Christ Church

St Leonards on Sea

Annual Report 2025

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Christ Church with St Mary Magdalen and St Peter and St Paul, St Leonards on Sea

Registered Charity No. 1170031

For the year ended 31 December 2025

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1. a) Aims & Purpose: Our aims and purposes as a charity

The PCC has the responsibility of co-operating with the Incumbent in:

- The provision and maintenance of the fabric of Christ Church, St Leonards
- on Sea and its associated buildings;
- Conducting regular Christian worship; including the daily offering of the Sacrifice of the Mass, as well as baptisms, marriages and funerals;
- Leaving Christ Church open to the public to enter and benefit from personal spiritual contemplation;
- Promoting the study of Christian teaching, practices and Scriptures;
- The provision of means and encouragement to promote fellowship within the membership of the Churches and the wider community;
- In addition to the above, Christian devotional acts and outreach work is carried out, including:
    - Visiting the sick & administering the Sacraments to those unable to attend regular acts of Worship especially the sick and dying;
    - Supporting pastoral work;
    - Fostering ecumenical links between differing Christian denominations;
    - Supporting the work of other local charities.

1. b) Aims & Purpose: What we planned to do to achieve our charitable objectives

When planning our activities for the year, our incumbent and the PCC have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and, in particular, the specific guidance on 'charities for the advancement of religion'. In 2024/5, we continued to pursue the following objectives and activities to fulfil our aims:

- Enabling as many people as possible to worship at our church. The Church is open daily, except in exceptional circumstances.
- Enabling as many as possible to become part of our parish family
- Teaching, baptising and confirming new and existing believers;
- Considering how services can involve the many groups that exist within the parish;
- Putting faith into practice, through prayer and scripture, music and sacrament;
- Offering worship and prayer
- Assisting people from all walks of life to develop their knowledge of, and trust in, Jesus;
- Provision of pastoral care for people living in the parish;
- Providing assistance to the poor and needy of the parish;
- Maintaining the fabric of the church building as a historic centre and focus of life in the Parish.

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2. Prayer & Worship

Christ Church remains open daily for private prayer and public worship: there is a Daily Low Mass offered either in the daytime (1030am) or evening (6.30pm) to allow both retired and working people to attend. On Sundays, there is a Low Mass at 8am, followed by prayer before the Blessed Sacrament and Morning Prayer at 10am. The main Sunday Sung Mass then follows at 1030, which is supplemented by Sunday School. There are also occasional seasonal evening services, usually Evensong, offered by either our choir, a visiting choir or a combination of the two. Evensong has now become a regular feature, usually on the Second Sunday of the month followed by a free supper (provided by our marvellous volunteers) and a guest speaker on a topic of local interest.

As well as the continued offering of the daily Mass, additional opportunities for worship include the Rosary led by the Cell of Our Lady of Walsingham, the celebrations of major feasts and solemnities and a new Vigil Mass offered in Latin on Saturday evenings, which attracts both locals and people who travel from further afield.

Baptisms continue to be celebrated; for infants on a regular basis, and as part of Confirmation preparation for adults. This year, we welcomed six new adults Confirmed as part of the deanery confirmations in September, three of whom were baptised in advance at Christ Church. We conduct a small number of funerals, mainly of former parishioners.

Christian teaching occurs weekly in the preaching at weekday and Sunday Masses, as well as in Lent & Advent Courses from the Rector. Visiting clergy have also come to speak and teach on particular topics.

The Rector also leads Christian worship at Christ Church Academy at least every week, as well as other additional seasonal services and continues to develop a growing programme of visits from the school and to the school in conjunction with the staff and governors.

Pastoral care is offered to members of our parish and congregation not just by the clergy (both stipendiary and retired) but also by the Eucharistic Ministers of the church, in the form of home visits, home communions and pastoral calls.

Christ Church continues to grow its wider ministry and visibility in the local community as well in a variety of ways including hosting concert series and one-off events. More details are below in the particular reports.

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2. a) Confraternity of Our Lady

Lay Chaplain's Report from Michael Hart – Head of Altar Servers

I have been Lay Chaplain to The Confraternity of Our Lady for about 30 years, taking over from Fr Robin Tree in the early 1990's. It is a privilege to work alongside the Clergy and to support them with Altar Servers.
We have recently added to our number with our first adult female Server, Teegan, who has taken to the role so naturally and with great dignity, also our youngest members, Teddie and Benedict who joined us in January.
I am responsible for training the Servers and creating rotas for Sundays and other days of celebration and obligation.
There are a variety of roles, beginning with Torch Bearer and working up to MC, however each role is equally valid and important.
Training, support, cassock and cotta all provided, so if you are interested, and are over 10 years old, please do come and find me after Mass on a Sunday morning. I look forward to welcoming you to the team.
I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the Servers for their dedication and Fr Thomas for his guidance.

3. Safeguarding

The Safeguarding Team consists of the Rector, Safeguarding Officer (Anne Hanney) & Assistant Safeguarding Officer (Jane Hart). They meet regularly to review our processes and policies, training records and any concerns or outstanding matters. The Safeguarding Officer makes a report to the PCC. Any concerns that are raised are dealt with quickly in line with parish, diocesan and national safeguarding policies.

4. Fundraising & Fellowship

Monthly table sales, which regularly bring in between £400-500 and are the result of a lot of hard work from our volunteers, have continued. They also act as an important point of interaction with the local community. There have also been other occasional events which have raised funds, such our Epiphany Meal, Second Sunday Evensongs & other one-off celebrations. Concerts also continue to provide both an important revenue stream, and an opportunity to develop links with local groups and people.

As last year, the growth of the congregation and of congregational giving represents an important source of income – as well as a primary aim of Christ Church in and of itself. Sunday worship is now focussed on the 1030 Mass attended by a growing and diversifying congregation followed by fellowship & refreshments for all - as well as the continued provision of an early 8am Mass, and quiet prayer and reflection in between.

Various groups and ministries continue to offer the chance for more fellowship and outreach, including the Rosary (an important lay-led ministry) and Coffee hosted by the Cell of Our Lady of Walsingham; Cosy Crypt; ongoing links and hosting of the School, the Fellowship of St Nicholas at Christmas, and our Uniformed Groups. The Community Nativity on Christmas Eve is now a firm highlight in the calendar, with numbers increasing each year of children and families who join us - laying the foundations for a growing ministry of engagement and outreach to this demographic that is still relatively small at Christ Church.

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5. Serving the Community

Christ Church strives to look outward in it's mission and outreach in the community. The church is open daily for members of the public to come in and pray, light a candle, reflect and find peace. It continues to be used by the wider public in this way and we are pleased to offer the opportunity of a quiet haven.

In our efforts to serve the local community:

- We support the local foodbank and Warming Up The Homeless through contributions of staple foodstuff and useful small items and toiletries. We no longer accommodate homeless people in the Crypt as part of SWEP, the national bad weather initiative as new and more appropriate accommodation has been found in the town centre and is run by Warming Up The Homeless whom we continue to support .
- We continue to accommodate the Surviving The Streets foodbank in the courtyard for public use.
- Serving as governors at our local parish school. The rector attends the school for Christian worship and the school continues with it's programme of visits from the school in conjunction with the staff and governors.
- Serving as trustees of the Christ Church Old Buildings Trust (CCOBT), which lets out the buildings to HBC and Citizens Advice at a peppercorn rent to assist in their work with the local community.
- Sarah Brisco Trust which provides funds for people in need and can provide emergency relief for groceries and bills and The St Mary Magdalen Educational Charity.
- Serving as board members of the Christ Church House Improvement Society Ltd. We have found a number of people accommodation at St Richards House through this.
- Hosting weekly Alcoholics Anonymous meetings.

Other initiatives:

- Cosy Crypt continues to offer a warm safe space , friendly faces and opportunity to chat, rest and have hot drinks and snacks.
- Church members continue to volunteer to lead our local uniformed groups which meet regularly i n the hall.
- Monthly table sales continually prove to be a great success and fund raiser for the church. Many thanks to the members of the congregation who tirelessly work on a regular basis to enable the sales to occur. More help is always welcome!

- The parish hall continues to be used by vulnerable groups. We have however this year said goodbye to Active Arts who have new premises.
- Pastoral care is offered to members of our parish and congregation the clergy and eucharistic ministers in the form of home visits, communion and pastoral calls.
- We continue to host as a music venue for Hastings Philharmonic and other musical and dramatic organisations.
- We continue firm links with A Town Explores A Book Literary festival and the church is used as one of their venues.
- We have taken part in local public events including The Frost Fair and St Leonards Festival to raise our profile.
- We have held open days for the general public with well attended tours and talks about Christ Church by our Tour Team.

For the future we hope to raise the profile of the Church in attracting new Christians by advertising various courses, open days, concerts and events . We need to attract a younger age group into the church and to encourage participation in helping with activities and events.

The **food bank** continues to serve the local community and is in regular use. This is run by Surviving the Streets.

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5. a) Cosy Crypt - Cosy Crypt is a warm space used eight months of the year to welcome visitors in for free hot drinks, biscuits and snacks such as porridge, soup and bread, and hot buttered crumpets. This is linked to a wider online initiative 'Warm Spaces' in Hastings and nationwide. Cosy Crypt in it's present form since lockdown has been going for three full years. We meet on Thursdays 10- 4pm and this complements other initiatives in town, churches etc which open on different days. We are staffed by volunteers We get regular and new visitors throughout the day. Some from the congregation, but anyone in need of food or company. We get between 16- 30 visitors a week. The aim is partly to save household fuel bills. We have certainly benefited by a good link with Citizens Advice Bureau 1066, and can now offer immediate access to a CAB representative in a side room in the Crypt between 12 and 2 pm. Mention must be made of the great contribution by Harry Lyons and Dave Burt, who have been instrumental in setting up the present parameters. We have around 10 enthusiastic volunteers, several recent additions carrying out their shifts on Thursdays. There was a picnic in St Leonard's Gardens to meet up during the summer We open in September and close at the beginning of May. All the congregation are welcome to come and take part as a visitor. Activities have included; informal quizzes, jigsaws, craft, but mainly group chat and discussion with volunteers such as Sue L , Sue E Howard , Chris, David, Alan, Lizzy Heather, Louise, Sarah and Val who are on the regular rota but assisted by Harry, Jane, Ruth, Philip, and Tina. John Read comes in first thing to switch on the heater and keep abreast of the temp in the Crypt. Funds are forthcoming weekly through generous voluntary donations amounting to over £580 handed in for the Anniversary Year fundraiser. Some of the donated money is spent on shopping for the coffee biscuits etc also recorded and accounted for by Lizzy Mackay team leader at present.

6. Financial Review

Throughout 2025 the PCC continued to highlight different ways in which people can financially contribute to the mission and ministry of the Church in this Parish. Whilst there was no specific Stewardship campaign this year the Parish Giving Scheme (PGS) was promoted, enabling a more direct means of reclaiming Gift Aid from givers, thus helping with our cash flow. Although this brought about a small uptake in numbers of givers, the overall level of regular giving has not increased, since some givers continue to be lost.

Throughout the year Christ Church continued to engage the fundraising consultancy Craigmyle as professional support to advise on capital campaigns to raise the sums required to take our Tower and Clock plans forward.

During 2025 donation income was £10,130 greater than in 2024 mainly due to a large individual donation However this disguises a reduction in Planned Giving of more than £800. Service cash collections have increased, but other Fund Raising income was reduced by more than £1,000. Income from the use of the Church Hall and Crypt together with concerts in the Church, was £3,199 lower than in 2024, following the ending of use by Active Arts who moved to new premises. Income from Concerts in the Church continues to be a valuable contribution to Church funds, although slightly lower than 2024. The PCC continue, where possible, to keep expenditure under tight control. The increased maintenance costs relate to possible expenditure on heating equipment (covered by the one-off donation. Hall costs were reduced as the increase in 2024 was for the replacement boilers.

However the day-to-day deficit, although continuing to benefit from the negotiated 3 year reduction in our Parish Share payments to the Diocese, was £15,287. The value of our investment holdings, for the first time not in line with market trends in 2025, reduced by £13,639. Performance in the most recent quarter suggests that the Investment Managers are in line to resume normal returns. The overall effect has been to decrease our Reserves by £28,926.

The PCC continues to address this unsustainable financial position through its Financial Sustainability Sub-Committee, tasked with achieving a balance of income over expenditure over a five-year period. It has not been possible during 2025 to make the progress desired, and it remains essential that we make further progress on increasing our Income in 2026. An enlarged Sub-Committee will commence work soon.

Why we hold some money in reserve

The PCC discussed the following factors in arriving at their reserves policy:

• Money should only be kept in reserve for specific reasons – whilst the Bible clearly indicates that we should not hoard, it is also clear that sensible planning for known events and a contingency for emergencies are important.

• In 2025 there was an excess of expenditure over income of £15,287 before the exceptional decrease in the value of our Investments is taken into Account.

• The ongoing income is insufficient to meet the ongoing costs of the Church, the largest item of cost being the Parish Share. Whilst there is no immediate cause for concern, given the current levels of cash and other reserves, it remains prudent to make reserves for both ongoing costs and special repair and maintenance costs, for the Church and Church Hall.

Policy: It is the policy of the Church to keep-six months' running costs (£70,000 before the special short-term reduction in Parish Share costs), to cover any unforeseen emergencies. The PCC will also keep in reserve sufficient funds to enable the Church, and Church Hall to be kept in a good and substantial state of repair. Currently an amount of £42,000 is considered to be a reasonable estimate. This policy is reviewed annually.

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7. Structure Governance and Management

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is registered with the Charity Commission as required by the Charities Act 2011. Its governing document is the Parochial Church Councils (Powers) Measure 1956. During the year the following served as members of the Parochial Church Council:

- **Rector**
  - The Rev'd Thomas Crowley
- **Assistant Curates:**
  - The Revd Dr Richard Ralph (NSM)
- **Authorised Lay Ministers**
  - Jane Hart
  - Julie Gidlow (Also Deanery Synod Rep – below)
- **Wardens:**
  - Susan Shaw *PCC Vice Chairman*
  - Maureen Harman
- **Elected Members:**
  - William Baker-Hui *PCC Secretary*
  - Michael Hart
  - Jane Read
  - David Smith
  - Verity Dutton
  - Harry Walsgrove
- **Deanery Synod Representatives**
  - Julie Gidlow
  - Anne Hanney *Safeguarding Officer*
  - Elizabeth Mackay

Membership of the PCC is determined under the Church Representation Rules and consists of certain *ex-officio* members (the incumbent, curates), the churchwardens and members of the Deanery, Diocesan or General Synods and [up to] 12 members of the church who are elected at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM). Members are warmly encouraged to stand for election to the PCC and we try to ensure a balance of skills and experience where possible. The Rector & Churchwardens meet on a regular basis to address any ongoing or arising matters.

From Feb 2026 a new Strategic Finance & Fundraising Committee will begin the urgent and important task reviewing all aspects of finance at Christ Church - including current processes & policies related to finances, sources of income, areas of expenditure and methods & ways of fundraising – with a view to making suggestions as to how Christ Church can become financially secure & stable. It will also look ahead strategically at financial planning and fundraising goals, investigating major grant opportunities and how to significantly improve our income & fundraising.

8. Risk Assessment

The risks facing the PCC include the state of repair of the church, and the financial requirements to meet its stated activities, including payment of its Annual Parish Share. The structure of the church is continually monitored by the Church Architect reporting regularly to the Standing Committee and PCC. The finances are controlled by careful budgeting and close attention to fundraising, particularly with the employment of professional fundraisers and an ongoing multi-year stewardship campaign.

There have been no serious incidents or other matters relating to this charity over the previous financial year that should have been brought to the attention of the Charity Commissioners but have not.

There is a Church Risk Assessment booklet. It is strongly recommended that all who work in the church read it and abide by it. There is a copy in the Outer Sacristy and more copies are now available for groups who hire the church and for school visits.

9. Organisational Structure

The PCC is responsible inter alia for promoting the mission of the Church, the parochial budget, and all expenditure thereunder, and the care and maintenance of the fabric of the church. All members of the PCC are volunteers.

New representatives are told of their responsibilities and of the issues facing the Church by existing representatives, and receive such additional training as required. Officers of the PCC, including the Secretary and Treasurer are appointed at the first meeting of the PCC after the Vestry Meeting. The PCC approved a set of Terms of Reference in November 2022 which outlined the expected conduct of members, to which all new members are required to assent. These were updated in July 2023.

As indicated, members of the PCC also serve as representatives on the Deanery Synod.

The church is run entirely by volunteers, as the one stipendiary clergyman is remunerated by the Church Commissioners. Without the work of these volunteers, Christ Church would not function.

10. Christ Church St Leonards on Sea House Improvement Society Ltd

The Board of Directors is chaired by the Rector. The other Directors are, Sue Parsons, Heidi Ralph and Melanie Clark. The Company Secretary is Trevor Davies and the Managing agents continue to be FPE. Fr Richard Ralph is in attendance at Director's meetings. The Directors have the responsibility of administering and maintaining St Richard's House, Pevensey Road, St Leonards-on-Sea, East Sussex. During 2025, the Board of Directors continued to improve the standard of housing and levels of comfort for our tenants, with flat improvements being made to existing tenants also. Costs continue to increase, and rents had to be increased again, worsened for tenants by the large increase in water charges. The level of rents is still below the level that would restrict tenants claiming Housing Benefits and current market rentals for similar properties. The ongoing deficits will again require an increase in Rents in 2026, since the drain on the Society's reserves is becoming a little concerning. The budget for the current year still allows for the 5 year plan of improvements with the replacement of all windows one floor at a time, that began in 2024 and also with building now more than 70 years old Pointing replacement. The registered address is Christ Church Parish Office, 2 Christ Church Courtyard, London Road, St Leonards on Sea, TN37 6GL.

11. St Mary Magdalen Educational Charity

The charity is registered with the Charity Commission (306495). The charity offers cash grants to individuals and organisations that will tend to facilitate education in accordance with the principles of the Church of England, and provides grants to Christ Church School in particular. The charity mainly operates within the parish of Christ Church and St Mary Magdalen, St Leonards-on-Sea or in the wider Borough of Hastings. Other areas where this Charity could offer support are being examined. The Trustees are chaired by the Rector. There are 4 other Trustees including Michael Hart a member of the PCC and Trevor Davies as Treasurer. Regrettably, for a number of reasons the Trustees have not been able to meet this year, so grants have continued to be made for the support of Christ Church School only. It is hoped to meet soon to widen the scope of grant making to the Educational Community

12. Sarah Brisco Charity

The charity is registered with the Charity Commission (211554). The Trustees are The Rector and the Church Wardens and Treasurer. The charity exists for the relief of the poor of the Parish which it does through the making of grants to individuals, and organisations within the Parish of Christ Church, St Leonards-on-Sea, at the absolute and uncontrolled discretion of the Trustees.

In 2025 this included grants to Christ Church School for part of the costs of the needy school-children's Walsingham Pilgrimage, as well as specialist provision for needs of disadvantaged children. After many years of supporting Surviving the Streets financially the Trustees determined that the contribution of goods by Parishioners to the Food Bank would be our assistance this year. Help was given to the Cosy Crypt to cover the costs of keeping the attendees warm in the Crypt. Grants were also made to persons with particular serious needs in line with the objects of the Charity.

The Trustees are looking to work with similar partners within the Parish to widen the support given to those in need in our area of deprivation.

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13. Fabric

1. Heating - At the time of writing, the one church boiler working is struggling. The temperatures in the church and crypt rarely get above 14 degrees even when the heating has been on for around six to eight hours. This is probably expensive. Just as important it is hardly warm enough for concerts to take place. There are five scheduled for January. As the PCC should be aware, if all concerts up to July take place, around £10,000 will benefit the church, not to mention our Outreach.
2. Altar Lamps - These are still awaiting repair or dismantling.
3. Font Servicing - This will be done early in the New Year.
4. Clock and Tower Project - A meeting is to take place on 6th January. It is likely that scaffolding of the Lady Chapel will take place from the 7th January onwards.
5. Drains - These have had their annual service.
6. Courtyard Security Lights - These have all been replaced by Hannington Gilbert.
7. Gutters - George Stones will be clearing these around the church and the Parish Centre early in the new year. Costs are shared between us and CCBOT.
8. Energy Audit Report - This eventually arrived. At the time of writing, the Rector, Churchwardens and me have not met to discuss what we can implement. It does seem we are advised to go for Net Zero Carbon, rather than the cheapest and most efficient way of heating our Church!!
9. Parish Centre

Boilers have been serviced and work fine. The damp in the lady's toilets has been dealt with, thanks to Terry Knight. The damaged lights in the hall have been replaced by Hannington Gilbert, who have also PAT tested electrical items for our Monthly Sales. They have also replaced the lighting system in the Office.

10. Other

Terry Knight has also dealt with minor, but necessary repairs in the church and the Crypt. We are indebted to him.

John Read

14. Sunday School

Sunday school has a steady flow of families coming to church. It's important to offer this service to regular and visiting families. Whilst it is very important to build the children's faith it's also about preparing them for other roles within the church. Teegan, Benedict and Teddie have joined the serving team. Catherine reads on Sundays and Teddie has recently read at the nine lessons carol service. Catherine and Victoria are also taking a keen interest in helping Julie and Mark in the sacristy. Sunday school has continued to develop community links by participating in the St Leonards festival and a very wet frost fair. We have also just enjoyed our third community nativity which is continuing to bring more people in each year

I have received a few comments about expanding the Sunday school, this would be lovely but we need more adults and space. I have been advised to utilise the experience at Christ Church so this is a shout out for more volunteers to help with Sunday school. I would also like to add that I only cover Sunday mornings and do not have a say in any other child related services. Any questions about services such as a Christingle need to be directed to Father Thomas.

Krystyne Walsgrove – Sunday School Leader

15. Deanery Synod

Deanery Synod is made up of members of local parishes who meet to discuss issues relevant to the local area and wider diocese. The current representatives from Christ Church are Lizzy Mackay, Anne Hanney, Julie Gidlow and Fr Thomas Crowley. There have not been many meetings this year – the Synod in January was replaced with a Diocesan Celebration for the Year of Faith held at St Peter and St Paul, Parkstone Road which Fr Thomas and Julie Gidlow went to, along with some other members of the congregation. This was one of a series of celebratory events held across the Diocese to mark the 750th anniversary of the Diocese of Chichester, highlighting the variety of work done in local parishes. A Testimony of Faith was given by a parishioner of Holy Trinity, and a compilation video of parishes across the Deanery, including Christ Church, was shown. The service was led by Bishop Martin and Bishop Will, his Suffragan for this side of the Diocese. Afterwards a wonderful spread of food and drink enabled us to chat with our counterparts in other parishes. It is always interesting to meet other lay and ordained members of the Church of England at these sorts of events.

In October, Lizzy Mackay attended the Deanery Synod at St Leonards C of E School, Collinswood Drive. Lesley Hurst, the contact for schools at Chichester Diocese, talked about her involvement in setting and monitoring standards of Christian worship in schools throughout the Diocese. It was a very positive account which gave a sense of how driven she is in her work for our schools. Several members of the audience were teachers, including a Head Teacher, which led to a lively and engaged Q and A session at the end.

Mark Talbot, CEO of many of the Church Academies, discussed the fruits the church schools are increasingly bearing. There seems to be a great deal of variety and freedom in the Church Academy schools, many of which are also Community Schools. There are lots of positive things happening in schools, many of which are student led projects. One negative note was sounded - it seems that the bursary for teachers preparing to teach Religious Education is shortly to be scrapped. Fr David Hill of our neighbouring parish of St John's worked on the new curriculum, bringing a great deal of experience from his work in schools before he came to St Leonards. He argued strongly for the need to keep RE firmly in the curriculum.

16. Bell Ringers

The tower continues to be well supported by ringers, with generally six to eight attending on Sunday morning, and ten to twelve (including visitors from Christ Church, Blacklands and Battle) at the Monday night practices.
Mechanically there is little to report, with the bell installation continuing in good order despite the occasional ingress of pigeons to the belfry, and a certain amount of rope wear, necessitating splicing - a traditional craft which is still very much alive in bell towers! Alan Pink - Tower Captain

17. Sacristy

It's been a busy eight months since the last report in April, during which we have been steadily engaged with the usual weekly services as well as providing the items needed for special feast days and Solemnities throughout the year. We also had some special services this year during our week of celebration for the 150th anniversary of Christ Church. Notable among these was a recreation of the church's inaugural Mass on 13th May 1875 and a festival Mass with the Bishop of Lewes presiding. The anniversary Mass, held on the same day as the original service 150 years ago, was somewhat different to Christ Church's usual offer. Being a Communion Service from the Book of Common Prayer it was not as ornate as we are used to today. The presiding priest did not wear vestments so instead of the usual chasuble, the robes laid out for Fr Thomas consisted of alb and Anglican academic hood. There were also only two candles alight on the altar instead of the usual six, and no incense. Setting up for a pared back service such as this really highlights how many things there are to consider in a service today!

Some of the items we usually use were laid out in a display for the Open Day held as part of these celebrations. Seeing the vestments gave people a chance to see and appreciate items that are usually tucked away. However, many of these are now reaching the end of their useful lives. Being made primarily from silk and being in use for many years they have started to fray and wear thin. Several have been patched and repaired multiple times, but we have a few examples where it is no longer possible to repair or renew in this way. Without some serious expenditure on new vestments we are in danger of not having something usable for the priests to wear to offer the Mass.
The same is true of the altar linens, both large and small. In the New Year I will be embarking on a project to make more purificators (the little linen towels that the Eucharistic Ministers use to wipe the chalice at communion), as well as measuring the altars in order to have new large altar cloths made.

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One of the main ongoing projects has been the linen labelling which is now almost complete — just four items left to do. This turned out to be a little more involved than anticipated, as the iron-on labels didn't behave as expected – they all came off in the first wash. Huge thanks are due to Sarah Salsbury, who then sewed all the labels in by hand, making sure everything is now clearly marked and much easier to manage going forward. Her work has dramatically cut the time needed to change the altar linens at Christmas and Easter from around five hours to three.

The Sacristy team remains much as it was last year. I am hugely indebted to Mark O'Sullivan who does the set up with me every Saturday and who stepped into the breach when I took a two month sabbatical in the autumn. Also Tina Grevett who looks after the candles for the Sacristy, each week replenishing the pricket stands, cleaning and refilling the shrine votives, and making sure there is a steady supply of little red lights for the saints in the Sedilia on special occasions. The regular team is completed by Gail Salsbury acting as Sacristan on Wednesdays and Sundays 8am, and Sue Edwards and Sarah Salsbury looking after the small and large linens (and Fr Thomas's albs and amices) respectively. On special occasions we are lucky to have additional help from several of the servers and I am particularly grateful to everyone who helped with the Christmas set up. It was especially wonderful to come in this year to set up the crib to find it had already been done by Graeme Monk, Harry Walsgrove and Will Baker. They somehow managed to carry the panels upstairs and set it up without me noticing! Thanks also to John Zachariah who joined Harry, Will, Mark, Tina and me in re-setting the silver, banners, linens and colours on Christmas Eve, working around multiple services and the Community Nativity to get it all done in time.
There really is so much to do, and it can only be done with a wonderful team working together. Thank you to everyone who has helped support our work in any way this year – it makes Sacristy life such a shared and enjoyable part of our church.

Julie Gidlow, Sacristan – 30th December 2025

18. Monthly Sales and Sewing Group

Our Monthly Sales have a long history, and developed from having a table in the underground car park of Tescos. After discussion, we abandoned these Table Sales, and decided to host our own Sales, which then became monthly, back in 2010. In previous years, Christ Church held two major Fayres annually.
Since then, the regular events have increased in size, incorporating our Parish Hall as well as the Crypt. Also, this enables the Book Room to be included.
Their popularity has also increased, and they are well supported by the local community. This makes them an outreach opportunity, and also provides a big contribution to our church fundraising. 2025 saw them contributing £7258.
Huge thanks goes to all the volunteers who work hard both between Sales and on the day. This amounts to 15 to 20 people each month.
Valerie Wilson is now unable to play the major role she has done for many years. Grateful thanks for all the support she has given.
We are now needing more to volunteer, as others are also able to do less.

A regular table at each Sale has sold the variety of hand-made items produced by the Sewing Group. This was formed back in 2006 by Margaret Byne, who sadly died last November. As well as contributing financially to our Sales, the members made and donated their craft work to many needy causes, both in this country and abroad. Over the years, the members of this group dwindled with age and infirmity. But Margaret battled on despite her illnesses for as long as possible. We already miss her presence and the wonderful display of the Group's creations as those left are gradually sold.

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St Leonards on Sea

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19. Christ Church Parish Church Choir

The choir currently consists of 3 Sopranos, which includes one occasional, 1 Alto, 2 Tenors (one of whom is the organist) and 1 Bass. We have had quite a busy year which has involved some changes. The choir continues to lead the congregational singing from the chancel, a position they occupied when the church was first built. It is a much better position to sing from and the acoustic in that position helps the singers produce a good sound. The climbing of the stairs to the gallery often left individuals out of breath in the past. Now that they are singing in the chancel they are able to process in and out with the servers and clergy, as well as taking part in the prayers before and after the service making them much more part of the service. The choir works hard each week preparing the music so that they can lead the congregation in worship Sunday by Sunday. They are a very committed group of individuals and over the week leading up to Easter were singing services on a daily basis, which included the introduction of Sung Compline on the Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday evenings of Holy Week. These services were very well attended and were sung by candlelight which made them the perfect "ending of the day."
This year has also seen the introduction of a second Sunday Evensong service followed by a meal and a talk. The choir has worked hard to produce a high standard of musical support for this service. As we move forwards we are hoping to invite visiting choirs to come and sing Evensong with our own choir.
On Saturday 4th January 2025, our choir set off to travel to Bury St Edmunds to sing Evensong at St Edmundsbury Cathedral, together with the choir of St Neots. I had the great privilege of playing the magnificent Cathedral organ. The service was streamed on their website.
It was a joy to welcome the choir of St Mary's Parish Church, St Neots in Cambridgeshire to sing Evensong with us on 18th May 2025 as part of our 150th Celebrations. They enjoy coming to Christ Church as Charles Lyndhurst-Vaughan was their Rector before he came to Christ Church. Our choir went to sing Evensong at St Neots on 27th July 2025.
On Saturday 3rd January 2026, our choir set off again to travel to London by train to sing Evensong at Southwark Cathedral, together with the choir of St Neots. I had the great privilege of playing the magnificent Lewis organ.
Future dates include - the director of music at St Neots and myself are exploring possibilities for Cathedral visits for the rest of 2026 /27 at the current time and are waiting for some Cathedrals to get back to us.
If there are any that feel that they could sing as part of our choir they should initially have an informal conversation with me during coffee after a service.

David Smith, Director of Music

20. Flowers

The usual team have carried on with the church flowers for another year: Anne, Heidi, Fiona, Louise and Lizzy. There have been several new helpers as well, Misha, Vanessa and Catherine who team up on the day. This is on Friday mornings , except in Advent and Lent. Louise Fisher heads the team and still prepares the rota and hosts our annual get together in the Spring. We were involved in an Anniversary Open Day in May when we filled the church with flowers related to modern art works from the Methodist Collection temporarily on display and organised by Jane Read. Easter and Christmas is the time we all come together to make the best show possible.

Christ Church
St Leonards on Sea

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21. Authorised Lay Minister – Jane Hart

I have been an ALM since 2020, having my first commissioning from Bishop Martin in Chichester Cathedral, just a few weeks before Covid lockdown.

My first training was for work with 'Children and Families' as I was very much involved in PALS, the Sunday School, as it was then known. Although I no longer lead Sunday School, I now encourage and visit baptism families and support confirmation candidates, and help with the junior Servers. It is a role I value very much, journeying with new Christians and helping them grow in faith.

As I moved into other areas of ministry, I took further training in 'Worship and Liturgy' (commissioned by Bishop Ruth) which I use when I write and lead the Taize prayer service. I am also able to lead a Service of the Word or a service of Holy Communion by extension, in specific circumstances.

My 3rd training was in Pastoral Care, with Julie in January 2025. We were both commissioned by Bishop Will in May, and he gave us a blessing on his visit to Christ Church shortly after.

This 3rd ALM role has opened up further opportunities to develop my ministry within Christ Church, but also further afield. By the time you read this I will have completed my first duty as a Volunteer Day Chaplain at Chichester Cathedral. This is something that was advertised in the Lay Ministry magazine and also at the annual Diocesan Lay Ministry Conference. It will involve leading the hourly prayers and lunchtime intercessions, assisting at the midday eucharist, and being available for people to talk to, for any reason, throughout the day. I will go once a month, as there is a team of Chaplains. I will work closely with the Welcome Team, Tour Guides and the Vergers, so I hope to bring some ideas back for use here.

I now oversee the Welcome Team here, under the Guild of St Francis de Sales, and look forward to having more people join and give an encouraging greeting to all those who come through our doors. I also co-ordinate The Magdalenas women's group who meet (usually monthly) for fellowship and activities.

Already in the Pastoral role I have dealt with bereavement, addiction, loneliness and financial/food difficulties. However, much praise must go to Cosy Crypt for the support they offer in these areas.

I feel very privileged, but also greatly humbled to hold these roles and to offer service to God and our community in this way, and to support Christ Church, her Clergy, congregation and visitors, and very much appreciate the support and care they have given me.

Each ALM role has to be reviewed every 3 years, and approved by the PCC, and there is always additional training available and encouraged by the Diocese.

22. Gardening Team

Two of us gardeners have been continuing a Christchurch tradition of doing on the courtyard garden and part of the rectory garden. The courtyard is mainly owned by the Christchurch Old Buildings Trust. Feedback from them and the Citizens Advice Bureau has been encouraging. We have planted many bulbs and seedlings this year but much of what you see is hardy perennials planted years ago by previous teams (Mary Perry, Maureen Mason, Louise Fisher, Philip Mackay, Margaret Byne for example) daffodils, crocosmia, wallflowers, snowdrops, and the many flowering bushes. Being a presence in the courtyard every Monday afternoon draws many enquiries about the church. This last year there have been three tableaux near the bus stop at the main gates: Christmas Nativity, Easter showing the empty tomb, and then Remembrance Sunday. Jenny and l planted a Rowan Tree for the Queen's platinum Jubilee and it has survived so far. It can be hard work pruning the trees and shrubs, keeping the weeds at bay. New volunteers are always welcome . Lizzy Mackay

23. Book Room

This continues to open twice a week, thanks to Patricia. It contributes to our fund-raising, making a profit of £640 in 2025. She would like thank all who help and support this valuable resource, available to both the congregation, and the wider public. It is particularly popular on our Monthly Sales days.

Christ Church with St Mary Magdalen and St Peter and St Paul St Leonards-on-Sea

Registered Charity no. 1170031

Statement of Financial Activities for the 12 months ended 31st December 2025

	Unrestricted Fund	Restricted Funds	Endowment Fund	Total Funds	Total Funds 2024
	£	£		£	£
Income and endowments from:					
Donations and legacies	89,265	0	0	**89,265**	**78,017**
Charitable activities	1,490	0	0	**1,490**	**162**
Other trading activities	22,743	4,613	0	**27,356**	**84,648**
Investments	10,154	366	0	**10,520**	**11,606**
Other receipts	0			**0**	**0**
Total income	**123,652**	**4,979**	**0**	**128,631**	**174,434**
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	1,070	0	0	**1,070**	**2,778**
Charitable activities	119,643	366	0	**120,009**	**189,086**
Other trading activities	18,141	4,698	0	**22,839**	**33,109**
Other expenditure	0	0	0	**0**	**0**
Total expenditure	**138,854**	**5,064**	**0**	**143,918**	**224,973**
Net gains (or losses) on investments	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**7,566**
Net income or (net expenditure)	**-15,202**	**-85**	**0**	**-15,287**	**-42,973**
Transfers between funds	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**
	-15,202	-85	0	-15,287	-42,973
Other recognised gains/(losses):				**0**	**0**
Increase/(Decrease) in value of Investments	-12,799	-840	0	**-13,639**	**0**
Reconciliation of funds:					
Net movement in funds	**-£28,001**	**-£925**	**£0**	**-£28,926**	**-£42,973**
Total funds brought forward 31.12.2024	**£299,017**	**£124**	**£14**	**£299,155**	
Total funds carried forward	**£271,016**	**-£801**	**£14**	**£270,230**	

Christ Church with St Mary Magdalen and St Peter and St Paul St Leonards-on-Sea

Registered Charity no. 1170031

Balance Sheet as at 31st December 2025

	Total Funds 2025	*Total Funds 2024*	
	£	*£*	
Intangible assets	**-**	-	
Tangible assets	**-**	-	***Note 9***
Investments	**324,069**	*337,709*	***Note 8***
Endowed investments	**476**	*476*	***Note 8***
Total fixed assets	**324,545**	*338,185*	
Stocks	**-**	-	
Debtors	**7,573**	*6,120*	***Note 10***
Cash at bank and in hand	**46,991**	*46,073*	***Note 15***
Total current assets	**54,564**	*52,193*	
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	(66,809)	*(49,151)*	***Note 11***
Net current assets or (liabilities)	**(12,245)**	*3,042*	
Total assets less current liabilities	**312,300**	*341,227*	
Creditors: Amounts falling due after more than one year	**-**	-	***Note 12***
Provisions for liabilities	**(42,072)**	*(42,072)*	***Note 13***
Total net assets or (liabilities)	**270,228**	*299,155*	
The funds of the charity:			
Endowment funds	**476**	*476*	
Restricted income funds	**18,063**	*18,987*	
Unrestricted funds	**251,690**	*279,692*	
Revaluation reserve	**-**	-	
Total unrestricted funds	**251,690**	*279,692*	
Total charity funds	**270,229**	*299,155*	

Analysis of Funds	**Balances b/f**	Income	**Expenditure**	Balances c/f
Endowment funds	**476**			**476**
Restricted Funds				
YACC	**577**			**577**
Walsingham Pilgrimage	**708**	**4,613**	**4,697**	**624**
Sunday School	**154**			**154**
Trollopes Charity	17,548	366	1,206	**16,708**
Total Restricted Funds	18,987	4,979	5,903	**18,063**
General Fund – Unrestricted	279,692	110,013	138,015	**251,690**
Total charity funds	299,155	114,992	143,918	**270,229**

This Annual Financial Report, for the year ended 31st December 2025, including the notes following, was **Approved** by the PCC and signed on its behalf by

Revd. Thomas Crowley Chairman

……

Date: 13 January 2026

Notes to the financial report

1 Accounting policies

a Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared under the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 in accordance with applicable accounting standards and the current (2015) Statement Of Recommended Practice, Accounting and Reporting by Charities SORP (FRS 102).

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention as modified by the inclusion of investments at market value and the revaluation of fixed assets. The financial statements include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible in law. They do not include the accounts of church groups that owe their affiliation to another body, nor those which are informal gatherings of church members.

b Funds accounting

Funds held by the PCC are:

Unrestricted funds - general funds which can be used for PCC ordinary purposes

Designated funds - monies set aside by the PCC out of unrestricted funds for specific future purposes or *projects.*

Restricted funds - a) income from trusts or endowments which may be expended only on those restricted objects provided in the terms of the trust or bequest; b) donations or grants received for a specific object or invited by the PCC for a specific object. The funds may only be expended on the specific object for which they were given. Any balance remaining unspent at the end of the year is carried forward as a balance on that fund.

Endowment funds - funds the capital of which must be maintained; only income arising from the investment of the endowment may be used, either as restricted or unrestricted funds, depending on the purpose set out in the terms of the original endowment

c Income and endowments

All income and endowments are accounted for without deduction for any costs of receivability, are recognised when there is evidence of entitlement, receipt is probable, and the amount can be measured reliably.

Donations and legacies

Collections are recognised when received.

Planned giving receivable is recognised when there is evidence of entitlement, receipt is probable, and the amount accords with the Gift Aid declaration or other record of intention to donate.

Gift aid recovered is recognised when the income to which it is attached is recognised.

Grants and legacies are recognised when the formal offer in writing of the funding, is received by the PCC.

Charitable activities

Sales of magazines and study notes are recognised when received.

Rents from property are recognised in accordance with the rental agreements, when receipt is probable.

Other trading activities

Trading activities are where income is receivable in return for selling goods or providing services. Income from trading is recognised either: a - when received, or b - in the cease of concerts: for the year in question, irrespective of date of receipt. Advance bookings are included in creditors until the concert has taken place.

Investment income

Dividends are accounted for when due and payable. Interest entitlements are accounted for as they accrue.

Notes to the financial report (continued)

All other income

All other income is recognised in accordance with the above overall policy.

Gains and losses on investments

Realised gains are recognised when the investments are sold

Unrealised gains and losses are accounted for on revaluation at 31 December.

d Expenditure

Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and accounted for gross.

Grants

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

Church Activities

The diocesan parish contribution is accounted for on an annual basis, reflecting the allocation set by our Deanery. Any parish contribution unpaid at 31 December is provided for in these accounts as an operational (though not a legal) liability and is shown as a creditor in the balance sheet.

e Fixed Assets

Tangible fixed assets

Consecrated and beneficed property of any kind is excluded from the accounts by s.10(2) of the Charities Act 2011.

Movable church furnishing held by the Vicar and Churchwardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal, are accounted as inalienable property unless consecrated. They are listed in the church's inventory which can be inspected but are not included in the financial statements. For other property acquired prior to (date) there is insufficient cost information available and therefore the cost of such assets is not stated in the financial statements.

All expenditure on consecrated or beneficed buildings and individual items costing under *£1,000* are written off in the year they were incurred.

Depreciation

Depreciation is calculated to write down the cost of tangible fixed assets, excluding freehold properties, over their expected useful lives. The rates generally applicable are:

- Fixtures and fittings 20%
- Audio visual equipment 33%
- Office equipment 25%

No depreciation is provided on freehold property as it is the PCC's policy to maintain these assets in a continual state of sound repair. The useful economic life of these assets is so long and residual values so high that any depreciation would not be material. These assets will be subject to annual impairment reviews. Provision will be made if there has been any permanent diminution in value.

Investments

Investments are stated at market value at the balance sheet date.

f Current Assets

Amounts owing to the PCC at 31 December in respect of fees, rents or other income are shown a debtors less provision for amounts that may prove uncollectible.

Short-term deposits include cash held on deposit either with the CBF Church of England Funds, or at the bank

Notes to the financial report (continued)

2 Analysis of income and endowments 12 months to 31st December 2025

	Unrestricted Fund	Restricted Funds	ndowment Fund	Total Funds 2025	Total Funds 2024
	£	£		£	£
Planned giving (excl. Gift Aid)	11,562	-		**11,562**	**12,247**
Planned Giving (incl Gift Aid)	12,988	-		**12,988**	**13,160**
Donations	33,080	-		**33,080**	**22,250**
Loose cash collections	8,220			**8,220**	**6,595**
Fund Raising Events	1,305	-		**1,305**	**2,377**
Special Appeals (not incl. Gift Aid)	1,470			**1,470**	**0**
Cosy Crypt	1,536	-		**1,536**	**516**
Table Sales	7,259	-		**7,259**	**7,069**
Gift Aid recoverable	8,426			**8,426**	**10,235**
Legacies	-	-		**-**	**22**
Online and Contactless Donations	3,420	-		**3,420**	**3,547**
Donations and legacies	**£89,266**	**-**	**-**	**£89,266**	**£78,017**
Fees for weddings & funerals	1,490	-		**1,490**	**162**
Charitable activities	**£1,490**	**-**	**-**	**£1,490**	**£162**
Coffee and Candles	3,580	-		**3,580**	**3,397**
Rent from letting of St Peters Hall	-	-		**-**	**0**
Church Hall and Office Letting	19,163	-		**19,163**	**22,361**
Grants	-	-		**-**	**52,507**
Walsingham Pilgrimages		4,613		**4,613**	**6383**
					0
Other trading activities	**£22,743**	**£4,613**	**-**	**£27,356**	**£84,648**
Bank & CBF deposit interest	1,035	-		**1,035**	**2,373**
CBF investment fund dividend	9,026	366		**9,392**	**9,166**
HMRC Interest re Gift Aid	93			**93**	**67**
Investments	**£10,154**	**£366**	**-**	**£10,520**	**£11,606**
	-	-		**-**	
Total income and endowments on all	**£123,653**	**£4,979**	**-**	**£128,632**	**£174,434**

Notes to the financial report (continued)

3 Analysis of expenditure 12 months to 31st December 2025

	Unrestricted Fund	Unrestricted Funds	Endowment Fund	Total Funds 2025	Total Funds 2024
	£	£		£	£
Cosy Crypt	-	-		-	63
Summer fete & Christmas bazaar costs	-	-		-	0
Planned Giving Costs				-	0
Stewardship costs (e.g. printing envelopes)	-	-		-	0
Grants costs (e.g. making E/Heritage application)	1,070			1,070	2715
Other fundraising (non-trading) costs	-	-		-	0
Cost of raising funds	**£1,070**	**-**	**-**	**£1,070**	**£2,778**
Missionary and charitable giving					
Ministry:					
diocesan parish share	36,750	-		36,750	35,600
other clergy costs	5,592	213		5,805	5,640
Staff	14,715	-		14,715	12,085
Upkeep of services	5,859	153		6,012	4,145
Church running	27,493	-		27,493	23,997
Sunday school		-		-	-34
Church maintenance and repair	18,109	-		18,109	7,678
Fabric Repairs	343			343	90,106
Special Appeals costs (Clock/Organ/Legacies)	-	-		-	0
Insurance of Church Building	7,963	-		7,963	7,697
Grants	100	-		100	0
Architects Fees	-	-		-	0
Bank charges	240	-		240	251
Rectory Costs	-	-		-	0
Governance	2,480	-		2,480	1,920
Cost of charitable activities	**£119,644**	**£366**	**-**	**£120,010**	**£189,086**
Summer fete & Christmas bazaar costs	-	-		-	0
St Peters Hall costs	-	-		-	0
Church Hall and Crypt running costs	18,141	-		18,141	26,463
Curate costs	-	-		-	0
Parish magazine costs	-	-		-	0
Bookstall costs	-	-		-	0
Walsingham Pilgrimages	-	4,698		4,698	6,646
Sundry Expenses	-	-		-	0
Cost of other trading activities	**£18,141**	**£4,698**	**-**	**£22,839**	**£33,109**
Total expended on all funds	**£138,855**	**£5,064**	**-**	**£143,919**	**£224,973**

Notes to the financial report (continued)

4 Missionary and charitable giving

	Unrestricted Fund	Restricted Fund/s	Endowed Fund/s	Total Funds 2025	*Total Funds 2024*
	£	£	£	£	£
Overseas:	-	-	-	-	
Home:	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	-

5 Staff costs

	Unrestricted Fund	Restricted Fund/s	Endowed Fund/s	Total Funds 2025	*Total Funds 2024*
	£	£	£	£	£
Remuneration					
Wages and salaries	14,715	-	-	**14,715**	*12,085*
Social Security costs	-	-	-	-	-
	£14,715	-	-	**£14,715**	*£9,845*

6 Governance

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Fund/s	Endowed Fund/s	Total Funds 2025	*Total Funds 2024*
Independent examination	£	£	£	£	£
Accounts production	1,920			**1,920**	*1,920*
Bookkeeping	560	-	-	**560**	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	£2,480	-	-	**£2,480**	*£1,920*

7 Analysis of transfers between funds

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Fund/s	Endowed Fund/s	Total Funds 2025	*Total Funds 2024*
	£	£	£	£	£
Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-

Notes to the financial report (continued)

8 Fixed Assets

a Investments

	Unrestricted Fund	Restricted Fund/s	Endowed Fund/s	Total Funds	*Notes*
	£	£	£	**£**	
Market value 1 January 2025	320,159	17,550	476	**338,185**	
	-	-	-	**-**	
	-	-	-	**-**	
Net (losses)/gains and revaluation	(12,799)	(840)	-	**(13,639)**	
Market value 31 December 2025	**£307,360**	**£16,710**	**£476**	**£324,546**	

b Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold land and buildings	Audio visual equipment	Office equipment	Total fixed assets
	£	£	£	**£**
Cost or valuation				
At 1 January 2025	-	-	-	**-**
Additions	-	-	-	**-**
Disposals	-	-	-	**-**
Revaluation	-	-	-	**-**
At 31 December 2025	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**
Charge for impairment				
At 1 January 2025	-	-	-	**-**
Additions	-	-	-	**-**
Disposals	-	-	-	**-**
Revaluation	-	-	-	**-**
At 31 December 2025	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**
Net book amounts				
At 31 December 2025	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**
At 31 December 2024	-	-	-	-

Notes to the financial report (continued)

9 Analysis of net assets by fund

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Fund/s	Endowed Fund/s	Total Funds 2025	*Total Funds 2024*	*Notes*
	£	£	£	**£**	*£*	
Investment fixed assets	307,360	16,709	476	**324,545**	*338,185*	
Current assets (except cash)	7,573	-	-	**7,573**	*6,120*	
Cash at bank and on deposit	45,637	1,354	-	**46,991**	*46,073*	
Current liabilities	(66,809)	-	-	**(66,809)**	*(49,151)*	
Provisions for Liabilities	(42,072)	-	-	**(42,072)**	*(42,072)*	
	£251,689	**£18,063**	**£476**	**£270,228**	*£299,155*	

10 Debtors

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Fund/s	Endowed Fund/s	Total Funds 2025	*Total Funds 2024*	*Notes*
	£	£	£	**£**	*£*	
Income tax recoverable	**3,355**	-	-	**3,355**	*3,355*	
Prepayments and accrued income	**4,218**	-	-	**4,218**	*2,765*	
Other debtors	-	-	-	**-**	*-*	
	£7,573	**-**	**-**	**£7,573**	*£6,120*	

11 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Fund/s	Endowed Fund/s	Total Funds 2025	*Total Funds 2024*	*Notes*
	£	£	£	**£**	*£*	
Deferred income	-	-	-	**-**	*-*	
Accruals for utilities and other costs	66,809	-	-	**66,809**	*49,151*	
Other creditors	-	-	-	**-**	*-*	
	£66,809	**-**	**-**	**£66,809**	*£49,151*	

12 Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Fund/s	Endowed Fund/s	Total Funds 2025	*Total Funds 2024*	*Notes*
	£	£	£	**£**	*£*	
Other creditors	-	-	-	**-**	*-*	
	-	**-**	**-**	**-**	*-*	

Notes to the financial report (continued)

13 Provisions for Liabilities

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Fund/s	Endowed Fund/s	Total Funds 2025	*Total Funds 2024*
	£	£	£	£	*£*
Provision for Church Hall Maintenance	-	-	-	-	*-*
Provision for Church Maintenance	42,072	-	-	**42,072**	*42,072*
	£42,072	**-**	**-**	**£42,072**	*£42,072*

The Board of Trustees have deemed the valuation of the provision for Church Maintenance as reasonable based on the report of the Architect following the Quinquennial Inspection of the structure of the Church and the recommendations included in the Report.

14 Statement of funds

	Balances b/fwd 01-Jan-25	Income	Expenditure	Transfers, other gains and losses	Balances c/fwd 31-Dec-25
	£	£	£	£	£
DBF Funds	476	-	-	-	*476*
				-	-
Total of all endowed funds	**476**	**-**	**-**	**-**	*476*
Rector & Churchwardens	-	-	-	-	-
YACC	577	-	-	-	*577*
Walsingham Pilgrimage Fund	708	4,613	4,697	-	*624*
Sunday School	154	-	-	-	*154*
Trollopes Charity	17,549	-	-	(840)	*16,709*
Total of all restricted funds	**18,988**	**4,613**	**4,697**	**(840)**	*18,064*
General fund	279,692	124,018	139,221	(12,799)	*251,690*
Total of all unrestricted funds	**279,692**	**124,018**	**139,221**	**(12,799)**	*251,690*
Total funds	**£299,156**	**£128,631**	**£143,918**	**£(13,639)**	*£270,230*

The endowed fund comprises an historic bequest

The restricted funds are as set out above. The YACC balance is considered to be a designated account. Restricted funds are not invested permanently, but are to be spent within reasonable timescales.

The unrestricted fund includes a designated sum £42,072 which has PCC has set aside towards the cost of future fabric repairs to the Church

Within the unrestricted funds are balances totalling £350,835 that can be utilised for expenditure by the authority of the Rector and Churchwardens only.

Notes to the financial report (continued)

15 Analysis of cash and cash equivalents

	Total Funds 2025	*Total Funds 2024*	***Notes***
	£	*£*	
Cash in hand including non-notice deposits	**46,991**	*46,073*	
Notice deposits (less than 3 months)	**-**	-	
Overdraft facility repayable on demand	**-**	-	
Total cash and cash equivalents	**£46,991**	*£46,073*	

16 Related parties and transactions

Certain members of the PCC are also trustees of certain other Charities.

No member of the PCC has any financial transactions with any of these Charities.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE
PCC OF CHRIST CHURCH WITH ST MARY MAGDALEN AND ST PETER AND ST PAUL
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2025

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity for the year ended 31st December 2025 set out on pages 1 to 35.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust you are responsible for the preparation of the account in accordance with the requirements of the Charites Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Trustee'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 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

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

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or

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

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



Mr S Rosling FCCA
For and on behalf of Ashdown Hurrey Auditors Limited
Accountants and Business Advisors
20 Havelock Road
Hastings
East Sussex
TN34 1BP

Date: 13 February 2026