs	3,950	*5,540*
	144,841	*165,350*

The average monthly number of employees during the year was 6 (2024: 6). Most of the charity's activities are carried out by volunteers.

No staff received salaries at a rate of more than £60,000 per annum.

The charity's key management comprise the members of the PCC, including specifically the clergy members. Total employment benefits payable to key management for the year were as follows:

Jim Prestwood, Juliette Willis and Ben Willis (now non-stipendiary) receive a stipend from the Diocese and are not employees but office holders; some of the Parish Share paid to the Diocese is used to help meet the cost of these stipends. Jim Prestwood, Juliette Willis and Ben Willis are provided with accommodation (which is customary for clergy) and the cost of this accommodation to the PCC is disclosed in note 5 'Charitable Expenditure' and was not material during 2025 or 2024. The charity also reimbursed expenses to Jim Prestwood, Juliette Willis and Ben Willis; again these costs are disclosed in note 5 'Charitable Expenditure' and was not material during 2025 or 2024.

No other member of the PCC received employment benefits in either the current or preceding year.

9 Tangible fixed assets

	Fixtures, fittings and equipment	Total 2025
	£	£
Cost		
At 1 January 2025	90,247	90,247
Additions	-	-
Disposals	-	-
At 31 December 2025	90,247	90,247
Accumulated depreciation		
At 1 January 2025	89,888	89,888
Charge for the year	359	359
At 31 December 2025	90,247	90,247
Net book value		
At 31 December 2025	-	-
At 31 December 2024	*359*	*359*

The Salthouse was completed for occupation during 2020 and taken on by St Swithins PCC as a Functional Fixed Asset, but it is not included as an asset for the purpose of these accounts. Ownership of the Salthouse remains with the Diocese of Lincoln and is included on their balance sheet as a Glebe Property. However, for information the building is for the exclusive usage of St Swithins PCC, who are responsible for maintenance, upkeep and insurance. The building is currently valued by the Diocese of Lincoln for insurance purposes at £2M.

10 Stock

	2025	*2024*

	Donated goods											£		*£*
		Food donated for distribution to beneficiaries for LYN										380		*380*
												380		*380*
11	**Debtors**											2025		*2024*
	Falling due within one year:											£		*£*
		Tax recoverable - St Swithin's										3,027		*3,082*
		Other debtors										8,654		*3,902*
		Prepayments and accrued income										5,167		*2,221*
		Total debtors										16,848		*9,205*
10	**Cash at Bank and in Hand**											2025		*2024*
												£		*£*
		Cash at bank with immediate access										130,817		*179,993*
		Notice deposits (with a term of three months or less)										-		-
												130,817		*179,993*
11	**Creditors: liabilities falling due within one year**											2025		2024
												£		£
		Trade creditors										17,350		3,688
		Accruals										-		-
		Methodist 5 year loan for Salthouse										-		-
												17,350		3,688
12	**Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year**											2025		2024
												£		£
		Methodist 5 year loan for Salthouse										0		0
												-		-
	· Mortality in accordance with 80% of the S2NMA and S2NFA tables, with allowance for improvements in mortality rates in line with the CMI 2015 core projections with a long term annual rate of improvement of 1.5%.													
13	**Funds**													
	During the year the movements in the charity's funds were as follows:													
			Opening balance 2025		Incoming resources 2025		Outgoing resources 2025					Transfers in the year 2025		Closing balance 2025
			£		£		£					£		£
	Designated Funds													
		Hardship Fund	515		-		-					(515)		-
		Emergency Fund	1,892		-		-					(1,892)		-
		Emergency & Hardship Fund	-									1,980		1,980
		Church Planting	12,500		-		-					(12,500)		-
		Buildings R&M Fund	5,617		-		-					-		5,617
		Working Reserves	60,000		-		-					-		60,000
		Mission Giving	1,000		-		-					(1,000)		-
			81,524		-		-					(13,927)		67,597
	General Unrestricted Funds		74,113		209,791		(269,911)					38,547		52,540
	Total Unrestricted Funds		155,637		209,791		(269,911)		-			24,620		120,137
	Restricted Funds													
		Salthouse	-		-		-					-		-

	Lands Trust Grants	-	2,452	(7,446)		4,994		-
	Diocese: SDF Salary Support	-	26,749	(26,749)				-
	Love Your Neighbour/(LYN)	2,589	20,014	(10,016)		(11,330)		1,257
	Leadership Development	4,243	(1,925)	(1,467)		(851)		-
	7 Minute Fund	-	-	-				-
	CRT Transform	-	-	-		-		-
	Student Ministry Fund	6,500	6,815	(70)		(4,961)		8,284
	Rising Gens/LCYVS	72	1,528	(77)		(1,278)		245
	Church Planting - St Faith's	963	1,079	(3,104)		1,062		-
	Henry Smith Charity	16,245	-	(3,638)		(12,607)		-
	Charity	-	-	-		-		-
	Hobson	-	-	-		-		-
	Bible Fund	-	443	(794)		351		-
	Deanery Synod	-	772			-		772
		30,612	57,927	(53,361)	-	(24,620)		10,558
	Aggregate of funds	186,249	267,718	(323,272)		-		130,695

13 Funds (continued)

In the previous year the movements in the charity's funds were as follows:

	Opening balance 2024	Incoming resources 2024	Outgoing resources 2024		Transfers in the year 2024	Closing balance 2024
	£	£	£		£	£
Designated Funds						
Hardship Fund	810	-	(295)		-	515
Emergency Fund	1,200	-	692		-	1,892
Church Planting	12,500	-	-		-	12,500
Building R&M Fund	7,642	-	-		(2,025)	5,617
Working Reserves	18,777	41,223	-		-	60,000
Mission Giving	-	234	(6,157)		6,923	1,000
	40,929	41,457	(5,760)	-	4,898	81,524
General Unrestricted Funds	60,975	239,372	(232,667)		6,433	74,113
Total Unrestricted Funds	101,904	280,829	(238,427)		11,331	155,637
Restricted Funds						
Salthouse	95,942	7,079	(105,046)		2,025	-
Lands Trust Grant	-	2,105	(5,489)		3,384	-
Diocese: SDF Salary Support	-	67,535	(67,535)		-	-
Love Your Neighbour/(LYN)	10,328	29,713	(24,575)		(12,877)	2,589
Leadership Development	(2,104)	4,259	(2,912)		5,000	4,243
7 Minute Fund	-	-	-		-	-
CRT Transform	-	-	-		-	-
Student Ministry Fund	6,000	6,700	-		(6,200)	6,500
Rising Gens	388	-	(316)		-	72
Church Planting - St Mark's	(873)	873	-		-	-
Church Planting - St Faith's	7,024	3,180	(9,241)		-	963
Henry Smith Charity	1,532	18,300	(924)		(2,663)	16,245
Charity	-	-	-		-	-
Hobson	-	-	-		-	-
	118,237	139,744	(216,038)		(11,331)	30,612

Aggregate of funds	220,141	420,573	(454,465)		-	186,249

13 Funds (continued)

Restricted Funds

The Diocese missional building grant funding from 2015 is primarily to help develop buildings appropriate for mission in the community for the next decades.

The Diocese salary payments fund is funding from the Diocese of Lincoln towards key church worker salaries in the initial stages of the development of the work of the church in the community.

The Love Your Neighbour (LYN) fund was income provided for the establishment and running of food bank, crisis café, debt advice and other social ministries.

Social Transformation and 7 Minute Fund was received in 2020 but due to the pandemic not spent until 2021. Funds were given to enable a better welcome into the building.

Student Ministry is money received for and spent on the work of youth and students ministries, including weekly events and one off trips. All funds were utilised in 2019.

Designated Funds

Hardship fund is money set aside by the trustees for the clergy to spend on relief of poverty / to meet specific needs, at their discretion.

The Emergency Fund is money set aside by the trustees to cover any future unexpected one-off expenditure or to meet on going costs in the face of a fall in income.

The Church planting fund is money set aside by trustees to cover any future costs incurred in the planting of new congregations. The decision was made to set this money aside as part of the churches commitment to tithing its income.

Analysis of net assets by fund

The assets and liabilities of the various funds at the year end date were as follows:

	Unrestricted Funds				
	General funds	Designated funds	Endowment funds	Restricted funds	2025
	£	£	£	£	£
Fixed assets	-	-		-	-
Stock and debtors	16,848	-		380	17,228
Cash at bank and in hand	53,042	67,597		10,178	130,817
Current liabilities	(17,350)	-		-	(17,350)
Non-current liabilities	-				-
					-
	52,540	67,597	-	10,558	130,695

The assets and liabilities of the various funds at the previous year end date (31/12/24) were as follows:

	Unrestricted Funds				
	General funds	*Designated funds*	*Endowment funds*	*Restricted funds*	*2024*
	£	*£*	*£*	*£*	*£*
Fixed assets	*2,236*	-		-	*2,236*
Stock and debtors	*12,364*	-		*20,831*	*33,195*
Cash at bank and in hand	*94,111*	*40,929*		*96,825*	*231,865*
Current liabilities	*(43,170)*	-		-	*(43,170)*
Non-current liabilities	*(12,000)*	-		-	*(12,000)*
	53,541	*40,929*	-	*117,656*	*212,126*

14	**Pension commitments**	
	During the year employer's pension contributions totalling £2,948 (2024: £4,334) were payable to defined contribution personal pension schemes. No pension contributions were owing at the balance sheet date (2023: £nil).	
15	**Transactions with related parties**	
	During the year the charity:	
	a)	received donations totalling £49,048 (2023: £62,780) from related parties (which includes members of the PCC, anyone closely connected to them and any other member of key management).
	b)	No expenses (2024: £nil) were paid to, or for, non-clergy members of the PCC (reimbursements for expenses incurred when acting as agent for the charity or incurred when undertaking employment duties not connected with serving as a PCC member are not included in this disclosure).
	c)	received funds from the St Swithin's Community Centre (Croft Street), charity number 521948, of £4,876 (2024: £5,803), being a contribution to the staff costs of St Swithin's PCC staff engaged there; some of the PCC are trustees of this charity.
	During the year the charity also made the following payments to, or for, related parties:	
	a)	
	b)	Employed Vicky Prestwood as Worship for Everyone Pastor, married to Rev Jim Prestwood, vicar and chair of the PCC. Vicky received remuneration of £11,857 (2024: £11,049) in the year.
	c)	Employed Sue Watt as St Faith's Administrator, and is a PCC member. Sue received remuneration of £14,086 (2024: £12,480) in the year.
	d)	Employed Rose Williams as Finance Assistant, married to Phil Williams who is a PCC member. Rose received remuneration of £7,829 (2024: £7,105) in the year.
	e)	Employed Jack Fiedler as Ministries Coordinator, and is a PCC member. Jack received remuneration of £4,507 (2024: nil) in the year.
	Except as disclosed in note 6 'Analysis of staff costs', there have been no other transactions with related parties during the year.	

ST SWITHIN'S LINCOLN

DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES WITH COMPARATIVES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

	Note	Unrestricted Funds General 2025 £	Unrestricted Funds General 2024 £	Unrestricted Funds Designated 2025 £	Unrestricted Funds Designated 2024 £	Restricted Funds 2025 £	Restricted Funds 2024 £	Total Funds 2025 £	Total Funds 2024 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM:									
Donations and legacies	3	184,836	211,061	-	-	52,243	120,853	237,079	331,914
Charitable activities	4	24,955	25,488	-	-	4,912	16,786	29,867	42,274
Income from Investments		-	-	-	-	772	2,105	772	2,105
Other income		-	3,057	-	41,223	-		-	44,280
TOTAL INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS		209,791	239,606	-	41,223	57,927	139,744	267,718	420,573
EXPENDITURE ON:									
Charitable activities:	7	269,911	232,667	-	5,760	53,361	216,038	323,272	454,465
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		269,911	232,667	-	5,760	53,361	216,038	323,272	454,465
Net gains/(losses) on investments								-	-
Net income/(expenditure)		(60,120)	6,939	-	35,463	4,566	(76,294)	(55,554)	(33,892)
Transfers between funds	13	38,547	6,433	(13,927)	4,898	(24,620)	(11,331)	-	-
		(21,573)	13,372	(13,927)	40,361	(20,054)	(87,625)	(55,554)	(33,892)
Net movement in funds		(21,573)	13,372	(13,927)	40,361	(20,054)	(87,625)	(55,554)	(33,892)
Reconciliation of funds:	13								
Total funds brought forward		74,347	60,975	81,290	40,929	30,612	118,237	186,249	220,141
Total funds carried forward		52,774	74,347	67,363	81,290	10,558	30,612	130,695	186,249