Charitable Incorporated Organisation: 1163195

THE DIOCESE OF NORWICH CHURCHES TRUST

TRUSTEES' REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

THE DIOCESE OF NORWICH CHURCHES TRUST

CONTENTS

	Page
Reference and administrative details of the charity, it's trustee's and advisers	1
Trustees' report	2 – 4
Statement of financial activities	5
Balance sheet	6
Statement of cash flows	7
Notes to the financial statements	8 - 10

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS OF THE CHARITY, IT'S TRUSTEE'S AND ADVISERS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

Trustees

The Ven Steven Betts, Archdeacon of Norfolk
The Ven Keith James, Archdeacon of Norwich
The Ven Catherine Dobson, Archdeacon of Lynn
Tim Sweeting

CIO Registered Number	1163195
Principal office	109 Dereham Road Easton NR9 5ES
Clerk & Treasurer	Tim Sweeting
Accounts prepared by	Norwich Diocesan Board of Finance Ltd Diocesan House 109 Dereham Road Easton NR9 5ES
Bankers	Barclays Bank PLC 57 London Street Norwich NR2 1HS
Solicitors	Birketts Kingfisher House 1 Gilders Way Norwich NR3 1UB

TRUSTEES' REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

The trustees present their annual directors' report together with the financial statements of the charity for the year ending 31 December 2025.

The financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011 and 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 2015)

Objectives and activities

Overall objectives

The advancement of the Christian Gospel and faith within the Diocese of Norwich by providing, administering, maintaining, repairing, renewing and replacing churches or ecclesiastical buildings licensed for public worship in accordance with the Christian faith as received by The Church of England.

Public Benefit

The trustees confirm that, in exercising their powers and duties, they have compiled with their duty to have due regard to the guidance on public benefit published by the Charity Commission.

The Churches carry out services of worship, marriages, baptisms and funerals which are attended by the general public and enriches local communities by the provision of these services.

Structure, governance and management

Structure

The trust was founded on the 19th August 2015 and is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation.

Meetings

The trustees have met on an ad-hoc basis during the process of establishing the CIO.

Trustees

The trustees are the three Archdeacons' in the Norwich Diocese, along with the Diocesan Secretary/Chief Executive of the Norwich Diocesan Board of Finance Limited.

The trustees receive no remuneration for their work and the charity does not have any salaried employees.

Risk Management

The Trustees have assessed the major risks to which the charity is exposed, in particular those related to the operations and finances of the charity, and are satisfied that systems and procedures are in place to mitigate our exposure to the major risks.

Related parties/connected charity

The Norwich Diocesan Board of Finance Limited was incorporated on 28 March 1906 and is a connected charity of the Diocese of Norwich Churches Trust.

TRUSTEES' REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

Achievement and Performance

Leasing of Churches

At the beginning of 2025, there were eighteen churches leased to the trust.

Financial Review

Financial Performance

The trust received income of £55,371 in 2025 (2024 - £58,603), this income relates to collections at services, statutory parochial fees, fundraising and other donations. The residual balance at year end, along with the grants from the All Churches Trust, the Anne French Memorial Trust and the Norwich Diocesan Board of Finance Limited being treated as deferred income is £61,225 (2023 - £61,924).

Of the eighteen churches in the trust, seventeen of these no longer have any funds and are been funded from the unrestricted funds. As at the 31st December 2025, deferred unrestricted funds stand at £61,225 (£61,924 in 2024).

Reserves Policy

Where a Church is leased to the trust, any incoming funds are restricted for that specific building. This is also the case where collections are made in Church, a statutory fee is received or any other situation where income would otherwise have been passed to the PCC responsible for the building.

The grants received, totalling £87,500 and including an additional transfer in relation to the lease of the Stanta Churches (current balance £61,225) is an unrestricted reserve which is expected to be used towards the running costs of the charity but primarily where the restricted funds aligned to a church are exhausted. This is to ensure that the building is maintained in accordance with the lease.

Due to the commitment of funding a building from unrestricted funds (approximately £2,000 per church) and the timing to obtain additional grant funding, the trustees monitor unrestricted reserves to ensure that they do not fall below £25,000 for a prolonged period.

Going Concern

There are currently sufficient reserves (£491,237) to be able to maintain the level of provision at the current level for the next twelve months.

On this basis, the trustees are satisfied that there are sufficient assets to ensure that the charity can continue to fulfil its obligations for the next twelve months.

Fundraising standards information

The Trust does not raise funds from the public via fundraising activities. It may however take collections held at services in the Churches vested within the Trust.

The Trust is not registered with the fundraising regulator. No professional fundraisers or third-party commercial participants are used. No complaint regarding fundraising has been received and no advertising takes place regarding fundraising.

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

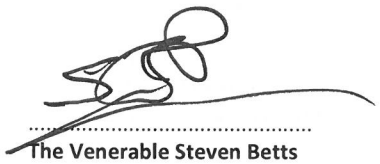
The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustee's report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England & Wales requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the income and expenditure of the charity for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP);
- make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether applicable UK accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements.
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation on the same basis from 12 months of the date of this report.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

This report was approved by the Trustees on 30th June 2026 and signed on their behalf, by:



.....
The Venerable Steven Betts

THE DIOCESE OF NORWICH CHURCHES TRUST

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £	2024 Total funds £
Income and endowments from:					
Donations and collections	2	78	16,787	**16,865**	24,068
Parochial Fees	2	2,181	3,322	**5,503**	6,302
Utility Refund	2	-	-	**-**	516
Grants and Fundraising	2	10,000	600	**10,600**	27,718
Interest & Dividends	2	22,403	-	**22,403**	-
Total Income		34,662	20,709	**55,371**	58,603
Expenditure on:					
Administration	3	349	-	**349**	56
Church Running Expenses	3	1,977	23,597	**25,574**	35,079
Churchyard	3	-	10,914	**10,914**	3,330
Building Works	3	-	16,751	**16,751**	5,089
Other	3	-	-	**-**	-
Total Expenditure		2,326	51,262	**53,588**	43,554
Net income/(expenditure)		32,335	(30,553)	**1,783**	15,049
Transfer between funds	4	(36,128)	36,128	**-**	-
Net movement in funds		(3,793)	5,576	**1,783**	15,049
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward at 1 January 2025		495,030	73,692	**568,722**	58,643
Total funds carried forward at 31 December 2025		491,237	79,268	**570,505**	568,722

The notes on page 7 forms part of these financial statements.

THE DIOCESE OF NORWICH CHURCHES TRUST

BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2025

	Note	2025 £	2024 £
Current assets:			
Bank Account		113,101	125,547
CCLA Deposit Account	9	517,433	495,030
Debtors	5	9,668	10,915
Total current assets		640,203	631,492
Liabilities:			
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	6	8,472	846
Net current assets		631,730	630,646
Creditors - amounts falling due after more than one year	6	61,225	42,898
Total net assets		570,505	587,748
The funds of the charity:			
Unrestricted funds	7	491,238	514,056
Restricted funds	7	79,268	73,692
Total charity funds		570,505	587,748

THE DIOCESE OF NORWICH CHURCHES TRUST

CASH FLOW STATEMENT
FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31 DECEMBER 2025

	Note	2025 £	2024 £
Cash flow from operating activities		-	-
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period		(12,446)	46,723
Cash and cash equivalents at 1st January 2025		125,547	78,824
Cash and cash equivalents at 31st December 2025		113,101	125,547
Reconciliation of net income to net cash flow from operating activites			
Net income		(20,620)	15,049
Decrease/(Increase) in debtors		1,247	1,156
(Decrease)/Increase in creditors		6,927	30,518
Net cash used in operating activities		(12,446)	46,723
Analysis of cash and cash equivalents			
Cash in hand		113,101	125,547

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 30 June 2026 and signed on their behalf by:

.....
Chair

1. Accounting Policies

1.1. Basis of preparation of financial statements

The accounts (financial statements) have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant note(s) to these accounts. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with 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) issued on 16 July 2014 and the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011. The Trust constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

1.2. Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included in the statement of financial activities on an accruals basis.

1.3. Resources expended

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis.

2. Income from

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds 2025	Total funds 2024
	£	£	£	£
Transfers In	-	-	-	-
Donations	78	15,688	**15,766**	21,755
Fundraising	-	-	-	1,078
Collections	-	1,099	**1,099**	2,313
Statutory Fees	2,181	3,322	**5,503**	6,302
Grants	-	600	**600**	25,640
Rental Income	-	-	-	0
Legacies	10,000	-	**10,000**	1,000
Interest & Dividends	22,403	-	**22,403**	-
Utility Refund	-	-	-	516
	34,662	20,709	**55,371**	58,603

3. Expenditure by Charitable Activity

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds 2025	Total funds 2024
	£	£	£	£
Bank Charges	349	-	**349**	56
Churchyard	-	1,764	**1,764**	3,330
Inspection	-	17,079	**17,079**	11,465
Insurance	1,977	11,058	**13,035**	12,881
Misc	-	-	-	-
Utilities	-	3,319	**3,319**	8,669
Repairs	-	16,751	**16,751**	5,089
Roof Alarm	-	1,291	**1,291**	2,065
	2,326	51,262	**53,588**	43,554

4. Analysis of Transfer Between Funds

	Deferred Income	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds 2025
Transfer from Deferred Income	(36,128)	36,128	-	-
	(36,128)	36,128	-	-

The transfer from deferred income was made to match both the deficit of general expenditure, being £2,326 and the transfer to cover the deficit of expenditure incurred where restricted funds received from the parishes had been exhausted which for 2025 was £36,128 (2024: £27,442).

5. Debtors

Due within one year	**2025**	**2024**
Prepayments and accrued income	9,668	9,730
Energy Refund	-	-
Legacy	-	-
Donations and Collections	-	485
Parochial Fees	-	700
	9,668	10,915

This comprises of insurance paid for the period 1st January 2025 to 28th September 2025 (£9,668)

6. Creditors

Creditors - amounts falling due within one year	**2025**	**2024**
Other creditors	8,472	846
	8,472	846

Creditors - amounts falling due after more than one year	**2025**	**2024**
Deferred income	61,225	61,924
	61,225	61,924

The amounts falling due within one year comprises of £196 which relates to utilities billed in 2026 for 2025 usage and £8,276 relating to maintenace works completed in 2025 and paid in 2026.

Trustee Remuneration

During the year, no Trustees received any remuneration (2024: nil)
During the year, no Trustees received any benefits in kind (2024: nil)
During the year, no Trustees received any reimbursement of expenses (2024: nil)

7. Statement of Funds

	Balance at 1st January 2025 £	Incoming Resources £	Resources Expended £	Transfer between funds £	Balance at 31st December 2025 £
Unrestricted Funds					
General Fund	495,030	34,662	2,326	(36,128)	491,237
Restricted Funds					
Cantley, St Margaret	-	548	10,603	10,055	-
Brunstead	-	-	559	559	-
St Peter and Paul, Bittering Parva	-	20	5,244	5,224	-
St Margaret, Calthorpe	-	12	1,910	1,898	-
St Margaret, Calthorpe (Plaster)	33	-	-	-	33
St Lawrence, Ingworth	-	384	943	559	-
St Lawrence, Ingworth (Grass)	644	100	324	-	420
St Lawrence, Ingworth (Thatch)	36,306	13,180	4,375	-	45,111
St Nicholas, Shereford	-	1,980	2,025	45	-
All Saints, South Pickenham	-	-	1,611	1,611	-
St Andrew's, Themelthorpe	-	1,066	5,051	3,984	-
All Saints, Weasenham	-	953	2,584	1,631	-
St Botolph's, Westwick	-	545	4,096	3,551	-
Bessingham	36,709	1,282	4,287	-	33,704
Bintree	-	639	2,250	1,611	-
Suffield	-	-	2,784	2,784	-
Battle Area Churches	-	-	1,301	1,301	-
Crostwick	-	-	1,314	1,314	-
Total Restricted Funds	73,692	20,709	51,261	36,128	79,267
Total of Funds	**568,722**	**55,371**	**53,588**	**0**	**570,505**

8. Summary of Funds

	Brought Forward £	Incoming Resources £	Resources Expended £	Transfer between funds £	Carried Forward £
General Funds	495,030	34,662	2,326	(36,128)	491,237
Restricted Funds	73,692	20,709	51,261	36,128	79,267
	568,722	**55,371**	**53,588**	**-**	**570,505**

9. Analysis of Net Assets Between Funds

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted Funds 2025 £	Total Funds 2025 £	*Total Funds 2024 £*
Current assets	491,238	79,267	**570,505**	568,722
	491,238	79,267	**570,505**	568,722

10. Related Party Transaction

The Diocese of Norwich Churches Trust formally took over the lease for the four churches in the Stanta battle in 2024. Included within this was the provision of funding from the ministry of defence provided to the Norwich Diocesan Board of Finance Ltd. The NDBF hold this deposit fund as custodian trustee and it can be used towards all churches in the trust.

THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND
Diocese of Norwich

Independent Examiners Certificate

Report to the trustees/ members of:	Diocese of Norwich Churches Trust
On accounts for the year ended:	31st December 2025
Charity no (if any):	1163195

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/12/25.

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 Trust'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~~ [ ]]. *Delete [ ] if not applicable.*

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination (~~other than that disclosed below~~ *) 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.

** Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.*

Signed: G.E. Freeman. Date: 24/06/26

Name: Geoffrey E. Freeman

Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any)

Elected Member G.Y.B.C (Scrutiny Committee) (Audit + Risk)

Address:

2. Water Meadow Close
Ormesby St Margaret
Norfolk NR29 3NF

Section B **Disclosure**

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose