**Annual PCC report for the year ending 31st December 2025**

The church of St Mary the Virgin, Alveley, is a Grade II* listed building within the village conservation area. The church dates back to 1140 and is of considerable architectural beauty and historical interest. The United Benefice consists of the churches of St Mary the Virgin, Alveley, and St Andrew, Quatt. It was in the Bridgnorth Deanery within the Diocese of Hereford and situated in the county of Shropshire. During 2024, the Bridgnorth Deanery amalgamated with other local Deaneries and the new Deanery is now called the Severn Borders Deanery.

The address for correspondence is:

David & Jackie Hampson, [redacted]

Email: [redacted]

Members of the Parochial Church Council (PCC) are either ex-officio (Clergy, Readers, Church Wardens, Deanery Synod Representatives, Alveley Old Chapel Manager) – the latter because Alveley Old Chapel is under the ownership and jurisdiction of the church. Others are elected at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) in accordance with Church Representative Rules.

During 2025 the following have served as PCC members:

| | |
|---|---|
| Incumbent: | Reverend Jon Aldwinckle |
| Reader: | Mrs Sue Chidwick |
| Church Wardens: | Mrs Penny Jenkins |
| | Mrs Alison Pearson |
| Deanery Synod Reps: | Mrs Kirsty Ritzenthaler - until May 2025 |
| | Mrs Sue Chidwick |
| | Mrs Alison Pearson |
| | Lynn Madden – from May 2025 |
| Safeguarding Officer: | Mrs Jackie Hampson |
| Alveley Old Chapel Manager: | MM -until February 2025 |
| Elected Members: | Mr Dale Chidwick |
| | Mr David Hampson (Joint PCC Secretary) |
| | Mrs Jackie Hampson (Joint PCC Secretary) |
| | Mrs Anne Simms (PCC Treasurer/Gift Aid Officer) |
| | Mrs Kirsty Ritzenthaler resigned from PCC May 2025(Electoral Roll Officer) |
| | Mrs Penny Jenkins |
| | Mr Colin Taylor |
| | Prof Paul Rylance |
| | Mr Paul Walford |
| | Dr Keith Pearson |
| | Mrs Alison Pearson |
| | Mrs Patricia Haw |
| | Mrs Lynn Madden |
| | Mrs Jenny Sirrell |

**Aims and Purposes of the PCC:** St Mary's PCC has the responsibility for co-operating with the incumbent in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. It is a Registered Charity (No. 1185217).

During 2025 our incumbent has continued to engage well with the PCC, congregation and wider village residents.

Reverend Jon Aldwinckle (JA) is a great benefit to St Marys and St Andrews and has built on the successful existing services and events and introduced many new initiatives for worship, fundraising and fellowship.

**Objectives and Activities:** The PCC is committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship and become part of the parish community of Alveley. To facilitate this work, it is important to maintain the fabric of the church. The last Quinquennial Report highlighted various issues to be addressed, and these continue to be attended to by the Churchwardens. This year has continued to be challenging and demanding on all levels. A new Quinquennial Survey was undertaken in July 2024, the report was shared with the PCC at the meeting in July 2025.

In December 2024 the old oil-fired heating boiler broke down and was irreparable. The lack of heating has had a detrimental effect on congregation numbers and church development during the colder, winter months of 2025. A new heating system has been designed and should be installed during 2026.

**Safeguarding:** To ensure that all are cared for safely, we have a Safeguarding Officer, Mrs Jackie Hampson, and any concerns over personal welfare and safety should be addressed to her.

**Pastoral Care and Visiting:** JA has recommenced pastoral care with hospital and home visits.

**Prayer Ministry:** praying with and for people at any time. Suggestions for daily prayers are now given out each Sunday. There is a prayer session at OCCC every Monday morning which is well attended.

**Training:** Keith Pearson continued with his second year of Reader training in September 2025. He will complete his course during 2026.

Alison Pearson completed the Introduction to Christian Ministry course in June 2025.

**Worship and Music:** Our music group plays frequently at 20/20/20 services. Full congregational hymn singing and the playing of the organ continue to be the main method of worship in the other services with some choir members in attendance.

**Children and Youth:**

Messy Church has been re-introduced on the first Saturday of each month and is proving to be very successful event helping to bring children and families into Church.

A Youth Club provision is planned.

The Open the Book sessions at Alveley Primary School have also continued and are very well received by Alveley School.

**Home groups:** small groups held in a few parishioner's homes, draw adults to explore the Christian faith and lead them to learn more from Bible study and discussion.

**Men's outreach:** "Breakfast in the Old Chapel" a meal and an outside speaker to present men with the message of Christ outside the church resumed in October 2025.

**Old Chapel Community Centre (OCCC):** a church-owned and governed establishment in the redundant Methodist Chapel is popular within the village. Coffee, tea, cakes and light lunches are available on two days a week and there is a lovely garden to sit in on sunny days.

MM resigned as manager of the Old Chapel tea rooms in 2024 and finished her duties in February 2025 and the "management" and running of the tea rooms is now shared between a number of willing volunteers.

In May 2025 the Old Chapel was relaunched and renamed as the Old Chapel Community Centre (OCCC) with a greater emphasis to be put on hiring out for private functions as well as maintaining the two day a week Tea Rooms. Jackie Hampson became booking secretary, and an outlook calendar is shared with Reverend Jon for weekly and occasional bookings.

OCCC is supported financially by a bequest fund and St Mary's Church. A system of joint accounting with church has been established so that the Treasurer can easily oversee finances. Jenny Sirrell and RS took over the accounting for the OCCC and separate costs out between the 'Tea Rooms' and St Mary's Church. This system became embedded in 2025.

During 2025 the OCCC Management Committee met every 2 – 3 months and consisted of Reverend Jon Aldwinckle, Penny Jenkins, Alison Pearson, LP and JH.

Other village organisations - Chapel Crafters and the Be Cafe have used this as a venue as well. In December 2025 a Christmas Lunch was organised for the Elderly of the village. There was no charge for this only a donation pot request. The event paid for itself with a small donation going back into OCCC funds. The PCC has held its meetings here and the Parish Administrator has used the office facilities. OCCC is also available for private hire.

This has become a wonderful use of a redundant building, and we continue to be grateful for the generous legacy which enabled the Chapel to be purchased by the church, thus providing the whole community with hospitality and fellowship and a continuity of life for a much-loved building. Plaques recording the legacy and giving the mission statement are on display.

**New Life Nepal**: We continued our support of New Life House [redacted] - the charitable trust in [redacted] Nepal, along with supporters in Thame, Tupsley, and another parish in Hereford diocese. During 2025 it was decided to formally support NLH as a charity through St Mary's Church previously individuals had supported NLH and Church had organised fund-raising events.

We receive regular news and updates at PCC meetings. Penny Jenkins has continued to maintain our contact with the Trust, and we thank her for this, although the main management is based in Thame.

**Church Attendance:** The Electoral Roll is currently 60, entitling us to 3 Deanery Synod representatives. Church services averaged around 50. We continue to work with and share events at St Andrew's, Quatt.

**Parish Retreat**: At the beginning of Advent (November/December 2025) 28 people attended a Retreat Weekend at Launde Abbey. This was a very successful and uplifting weekend. Where the attendees prepared their hearts and minds for the season of Advent.

**Bell Ringers:** The bell ringers are an active group who practice on a Thursday evening. They ring on some Sundays and at special services/events.

**Fundraising and Social Events:** We are very grateful to those in the congregation who have arranged to make their offering by Standing Order thereby ensuring a regular income from these sources which has helped enormously in ensuring regular income.

**Additional fundraising events during 2025 were:**

Pancake Morning which took place in the Pavilion. It was well supported by villagers and children from the village school.

Harvest Lunch – this was a Bring and Share style and was well attended.

Many members of the congregation and PCC have continued to help with ongoing practical tasks of maintenance and caring and we would again like to take this opportunity to thank ***everyone*** who plays a part in our church life. Without everyone's efforts in countless ways, our church would not be the spiritual, caring and loving community it is, seeking to make God's kingdom here in Alveley. Thank you so much to you all for all that you do.

***David & Jackie Hampson*** ***May 2026***

**St Mary's Financial Review for Year Ended 31/12/25**

**Financial Review**

Total receipts on unrestricted funds amounted to £73,177, of which £49,116 related to unrestricted voluntary donations. There were no restricted donations received. The freehold property, Alveley Old Chapel, continues to be used primarily as a tea room, under the new name of Old Chapel Community Centre.

The planned giving through banker's orders decreased during 2025 by 4%. Total income, including tax recovered through gift aid, is only slightly down compared to last year, with decreases in voluntary income and fund-raising almost balanced out by increases in PCC Fees, gift aid recovered and investment income. Recovered Gift Aid amounted to £9,429 as a result of one claim made during 2025. £70,039 was spent from unrestricted funds to provide the Christian ministry from St Mary's Church, including the £42,500 contribution to the diocesan parish share, increased by £2,500 from 2024, that largely provides the stipends and housing for the clergy. Overall unrestricted costs represented an increase of 5% compared to 2024, primarily due to the appraisal costs in 2025 relating to a proposed new heating system for the church.

The net result for the year was an excess of payments over receipts of £13,625 on unrestricted funds, an increase of £5k compared to the excess of payments over receipts of £8,550 in 2024. The balances carried forward at 31st December 2025 on unrestricted funds totalled £113,358, of which £1,962 relates to the Chapel bank accounts and cash floats.

**Reserves Policy**

It is PCC policy to maintain a balance on unrestricted funds which equates to at least three months of 'usual' unrestricted payments. Currently there is nobody salaried in the church accounts, and, from March 2025, there was no longer a manager at the Chapel. We also maintain a higher reserves figure to cover anything urgent that may come up on the church's quinquennial review, which looks at the condition of the buildings, as suggested by the Church of England guidance on reserves. In 2026, it is proposed to use a sizeable amount of reserves towards the cost of replacement of the church heating system.

**Anne Simms**
Treasurer
May-26

# ST MARY THE VIRGIN ALVELEY PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

Registered Charity Number 1185217

REPORT AND ACCOUNTS

FOR

THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

ST MARY THE VIRGIN ALVELEY PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

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## ST MARY THE VIRGIN ALVELEY PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

## LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

| | |
|---|---|
| **MINISTER** | Rev Jon Aldwinckle |
| **CHURCH TREASURER** | Anne Simms |
| **CHARITY NUMBER** | 1185217 |
| **PRINCIPAL ADDRESS** | St Mary's Church<br>Alveley Village<br>Shropshire<br>WV15 6ND |
| **BANKERS** | Barclays Bank PLC<br>Leicester<br>Leicestershire<br>LE87 2BB |
| **INDEPENDENT EXAMINER** | David Price FCCA<br>Wallace Crooke<br>Chartered Accountants<br>College House<br>St Leonards Close<br>Bridgnorth<br>Shropshire<br>WV16 4EJ |

## INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF ST MARY THE VIRGIN, ALVELEY PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL (PCC)

I report on accounts of the charity for the year ended 31st December 2025, which are attached.

**Respective responsibilities of the Members and Examiner**

As the Charity's trustees, who are members of the PCC you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts; you consider that the audit requirement of section 144(2) of the Charites Act 2011(the Act) does not apply. It is my responsibility to state, on the basis of procedures specified in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners under Section 145(5)(b) of the Act, whether particular matters have come to my attention.

**Basis of Independent Examiner's Report**

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the Charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and, consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given in the accounts.

**Independent Examiner's Statement**

In connection with my examination, no matter has to come to my attention

(a) Which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
- To keep accounting records in accordance with Section 130 of the 2011 Act
- To prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements under the 2011 Act have not been met; or

(b) To which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

D Price FCCA
Wallace Crooke
Chartered Accountants
College House
St Leonards Close
Bridgnorth
Shropshire
WV16 4EJ

Date: 24/5/2026

**St Mary The Virgin**
**Alveley Parochial Church Council**
**Receipts and Payments Account**
**For the Year Ended 31 December 2025**

| | Unrestricted Funds | Unrestricted Designated Funds | Restricted Funds | 2025 Total Funds | 2024 Total funds |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| **Receipts** | | | | | |
| **Voluntary receipts** | | | | | |
| Planned giving | 28,950 | - | - | 28,950 | 30,205 |
| Collections | 7,560 | - | - | 7,560 | 8,498 |
| All other giving / voluntary receipts | 492 | 529 | - | 1,021 | 1,994 |
| Gift Aid recovered | 9,429 | - | - | 9,429 | 8,294 |
| Activities for generating funds | 2,156 | - | - | 2,156 | 2,716 |
| | 48,587 | 529 | - | 49,116 | 51,707 |
| Investment income | 2,496 | 25 | 41 | 2,562 | 1,817 |
| Church activities | 8,422 | - | - | 8,422 | 7,118 |
| Other income | - | - | - | - | - |
| Sales | - | 13,118 | - | 13,118 | 13,587 |
| **Total receipts** | 59,505 | 13,672 | 41 | 73,218 | 74,229 |
| **Payments** | | | | | |
| **Church activities** | | | | | |
| Parish share | 42,500 | - | - | 42,500 | 40,000 |
| Clergy running expenses | 1,472 | - | - | 1,472 | 1,136 |
| Church running expenses | 23,109 | - | - | 23,109 | 20,020 |
| Chapel running expenses | - | 16,763 | - | 16,763 | 20,675 |
| Mission giving and donations | 2,000 | - | - | 2,000 | - |
| | 69,081 | 16,763 | - | 85,844 | 81,831 |
| Cost of generating funds | 958 | - | - | 958 | 902 |
| Total payments | 70,039 | 16,763 | - | 86,802 | 82,733 |
| Excess of receipts over paymemts | - 10,534 | - 3,091 | 41 | - 13,584 | - 8,504 |
| Funds brought forward at 1 January 2025 | 123,074 | 3,909 | 49,703 | 176,686 | 185,190 |
| Transfers between funds in the year | - 2,000 | 2,000 | - | - | - |
| Funds carried forward at 31 December 2025 | 110,540 | 2,818 | 49,744 | 163,102 | 176,686 |

**St Mary The Virgin**
**Alveley Parochial Church Council**
**Statement of Assets and Liabilities**
**For the Year Ended 31 December 2025**

| | Unrestricted Designated funds | Unrestricted General fund | Restricted | Total 2025 | 2024 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| **Fixed Assets** | | | | | |
| Buildings | - | 69,622 | - | 69,622 | 69,622 |
| **Current Assets** | | | | | |
| Debtors | | | | | |
| Bank and cash | 2,818 | 32,530 | 48,806 | 84,154 | 98,516 |
| CBF accounts | - | 11,277 | 938 | 12,215 | 11,864 |
| | 2,818 | 43,807 | 49,744 | 96,369 | 110,380 |
| **Current Liabilities** | | | | | |
| Other creditors | - | 2,889 | - | 2,889 | 3,316 |
| Net current assets | 2,818 | 40,918 | 49,744 | 93,480 | 107,064 |
| Total assets less current liabilities | 2,818 | 110,540 | 49,744 | 163,102 | 176,686 |

**Movement on Funds**

| | Opening Balance | Income | Expenditure | Transfers | Balance carried forward 31/12/2025 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| **Restricted** | | | | | |
| Church Roof (a) | 373 | 1 | - | - | 374 |
| Fabric Fund (b) | 935 | 40 | - | - | 975 |
| St Marys (Link bequest) (d) | 48,395 | - | - | - | 48,395 |
| | 49,703 | 41 | - | - | 49,744 |
| **Designated** | | | | | |
| Sunday School (c) | 856 | - | - | - | 856 |
| The Old Chapel | 3,053 | 13,672 | - 16,763 | 2,000 | 1,962 |
| | 3,909 | 13,672 | - 16,763 | 2,000 | 2,818 |
| **General** | 123,074 | 59,505 | - 70,039 | - 2,000 | 110,540 |
| **Total** | 176,686 | 73,218 | - 86,802 | - | 163,102 |

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees on 11/5/26. and were signed on its its behalf by:

Rev J Aldwinckle - Chair

**ST MARY THE VIRGIN ALVELEY PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL**
**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS**
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025**

## Accounting Policies

### Basis of preparation

The financial statements of the Parochial Church Council have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 and the Charities Act 2011. The financial statements have been prepared under the receipts and payments basis.

### Fixed Assets

Tangible fixed assets consist of the freehold premises at Alveley Old Chapel, which are being held at historic cost.

### Taxation

The charity is exempt from tax on its charitable activities.

### Restricted Funds

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

The Church Roof Fund represents accumulated donations for maintenance of the church roof, for which funds may only be purposed.

The Fabric Fund represents accumulated donations for maintenance of the church fabric, for which funds may only be purposed.

St Mary's (Link Bequest). The bequest was left to the Vicar and Churchwardens of St Mary's Alveley, for use by the local church. Funds are to be used for that purpose only.

### Unrestricted Funds

Alveley Old Chapel represents the accumulated income and expenditure of Alveley Old Chapel. These are held in a separate bank account, but the Parochial Church Council is the accountable body for them.

The Sunday School fund represents accumulated donations for the Sunday School.

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Date: 24/5/2026