Flitwick Church
St Peter and St Paul

Home for All : Sharing God's love



Annual Parochial Church Meeting

Celebrating the Life of our Church

Sunday 26th April 2026

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Page No.

3 Electoral Roll Report April 2026

4 Reports to the 2026 Annual Parochial Church Meeting

5 Safeguarding Report for the APCM 2025

6 Deanery Synod report

7 Fabric and Buildings Report

8-10 Ministry & Mission Report - The life of Flitwick Parish Church 2025

10-11 Mission Action Planning

12-14 Children & Families Report

'The Life of Our Church' Reports

15 Bellringers

15 Churches Together in Ampthill & Flitwick

16 Craft Club

16 Eco Church Report

17 Events Team

17 Flitwick Food Extra

18 Flower Team

19 Little Fishes

19 Men's Breakfast

20 Messy Church

20 Mothers' Union

21 Music in Church

21 - Choir

22 - Music Group

22 - Worship Band

22 Pilgrimage

23 Puppet Power

23 Rock Solid

24 Study Groups / Alpha / Connect Groups

24 Sunday@7

25 Walk & Talk Group

25 YMAAC Report

Flitwick Church
St Peter and St Paul

Electoral Roll report – April 2026

The Electoral Roll has been revised this year in accordance with the Church Representation Rules.

- In April 2025 there were 147 people on the full revision of the Electoral Roll
- In April 2026 there are 157 people on the Electoral Roll
- Twelve people were added, two people were removed
- This represents a net increase of 10 people on the Roll
- Of the 157 people on the 2026 Roll, 130 reside in the parish, with 27 residing outside the parish

Report produced by:

Richard Fullbrook

fully1961@hotmail.co.uk

07923-473392

Reports to the 2026 Annual Parochial Church Meeting

Background – The Parochial Church Council (PCC) has the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent in promoting in the Ecclesiastical Parish, the Whole Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. It also has the responsibility of the Parish Church and Chapter House.

The PCC of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Peter and St Paul, Flitwick is a registered Charity and is registered with the Charity Commission. Registration number 1169624.

Membership – Members of the PCC are either ex-officio or elected at the Annual Parochial Church Council Meeting (APCM) in accordance with the Church Representation Rules or co-opted during the course of the year. There is also a member of the General Synod who automatically becomes a member of the PCC. There are two members of the Diocesan Synod who are automatically members of the PCC. There are also three elected as representatives for the Deanery Synod who are automatically members of the PCC.

All members of the PCC are DBS checked and have to undertake safeguarding training and domestic abuse awareness training.

The PCC is scheduled to meet every two months. Additional meetings are held if there is a need to discuss urgent and/or important business i.e. approval of the accounts for the APCM meeting.

The Standing Committee which consists of the Vicar, Curate, Church Wardens, Secretary, Treasurer and the Parish Safeguarding Officer. The Standing Committee is scheduled to meet every two months.

Richard Fullbrook stood down as Church Warden from the APCM. Linda Foale continued in her role as Church Warden. Chris Macintosh was elected as Church Warden at the APCM meeting in May. Matt Swansbury has taken on the role of Deputy Church Warden.

The following have served as members of the PCC during the calendar year ending 31 December 2025.

Rev Claire Harald (Incumbent), Andy Jefferson (Curate), Becky Mynott (General Synod), Sophie Tucker (Licensed to the Church), Paul Hodgkinson (Diocesan Synod) Emma Herman (Diocesan Synod) Tony Brown (Deanery Synod), David Watson (Deanery Synod), Nic Farrington-Sharp (Deanery Synod), Linda Foale (Church Warden), Richard Fullbrook (Church Warden – until May 2025), David Golding (Deputy Church Warden – until May 2025), Chris Macintosh (Deputy Church Warden – until May 2025 and Church Warden – from May 2025), Matthew Swansbury (Deputy Church Warden), Terry Thurley (Treasurer- until May 2025), Peter Wood (Treasurer from May 2025), Nigel Taylor (Secretary), Ian Cook, Jeremy Dann, Ciaran Diver, Jo Farrington-Sharp, Emma Gleeson, Jo Lacey, Mary McKeand, Carol Thompson, Jane Thompson and Emma Williams.

Nigel Taylor
PCC Secretary

Safeguarding Report

I would like to start this report with an enormous thank you to every member of our church family who has helped us to protect our children, young people and vulnerable adults. Thank you for being vigilant, also thank you for your prayers, support and interest in this area of church life.

We have over 45 people who are DBS checked and trained in safeguarding, in order to volunteer with church groups and activities, which is an amazing number. Thank you very much to everyone who has completed a DBS check, and / or safeguarding training over the past 12 months.

During the year the PCC has reviewed our Safeguarding policy and other policies and statements in line with Church of England and Diocese guidance. They have also been aware of the requirements of the National Safeguarding Standards issued by the Church of England.

Any safeguarding issues or concerns have been reported to the Diocesan Safeguarding team and dealt with following their advice, prayerfully and with care, compassion and practical support as needed.

I can state that the PCC has complied with their duty to have due regard to the House of Bishops' Safeguarding Policy and Practice guidance as required by the Church of England.
I can confirm that all those who regularly hire the Chapter House for non-church activities have all the required Safeguarding documentation in place.

We continue to use the Safeguarding Dashboard and Hub as a tool to track our safeguarding progress.

Holiday club in May saw a number of new volunteers who completed DBS checks and safeguarding training so that they could help out in a variety of roles.

On 16th November we celebrated National Safeguarding Sunday at the 10.30am service, this was followed by a Safeguarding workshop attended by 37 members of our church family. During the workshop we had time to explore the Biblical basis for safeguarding and review own best practice in the light of current guidelines.

Safeguarding policies and procedures are only part of the safeguarding story – we need everyone (whether or not they are involved with activities for children, young people and vulnerable adults) to be vigilant. If you have any worries or concerns about safeguarding in our church or community, please do get in touch with Claire or me. Sometimes, several small pieces of information are needed to see the bigger picture, so, if something doesn't feel right to you, please do speak to one of us.

Jane Thompson
Parish Safeguarding Officer

Flitwick Church
St Peter and St Paul

Report on the Proceedings of the Deanery Synod

There have been three meetings of the Deanery Synod over the course of the year and we have had a variety of guest speakers, who have spoken on a variety of subjects, including Artificial Intelligence and the *Growing Younger and More Diverse* initiative.

We have seen a number of parishes appoint incumbents this year, including in Benefice of Flitton, Silsoe and Pulloxhill, and owing to a resignation of a lay member of the General Synod, the resulting casual vacancy necessitated an election from which, Emma Robarts (Buntingford) was elected.

Flitwick continues to maintain a significant position in the Deanery, not only because we are a large single-parish benefice, but because we continue to perform outreach and undertake a wide variety of services that appeal to a broad spectrum of individuals; not all parishes possess the resources to achieve this and we should be proud of what we are able to accomplish.

David Watson
Deanery Synod Representative

Fabric & Building

Early in the year a comprehensive schedule of essential works to the fabric was submitted to PCC, for consideration. Items were listed in priority order.

An investigation of the French drain to the perimeter of the church was carried out and found to be correctly functioning. It is essential that the surface stones do not become clogged with weeds. A work party weeded most of the areas but more and frequent attention is needed to maintain efficiency of the system. It is the French drain that keeps a lot of the moisture out of the walls.

Various housekeeping jobs have been attended to:-

The main drain blocked again and needed urgent clearing.
Repairs to door bolts and window stays were undertaken.

After some inspections of the internal plaster in the church and testing of sub-strata a specification was drawn up to carry out remedial works to the South elevation walls (this being the worst affected). A lot of time was spent in deciding the best course of action to remedy the deteriorating plaster, some of which had been wrongly repaired in the past. Our Architect was called in to comment and consider our proposals and she was of the opinion that the work would qualify as a repair under Schedule B. An application was made to the DAC for a faculty to carry out the remedial works. A response is till awaited from the DAC

After a deal of time attempting to attract Plastering contractors costings for the work were submitted to the PCC for consideration and approval.

Further progress is subject to finance being available after the PCC requests a grant from the Friends and the DAC approval to go ahead.

New emergency lighting has been installed to both fire exits from the Chapter House and a new socket outlet installed in the boiler chamber.

As the church walls are looking so shabby and what with the plaster defects needing attention, the need for Interior redecoration of the church is under consideration, with specification produced and a costing put to PCC to consider. It is unlikely that funds will be immediately available for this and it is a subject for the future. Once again this will be subject to obtaining a Faculty from the DAC.

In the coming year the Quinquennial inspection is due and I am sure that some items detailed in that report will need urgent attention (some are on that schedule presented at the beginning of the year). This will again put pressure on funding and those that need to action the works required.

Hopefully we will see the plaster repaired in the coming months, but it is difficult to plan for much else at this stage.

David Golding
Fabric Chair

Ministry & Mission Report – The Life of Flitwick Parish Church

"So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live your lives in him, rooted and built up in him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness."

Colossians 2:6–7

At the beginning of 2025, this verse from Colossians was the scripture we felt God had given our church for the year ahead. As a result, 2025 became a year focused on rooting ourselves in God, strengthening our faith, and recognising the generosity of God in all that we have and all that we do.
It is never possible to fully capture the rich and extensive life of our wonderful church within a single report, as we seek to live out our vision of being a *"Home for All – Sharing God's Love."* However, as you read the reports that follow, the life, faith, and generosity of our church will quickly become clear.

Rooted
"Rooting" is a vital part of the Christian journey. Just as a tree with deep roots can withstand strong winds, a person—and a church—rooted in faith and in relationship with God is grounded when facing the inevitable challenges of life. With deep roots in God, we stand on a solid foundation.

This year, as we sought to deepen our roots and strengthen our faith, we saw the launch of our Bible Book Club. Affectionately known as the BBC, it has given us the tools to read the Bible together and to discuss God's Word in a way that has not previously been possible. Building our faith on scripture and prayer is the firm foundation on which we grow, both as individuals and as a church.

Alongside this, when we were approached by a member of our congregation with a heart for prayer and deep concerns for our world, a small group began meeting in church each Tuesday lunchtime to pray. This group faithfully lifts before God the challenges faced by our world and our church, rooting our church life ever more deeply in God's loving care.

Our church also stands firm because of the generosity of the many people who serve within it. Whether through cleaning the church, helping at Messy Church, cooking for Men's Breakfast, or organising food boxes and rotas, our volunteers give so freely of their time and gifts. Once again, our volunteer team has grown this year, with people stepping into new roles—including a new treasurer, new chalice assistants, new Holiday Club helpers, and many others. Our church simply could not function without the generosity, commitment, and willingness of so many to serve both church and community.



Underpinning this life of service is our Ministry Team, and we are truly blessed by those who lead and support our church. Over the past year, we have celebrated many significant milestones: Sam was ordained priest, Emma was ordained deacon, Paul completed his Bishops' Advisory Panel and began his training as an ordinand supported by us, Jo completed her Discipleship Enabler Ministry course, and Andy was appointed as Rector of Wheathampstead.

While I believe ministry is a responsibility shared by the whole church, we are deeply thankful for the dedicated team who help lead and guide us. I thank God for His generosity in providing us with such a faithful team, serving alongside our Lay Leaders of Worship, Liz and Nigel; our Licensed Lay Ministers (Readers), Becky and Sophie; and our new Church Administrator, Andrea, all of whom contribute so much to the life of our church.

As we sought to deepen our roots, we also saw this reflected in the response to our giving review and preaching on legacy giving. The generosity shown in support of the financial life of our church was both humbling and affirming. It revealed, in powerful ways, the generous hearts of our congregation and their desire to see our church flourish and grow. This response exceeded anything we had imagined or prayed for, and through it, God has blessed us abundantly.

Strengthened

Strengthening our faith through the variety of worship we are able to offer at St Peter & St Paul's is a great gift. As a church striving to be a *Home for All*, we are committed to offering different styles of worship so that everyone can find a place to belong and encounter God in diverse ways.



This year, we were delighted to introduce several new services, including a Pet Service, a wonderful *Singing the Seasons* service, Evensong shared with St Andrew's, Ampthill, and our monthly 9am quiet said service on the first Sunday of each month. We also had the joy of our first Youth-led service in February, when our young people led us in traditional worship.

Recognising the importance of space for quiet and reflection, a group from our church also joined together for our first church quiet day since my arrival, held at St Owen's, Bromham. It was a deeply valued day, offering time to pause, reflect, and be spiritually strengthened.

Our faith is also strengthened as we live out God's call to serve others and reach our community.



This year, community engagement has been at the heart of our church life. Through events such as the *All Things Bright and Beautiful* Flower Festival, our new May half-term Holiday Club, the summer Teddy Bears' Picnic, our much-loved ChurchFest, the quiz night for Friends of Flitwick Church, Beer and Carols at The Swan, and our Sunday School Bangers event, we have joyfully opened our doors and gone out into our community. To invite our community to experience their church, and to connect with people we may not have met before, is both a joy and a privilege.

Overflowing with Thankfulness

As we reflect on the year that has passed, we can do nothing other than give thanks to God for His generosity, graciousness, and faithfulness. As we welcome new people, see our seasonal services grow, deepen our commitment to prayer and scripture, and strengthen our connection with our community, our hearts are filled with gratitude.



As we witness people courageously offering themselves in service, deepening their faith and commitment, and striving together to live out God's vision for our church as a *Home for All – Sharing God's Love*, we are once again reminded of God's abundant faithfulness.

I thank God for the deep joy of ministry in this church, and I thank Him for our wonderful church community.

Revd Claire Harald
Vicar

Mission Action Planning

Every three years we prayerfully set a 'Mission Action Plan' in our church to focus ourselves on God's mission and vision for our church . Within our Mission Action Plan (or MAP,) we have three priorities.

The MAP, found on the following page, was set four months after I arrived in September of 2022. As a church, we have worked hard to focus in on these priorities. After three years, we have now set them down and in January 2026 will be reviewing this again to see where God is guiding our church into a new season.

I hope by looking at this MAP on the following page, you will see the fruit of the ministry we have developed over this past year and how God has been leading us into new places and with new ministries.

I am thankful to all who have worked hard to see these three priorities come to life and also to our 'Leading Your Church into Growth' group, (LYCiG) who keep us always focussed on helping our church grow both spiritually and in number.

MISSION ACTION PLAN – Implemented in Sept 2022

1st Priority – Community Connection **Transforming Communities / Making New Disciples**

Planning ways to intentionally engage and effectively communicate with the local community to make our presence known and shine Christ's light.

1) Three community engagement events throughout the year (Christmas, Easter, Summer?)
Completed by: COMPLETE

2) Engaging with our local schools by offering an Easter Journey to all lower schools – either to be held in the church or taken into schools.
Completed by: COMPLETE

3) Develop a communication strategy for engaging with our community – looking at how can we communicate more effectively, who we are and what we do? Reviewing our social media presence, mailchimp email system, parish magazine, notice sheets
Completed by: COMPLETE (although always ongoing)

2nd Priority – Rooted in Faith **Going Deeper into God**

Developing the Spiritual Life of the Church - We have a desire to grow as a praying community and recognise the need to focus our attention on the praying heart of the church. We hope to listen well to God and to learn His will for us as a church and community.

1) Creating a prayer space in the church to allow for some creative prayer opportunities. This also allows for prayer ministry to be a focal point for our church community.
Completed by: COMPLETE

2) Organise and gather a church wide walking pilgrimage to St Albans Cathedral.
Completed by: COMPLETE

3) Bringing together a team to develop and encourage prayer ministry within the church.
Completed by: Ongoing

3rd Priority – Growth (Young People) **Making New Disciples / Going Deeper into God**

With no current provision for the young people in our church or on the fringe of our church community, we aim to intentionally focus on creating opportunities for spiritual and personal growth for our young people. Fostering an environment where our young people are known to be valued and appreciated.

1) Setting up and running an activity (ice skating & pizza night) that encourages engagement with our current group of young people and listening to their needs and hopes for youthwork at our church.
Completed by: COMPLETE

2) Develop and grow a team to work with our young people.
Completed by: Ongoing

3) Start a regular group/session to encourage and engage young people in their faith.
Completed by: COMPLETE

Children and Families Report

If any of the activities and events you read about in this report make you smile, please think about how you might be able to support the Children and Families team and get in touch: children@flitwickchurch.org 07476131913 And please do pray for the Children and Families Ministry for 2026.

There were one hundred and three events in the Children and Families schedule for 2025 (not including Rock Solid and Little Fishes). The successful provision of all this was only possible because of the wonderful volunteers that help week in/week out so before I go any further I would like to thank all those who have helped in the last twelve months and are looking to help again in 2026.

Little Fishes does Easter was introduced this year. Using the materials from the Easter Journey delivered to schools, I created a simplified journey through the church for the members of Little Fishes. Held on the first Monday of the school holidays, Little Fishes does Easter was a little different to the normal Monday morning sessions. We invited the children to come into the church and hear about Holy Week with palm leaves in the porch, water from the font for washing feet, bread and grape under the bell tower for the last supper, a grassy carpet in the Children's Corner for the garden of Gethsemane, a long walk to the altar where we looked at the cross and then a celebration in the choir stall when we were told that Jesus was alive. It was a really lovely session and I am so thankful for the Little Fishes team for giving me an extra week of their time so we could do this and then invite them through to the Chapter House for snacks and craft.

Little Fishes were also invited to do a fund-raising walk for Mother's Union. Unfortunately, the information about the walk was received a little too late to do a big town wide push but, by inviting the Little Fishes toddlers, we were able to do a trial run in readiness for 2026.



During the May half-term I held my first Holiday Club… what a blast!!! We had 26 children join us for four mornings of games, craft, songs and silliness as we explored the story of Joseph and what it can teach us about God and how he cares for each one of us. Since Holiday Club we have seen some of these families engage with Messy Church, Sunday Services and one parent has even expressed a desire to join the Alpha Course.

For some time now I have been looking into Children's Spirituality and different ways we can help them to build their relationship with God. The consensus from the courses I have attended and reading I have done is that children are actually innately spiritual and connected to God so we do not need to teach them how. We just need to give them the space to explore their own spirituality and the language to express it. With this in mind, we did something different over the summer holidays. Using the book, 'Thoughts to make your Heart Sing', we gave the children small snippets of scripture, along with a gentle story or explanation and then allowed the children to reflect in various ways using the resources provided but providing little in instruction. After a certain amount of time we asked the children if they would like to show us what they had been working on, it was so encouraging to hear what the children had been thinking about and how they wanted to express themselves. We will definitely be doing more of this in the future.

ChurchFest 2025 was a great success with many returning customers and lots of new faces. The knowledge picked up from ChurchFest 24 helped the events team to plan smarter and achieve even better results with less stress. Each day brought different joys; Monday saw children's eye bulge at the choice of cake and it was lovely to give one of our FFX couples a hour to enjoy some refreshment in peace while the children enjoyed some time doing craft in the church. Tuesday saw children squealing with delight during the water games. Wednesday was a quieter day with children using their imagination as they explored the churchyard looking

for mini beats. Thursday was full of silliness, with a side of disbelief when the children learned they would be getting free ice cream and access to the toppings station. Friday was a wonderful evening of intergenerational joy as the children danced to the jazz band and the adults made the sound effects as the teddies zoomed by. This was a massive team effort, and I am so immensely proud of our church for putting on such an event.

In September, we started First Communion classes with three children from Rock Solid which were led by Amanda Dann, Jo Farrington-Sharp and myself. The six sessions were held every two weeks, and the children took their first communion at the All Together service on 7th November. With the help of Amanda and Jo, the service stirred some of the adults to start conversation about their own faith journey.

It was good to continue to connect with the people of the town and Flitwick Town Council through the Family Fun Day, Civic Reception, Civic Service, Proud (Ampthill & Flitwick), Uniformed Groups' visits to church and Coffee Mornings in the village hall. My particular favourite was the Christmas Light Switch On. Although I had enjoyed doing the dramas in previous years, I just felt that the timings were meaning no-one was really seeing what we were doing and our presence did not outweigh (or even match) the effort being put into the event. We therefore decided to set up a photo booth and name it Selfie in the Stable. Using the resources from Open the Book, some cardboard animals and some very kindly donated haybales the scene was complete.

The Jenkins family very kindly offered to go first so we could post their photos on Facebook to advertise our stall. And within the hour, we had a steady stream of visitors wanting to get their photo in the stable. A member of the PCC kindly offered to buy some books for us to hand out, so with the special offer at The Works we were able to buy f ifty books and a selection of Christmas themed Chocolates and Haribo sweets to go into bags with our fliers for Christmas services. These all went meaning we had at least fifty families interact with the event.



We also had a superstar flier hander-outer who passed on a couple of hundred fliers to those who were maybe too grown up for a selfie.

What am I looking forward to in 2026:
1. Developing Flitwick Food Extra
2. Working more closely with Woodland Middle School
3. Not having a body part removed

Schools Work

In 2025, Flitwick Church worked with all three lower schools to deliver an Easter Journey (an interactive retelling of the Easter Story). In Templefield, we did two sessions for the Reception classes and, in Kingsmoor, the whole school came through over five sessions. We also provided harvest assemblies for all three Lower Schools and Christmas services in church for Flitwick Lower and Templefield and in their school for Woodlands and Flitwick Lower (FLS's second session had to be relocated to the school due to the weather conditions).

This year we also trialled opening up the Christingle Workshop with Templefield's Reception classes to include their parents, older siblings in the same school and pre-school age siblings. The session was lively, a bit sticky,

laugh out loud funny but, most importantly, enjoyed by children and parents. We will therefore look to do the same again next year (after a few tweaks following feedback from the wonderful team who helped!).

In addition to this, our Open the Book team has been attending Flitwick's lower schools each month with stories, songs and prayers that tell the children (and the school staff) of the love of God. The Open the Book team have also helped with the schools work mentioned above and with the Selfie in the Stable outreach project at the town Light Switch On. The Open the Book Storytellers are Don McKeand, Jane Thompson, Jeremy Dan, Linda Pitts, Mary McKeand, Sheila Briggs, Sheila Smith and Sophie Tucker.

It was also wonderful to go into the lower schools in preparation for the Flower Festival. Each school took on a different verse from the song All Things Bright and Beautiful, and created a wonderful display including stained glass fish (using tissue paper and sticky-back plastic) to origami birds and pipe cleaner dragonflies. It was a brilliant way to get the children's parents involved with the festival as they came to see their child's artwork before enjoying a cake and heading into the main event.

After talking with the new head of RE and World Views at Woodlands, I was able to set up some reflection spaces to help Year 6 think about their poverty and injustice module. Before each class would engage with the spaces, we looked at the story of the Widow's Offering, highlighting that it is the motivation not the outcome that is important, i.e. as long as you are reflecting you do not need to produce a beautiful response.

Nosh

The Nosh team took the difficult decision to stop Nosh in March. While there were a few families coming each week, these were existing church families who were regularly attend Sunday services. The families we were hoping to build stronger connections with were not prioritising Nosh and we would regularly get messages of apologies that something else was on so they would not be able to attend this month. We felt the resources needed to keep Nosh running could be better utilised in other areas.

In our team reflections after this decision was made, we felt that we needed to encourage the church families that were enjoying Nosh to meet outside of Sunday services and so Liz started an informal Mum's breakfast which coincided with the Men's Breakfast. This has been a steady venture but with Liz and Andy moving away I will need to discern how we keep this going in 2026.

Sophie Tucker
Children & Families Worker

'The Life of Our Church' Reports

Bellringers

We currently have 10 regular ringers and two learners, although not all are able to regularly support Sunday ringing. The bells were rung for most weekly practices (19:45-21:00 on Fridays) and Sunday services, for Christmas midnight mass and for all weddings where bells were requested. In addition, the bells were rung on Remembrance Sunday (half-muffled).

The bells and fittings are regularly inspected by the ringers to ensure that the frame, ropes, wheels, pulley blocks, stays, sliders, headstock and clapper bolts are in good order. The most recent formal inspection of the bells was performed in January 2024 by the Honorary Technical Advisor of the Bedfordshire Association of Church Bell Ringers, and all fittings were fully inspected and found to be in good order. The new rope tail ends, spliced in 2024-25, are performing well and the sallys and ropes remain in good condition.

Ian Holman

Churches Together in Ampthill and Flitwick

CTAF is 'A Fellowship of churches which confess Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour according to the Scriptures, and who therefore seek to fulfil together their common calling to the glory of the one God – Father, Son and Holy Spirit.'

2025 was a busy year for CTAF which is about much more than the joint services for the World Day of Prayer, Christian Aid and World Development Week of Prayer for Christian Unity.

The joint services continue to be disappointingly attended, being mid-week probably accounts for the poor attendance though maybe we do not advertise them enough. PCC members are maybe lacking information. It would probably help if the representative for our church was a PCC member. Mary McKeand admirably fills the Christian Aid aspect but I am not a PCC member though I attend nearly all the Churches Together meetings. I think regular updates to PCC would be beneficial.

In January the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity was held as a Taize service at St. Andrews, Ampthill.
The World Day of Prayer services were held at Ampthill Baptist Church in the morning and at this church in the evening in March.

There was a Walk of Witness in Ampthill on 18th April (Good Friday) and the Sunrise Service on Easter Day led by ABC. I am afraid I don't go to the sunrise services as I am averse to early morning activities!
Other activities included a retreat at Turvey Abbey on 5th April, this was a lovely day of mindfulness in beautiful surroundings.

There was an extremely interesting day of Dementia training, a pastoral care event at Ampthill Baptist Church in early February. The session was led by Sarah Russell CEO of Tibbs Dementia Foundation. The purpose was to lead to understanding dementia and building a dementia friendly church community. I have lots of notes should anyone wish to know more.
Churches Together also attend the Remembrance Sunday service at the War Memorial in Flitwick. I have represented the group for two or three years but our chair Marjorie laid the wreath this last year.

A group of singers from Churches Together entertained customers at Aldi on 19th December for an hour mid-morning, a gentle reminder that Christmas is not just about consumerism. It was very well received.

Carmel Golding

Craft Club

The craft club has been running for two years and meets monthly in the Chapter House. Karen Rahbjohn leads a group of up to thirteen people, tackling a different craft each month.

In 2025 we covered such craft as painted vases, a landscape painting, decoupaged dish, hand-painted greeting card, tea light decorated jam jar and a Christmas flower table arrangement.

In 2026 we have plans including a visit to a pottery studio and we will be concentrating on making items for sale at our Christmas Craft Fair in November.

Carol Thompson

Eco Church

Eco Church is a network of churches across England and Wales each acting as a local centre of creation care in the community. Here in Flitwick, our own church is currently only one of ten C of E churches in Bedfordshire to hold a Silver Eco Church award, which we attained in 2024. Further information regarding Eco Church and its objectives can be found on the Eco Church website: ecochurch.arocha.org.uk

In addition to a long list of achievements in previous years, in 2025 we set ourselves four key objectives:

1. *Replace the Eco Church noticeboard in the churchyard.*
   A new noticeboard has been constructed and is on target to be erected by the end of April, once the weather has improved.

2. *Become part of Caring for God's Acre community of churches and participate in events such as Love your Burial Ground Week and Churches Count on Nature.*
   We registered with Caring for God's Area and took part in "Love your Burial Ground Week and Churches Count on Nature" between 7th and 15th of June 2025. During that week, we recorded over 200 species of animal life within the churchyard, many of which had not been recorded elsewhere within the local area.

3. *Undertake and document all plants and wildlife observed within the churchyard over a 12-month period.*
   Since June, we have continued to photograph and record both plants and animals within the churchyard and have now documented over 470 species.

4. *Organise at least two Eco-themed services in the year to promote our collective responsibility to care for God's creation.*
   In addition to exhibiting at the Flower Festival in October, we organised "Walk to Church Sunday" in July and a "For the Beauty of the Earth Service" in October.

After being certified as Carbon Literate by the Carbon Literacy Project (website: www.carbonliteracy.com), we have now been trained to run Carbon Literacy courses in the future. The aim of these courses is to raise awareness of climate change and impact of our everyday actions.
Over the coming year, we have more planned as we continue to look at our impact on the planet and care for the environment around us.

We are a small team and need help to achieve even more. If you are interested in joining the team or would like to help with any of our future initiatives, please speak with any member of the team (Claire Harald, Ciaran Diver, Edith Diver, Don McKeand, Mary McKeand, Heather Macintosh, Matt Swansbury and Helen Butler).

Ciaran Diver

Events Team



We have a small enthusiastic events team which includes Karen Rahbjon, Carol Thompson, Marion Tucker and Sophie Tucker.

We meet regularly to ensure there are fundraising and non-fundraising events throughout the year raising the profile of the church within the congregation and in the local community.

We helped with the organisation and promotion of Churchfest week. We provided support for all five days and the week proved a great success.

The highlight was Friday Jazz night with over 100 attendees enjoying, barbecue, drinks and entertainment. The children loved the teddy slide.

We were involved in organising and promotion the flower festival in October.

We try to book two Friday coffee mornings at the Village Hall each year. These raise good funds for the church with not too much effort. We are grateful to members of the congregation for their support in providing home made cakes, items for a tombola and help at these events.

Without help from so many members of the congregation we would not be able to achieve the success we have with these events. So, a big thank you to every one of you

Carol Thompson

Flitwick Food Extra

Flitwick Food Extra is now in its 6th year of serving the families most in need in Flitwick. The boxes are continuing to provide us with the opportunity to get alongside the families and the move to collections rather than deliveries is not putting people off. Not everyone stays for a drink and a chat as many are having to rush back to work and some are still a little unsure.

In February, I was on a residential on the last Friday of term, when FFX would usually take place, so we made the decision to move the collections to the Saturday afternoon. We decided to offer some craft for the children, and any adults that would like to partake, cake, snacks and drinks in the hope that a few more parents would stay and chat. While many parents chose not to stay, there were lots who stayed and engaged with the craft or just sat with a hot drink while our wonderful team showed their children how to make the various crafts.

We found that, once one parent was sat at the table, others felt braver and also sat. Sometimes chatting with us and sometimes chatting with the other parents. The whole afternoon seemed like a great time of connection. We therefore decided to keep to this format of having the collections when the children were with their parents and putting on activities for them.

The same happened for our Easter and May boxes but when we got to July, I was not able to do the Saturday so we tried the first Monday of the school holidays. This again worked really well with more families viewing the collection slot as an activity time for the children, which was free and had great cake!

I am pleased to say that more and more families are choosing to stay and chat and even ask how they can help. I have therefore given one of the dads the role of making drinks for the families, one of the families provided a cracker craft for Christmas (left-overs from a previous career) and another is regularly sat at the craft tables helping all the children.

Again, this year we have worked with the Inner Wheel and the ladies at Sacred Heart church on behalf of St Vincent de Paul Society to provide the families with extra goodies such as chocolate eggs at Easter and selection boxes at Christmas. Local residents and Ampthill Army Cadets have also given regular donations which have allowed us to keep the cost of the boxes down. For 2026, I am going to talk with the Flitwick Scouts group to see if they would like to help out.

Utilita Ampthill fireworks have again donated to FFX as part of their annual give away and we were accepted for Tesco's blue token scheme (April-June's voting period) and were granted £1500 after coming first. The team: Sheila Briggs, Clare Campbell, Judith Carrington, Anna Carrington, Steph Diver, Emma Herman, Zack Herman, Rosemary Ingram, Heather Macintosh, Christopher Macintosh, Julie Moxon, Trevor Simpkins, Annie Spencer, Jane Thompson, Lucybeth Tucker and Sophie Tucker.

Sophie Tucker
Children & Families Worker

Flower team

In 2025 the flower team provided flowers throughout the year in church (except for Lent and Advent). The small enthusiastic team consists of Marion Tucker, Cathy Haycock, Sheila Briggs and Carol Thompson. On special occasions, Easter and Christmas, we were also grateful for the help of Pat Payne and Clare Thompson. Thank you everyone for your support.

For Harvest 2025 we combined this celebration with a Flower Festival with the theme "All Things Bright and Beautiful". This was a great success with over 30 exhibits interpreting the theme and staged by both members of the congregation and outside organisations. The weekend was extremely busy with lots of visitors and over £2,000 was raised for church funds. Refreshments, a raffle and tombola contributed to the funds and were appreciated by the visitors.



Church flowers are an integral part of church life and we would welcome any new members to our team. If you would like to see how it's done, we are usually preparing the display on a Friday morning and would welcome anyone who might be interested to join us. You do not need to have any experience – just enthusiasm!

We are grateful to all the individual sponsors who have ensured the flowers incurred no cost to the church. A sheet is kept in the porch and anyone wishing to sponsor a week's flowers should put their name on the list.

Marion and Carol have continued to offer wedding couples their services to decorate the church for their wedding. This has resulted in extra funds being raised for church. They will continue to offer their services to wedding couples in 2024.

In December we again ran our popular Christmas Wreathmaking workshop in the Chapter House attended by 16 people, which was thoroughly enjoyed by all who came. We were able to give over £150 profits from the session to the church funds.

Carol Thompson

Little Fishes

We are continuing to have successful sessions of Little Fishes on Monday mornings in the Chapter House during term time.

Our numbers over the last year have been a little lower but this enables us to spend time with the mums and carers as well as the children.

We have a team of church members running Little Fishes which include Enid Clark and Lesley Coglan helped by Christine Denton and Jane Thompson and helped on occasions by Sophie Tucker our Childrens and families worker which makes it a viable and enjoyable activity.

The cost of £2.00 per session per child covers our expenses and includes tea/coffee for the adults, fruit for the children and a craft to take home. We have also been able to contribute to the church's heating expenses by £400 for 2025, which with maintaining our numbers, we should be able to continue this donation to the PCC.

We have met all the Mondays in term time with varying numbers with Mums, Dads, grandparents and carers, not knowing until children turn up how many we will have attending, with sometimes more grandparents than parents. The children are noticeably younger than prepandemic as they are leaving to go to nursery sessions younger.

We have toys, playdough, colouring sheets, jigsaws etc and pre-prepared crafts which the adults do with their children, fruit and water for the youngsters and tea or coffee for the adults which we encourage them to drink safely. Following this we have more constructive play, with tunnel, parachute and floor activities for the children to mix and share, with a story and music time concluding with a children's prayer.

We have a core of regular children who are able to play well together and hope to be able to continue Little Fishes safely, providing an outlet for mums, babies and toddlers at a small cost, with the children going home with a craft they have made themselves.

Enid Clark

Men's breakfast

Our Men's Breakfast has continued to meet on the first Saturday of the month throughout 2025. We have a consistent group of regulars which has been refreshed by a couple of new members this year.
We are indebted to David Golding and Gordon Impey who are our regular cooks and keep us well fed each month. Alongside our regular "Full English" breakfasts, we also experimented with a continental breakfast on one occasion which was a success and something that we may try again in the future.

This year, our talks were often shared by our "regulars". We heard stories from the pioneers of flight, watched a video of one of our members flying a gyrocopter (and landing it in a farmer's field!), heard stories from the floor of the London Stock Exchange and heard tales from the road from one of our group who travelled around the coast of the UK in a motorbike and sidecar!

We continue to make a charity donation from our surplus. This year we split the donation across two charities, a local one and an international one. £250 was donated to Impact, a local schools work charity based in Bedford. And £250 was donated to Mercy Ships, a global charity which brings free, life-changing surgeries to people through their hospital ships. We also had a collection of equipment for Tools With a Mission, another charity which repurposes tools and sends them to communities in Africa.

Revd Andy Jefferson
Assistant Curate

Messy Church

2025 was another good year for Messy Church. The numbers attending each session varied but were usually around 40 – 60 with an additional 13 – 16 helpers. Sophie has worked very hard to encourage and welcome new families, including a couple of families who attended Holiday Club and who now enjoy Messy Church too.

We continue to have a dedicated core team of amazing volunteers who are supplemented by various members of our church family at different sessions. Thank you very much to you all – both existing and new volunteers – you contribute so much to the smooth planning, preparation, running and clearing up of each session. Thank you to our small but very dedicated team of Young Leaders who give their time to help lead activities. Their hard work and enthusiasm is very much appreciated.

Each Messy Church in 2025 looked at a Hero of the Bible, including Noah, Moses, Daniel, Mary, Elizabeth and of course, Jesus. Activities varied enormously – trails and treasure hunts proved to be very popular both indoors and outside, when the weather allowed. We had a photo booth, which involved children demonstrating their super power to "lift up" other family members sitting on a bench! Marshmallow toasting proved to be a hit – the resulting Smores were eagerly devoured. A wide variety of crafts took place, along with games, quizzes, puzzles and fun challenges as well as quieter, thought provoking prayer activities in the vestry. On a couple of occasions families were able to meet and greet Bible characters and hear their story. Each session also included a food activity as the children made delicious sweet treats for their pudding.



Following each activity section everyone took part in a lively interactive worship session where we enjoyed some familiar songs and learnt new ones, found out more about the Bible heroes and prayed in a variety of ways.

Finally, each Messy Church ended with everyone enjoying a meal together – jacket potatoes with a variety of fillings, sausages, pasta and sauce, a summer picnic and in December a mini Christmas dinner themed meal all proved to be very popular, thanks to the amazing efforts of our kitchen team.
In 2026 we are enthusiastically looking forward to another year of Messy fun (with maybe just a little chaos thrown in!).

Jane Thompson

Mothers Union

The Flitwick branch of MU continues to meet each month in each other's homes for prayer, discussion and project work. We were especially delighted to enrol Revd, Claire as a member in November. This year we have also been on an outing to Hitchin Lavender, hosted Mary Sumner Day for our "West Cluster" of MU Parish Groups (which reaches from Harpenden to Luton, Leighton Buzzard and Flitwick), helped with teas at Churchfest, did a display for the Flower Festival, made posies for Mothering Sunday, celebrated Christmas with a meal out, prepared Christingle kits for the services on Christmas Eve, made memory books for use with memory loss sufferers and continued with sending baptism cards to those who joined the church family here in the previous three years. As well as our local activities we have also attended diocesan MU events and contributed to the outreach work, especially for the children resident in the women's refuges in our diocese.

2026 is the 150th anniversary of the beginning of MU so there will be even more going on including a service in St Paul's cathedral, a national gathering in London and an international gathering in South Africa!

Mary McKeand

Music in Church - Director of Music's Report 2025

Choir

Overall, choir membership stayed steady in 2025. One person returned to the choir while one person left. We had one new joiner in the autumn, but they haven't yet been able to attend regularly. We therefore now have five people who attend choir practice regularly (plus one who has attended occasionally) and two who join us once or twice a month on Sundays, giving a total of eight.

It remains a concern that while our choir are very dedicated and hard-working, there is little slack in the system in case of illness. If a choir is to be maintained at St Peter and St Paul, we do need more members.

On a brighter note, we have added to our list of Choir Friends who are able to join us for occasional evening services.

Regular activities

Continued use of the 'Successful Warmups' programme has further improved the choir's singing technique and confidence. The sound quality has improved significantly over the year and we now regularly sing in two or three parts, enabling us to include lower parts in more hymns, carols and anthems. We continue to sing in a wide variety of church music styles, including worship songs, choruses, Taizé chants and music from Iona as well as traditional hymns.

Special Services

In March, we sang Evensong for the first time in many years. We were joined by the choir of St Andrew's Ampthill for this service and there was a good number of people in the congregation. It is hoped that we will be able to join with Ampthill and Maulden choirs regularly in future. The choir also sang for services on Ash Wednesday and Maundy Thursday and joined the choir of St Andrew's Ampthill for the combined Ascension Day service.

In the Autumn, we held a 'Singing the Seasons' service as part of the flower festival. We were joined for this by St Andrew's choir, our Choir Friends and we also extended an invitation to any other local singers who would like to come. This attracted one person who has subsequently joined our choir friends.

Some choir friends also joined us for 'In Loving Memory', the Carol Service, which was a particular highlight, and Midnight Mass. It was particularly good to have a number of members of the Music Group join the Choir Friends and take part in the Carol Service.

The Organ

Most services were accompanied by Martin Pacey on the organ with John Mower and Richard Luscombe deputising on occasion.

Over the summer, the PCC agreed to purchase an adjustable organ bench to make it possible for shorter people to play the organ pedals safely. It was gratifying that the DAC supported our faculty application, commending us for this initiative, and that the Diocesan Registrar approved the application without it having to go through the full faculty process. The bench was built during the autumn (and delivered in Jan 2026).

Handbells

Having lost a number of key handbell ringers over the past two years and with everyone so busy in the run-up to Christmas, we were unable to incorporate handbells into our Christmas services this year. If anyone is interested in forming a regular handbell group, please let us know!

Becky Mynett

Music Group

It has been a busy year for the Music Group. All Together services continue to be our main activity, not only through accompanying congregational worship, but also by choosing solo communion songs sensitive to the theme of each service. At present, we have seven regular members, for whose commitment we are extremely grateful. Seven is the maximum possible number within the present space, so we live in hope that the coming year will see the arrival of chairs, to give us much more flexibility!

Members of the music group have also been involved, either instrumentally, or vocally, in Sunday@7, Healing Services, Care Home Christmas Services, Beer and Carols, Candlelight Service, Christingle Services, and the special Singing the Seasons, Baby Loss and Pet services. Overall, within the past couple of years, commitments have doubled, which can be challenging to manage at times, but are symbolic of so much encouraging change within the church.

We look forward to another full and active year!

Richard Luscombe

Worship Band

With specific regard to Sunday@7, a monthly Sunday evening service utilising more modern worship songs and an informal style, we have had a regular team of 4 or 5 featuring guitar, bass, keyboard and vocals. We lead the worship as a team and I am grateful for the musicianship and sensitivity on display as musicians and singers need to very much improvise their contributions and listen to each other and to the Holy Spirit. We believe and hope that the congregation finds a new experience of God through Sunday@7 worship. I would love to develop the team further should PA capacity allow.

Jeremy Dann

Pilgrimage

For the second-year running, we had our Pilgrimage Walk from Flitwick to St Albans Cathedral. Setting off from the Church, we soon encountered an unfriendly cow! Andy managed to show his matador skills by evading the cow as it wanted to head butt him. Trev Simkins was not so fortunate as the cow skimmed his leg.



The first leg was to Harlington. The second leg took us to Luton where Andy found a “short cut” to our accommodation. The only issue was that most of this was uphill! With some of the team coming back to Flitwick for a good night's sleep, six of us stayed in St Anne’s Church Hall. We all joined up again in the morning. We welcomed Archdeacon Dave.

A walk into Harpenden, where we met up with some other members of the team and we were off again. A slight change in the route which included crossing a main road in small groups. We arrived at the Cathedral and found where the front of the queue was going to be. We marked that spot and led the Pilgrimage into the Cathedral.

Nigel Taylor

Puppet Power

Puppet Power continues to attract young people… After a Christmas Eve Christingle service puppet performance, a year 8 boy asked about joining the puppet group. His family are now regularly attending church and he is starting to attend Y:MaaC.

Our young people did another amazing job with the puppet performances during the packed-out Christingle Services. The rehearsals through December were arranged around the children's busy calendars with varying numbers at each, yet the performance came together as though they had been practicing as a team for months.



A special thank you goes out to the George family who produced the backing track for the 12 days of Christmas rewrite. The recording required a particular number of voices at various times in the song, each with their own style to reflect the puppet that would be singing that part. It was not easy, but they rose to the challenge and gave us a wonderful backing track to work with.

The Puppeteers have also performed at various All Together services for which the rehearsal is now 9am THAT MORNING! The song is shared on whatsapp along with a script but the only time they go through the song together is that morning. And me being me, there is invariably a prop or costume change involved but they come ready to give anything a go and offer up ideas to make the piece work even better. I am so immensely proud of their dedication to this ministry and how maturely they take on this responsibility.

*Having rehearsals at 9am on Sunday morning does mean that I am unable to attend Junior Park Run on the first Sunday of the month as previously hoped. I wonder if someone else might like to build a connection there?

Sophie Tucker
Children & Families Worker

Rock Solid

We started the year by looking at what it really means to be the Body of Christ, at Church. We explored who God calls us to be when we are together. We also unpacked how we respond to God and how we celebrate Jesus' life, death and resurrection. Fruit salads, paper boats, chocolate coins and playdough scenes all helped us bring our learning to life.

Next, we studied the Life of Jesus through the parables. We found out how Jesus used storytelling to flesh out and emphasise his most important teaching points. Highlights included making sheep biscuits and prayerful pizzas!

The next ten weeks were spent looking at the Ten Commandments. We took each one of these classic teachings and explored how they are still relevant to our lives. We enjoyed painting stones with the name of a person we wanted to pray for and planting crocus bulbs over the top of something we covet.

This term we will be looking at the characters of the Bible from Adam and Eve, through Abraham and Moses and forward to Deborah, Ruth and David. We are creating a timeline of characters to better understand how the Bible fits together, and we will enjoy finding out what these characters can teach us about being a Christian.

Rock Solid is ably supported by a wonderful team of leaders who enjoy spending their Sunday morning teaching and learning alongside the young people of our congregation. We pray that the children benefit from their wisdom and feel fulfilled by the stories and activities we carefully choose each week.

Emma Herman

Study Groups / Alpha / Bible Book Club / Connect Groups

At the beginning of 2025 our Bible Book Club was born. It has been an amazing year of reading and coming together to discuss Old and New Testament books. This has been both eye opening and challenging in our conversations each month. Of the 66 books of the bible, we have read nine of them already! We meet monthly on a Wednesday lunchtime and a Thursday evening.

Alpha 2025 was a small group we journeyed with over ten weeks, discovering more about the Christian faith. It was wonderful to get to know each other so well over this time and the relationships that grew have continued on.

There is one 'Connect Group' who meet regularly to scrapbook and spend time sharing and supporting each other through their Christian lives.

Revd Claire Harald
Vicar

Sunday@7

Sunday@7 is our informal evening service which takes place usually on the evening of the third Sunday of each month. It is contemporary in style and features worship songs led by Jeremy Dann and our worship band. It also features 20-minute sermons which this past year have explored themes from the John Mark Comer book "Practicing the Way". These themes have included:

Do as he did
Rule of Life
Take up your cross
Sabbath
Solitude
Prayer
Fasting
Scripture
Community
Generosity
Christmas special

We have a small but faithful community of worshipers who join us. The age range is broad with a small number of under 16s attending as well as some young adults. We are also often joined by a group from Westoning Church who enjoy the contemporary style. This service has also been a great opportunity to develop leaders and preachers with new people taking the opportunity to get involved in the service.

In December, a small team of us undertook an in-house prayer ministry training based on a HTB model. The aim of this is to help us develop our prayer ministry offering at Sunday@7, increasing the size of the team, and ensuring that our approach is in line with appropriate safeguarding standards.

Revd Andy Jefferson
Assistant Curate

Walkie/Talkie Walking Group



We continued with the second Saturday in the month walk and talk. These are great opportunities to find out about other people and to chat generally. This year several of our walks took us out of the Parish. One of the highlights was to walk and talk on the same day the bike and hike took place. Our walk meant that we could visit four Churches in Flitwick, three in Ampthill, two in Maulden and one in Flitton. Some of the team were sponsored to raise money for the Historic Churches Trust.

Nigel Taylor

YMAAC

YMAAC, or 'Youth Messing Around at Church', is our youth group for 11-18 year olds that meets every Sunday evening (except on a Sunday@7 night)! We have a great group of six young people who come each week.

We begin our evenings with a meal, often a 'Pasta station' or 'Build your own Toastie' table and we chat about how we are all doing, what we've been up to and there is often a 'table question' for us to think about before we start our evening. At each Y:MaaC session we study a part of the bible before we head into activities and games.



Born out of a conversation we had with the young people at our Christmas sleepover… in February the young people led our 10.30am communion service. This was deeply appreciated by the congregation and also something the young people really embraced. They led us beautifully in our worship.

In the Summer, we took the young people to Boyd Campsite in Henlow for two nights camping. We had a fantastic time together, not only at the inflatable water park, campfires and singing in the gazebo through a downpour(!) but also as we learnt more about how we navigate our lives with Jesus at the very centre.



We held a few movie nights through the year, where we would watch a film, eat pizza and see how this film spoke into how we live out our Christian lives.

As has seemingly been adopted by Y:MaaC as 'tradition'… we once again had a youth Christmas sleepover… this time in church as the heating was working! Fish n chips, games, a Christmas movie, popcorn and a little bit of sleep was enjoyed by all!

Revd Claire Harald
Vicar

Flitwick Church
St Peter and St Paul

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF
THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF
FLITWICK

REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDING

31 DECEMBER 2025

CONTENTS

	Page
Trustees Report	2 - 7
Independent Examiner's Report	8
Statement of Financial Activities	9
Balance Sheet	10
Notes to the Financial Statements	11 - 17

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Flitwick, is registered with the Charity Commissioners for England and Wales (Charity no. 1169624)

Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Flitwick

TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR YEAR ENDING 31 DECEMBER 2025

Aim and Purpose

The Parochial Church Council has the responsibility of co-operating with the Incumbent and promoting in the ecclesiastical parish of Flitwick the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. It also has the responsibility for the maintenance of the Parish Church and Chapter House.

Objectives and Activities

When planning our activities for the year, we have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and, in particular, the supplementary guidance on charities for the advancement of religion. In particular, we try to enable all people to be able to live out their faith as part of our parish community through:

- Worship and prayer, learning about the Gospel: developing knowledge and trust in Jesus.
- Provision of pastoral care for people living in the parish
- Missionary and outreach work
- The ministry and administration of significant life events; weddings, baptisms, and funerals.

Achievements and Performance

Sophie Tucker continues her employment as Children and Families Worker. She successfully ran a holiday club during May half term, which was much enjoyed by all the children, and this will go on to be an annual event.

On the one Sunday each month where we have our All-Together Service, a 9am said Communion service was introduced for those who wish to worship in a more reflective style.

We held our first Pet Service outside the Church building, which was attended by a variety of pets and their owners; we hope this will be an annual event.

'ChurchFest', our Flower Festival and the 'Sunday School Bangers' events were a great success this year in engaging with our community and with people of all ages.

Worship and Prayer

During the year we have continued to offer two services on a Sunday morning : a Sunday Celebration service for all ages at 9am held either in the Chapter House or on the lawn depending on the weather, and a Parish Eucharist at 10.30am in Church which is live streamed. Monthly we hold an informal Sunday@7 service. Our average attendance throughout the year at Sunday morning services was 80 adults and 14 children.

On the first Sunday of the month, we hold an All-Together service at 10.30am which is designed to engage people of all ages in worship. Refreshments are served following each service.

Morning Prayer is held on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday led by one of the Ministry team.
On Wednesday at 10am we hold a said communion service followed by refreshments.

Our Children's Group, Rock Solid, is held during the Sunday morning 10.30am service and our Youth Group, YMAC (Youth messing about at Church) meet each Sunday evening.

Special services throughout the year included all Easter services, including a communion service held in a parishioner's home; In Loving Memory; Baby Loss Service; Midnight Mass and a traditional Carol Service. We also held two Christingle services on Christmas Eve afternoon.

During the Christmas period, local Lower Schools were welcomed into the Church for a variety of Christmas celebrations. The Ministry Team also went into Woodland Middle School for their Christingle services.

Every Tuesday people are invited to meet at church at 1pm to pray for the world, its needs, its people and the church. There is also a prayer group WhatsApp that pray for Alpha and specific church needs.

Pastoral Offices

The following pastoral services were taken this year:

Type of Service	2025	2024
Funerals	18	13
Baptisms	7	18
Weddings	7	2

Pastoral Care:

Members of the congregation and the Ministry team regularly visit those from the Parish who are unwell, housebound or in hospital, often taking the form of a home Communion. In addition, a service of Holy Communion is celebrated at local care homes monthly. This year also included carol services at these homes.

Mission and Evangelism:

The "Open the Book" team regularly visited schools to take assemblies throughout the year. The team also took an 'Easter Journey' in to teach the Easter story to children in an interactive way. Harvest, Christmas and Easter services were taken into schools by our incumbent and Children and Families Worker.

Our Eco-church team is fully active, ensuring that the church keeps up-to-date with new directives.

As a Church we continue to make regular contributions to the Need Project food bank, as well as raising money for other charities carrying out God's work. This year once again donations were made to the Centre Point homeless charity and the Bishops Harvest Appeal.

Messy Church, our outreach service to families, meets every half term and continues to flourish.

Flitwick Food Extra (FFX) continued throughout the year; it provides local families with food boxes during the school holidays, the boxes consisting of lots of fresh produce and recipe cards. When families came to collect the boxes this year, they were able to join in with various activities we had laid on for them, and refreshments were also provided.

Ecumenical Relationships:

The church is a member of Churches Together in Ampthill and Flitwick, and we are continuing to build strong relationships with all the churches in our town.

General Synod

We have one member from our Church representing us on the General Synod, which entitles them to be a member of the PCC, and thus provides us with up-to-date reports.

Diocesan Synod

We have two members from our Church representing us on the Diocesan Synod, which entitles them to be members of the PCC, and thus provides us with up-to-date reports.

Deanery Synod:

We have three members from our church on the Deanery Synod, which also entitles them to be on the PCC, and thus provides us with up-to-date reports.

The contact with the Synod provides the PCC with an important link between the parish and the wider structures of the Church.

Buildings:

Routine maintenance of our building continues where possible.

Financial Review:

Income and Expenditure:

Description	2025	2024
Income	£133,489	£390,549
Expenditure	£134,080	£110,036
Surplus/(Deficit)	£(591)	£280,513

Included under Income for 2024 is £305,828 that relates to the proceeds of the sale of St Andrews Church Hall. The rights to this fund were transferred from the Vicar & Churchwardens to the Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical parish of Flitwick during 2024.

Giving:

Type of Stewardship/Giving	Dec 2025	Dec 2024
Number of Parishioners who support our church via the monthly Parish Giving Scheme.	61	47
Number of Parishioners who support our church via a monthly/weekly standing order.	13	15
Number of Parishioners who support our church via the regular Envelope scheme.	4	4

To ease the administration burden on our church and to improve cash flow, we actively ask parishioners to consider moving to the Parish Giving Scheme. This year we reviewed the profile of our Stewardship income, and asked parishioners to consider increasing their giving and changing to the Parish Giving Scheme. The results exceeded our expectations, with parishioners being extremely generous for which we thank them.

Reserves:

It is the PCC's policy to try to maintain a balance on free reserves, which equates to between three and six months of unrestricted payments. This is equivalent to approximately £33,520 to £67,040, and is held to smooth out fluctuations in cash flow and to meet emergencies. The balance of the free reserves (unrestricted reserves which have not been designated by the PCC for use for other purposes) at the year-end was £308,215 (at 31st December 2024 : £308,806).

Our PCC legacy policy is to use legacy gifts to help fund significant development projects, whether buildings, equipment, mission or staff. The PCC has created a designated Legacy Reserve Fund to separate legacy donations from free reserves. Use of Legacy Reserves to fund specific projects requires approval of the PCC via a PCC resolution. At the year-end, the Legacy reserve stood at £24,125 (at 31st December 2024 : £24,125).

The restricted reserves of £26,298 (at 31st December 2024 : £24,892) can only be spent for the purposes for which they were originally donated.

The endowment reserves £12,055 (at 31st December2024 : £12,557) are a special kind of restricted fund that must be retained permanently as capital. The income on the PCC's endowment reserves can only be spent on fabric related items and is paid into the restricted Chancel and Fabric repair funds.

It is our policy to invest cash balances over and above those required to fund day-to-day expenditure with the CCLA Church of England Deposit Fund. Endowment funds are invested in the CCLA Church of England Investment Fund.

Structure, governance and management

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Peter & St Paul, Flitwick is a corporate body established by the Church of England. The PCC operates under the Parochial Church Council Powers Measures. The PCC is registered with the Charity Commissioners for England and Wales (Charity no. 1169624)

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church representation Rules. In this parish, the membership of the PCC consists of the incumbent, members of the Ministry team, members of Deanery Synod and members elected by those members of the congregation who are on the electoral roll of the Parish.

Administrative Information

The Parish Church of St Peter and St Paul is situated on Church Road, Flitwick, Bedfordshire MK45 1AE. The Parish is part of the Diocese of St Albans within the Church of England. The correspondence address is : The Vicarage, 26 Dew Pond Road, Flitwick, Bedford, MK45 1RT.

The following have served as members of the PCC during the calendar year ending 31 December 2025.

Incumbent	Rev Claire Harald	
Curate	Rev Andy Jefferson	
Licensed to the Church	Sophie Tucker	
Church Warden	Linda Foale	
Church Warden	Richard Fullbrook	Until 14/05/25
Church Warden	Chris Macintosh	From 14/05/25
General Synod	Becky Mynett	
Diocesan Synod	Paul Hodgkinson	Appointed 11/05/2025
Diocesan Synod	Emma Herman	
Deanery Synod	Tony Brown	
Deanery Synod	David Watson	
Deanery Synod	Nik Farrington - Sharp	
Treasurer	Terry Thurley	Resigned 14/05/25 as treasurer, still a member of PCC
	Peter Wood	Appointed 11/05/25
Secretary	Nigel Taylor	
Safeguarding	Jane Thompson	
Deputy Church Warden	David Golding	Resigned 14/05/25
Deputy Church Warden	Chris Macintosh	Until 14/05/25
Deputy Church Warden	Matt Swansbury	Appointed 11/05/25

PCC Members	Ciaran Diver	
	Jo Farrington-Sharp	
	Mary McKeand	
	Jeremy Dann	
	Carol Thompson	
	Emma Williams	Resigned 14/05/25
	Emma Gleeson	
	Ian Cook	Appointed 11/05/25
	Jo Lacey	Appointed 01/07/25

Report approved by the PCC on 10th March, 2026 and signed on their behalf by:



Rev Claire Harald
Chair of the Trustees



Linda Foale
Churchwarden

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

Report to the Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Flitwick. Charity Number 1169624

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the PCC") for the year ended 31 December 2025, set out on pages 9 to 17.

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 PCC's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

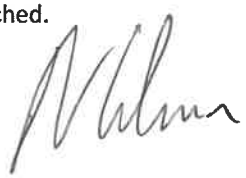
Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination.

I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination 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.



Date 10th March, 2026

Natalie Coleman FCCA
Chartered Certified Accountant
24 Dew Pond Road
Flitwick
Bedford
MK45 1RT

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31 DECEMBER 2025

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	2025 Totals £	2024 Totals £
Income and Endowments:	**2**					
• Grants		0	0	0	0	1,500
• Donations & Legacies		94,758	3,947	0	98,705	357,996
• Income from Church Activities		6,469	0	0	6,469	4.239
• Activities for Generating Funds		14,452	0	0	14,452	6,805
• Income from Investments		17,810	0	0	17,810	23,196
Total Income:		**£133,489**	**£3,947**	**£0**	**£137,436**	**£393,736**
Expenditure on:	**3**					
• Expenditure on Church Activities		132,733	198	0	132,931	109,090
• Charitable Expenditures		1,347	2,343	0	3,690	5,187
Total Expenditure:		**£134,080**	**£2,541**	**£0**	**£136,621**	**£114,277**
Net (Deficit)/Gain before investment gains /(losses)		**£(591)**	**£1,406**	**£0**	**£815**	**£279,459**
Transfers between funds		**£0**	**£ 0**	**£0**	**£0**	**£0**
Other recognised gains/losses		**£0**	**£0**	**£0**	**£0**	**£0**
Unrealised Gains/(Losses) on investment assets		0	0	(502)	(502)	282
Net movement in funds		**£(591)**	**£1,406**	**£(502)**	**£313**	**£279,741**
Reconciliation of funds:						
Total funds brought forward		**£332,931**	**24,892**	**£12,557**	**£370,380**	**£90,639**
Total funds carried forward		**£332,340**	**£26,298**	**£12,055**	**£370,693**	**£370,380**

The notes on pages 11 to 17 form part of these financial statements

Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Flitwick

BALANCE SHEET AT 31 DECEMBER 2025

		2025		2024	
	Note	**£**	**£**	**£**	**£**
Fixed Assets:					
Tangible assets	7	534		801	
Endowment investments	8	12,055		12,557	
Total Fixed Assets			**£12,589**		**£13,358**
Current Assets:					
Cash at bank and in hand	9	360,875		357,366	
Debtors & prepayments	10	3,859		2,101	
Total Current Assets			**£364,734**		**£359,467**
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	11		**£6,630**		**£2,445**
Net Current Assets:			**£358,104**		**£357,022**
Total Net Assets			**£370,693**		**£370,380**
The Funds of the Charity:					
General (Unrestricted)	12	308,215		308,806	
Legacy (Designated)	12	24,125		24,125	
Restricted	13	26,298		24,892	
Endowment	14	12,055		12,557	
Total Funds of the Charity			**£370,693**		**£370,380**

Approved by the PCC on 10th March, 2026 and signed on their behalf by :

Rev Claire Harald
Chair of the Trustees

Linda Foale
Churchwarden

Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Flitwick

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31 DECEMBER 2025

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparation:

The PCC is a public benefit entity within the meaning of FRS102. The financial statements have been prepared under the Charities Act 2011 and in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 governing the individual accounts of PCCs, and with the Regulations' "true and fair view" provisions, together with FRS102 as the applicable accounting standards and the Statement of Recommended Practice, Accounting and Reporting by Charities (SORP(FRS102)).

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention except for the valuation of investment assets, which are shown at fair value.

Income and Endowments:

Recognition: These are included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) when:

1. the PCC becomes legally entitled to the use of the resources; and
2. inflow of economic benefit is probable; and
3. the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Fund Raising: Funds raised from events and trading activities are reported gross in the SOFA – i.e., before any related costs that may have been incurred have been deducted from the gross proceeds.

Grants and donations: Grants and donations are included in the SOFA when any preconditions preventing their use by the PCC have been met. Collections and planned giving are included when the funds are received.

Gift Aid Tax claims, etc., on cash donations: Gift Aid and other tax claims are included in the SOFA at the same time as the cash donations to which they relate.

Investment gains and losses: This includes any gain or loss on the sale of investments and any gain or loss resulting from revaluing investments to market value at the end of the year.

Expenditure & Liabilities:

Liability Recognition: Liabilities are recognised as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation and settlement is probable and quantifiable.

Assets:

Consecrated and benefice property: In so far as consecrated and benefice property of any kind is excluded from the statutory definition of "charity" by Section 10(2) (a) and (c) of the Charities Act 2011 such assets are not capitalised in the financial statements.

Tangible fixed assets for use by charity: These are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year, and cost at least £400. They are valued at cost.

Depreciation is calculated to write off the capitalized cost of fixed assets less their currently anticipated residual fair value over their estimated useful lives as follows:

- Office equipment and lawn mower - 5 years

Investments: Investments quoted on a recognised stock exchange or whose value derives from them are valued at market value at the year end.

Short term deposits: Include cash held on deposit either with the CBF Church of England Funds or at the bank.

Funds:

Unrestricted Funds: These represent the funds of the PCC that are available for spending on the general purposes of the PCC, including amounts designated by the PCC for fixed assets for its own use or for spending on future projects.

Designated Funds: These represent unrestricted funds that are set aside for a designated purpose.

Restricted Funds: These are income funds that must be spent on restricted purposes and details of the funds held and restrictions provided are shown in the notes to the accounts.

Endowment Funds: These are restricted funds that must be retained as trust capital either permanently or subject to a discretionary power to spend capital as income, and where the use of any income or other benefit derived from the capital may be restricted or unrestricted. Full details of their restrictions are shown in note 14.

	Unrestricted Funds		Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Totals	
2. Income & Endowments	**General**	**Designated**			**2025**	**2024**
	£	**£**	**£**	**£**	**£**	**£**
Grants						
St Albans Diocese re Easter & Christmas Journey/Play	0	0	0	0	0	500
St Albans Diocese re New Styles of Ministry	0	0	0	0	0	1,000
St Albans Diocese	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Grants Received	**£0**	**£0**	**£0**	**£0**	**£0**	**£1,500**
Donations & Legacies						
Parish Giving Scheme	34,156	0	0	0	34,156	30,973
Regular Stewardship (Gift Aided)	8,304	0	0	0	8,304	8,399
Regular Stewardship (Not Gift Aided)	1,122	0	0	0	1,122	1,127
Donations (Gift Aided)	6,475	0	0	0	6,475	3,882
Donations (Not Gift Aided)	5,224	0	30	0	5,224	5,172
Sum Up (Donation machine)	3,323	0	0	0	3,323	4,086
Charities Aid Foundation	850	0	0	0	850	600
Candle Stand Donations	440	0	0	0	440	164
Gift Aid Tax Reclaim	12,701	0	0	0	12,701	10,988
Philippian Trust	1,530	0	0	0	1,530	1,300
Little Fishes	150	0	0	0	150	300
Donation Ecclesiastical Insurance Co	0	0	0	0	0	260
Sponsored Bike Ride	442	0	0	0	442	160
Wreath Making Course	234	0	0	0	234	184
Children's Society	464	0	0	0	464	0
Church Flowers	0	0	272	0	272	0
Bishop's Harvest Appeal	219	0	0	0	219	0
Sunday School Fund (see Note 15)	19,000	0	0	0	19,000	0
Centre Point Donation	124	0	0	0	124	0
Historic Churches Trust	0	0	0	0	0	0
Donations	0	0	0	0	0	0
FXX (Flitwick Food Extra)	0	0	3,675	0	3,675	3,157
Proceeds from sale of St Andrews Hall	0	0	0	0	0	287,244
Total Donations & Legacies	**£94,758**	**£0**	**£3,947**	**£0**	**£98,705**	**£357,996**
Income from Church Activities						
Weddings	2,759	0	0	0	2,759	2,254
Funerals	3,710	0	0	0	3,710	1,985
Total Income from Church Activities	**£6,469**	**£0**	**£0**	**£0**	**£6,469**	**£4,239**

	Unrestricted Funds		Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Totals	
	General	Designated			2025	2024
Activities for Generating Funds						
Men's Breakfast Club	895	0	0	0	895	358
Quiz	305	0	0	0	305	93
Fun Day	191	0	0	0	191	161
Church Festival	1,352	0	0	0	1,352	252
Lettings Chapter House	6,860	0	0	0	6,860	3,609
Village Hall Coffee Morning	660	0	0	0	660	375
Refreshments	860	0	0	0	860	536
Craft Fair	0	0	0	0	0	1,306
Sale of keyboard	0	0	0	0	0	115
School Assembly Anthems	526	0	0	0	526	0
Flower Festival	2,420	0	0	0	2,420	0
Messy Church	211	0	0	0	211	0
Tonkin Memorial	172	0	0	0	172	0
Total Activities for Generating Funds	**£14,452**	**£0**	**£0**	**£0**	**£14,452**	**£6,805**
Income from Investments						
Interest from CCLA/CBF Funds (See notes 9 & 16)	17,810	0	0	0	17,810	23,196
Total Income from Investments	**£17,810**	**£0**	**£0**	**£0**	**£17,810**	**£23,196**
Total Income (Grants/Donations/Church Activities/Activities to Generate Funds/Interest/Dividends	**£133,489**	**£0**	**£3,947**	**£0**	**£137,436**	**£393,736**

***Included in the 2024 Accounts under Donations is £287,444 and under Interest £18,384 that relate to the proceeds of the sale of St Andrews Church Hall. The rights to this fund were transferred from the Vicar & Churchwardens to the Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Flitwick during 2024.**

	Unrestricted Funds		Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Totals	
	General	Designated			2025	2024
	£	£	£	£		£
3. Expenditure:						
Expenditure on Church Activities:						
Parish Share	68,547	0	0	0	68,547	66,177
Parish Clergy Expenses	0	0	0	0	0	203
Worship Supplies & Costs of Services	796	0	0	0	796	735
Mission	1,035	0	0	0	1,035	589
Safeguarding	0	0	0	0	0	30
Messy Church	204	0	0	0	204	71
Churches Together (Ampthill & Flitwick)	50	0	0	0	50	50
Light Party	0	0	0	0	0	26
Upkeep of Churchyard	139	0	0	0	139	98
Music	5,095	0	0	0	5,095	5,172
Salaries	30,919	0	0	0	30,919	13,106
Light/Heat/Water	6,562	0	0	0	6,562	7,157
Youth Bibles	0	0	0	0	0	784
Eco Church	55	0	0	0	55	52
Broadband/Office Software/Zoom/Printing/Postage & Stationery	4,011	0	0	0	4,011	3,759
Cleaning	1,531	0	0	0	1,531	1,396
Repairs & Maintenance	7,344	0	0	0	7,344	5,538
Insurance	2,463	0	0	0	2,463	2,343
Depreciation	267	0	0	0	267	267
Bank Charges	120	0	0	0	120	120
Training Family Worker	18	0	0	0	18	271
Alpha Course	44	0	0	0	44	149
Rock Solid	482	0	0	0	482	77
A Frame – Pavement Sign	0	0	0	0	0	86
YMACC (Youth Messing Around in Church)	22	0	0	0	22	29
Sophie's Robes	0	0	0	0	0	421
NOSH	50	0	0	0	50	220
First Aid Kit	0	0	0	0	0	85
Readers Training	0	0	0	0	0	79
Church Flowers	0	0	198	0	198	0
Refreshments	454	0	0	0	454	0
Architect's Fees	1,098	0	0	0	1,098	0
Church Fest	588	0	0	0	588	0
School Assembly Anthems	536	0	0	0	536	0
Flower Festival	303	0	0	0	303	0
Expenditure on Church Activities:	**£132,733**	**£0**	**£198**	**£0**	**£132,931**	**£109,090**

3.Expenditure (cont.):	Unrestricted Funds		Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Totals	
	General	Designated			2025	2024
Charitable Expenditure						
Bishop's Harvest Appeal (Leprosy Mission)	219	0	0	0	219	184
Donation from Men's Breakfast Club (Mercy Ships & Impact Bedford)	500	0	0	0	500	140
Centre Point (Youth Homeless)	124	0	0	0	124	140
Christingle (Children's Society)	464	0	0	0	464	268
Beds & Herts Historic Trust	40	0	0	0	40	40
Collection Confirmation Service	0	0	0	0	0	174
FFX Flitwick Food Extra	0	0	2,343	0	2,343	3,781
Choir Fund	0	0	0	0	0	460
Total Charitable Expenditure	**£1,347**	**£0**	**£2,343**	**£0**	**£3,690**	**£5,187**
Total Expenditure	**£134,080**	**£0**	**£2,541**	**£0**	**£136,621**	**£114,277**

4	Staff Costs & Employee Benefits	2025	2024
	Wages & Salaries	£30,919	£13,106
	Employees	3	3
	During the year the PCC employed two part-time staff (Director of Music and Parish Administrator) and a full-time Children and Families Worker. The Church contributes to a NEST Pension for the Children and Families Worker. No employee received employee benefits for the year of more than £60,000.		

5	Transactions with Trustees
	During the year the Rev'd Claire Harald, chair of the PCC, received a total of £0 (2024: £203) of expenses related to her duties within the parish. All expenses are consistent with Church of England guidance on the parochial expenses of clergy. During the year members of the PCC, were reimbursed for expenditure incurred as agents on behalf of the PCC. These payments were recorded in the accounts under the relevant expenditure category.

6	Independent Examiners Remuneration:
	The Independent Examiner was not remunerated for her work on the 2025 accounts (2024 £Nil).

7	Tangible Fixed Assets	Office Equipment	Lawn Mower	Total
	Cost			
	At 1st January 2025	£2,590	£925	£3,515
	Additions	0	0	0
	Disposals	0	0	0
	At 31st December 2025	**£2,590**	**£925**	**£3,515**
	Depreciation			
	At 1st January 2025	£2,344	£370	£2,714
	Depreciation	£82	£185	£267
	Disposals	0	0	0
	At 31st December 2025	**£2,426**	**£555**	**£2,981**
	Net Book Value at 1st January 2025	**£246**	**£555**	**£801**
	Net Book Value at 31st December 2025	**£164**	**£370**	**£534**

8	Endowments	Value 1st January 2025	Increase / (Decrease) in Value	Value 31st December 2025
	Brooks Fabric Endowment Fund	6,336	(253)	6,083
	Byron Endowment Fund	347	(14)	333
	Chancel Endowment Fund	5,874	(235)	5,639
	Total	**£12,557**	**£(502)**	**£12,055**

9	Cash at bank & in hand	2025	2024
	Short Term Deposit Accounts (see below)	£357,388	£352,722
	Cash at bank and in hand	£3,487	£4,644
		£360,875	**£357,366**
	Short Term Deposits includes, £319,459 being the net sales proceeds and accumulated interest from the sale of St Andrews Hall. Please refer to note 16 for further information.		

10	Debtors and Prepayments	2025	2024
	Debtors & Prepayments	£3,859	£2,101
		£3,859	**£2,101**
11	**Creditors and Accruals**	**2025**	**2024**
	Creditors & Accruals	£6,630	2,445
		£6,630	**£2,445**

12	Funds of The Charity	1st Jan 2025	Income	Expend	Transfers	31st Dec 2025
	General Fund	308,806	133,489	(134,080)	0	308,215
	Legacy Fund (Designated)	24,125	0	0	0	24,125
	Total Unrestricted Funds	**£332,931**	**£133,489**	**£(134,080)**	**0**	**£332,340**
	Legacy funds are used to help fund significant projects, whether building, equipment, mission or staff.					

13	Restricted Funds	1st Jan 2025	Income	Expend	Transfers	Gains/ (Losses)	31st Dec 2025
	Religious Education Fund	6,992	0	0	0	0	6,992
	Lych Gate Repair Fund	3,751	0	0	0	0	3,751
	Fabric Repair Fund	3,189	0	0	0	0	3,189
	Bell Fund	3,501	0	0	0	0	3,501
	FFX (Flitwick Food Extra)	4,162	3,675	(2,343)	0	0	5,494
	Furnishing Fund	1,673	0	0	0	0	1,673
	Choir Fund	369	0	0	0	0	369
	Chancel Fabric Fund	536	0	0	0	0	536
	Pither Legacy (Charitable uses in Parish) Fund	476	0	0	0	0	476
	Appeals for Charity Fund	183	0	0	0	0	183
	Church Flowers Fund	60	272	(198)	0	0	134
	Total	**£24,892**	**£3,947**	**(£2,541)**	**£0**	**£0**	**£26,298**

Restricted Funds have been donated to the PCC for the specific purposes, and may only be used for the purpose for which they were donated.	
Religious Education Fund	Represents the accumulated income from the Old School Endowment, a separate charity of which the Vicar and Churchwardens are Trustees. The income of such Endowment Funds is restricted by an Act of Parliament and can only be used for Religious Education.
Lych Gate Repair Fund	Represents amounts donated to fund the repairs to the Lych Gate in 2018/19. The remaining balance will be spent on completion of the planned repairs and future repairs to the Lych Gate.
Fabric Repair Fund	Represents amounts donated by individuals, as well as the Friends of Flitwick Church and is restricted to expenditure on the fabric of the church building (including the Chapter House) and the Churchyard.
Bell Fund	Is restricted to repairs and maintenance of the Bells and other Bellringing expenses.
FFX (Flitwick Food Extra)	Is the balance of the FFX Fund.
Furnishing Fund	Is restricted to expenditure on furnishings for the Church and Chapter House.
Choir Fund	Represents donations by individuals for Choir related expenditure.
Chancel Fabric Fund	Is restricted by the Ecclesiastical Dilapidations Measure 1923 to repairs to the Church Building and Churchyard.
Pither Legacy (Charitable uses in Parish) Fund	Is restricted to charitable use within the Parish and is spent at the discretion of the incumbent.
Appeals for Charity Fund	Represents collections for specific Charities which have yet to be paid to the Charity.
Church Flowers Fund	Represents donations to the Church Flower Fund, which is administered by the Flower Arrangers.

14	**Endowment Funds/Fixed Asset Investments**	**1st Jan 2025**	**Expend**	**Transfers**	**Unrealised Gains/ (Losses)**	**31st Dec 2025**
	Brooks Legacy Endowment (Fabric)	6,336	0	0	(253)	6,083
	Byron Bequest Endowment (Fabric)	347	0	0	(14)	333
	Chancel Endowment Fund (Chancel Fabric)	5,874	0	0	(235)	5,639
	Total	**£12,557**	**£0**	**£0**	**£(502)**	**£12,055**

15	**Old Sunday School Fund:**
	When the Old Sunday School was sold, the proceeds were placed in Trust with the Diocese. The Funds were to be used for the *"purpose of religious education of the children of Flitwick"*. The Vicar and Churchwardens decide how the monies should be spent, not the Parochial Church Council (PCC). An application was made to the Charity Commissioners to widen the scope of the Fund. The Charity Commissioners approved our application. The Fund can now be used to employ a Children and Families Worker, to promote Religious Education in Flitwick. A total of £19,000 was withdrawn from this account during the year as a contribution towards the salary of the Children and Families Worker. **As the Old Sunday School Fund is not controlled by the PCC, it does not need to be reflected in these accounts.** **For information purposes only - The value of the Old Sunday School Fund at 31st December 2025 was £37,502 (2024 = £57,825).**

16	**Sale of St Andrews Hall:**
	St Andrews Hall was sold in May 2023. After the deduction of associated expenses, the sum of £287,244 was deposited with CCLA. An application was made to the Diocese to change the control of the stewardship of these funds from The Vicar and Churchwardens to the Parochial Church Council (PCC). The application was approved by the Diocese. As the proceeds of the sale of St Andrews Hall are now controlled by the PCC, these funds have been incorporated into the Church's Accounts. The PCC will review how the proceeds plus any interest from the sale of St Andrews Hall should be used to benefit the Parish of Flitwick on an annual basis.

Flitwick Church
St Peter and St Paul

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF
THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF
FLITWICK

REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDING

31 DECEMBER 2025

CONTENTS

	Page
Trustees Report	2 - 7
Independent Examiner's Report	8
Statement of Financial Activities	9
Balance Sheet	10
Notes to the Financial Statements	11 - 17

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Flitwick, is registered with the Charity Commissioners for England and Wales (Charity no. 1169624)

Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Flitwick

TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR YEAR ENDING 31 DECEMBER 2025

Aim and Purpose

The Parochial Church Council has the responsibility of co-operating with the Incumbent and promoting in the ecclesiastical parish of Flitwick the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. It also has the responsibility for the maintenance of the Parish Church and Chapter House.

Objectives and Activities

When planning our activities for the year, we have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and, in particular, the supplementary guidance on charities for the advancement of religion. In particular, we try to enable all people to be able to live out their faith as part of our parish community through:

- Worship and prayer, learning about the Gospel: developing knowledge and trust in Jesus.
- Provision of pastoral care for people living in the parish
- Missionary and outreach work
- The ministry and administration of significant life events; weddings, baptisms, and funerals.

Achievements and Performance

Sophie Tucker continues her employment as Children and Families Worker. She successfully ran a holiday club during May half term, which was much enjoyed by all the children, and this will go on to be an annual event.

On the one Sunday each month where we have our All-Together Service, a 9am said Communion service was introduced for those who wish to worship in a more reflective style.

We held our first Pet Service outside the Church building, which was attended by a variety of pets and their owners; we hope this will be an annual event.

'ChurchFest', our Flower Festival and the 'Sunday School Bangers' events were a great success this year in engaging with our community and with people of all ages.

Worship and Prayer

During the year we have continued to offer two services on a Sunday morning : a Sunday Celebration service for all ages at 9am held either in the Chapter House or on the lawn depending on the weather, and a Parish Eucharist at 10.30am in Church which is live streamed. Monthly we hold an informal Sunday@7 service. Our average attendance throughout the year at Sunday morning services was 80 adults and 14 children.

On the first Sunday of the month, we hold an All-Together service at 10.30am which is designed to engage people of all ages in worship. Refreshments are served following each service.

Morning Prayer is held on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday led by one of the Ministry team.
On Wednesday at 10am we hold a said communion service followed by refreshments.

Our Children's Group, Rock Solid, is held during the Sunday morning 10.30am service and our Youth Group, YMAC (Youth messing about at Church) meet each Sunday evening.

Special services throughout the year included all Easter services, including a communion service held in a parishioner's home; In Loving Memory; Baby Loss Service; Midnight Mass and a traditional Carol Service. We also held two Christingle services on Christmas Eve afternoon.

During the Christmas period, local Lower Schools were welcomed into the Church for a variety of Christmas celebrations. The Ministry Team also went into Woodland Middle School for their Christingle services.

Every Tuesday people are invited to meet at church at 1pm to pray for the world, its needs, its people and the church. There is also a prayer group WhatsApp that pray for Alpha and specific church needs.

Pastoral Offices

The following pastoral services were taken this year:

Type of Service	2025	2024
Funerals	18	13
Baptisms	7	18
Weddings	7	2

Pastoral Care:

Members of the congregation and the Ministry team regularly visit those from the Parish who are unwell, housebound or in hospital, often taking the form of a home Communion. In addition, a service of Holy Communion is celebrated at local care homes monthly. This year also included carol services at these homes.

Mission and Evangelism:

The "Open the Book" team regularly visited schools to take assemblies throughout the year. The team also took an 'Easter Journey' in to teach the Easter story to children in an interactive way. Harvest, Christmas and Easter services were taken into schools by our incumbent and Children and Families Worker.

Our Eco-church team is fully active, ensuring that the church keeps up-to-date with new directives.

As a Church we continue to make regular contributions to the Need Project food bank, as well as raising money for other charities carrying out God's work. This year once again donations were made to the Centre Point homeless charity and the Bishops Harvest Appeal.

Messy Church, our outreach service to families, meets every half term and continues to flourish.

Flitwick Food Extra (FFX) continued throughout the year; it provides local families with food boxes during the school holidays, the boxes consisting of lots of fresh produce and recipe cards. When families came to collect the boxes this year, they were able to join in with various activities we had laid on for them, and refreshments were also provided.

Ecumenical Relationships:

The church is a member of Churches Together in Ampthill and Flitwick, and we are continuing to build strong relationships with all the churches in our town.

General Synod

We have one member from our Church representing us on the General Synod, which entitles them to be a member of the PCC, and thus provides us with up-to-date reports.

Diocesan Synod

We have two members from our Church representing us on the Diocesan Synod, which entitles them to be members of the PCC, and thus provides us with up-to-date reports.

Deanery Synod:

We have three members from our church on the Deanery Synod, which also entitles them to be on the PCC, and thus provides us with up-to-date reports.

The contact with the Synod provides the PCC with an important link between the parish and the wider structures of the Church.

Buildings:

Routine maintenance of our building continues where possible.

Financial Review:

Income and Expenditure:

Description	2025	2024
Income	£133,489	£390,549
Expenditure	£134,080	£110,036
Surplus/(Deficit)	£(591)	£280,513

Included under Income for 2024 is £305,828 that relates to the proceeds of the sale of St Andrews Church Hall. The rights to this fund were transferred from the Vicar & Churchwardens to the Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical parish of Flitwick during 2024.

Giving:

Type of Stewardship/Giving	Dec 2025	Dec 2024
Number of Parishioners who support our church via the monthly Parish Giving Scheme.	61	47
Number of Parishioners who support our church via a monthly/weekly standing order.	13	15
Number of Parishioners who support our church via the regular Envelope scheme.	4	4

To ease the administration burden on our church and to improve cash flow, we actively ask parishioners to consider moving to the Parish Giving Scheme. This year we reviewed the profile of our Stewardship income, and asked parishioners to consider increasing their giving and changing to the Parish Giving Scheme. The results exceeded our expectations, with parishioners being extremely generous for which we thank them.

Reserves:

It is the PCC's policy to try to maintain a balance on free reserves, which equates to between three and six months of unrestricted payments. This is equivalent to approximately £33,520 to £67,040, and is held to smooth out fluctuations in cash flow and to meet emergencies. The balance of the free reserves (unrestricted reserves which have not been designated by the PCC for use for other purposes) at the year-end was £308,215 (at 31st December 2024 : £308,806).

Our PCC legacy policy is to use legacy gifts to help fund significant development projects, whether buildings, equipment, mission or staff. The PCC has created a designated Legacy Reserve Fund to separate legacy donations from free reserves. Use of Legacy Reserves to fund specific projects requires approval of the PCC via a PCC resolution. At the year-end, the Legacy reserve stood at £24,125 (at 31st December 2024 : £24,125).

The restricted reserves of £26,298 (at 31st December 2024 : £24,892) can only be spent for the purposes for which they were originally donated.

The endowment reserves £12,055 (at 31st December2024 : £12,557) are a special kind of restricted fund that must be retained permanently as capital. The income on the PCC's endowment reserves can only be spent on fabric related items and is paid into the restricted Chancel and Fabric repair funds.

It is our policy to invest cash balances over and above those required to fund day-to-day expenditure with the CCLA Church of England Deposit Fund. Endowment funds are invested in the CCLA Church of England Investment Fund.

Structure, governance and management

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Peter & St Paul, Flitwick is a corporate body established by the Church of England. The PCC operates under the Parochial Church Council Powers Measures. The PCC is registered with the Charity Commissioners for England and Wales (Charity no. 1169624)

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church representation Rules. In this parish, the membership of the PCC consists of the incumbent, members of the Ministry team, members of Deanery Synod and members elected by those members of the congregation who are on the electoral roll of the Parish.

Administrative Information

The Parish Church of St Peter and St Paul is situated on Church Road, Flitwick, Bedfordshire MK45 1AE. The Parish is part of the Diocese of St Albans within the Church of England. The correspondence address is : The Vicarage, 26 Dew Pond Road, Flitwick, Bedford, MK45 1RT.

The following have served as members of the PCC during the calendar year ending 31 December 2025.

Incumbent	Rev Claire Harald	
Curate	Rev Andy Jefferson	
Licensed to the Church	Sophie Tucker	
Church Warden	Linda Foale	
Church Warden	Richard Fullbrook	Until 14/05/25
Church Warden	Chris Macintosh	From 14/05/25
General Synod	Becky Mynett	
Diocesan Synod	Paul Hodgkinson	Appointed 11/05/2025
Diocesan Synod	Emma Herman	
Deanery Synod	Tony Brown	
Deanery Synod	David Watson	
Deanery Synod	Nik Farrington - Sharp	
Treasurer	Terry Thurley	Resigned 14/05/25 as treasurer, still a member of PCC
	Peter Wood	Appointed 11/05/25
Secretary	Nigel Taylor	
Safeguarding	Jane Thompson	
Deputy Church Warden	David Golding	Resigned 14/05/25
Deputy Church Warden	Chris Macintosh	Until 14/05/25
Deputy Church Warden	Matt Swansbury	Appointed 11/05/25

PCC Members	Ciaran Diver	
	Jo Farrington-Sharp	
	Mary McKeand	
	Jeremy Dann	
	Carol Thompson	
	Emma Williams	Resigned 14/05/25
	Emma Gleeson	
	Ian Cook	Appointed 11/05/25
	Jo Lacey	Appointed 01/07/25

Report approved by the PCC on 10th March, 2026 and signed on their behalf by:



Rev Claire Harald
Chair of the Trustees



Linda Foale
Churchwarden

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

Report to the Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Flitwick. Charity Number 1169624

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the PCC") for the year ended 31 December 2025, set out on pages 9 to 17.

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 PCC's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

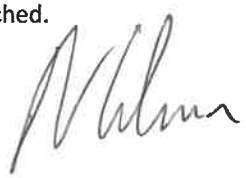
Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination.

I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination 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.



Date 10th March, 2026

Natalie Coleman FCCA
Chartered Certified Accountant
24 Dew Pond Road
Flitwick
Bedford
MK45 1RT

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31 DECEMBER 2025

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	2025 Totals £	2024 Totals £
Income and Endowments:	**2**					
• Grants		0	0	0	0	1,500
• Donations & Legacies		94,758	3,947	0	98,705	357,996
• Income from Church Activities		6,469	0	0	6,469	4.239
• Activities for Generating Funds		14,452	0	0	14,452	6,805
• Income from Investments		17,810	0	0	17,810	23,196
Total Income:		**£133,489**	**£3,947**	**£0**	**£137,436**	**£393,736**
Expenditure on:	**3**					
• Expenditure on Church Activities		132,733	198	0	132,931	109,090
• Charitable Expenditures		1,347	2,343	0	3,690	5,187
Total Expenditure:		**£134,080**	**£2,541**	**£0**	**£136,621**	**£114,277**
Net (Deficit)/Gain before investment gains /(losses)		**£(591)**	**£1,406**	**£0**	**£815**	**£279,459**
Transfers between funds		**£0**	**£ 0**	**£0**	**£0**	**£0**
Other recognised gains/losses		**£0**	**£0**	**£0**	**£0**	**£0**
Unrealised Gains/(Losses) on investment assets		0	0	(502)	(502)	282
Net movement in funds		**£(591)**	**£1,406**	**£(502)**	**£313**	**£279,741**
Reconciliation of funds:						
Total funds brought forward		**£332,931**	**24,892**	**£12,557**	**£370,380**	**£90,639**
Total funds carried forward		**£332,340**	**£26,298**	**£12,055**	**£370,693**	**£370,380**

The notes on pages 11 to 17 form part of these financial statements

Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Flitwick

BALANCE SHEET AT 31 DECEMBER 2025

		2025		2024	
	Note	**£**	**£**	**£**	**£**
Fixed Assets:					
Tangible assets	7	534		801	
Endowment investments	8	12,055		12,557	
Total Fixed Assets			**£12,589**		**£13,358**
Current Assets:					
Cash at bank and in hand	9	360,875		357,366	
Debtors & prepayments	10	3,859		2,101	
Total Current Assets			**£364,734**		**£359,467**
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	11		**£6,630**		**£2,445**
Net Current Assets:			**£358,104**		**£357,022**
Total Net Assets			**£370,693**		**£370,380**
The Funds of the Charity:					
General (Unrestricted)	12	308,215		308,806	
Legacy (Designated)	12	24,125		24,125	
Restricted	13	26,298		24,892	
Endowment	14	12,055		12,557	
Total Funds of the Charity			**£370,693**		**£370,380**

Approved by the PCC on 10th March, 2026 and signed on their behalf by :

Rev Claire Harald
Chair of the Trustees

Linda Foale
Churchwarden

Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Flitwick

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31 DECEMBER 2025

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparation:

The PCC is a public benefit entity within the meaning of FRS102. The financial statements have been prepared under the Charities Act 2011 and in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 governing the individual accounts of PCCs, and with the Regulations' "true and fair view" provisions, together with FRS102 as the applicable accounting standards and the Statement of Recommended Practice, Accounting and Reporting by Charities (SORP(FRS102)).

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention except for the valuation of investment assets, which are shown at fair value.

Income and Endowments:

Recognition: These are included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) when:

1. the PCC becomes legally entitled to the use of the resources; and
2. inflow of economic benefit is probable; and
3. the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Fund Raising: Funds raised from events and trading activities are reported gross in the SOFA – i.e., before any related costs that may have been incurred have been deducted from the gross proceeds.

Grants and donations: Grants and donations are included in the SOFA when any preconditions preventing their use by the PCC have been met. Collections and planned giving are included when the funds are received.

Gift Aid Tax claims, etc., on cash donations: Gift Aid and other tax claims are included in the SOFA at the same time as the cash donations to which they relate.

Investment gains and losses: This includes any gain or loss on the sale of investments and any gain or loss resulting from revaluing investments to market value at the end of the year.

Expenditure & Liabilities:

Liability Recognition: Liabilities are recognised as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation and settlement is probable and quantifiable.

Assets:

Consecrated and benefice property: In so far as consecrated and benefice property of any kind is excluded from the statutory definition of "charity" by Section 10(2) (a) and (c) of the Charities Act 2011 such assets are not capitalised in the financial statements.

Tangible fixed assets for use by charity: These are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year, and cost at least £400. They are valued at cost.

Depreciation is calculated to write off the capitalized cost of fixed assets less their currently anticipated residual fair value over their estimated useful lives as follows:

- Office equipment and lawn mower - 5 years

Investments: Investments quoted on a recognised stock exchange or whose value derives from them are valued at market value at the year end.

Short term deposits: Include cash held on deposit either with the CBF Church of England Funds or at the bank.

Funds:

Unrestricted Funds: These represent the funds of the PCC that are available for spending on the general purposes of the PCC, including amounts designated by the PCC for fixed assets for its own use or for spending on future projects.

Designated Funds: These represent unrestricted funds that are set aside for a designated purpose.

Restricted Funds: These are income funds that must be spent on restricted purposes and details of the funds held and restrictions provided are shown in the notes to the accounts.

Endowment Funds: These are restricted funds that must be retained as trust capital either permanently or subject to a discretionary power to spend capital as income, and where the use of any income or other benefit derived from the capital may be restricted or unrestricted. Full details of their restrictions are shown in note 14.

	Unrestricted Funds		Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Totals	
2. Income & Endowments	**General**	**Designated**			**2025**	**2024**
	£	**£**	**£**	**£**	**£**	**£**
Grants						
St Albans Diocese re Easter & Christmas Journey/Play	0	0	0	0	0	500
St Albans Diocese re New Styles of Ministry	0	0	0	0	0	1,000
St Albans Diocese	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Grants Received	**£0**	**£0**	**£0**	**£0**	**£0**	**£1,500**
Donations & Legacies						
Parish Giving Scheme	34,156	0	0	0	34,156	30,973
Regular Stewardship (Gift Aided)	8,304	0	0	0	8,304	8,399
Regular Stewardship (Not Gift Aided)	1,122	0	0	0	1,122	1,127
Donations (Gift Aided)	6,475	0	0	0	6,475	3,882
Donations (Not Gift Aided)	5,224	0	30	0	5,224	5,172
Sum Up (Donation machine)	3,323	0	0	0	3,323	4,086
Charities Aid Foundation	850	0	0	0	850	600
Candle Stand Donations	440	0	0	0	440	164
Gift Aid Tax Reclaim	12,701	0	0	0	12,701	10,988
Philippian Trust	1,530	0	0	0	1,530	1,300
Little Fishes	150	0	0	0	150	300
Donation Ecclesiastical Insurance Co	0	0	0	0	0	260
Sponsored Bike Ride	442	0	0	0	442	160
Wreath Making Course	234	0	0	0	234	184
Children's Society	464	0	0	0	464	0
Church Flowers	0	0	272	0	272	0
Bishop's Harvest Appeal	219	0	0	0	219	0
Sunday School Fund (see Note 15)	19,000	0	0	0	19,000	0
Centre Point Donation	124	0	0	0	124	0
Historic Churches Trust	0	0	0	0	0	0
Donations	0	0	0	0	0	0
FXX (Flitwick Food Extra)	0	0	3,675	0	3,675	3,157
Proceeds from sale of St Andrews Hall	0	0	0	0	0	287,244
Total Donations & Legacies	**£94,758**	**£0**	**£3,947**	**£0**	**£98,705**	**£357,996**
Income from Church Activities						
Weddings	2,759	0	0	0	2,759	2,254
Funerals	3,710	0	0	0	3,710	1,985
Total Income from Church Activities	**£6,469**	**£0**	**£0**	**£0**	**£6,469**	**£4,239**

	Unrestricted Funds		Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Totals	
	General	Designated			2025	2024
Activities for Generating Funds						
Men's Breakfast Club	895	0	0	0	895	358
Quiz	305	0	0	0	305	93
Fun Day	191	0	0	0	191	161
Church Festival	1,352	0	0	0	1,352	252
Lettings Chapter House	6,860	0	0	0	6,860	3,609
Village Hall Coffee Morning	660	0	0	0	660	375
Refreshments	860	0	0	0	860	536
Craft Fair	0	0	0	0	0	1,306
Sale of keyboard	0	0	0	0	0	115
School Assembly Anthems	526	0	0	0	526	0
Flower Festival	2,420	0	0	0	2,420	0
Messy Church	211	0	0	0	211	0
Tonkin Memorial	172	0	0	0	172	0
Total Activities for Generating Funds	**£14,452**	**£0**	**£0**	**£0**	**£14,452**	**£6,805**
Income from Investments						
Interest from CCLA/CBF Funds (See notes 9 & 16)	17,810	0	0	0	17,810	23,196
Total Income from Investments	**£17,810**	**£0**	**£0**	**£0**	**£17,810**	**£23,196**
Total Income (Grants/Donations/Church Activities/Activities to Generate Funds/Interest/Dividends	**£133,489**	**£0**	**£3,947**	**£0**	**£137,436**	**£393,736**

***Included in the 2024 Accounts under Donations is £287,444 and under Interest £18,384 that relate to the proceeds of the sale of St Andrews Church Hall. The rights to this fund were transferred from the Vicar & Churchwardens to the Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Flitwick during 2024.**

	Unrestricted Funds		Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Totals	
	General	Designated			2025	2024
	£	£	£	£		£
3. Expenditure:						
Expenditure on Church Activities:						
Parish Share	68,547	0	0	0	68,547	66,177
Parish Clergy Expenses	0	0	0	0	0	203
Worship Supplies & Costs of Services	796	0	0	0	796	735
Mission	1,035	0	0	0	1,035	589
Safeguarding	0	0	0	0	0	30
Messy Church	204	0	0	0	204	71
Churches Together (Ampthill & Flitwick)	50	0	0	0	50	50
Light Party	0	0	0	0	0	26
Upkeep of Churchyard	139	0	0	0	139	98
Music	5,095	0	0	0	5,095	5,172
Salaries	30,919	0	0	0	30,919	13,106
Light/Heat/Water	6,562	0	0	0	6,562	7,157
Youth Bibles	0	0	0	0	0	784
Eco Church	55	0	0	0	55	52
Broadband/Office Software/Zoom/Printing/Postage & Stationery	4,011	0	0	0	4,011	3,759
Cleaning	1,531	0	0	0	1,531	1,396
Repairs & Maintenance	7,344	0	0	0	7,344	5,538
Insurance	2,463	0	0	0	2,463	2,343
Depreciation	267	0	0	0	267	267
Bank Charges	120	0	0	0	120	120
Training Family Worker	18	0	0	0	18	271
Alpha Course	44	0	0	0	44	149
Rock Solid	482	0	0	0	482	77
A Frame – Pavement Sign	0	0	0	0	0	86
YMACC (Youth Messing Around in Church)	22	0	0	0	22	29
Sophie's Robes	0	0	0	0	0	421
NOSH	50	0	0	0	50	220
First Aid Kit	0	0	0	0	0	85
Readers Training	0	0	0	0	0	79
Church Flowers	0	0	198	0	198	0
Refreshments	454	0	0	0	454	0
Architect's Fees	1,098	0	0	0	1,098	0
Church Fest	588	0	0	0	588	0
School Assembly Anthems	536	0	0	0	536	0
Flower Festival	303	0	0	0	303	0
Expenditure on Church Activities:	**£132,733**	**£0**	**£198**	**£0**	**£132,931**	**£109,090**

3.Expenditure (cont.):	Unrestricted Funds		Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Totals	
	General	Designated			2025	2024
Charitable Expenditure						
Bishop's Harvest Appeal (Leprosy Mission)	219	0	0	0	219	184
Donation from Men's Breakfast Club (Mercy Ships & Impact Bedford)	500	0	0	0	500	140
Centre Point (Youth Homeless)	124	0	0	0	124	140
Christingle (Children's Society)	464	0	0	0	464	268
Beds & Herts Historic Trust	40	0	0	0	40	40
Collection Confirmation Service	0	0	0	0	0	174
FFX Flitwick Food Extra	0	0	2,343	0	2,343	3,781
Choir Fund	0	0	0	0	0	460
Total Charitable Expenditure	**£1,347**	**£0**	**£2,343**	**£0**	**£3,690**	**£5,187**
Total Expenditure	**£134,080**	**£0**	**£2,541**	**£0**	**£136,621**	**£114,277**

4	Staff Costs & Employee Benefits	2025	2024
	Wages & Salaries	£30,919	£13,106
	Employees	3	3
	During the year the PCC employed two part-time staff (Director of Music and Parish Administrator) and a full-time Children and Families Worker. The Church contributes to a NEST Pension for the Children and Families Worker. No employee received employee benefits for the year of more than £60,000.		

5	Transactions with Trustees
	During the year the Rev'd Claire Harald, chair of the PCC, received a total of £0 (2024: £203) of expenses related to her duties within the parish. All expenses are consistent with Church of England guidance on the parochial expenses of clergy. During the year members of the PCC, were reimbursed for expenditure incurred as agents on behalf of the PCC. These payments were recorded in the accounts under the relevant expenditure category.

6	Independent Examiners Remuneration:
	The Independent Examiner was not remunerated for her work on the 2025 accounts (2024 £Nil).

7	Tangible Fixed Assets	Office Equipment	Lawn Mower	Total
	Cost			
	At 1st January 2025	£2,590	£925	£3,515
	Additions	0	0	0
	Disposals	0	0	0
	At 31st December 2025	**£2,590**	**£925**	**£3,515**
	Depreciation			
	At 1st January 2025	£2,344	£370	£2,714
	Depreciation	£82	£185	£267
	Disposals	0	0	0
	At 31st December 2025	**£2,426**	**£555**	**£2,981**
	Net Book Value at 1st January 2025	**£246**	**£555**	**£801**
	Net Book Value at 31st December 2025	**£164**	**£370**	**£534**

8	Endowments	Value 1st January 2025	Increase / (Decrease) in Value	Value 31st December 2025
	Brooks Fabric Endowment Fund	6,336	(253)	6,083
	Byron Endowment Fund	347	(14)	333
	Chancel Endowment Fund	5,874	(235)	5,639
	Total	**£12,557**	**£(502)**	**£12,055**

9	Cash at bank & in hand	2025	2024
	Short Term Deposit Accounts (see below)	£357,388	£352,722
	Cash at bank and in hand	£3,487	£4,644
		£360,875	**£357,366**
	Short Term Deposits includes, £319,459 being the net sales proceeds and accumulated interest from the sale of St Andrews Hall. Please refer to note 16 for further information.		

10	Debtors and Prepayments	2025	2024
	Debtors & Prepayments	£3,859	£2,101
		£3,859	**£2,101**
11	**Creditors and Accruals**	**2025**	**2024**
	Creditors & Accruals	£6,630	2,445
		£6,630	**£2,445**

12	Funds of The Charity	1st Jan 2025	Income	Expend	Transfers	31st Dec 2025
	General Fund	308,806	133,489	(134,080)	0	308,215
	Legacy Fund (Designated)	24,125	0	0	0	24,125
	Total Unrestricted Funds	**£332,931**	**£133,489**	**£(134,080)**	**0**	**£332,340**
	Legacy funds are used to help fund significant projects, whether building, equipment, mission or staff.					

13	Restricted Funds	1st Jan 2025	Income	Expend	Transfers	Gains/ (Losses)	31st Dec 2025
	Religious Education Fund	6,992	0	0	0	0	6,992
	Lych Gate Repair Fund	3,751	0	0	0	0	3,751
	Fabric Repair Fund	3,189	0	0	0	0	3,189
	Bell Fund	3,501	0	0	0	0	3,501
	FFX (Flitwick Food Extra)	4,162	3,675	(2,343)	0	0	5,494
	Furnishing Fund	1,673	0	0	0	0	1,673
	Choir Fund	369	0	0	0	0	369
	Chancel Fabric Fund	536	0	0	0	0	536
	Pither Legacy (Charitable uses in Parish) Fund	476	0	0	0	0	476
	Appeals for Charity Fund	183	0	0	0	0	183
	Church Flowers Fund	60	272	(198)	0	0	134
	Total	**£24,892**	**£3,947**	**(£2,541)**	**£0**	**£0**	**£26,298**

Restricted Funds have been donated to the PCC for the specific purposes, and may only be used for the purpose for which they were donated.	
Religious Education Fund	Represents the accumulated income from the Old School Endowment, a separate charity of which the Vicar and Churchwardens are Trustees. The income of such Endowment Funds is restricted by an Act of Parliament and can only be used for Religious Education.
Lych Gate Repair Fund	Represents amounts donated to fund the repairs to the Lych Gate in 2018/19. The remaining balance will be spent on completion of the planned repairs and future repairs to the Lych Gate.
Fabric Repair Fund	Represents amounts donated by individuals, as well as the Friends of Flitwick Church and is restricted to expenditure on the fabric of the church building (including the Chapter House) and the Churchyard.
Bell Fund	Is restricted to repairs and maintenance of the Bells and other Bellringing expenses.
FFX (Flitwick Food Extra)	Is the balance of the FFX Fund.
Furnishing Fund	Is restricted to expenditure on furnishings for the Church and Chapter House.
Choir Fund	Represents donations by individuals for Choir related expenditure.
Chancel Fabric Fund	Is restricted by the Ecclesiastical Dilapidations Measure 1923 to repairs to the Church Building and Churchyard.
Pither Legacy (Charitable uses in Parish) Fund	Is restricted to charitable use within the Parish and is spent at the discretion of the incumbent.
Appeals for Charity Fund	Represents collections for specific Charities which have yet to be paid to the Charity.
Church Flowers Fund	Represents donations to the Church Flower Fund, which is administered by the Flower Arrangers.

14	**Endowment Funds/Fixed Asset Investments**	**1st Jan 2025**	**Expend**	**Transfers**	**Unrealised Gains/ (Losses)**	**31st Dec 2025**
	Brooks Legacy Endowment (Fabric)	6,336	0	0	(253)	6,083
	Byron Bequest Endowment (Fabric)	347	0	0	(14)	333
	Chancel Endowment Fund (Chancel Fabric)	5,874	0	0	(235)	5,639
	Total	**£12,557**	**£0**	**£0**	**£(502)**	**£12,055**

15	**Old Sunday School Fund:**
	When the Old Sunday School was sold, the proceeds were placed in Trust with the Diocese. The Funds were to be used for the *"purpose of religious education of the children of Flitwick"*. The Vicar and Churchwardens decide how the monies should be spent, not the Parochial Church Council (PCC). An application was made to the Charity Commissioners to widen the scope of the Fund. The Charity Commissioners approved our application. The Fund can now be used to employ a Children and Families Worker, to promote Religious Education in Flitwick. A total of £19,000 was withdrawn from this account during the year as a contribution towards the salary of the Children and Families Worker. **As the Old Sunday School Fund is not controlled by the PCC, it does not need to be reflected in these accounts.** **For information purposes only - The value of the Old Sunday School Fund at 31st December 2025 was £37,502 (2024 = £57,825).**

16	**Sale of St Andrews Hall:**
	St Andrews Hall was sold in May 2023. After the deduction of associated expenses, the sum of £287,244 was deposited with CCLA. An application was made to the Diocese to change the control of the stewardship of these funds from The Vicar and Churchwardens to the Parochial Church Council (PCC). The application was approved by the Diocese. As the proceeds of the sale of St Andrews Hall are now controlled by the PCC, these funds have been incorporated into the Church's Accounts. The PCC will review how the proceeds plus any interest from the sale of St Andrews Hall should be used to benefit the Parish of Flitwick on an annual basis.