PEFC Trustee's Report: Jan 1st – Dec 31st 2025

Peacehaven Evangelical Free Church
132 South Coast Road
Peacehaven
BN10 8RD
Charity Number: 1186664

Trustees :
Graham King
Ian Kedge
Jeff Collington
Rachel Pullen
Dominic DeNoon
James Gwabya
Rowland Frampton

Aims and Purposes
PEFC holds the responsibility of advancement of the Christian faith, in accordance with its Basis of Faith, primarily within Peacehaven, and also the surrounding towns and areas. We also endeavour to engage in other charitable purposes that, in the opinion of the Charity trustees, put into practice the Christian faith, such as; the prevention and relief of need, hardship and sickness, the advancement of education, and the provision of facilities in the interests of social welfare for recreation or other leisure time occupation of individuals who have need of such facilities by reason of their youth, age, infirmity or disability, financial hardship or social circumstances with the object of improving their conditions of life.

Structure, governance and management
PEFC functions with an elder-led, congregational governance. People seeking to become members, elders, deacons, or other key positions, are vetted by the elders and subsequently put to vote with the existing members according to the church rules and handbook. At the end of 2025 we had 73 members, 5 elders and 7 deacons, 7 trustees and successfully appointed a new administrator and treasurer. We hold members meetings twice a year, bi-weekly elders meetings, quarterly trustees meetings, and deacons meetings as needed.

Advancing the Christian Faith
We strive to ensure that our services and events are open, welcoming, inclusive and accessible to everyone in our community. In endeavouring to advance the Christian faith in Peacehaven and surrounding areas, we advertise our Sunday services, courses and other meetings as open to everyone, also ensuring our teaching is online easily accessed. We present clear, expositional Bible sermons and provide opportunities for people to engage in singing, worship, prayer and opportunities to

make social connections at the services, our various small groups and other various events. There are additional provisions and safe spaces for nursing mothers, parents with babies, toddlers and Sunday school age children. In July, we had our annual community outreach event at the Peacehaven Summer fair. We offered refreshments, children's stickers and Christian literature and evangelical materiel at the booth. This time allowed for very effective connections to the local community.

The Provision of our Facilities

To ensure we are providing opportunities that serve the interests of social welfare for recreation or other leisure time opportunities, we have regular social gatherings available for various groups and needs in the community. These events are either weekly or monthly and include our teenage meetings, primary school age events, men's gatherings, ladies' fellowships and older peoples meetings. Our facilities available for various support groups in the area that help people struggling with varying addictions who meet regularly in our building. In addition, our main hall and kitchen area is rented out, as competitive prices for various sports and social groups in the community, including karate, art, games and fitness groups.

Parents & Tot's Group (Rainbow Plus)

The Parents & Tots team have been serving families in our community for many years on Tuesday mornings. This ministry is deeply appreciated by local families and serves as a safe place and fun environment for parents and children come together. The main hall is set up with toys, mats and apparatus for the children to enjoy, while chairs surround the room for the parents to watch their child play safely. There is a craft table, a time of singing, snack times and the tea and coffee available during the morning, from 9:30-11:30. We sometimes have more than 100 parents and tots in attendance.

Visitation

Some members of our parish are unable to attend services due to health restrictions or now attending a care home. Other parishioners have faced times in hospital or recovery due to cancer treatment, ill health or medical procedures. Pastor Graham endeavours to visit all such parishioners wherever possible and also keep in touch by other means.

Services, Small Groups & Courses

Our Sunday Services are our main opportunity for people to experience the life of the church, with prayer, worship, Bible Teaching & fellowship to follow. In 2025 we saw steady grown and many new families with children, as well as young people from the community have become a regular part of the church. In 2025 we had 223 people on our follow-up books and an average of 115 adults present on Sundays over the course of the year. There are multiple countries and cultures represented in the church, providing an ethnically diverse congregation, that includes people from various ages and backgrounds.

In addition to our main services, our small groups initiative is an integral part of our church life. We have 7 different groups that meet during the week hosted at people's homes and at the church. We have most of the groups hosted in Peacehaven, but also groups in Newhaven and Saltdean. A majority of our Sunday attendees are also in a small group during the week.

We offer an 8-week course every year, with curriculum, videos and food provided. These courses are aimed at helping people explore the Christian message and journey and grow as a Christian disciple. Many people who were brand new to the faith or our church attended this course. In the summer we offer weekly Bible classes for 5-6 weeks which allow for a more extensive study of major Christian themes and doctrines.

Baby Dedications, Memorial Services & Baptisms
We offered our services to people, whether in the church or community at large, who may need help with holding a memorial service, a prayer of dedication for families with babies and at least two opportunities for baptism a year, one in the church and another in the sea. In 2025, we baptised 6-7 people over the course of the year.

Charitable Purposes
In a practical expression of the Christian faith for charitable purposes, we have regular collections for the local food bank for those in need. We gave multiple opportunities for our parishioners to make donations at various times in the year, including our Harvest Festival and the Christmas Carol concert. We also provide visits for all those who may request one to provide encouragement, Biblical counsel and prayers. Hospital and home visits for the sick are a regular part of our visitation program.

Financial
In 2025 were able to get our financial records updated, independently reviewed, and submitted to the charity commission all in good time. We were in good financial standing for 2025.

Governance Trustees, Elders & Deacons
In 2025, no trustees were added or removed from our trustees board, maintaining a total of 7 members (as listed above). The board meets quarterly to oversee the functioning of the Charity and to ensure compliance with charity commission expectations. We have maintained our number of 5 elders who meet every 1-2 weeks to discuss issues relating to the life, vision and health of the church and events on the calendar. We have had 7 serving deacons, who lead ministries and are faithful in their deacons' duties. They ensure the building is open and ready to go for services and special events and oversee other practical needs in the building.

Safeguarding

Our safeguarding (SG) team meet quarterly, and our SG policy is up to date, with the most recent updates in April 2025. The Chief SG Officer is one of our trustees and the SG team includes 2 other SG officers, one male and one female, who have all received SG training. An information poster with pictures and contact details for SG team has been displayed on notice boards around the building. The SG team did a presentation in the church, introducing the team and explaining the roles and procedures. In Sept 2025 we had a SG trainer come and provide several sessions for ministry leaders and those who work with children or vulnerable adults in the church. We extended an invitation within the church and there were about 30 people in attendance total. An email address to be exclusively used by the SG team has been requested and there is discussion about acquiring a mobile for SG use. We are in the process of dedicating office space, with a locking filing cabinet, that can be used by the SG team when needed. Church secretary, who is also one of our safety officers, oversees our DBS processes and applications, and these are being checked and updated accordingly.

First Aid

We have a team of trained first aiders on rotation and have 1-2 of them on duty during services each Sunday in case any needs may arise. The on-duty first aider wears a lanyard and a badge to be easily identified. If need be, they will access the first aid cupboard, operate the on-site defibrillator, ensure that the emergency services are notified, help evacuate the building, and take any other possible actions depending on the situation. In Feb 2026, the batteries of the defibrillator were changed and a process for regular battery checks has been implemented. There are 3 first aid stations around the building and the First Aid team are responsible to ensure the boxes are replenished and updated accordingly.

The India Mission

Our church overseas mission continues with our ministry and outreach in India. We made 2 trips in 2025, in February and then again in November. We fundraise and provide opportunities for people in the church and wider community to give to this cause on a regular basis. There are currently 3 main parts to the India Mission: (1) The Children's Home (The Home of Life), (2) The Leprosy Colony, (3) The Village Churches. We have a functioning missions board of 6 people and held regular meetings. Several people have pledged monthly support for the children's home and we also have a sales table to raise funds once a month towards the mission.

PEFC Financial Report 2025

The Church remains in a satisfactory financial position. As at 31 December 2025, the Church had financial assets of £124,637, compared with £117,111 at the beginning of the year. Total income for 2025 was £153,122, compared with £128,566 in 2024, while total expenditure was £145,596, compared with £134,595 in 2024. This resulted in an excess of income over expenditure of £7,526 for the year. This represents an encouraging improvement on 2024, when expenditure exceeded income by £6,029.

Income increased considerably during 2025 and came from a number of different sources. Donations continued to provide the largest proportion of the Church's income, totalling £90,311. Hall hire generated £26,928, while rental income from the manse and Church flat amounted to a further £19,745. The Church also received £7,311 in Gift Aid, £4,589 in solar income, £2,970 in interest and £1,268 from other sources. The continued growth of income from the use of the Church's premises is particularly welcome and provides an important source of funding alongside the generosity of those who support the Church through their giving.

As would be expected, staffing continued to represent the largest area of expenditure. Salaries and wages, employer costs and pension contributions amounted to £63,555 during the year. The Church also incurred expenditure on the maintenance and operation of its buildings, including £6,894 on property maintenance and £7,080 on utilities and telephone and broadband costs. Insurance and licence costs, equipment, general supplies, training and other costs also formed part of the Church's normal expenditure during the year.

Giving towards the Church's Mission work remained significant during 2025. The Mission Account received £37,408 during the year and recorded expenditure of £45,027. The Church continued its overseas Mission work in India, with two trips taking place during 2025, in February and November. This work continues to include support for the Children's Home, the Leprosy Colony and the Village Churches. The Church remains grateful to all those who give specifically towards this work and to those involved in managing and supporting the Mission.

The Church continues to maintain substantial reserves. The Nationwide account stood at approximately £94,080 at the end of 2025, compared with £91,109 at the end of 2024. The increase reflects the interest received during the year. This continues to provide the Church with an important level of financial resilience and helps protect it against unexpected expenditure or changes in income.

At 31 December 2025, the Church's financial assets were made up of approximately £23,892 in the General Purpose Fund account, £5,888 in the Mission Account, £94,080 in the Nationwide account, £1,837 in the PayPal account and £108 in petty cash, together with a Barclaycard balance of approximately £1,167 owed. This produced total net financial assets of approximately £124,637.

Overall, 2025 represents an improvement in the Church's financial position. It is particularly encouraging that income exceeded expenditure during the year, reversing the deficit reported in 2024, while the Church has also been able to maintain its reserves and continue funding its ministry, premises and Mission work. Nevertheless, the Church should continue to monitor its finances carefully. Staffing, property and utility costs remain significant commitments, and maintaining a healthy balance between regular income and expenditure will continue to be important.

We are grateful for the continued generosity of those who support the work of Peacehaven Evangelical Free Church and for the resources available to enable the Church to continue serving both its congregation and the wider community. As we move forward, we pray that the Church will continue to use those resources wisely and faithfully in support of its ministry and charitable purposes.

Beth Laurents

Treasurer
Peacehaven Evangelical Free Church

Peacehaven Evangelical Free Church

Printed: 14/09/2026

Month = December 2025

Fund name	Fund balances brought forward	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Gains and losses	Fund balances carried forward
Barclaycard	23.20	0.00	-13,740.37	12,550.66	0.00	-1,166.51
GPF Account	14,773.37	106,865.98	-86,612.14	-11,135.66	0.00	23,891.55
Mission Account	7,420.44	37,407.90	-45,026.50	6,086.00	0.00	5,887.84
Nationwide Account	91,109.46	2,970.17	0.00	0.00	0.00	94,079.63
PayPal Account	3,676.88	5,877.32	-216.31	-7,501.00	0.00	1,836.89
Petty Cash	107.69	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	107.69
Totals	117,111.04	153,121.37	-145,595.32	0.00	0.00	124,637.09

CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/ members of	Peacehaven Evangelical Free Church		
On accounts for the year ended	31 December 2025	**Charity no**	1186664
Set out on pages	1 to 3 (One to Three) including this report		

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/12/2025.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

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

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination (other than that disclosed below *) which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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

Signed:	Darren Warren	**Date:**	31/07/2026
Name:	Darren Warren – Paxton Independent Examiners		
Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any):	FMAAT		
Address:	61a High Street South Rushden Northants, NN10 ORA		

Section B	Disclosure
	Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).
Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.	

CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Charity Name	No (if any)
Peacehaven Evangelical Free Church	

Receipts and payments accounts

For the period from	Period start date	To	Period end date
	01/01/2025		31/12/2025

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Collections/Donations	47,026	-	-	47,026	48,158
Mission Donations	43,285	-	-	43,285	29,814
Hall Hire	26,928	-	-	26,928	12,723
Propery Rental	19,745	-	-	19,745	23,238
HMRC Gift aid	7,311	-	-	7,311	6,790
Grants	-	-	-	-	400
Sales/ FIT	4,589	-	-	4,589	-
Interest	2,970			2,970	2,662
Other	1,268	-	-	1,268	4,781
Sub total *(Gross income for AR)*	153,122	-	-	153,122	128,566
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	153,122	-	-	153,122	128,566
A3 Payments					
Salaries	63,555	-	-	63,555	54,413
Property Maintenance	6,894	-	-	6,894	6,922
Utilities	7,080	-	-	7,080	11,217
Ins/ Subs/Licences	4,736	-	-	4,736	3,744
Equipment	3,459	-	-	3,459	10,865
Consumables/Stationary	1,729	-	-	1,729	4,775
Training	120	-	-	120	1,930
Mission	46,027	-	-	46,027	28,513
Bank Charges	64			64	282
Property Rental	-			-	
Other	11,932	-	-	11,932	11,934
Sub total	145,596	-	-	145,596	134,595
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	145,596	-	-	145,596	134,595
Net of receipts/(payments)	7,526	-	-	7,526	- 6,029
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	-	-	-	-	-
Cash funds this year end	7,526	-	-	7,526	- 6,029