Anglican Asian Living Church

Registered Charity No: 1188895

Annual Report

1 January to 31 December 2025

Governance Statement

The Purpose of the Charity is:

The dissemination and support of the Christian faith, for the public benefit amongst Asian communities and those closely associated with them in Cowley and Oxfordshire, and when appropriate elsewhere in the United Kingdom and globally, by the provision of worship, Christian education, social and community support and other recognised needs within the community.

The charity is governed by a board of trustees.

The members of the board of trustees between 01.01.25 and 31.12.25 were:

Mr. Robin Ajit
Mr. Arun Mattu
Miss Jasmine Masih
Revd. Canon Geoffrey Bayliss

The charity currently has no employees.

Statement of trustees' responsibilities

The trustees are responsible for ensuring the trustees' report and the financial statements are prepared for each financial year, in accordance with English law and regulations, and UK accounting standards. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies, as described in the Statement of Accounts and then apply them consistently;
- prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume the charity will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with relevant law and regulations.
The trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.
During the year trustees have reviewed all AALC policies including their Safeguarding policy.

Bankers

The charity's bankers are: Lloyds Bank PLC, 25 Gresham Street, London EC2V 7HN

Charity Address

The charity's registered address is:

St. James Church Centre, 13 Beauchamp Lane, Oxford, OX3 3LF
01865 747680
aalc@cowleyteamministry.co.uk

Public Benefit Statement

Anglican Asian Living Church is a Christian Church, functioning under a Bishop's Mission Order within the Diocese of Oxford of the Church of England. We seek to equip our members and those with whom we work in the wider community to live in a way that reflects the Christian faith and its focus on generous love. We seek to work in a positive way alongside and with communities of different faiths and philosophies whilst sharing openly the faith in God which guides our work. We believe our work transforms communities in ways that enhance human life and build a society of respect, tolerance, peace and spiritual health.

Statement of Activities for 2025

1. Leadership Development

Throughout 2025, the Anglican Asian Living Church (AALC) has continued to strengthen and stabilise its leadership structure, building on the foundations established following the departure of Revd Richard Chand in 2020.

The church remains under the guidance of Revd Canon Dr Geoffrey Brian Tudor Bayliss, who serves as Leader of the Bishop's Mission Order (BMO) on a part-time, Self-Supporting Minister (SSM) basis. His continued support, alongside the wider Cowley Team Ministry, has provided valued sacramental leadership, pastoral oversight, and continuity.

The Trustees have maintained strong oversight of governance, operational management, and the strategic direction of the church. Their leadership has ensured consistency in worship, effective coordination of church life, and responsible stewardship of resources.

A key area of focus in 2025 has been the continued development of lay leadership. There has been a deliberate emphasis on equipping members of the congregation to actively participate in worship and ministry. Jasmine Masih has continued to coordinate the worship rota and sermon schedules, enabling Worship Leaders such as Sunita Masih and Salina Chand to grow in confidence and experience as they progress through discernment.

Opportunities for wider participation have also been encouraged through midweek services, prayer gatherings, and youth initiatives, fostering a collaborative and inclusive culture of ministry. Monthly Trustee meetings remain central to the life of the church, ensuring that decisions are prayerfully discerned and aligned with the vision of Cowley Parish.

Safeguarding continues to be a key priority. All active members have undertaken appropriate safeguarding training, and Jasmine Masih continues to serve as Assistant Safeguarding Officer, supporting compliance and promoting a safe and welcoming environment for all.

2. Hopes and Plans for AALC

The year 2025 has been a period of continued growth and consolidation for AALC. With regular services firmly re-established and the Bishop's Mission Order (BMO) progressing, the church is increasingly confident in its identity and direction within Cowley Parish.

Looking ahead, the church's priorities remain focused on:

* Spiritual Formation and Sacramental Growth: Preparations for baptisms and confirmations continue, reflecting a deepening commitment to faith among members and new attendees.

* Youth Development and Empowerment: Monthly youth-led services remain a central priority, providing young people with opportunities to lead, serve, and grow in confidence within their faith.

* Strengthening Community Life: Fellowship through refreshments, social gatherings, and church events has continued to play an important role in building strong relationships and creating a welcoming environment for newcomers.

* Digital Ministry and Outreach: Livestreaming and digital engagement, coordinated by Dylan Masih (Digital Coordinator), have continued to expand AALC's reach, enabling participation from both local and international audiences.

* Visiting Ministers and Special Services: During 2025, AALC has welcomed a number of visiting preachers, pastors, and worshippers. These visits have enabled the church to hold special services that have been well attended, drawing individuals from the local community as well as those who do not regularly attend church. This has contributed significantly to increased engagement and has supported the continued growth of the congregation.

* Partnership with Cowley Parish Ministry: The continued support of the Cowley Team Parish remains a cornerstone of AALC's development. The provision of ordained ministry for preaching, Holy Communion, and pastoral care is highly valued and essential to the church's ongoing growth.

As AALC looks forward, there is a strong commitment to developing leadership pathways, strengthening discipleship, and exploring new opportunities for mission that reflect the church's diverse and multicultural identity.

3. Challenges

Despite its progress, AALC continues to face a number of challenges:

* Appointment of a Dedicated Ordained Minister: While the current leadership arrangements have provided stability, the absence of a dedicated ordained minister for AALC continues to limit capacity for long-term planning, pastoral continuity, and further growth.

* Sustaining Engagement Post-Covid: Although attendance and participation have improved, continued effort is required to re-engage members who became less active during the pandemic and to sustain momentum.

* Managing Growth Sustainably: As the church grows, there is an increasing need to ensure that leadership capacity, volunteer support, and resources develop in line with this growth to maintain sustainability.

4. Finances

The Anglican Asian Living Church has continued to demonstrate responsible financial stewardship throughout 2025.

As of October 2025, the church's available bank balance stands at £50,433.61, reflecting strong financial health, prudent management, and sufficient reserves.

Income Summary
Income during 2025 has been generated through:

* Planned giving and standing orders
* One-off donations and love offerings
* Special service collections
* Contributions associated with visiting ministers and events

There has been a positive trend in giving, supported by increased attendance, stronger engagement, and expanded digital outreach. All income has been managed transparently, with regular reconciliations and Trustee oversight.

Expenditure Summary
Key areas of expenditure have included:

* Honoraria and gifts for visiting ministers and guest speakers
* Church operations and maintenance
* Youth programmes and community outreach
* Digital streaming and media support
* Hospitality and fellowship activities

A weekly contribution of £50 continues to be given to the Cowley Team Parish as a goodwill offering in recognition of ongoing ministerial support.

Financial Position

The church remains in a strong financial position, with:

* No outstanding debts or liabilities

* Consistent income streams
* Adequate reserves to support future ministry initiatives

These reserves provide a solid foundation for continued growth and future investment.

Conclusion

In 2025, the Anglican Asian Living Church continued to grow as a vibrant, multicultural, and faith-filled community within the Cowley Team Parish.

The increased engagement through visiting ministers, special services, and outreach beyond the regular congregation has been a significant encouragement and a clear reflection of the church's growing impact within the wider community.

With committed Trustees, developing lay leadership, and the continued support of the Cowley Team Ministry, AALC is well-positioned to move confidently into its next phase of growth.
Through prayerful discernment, intentional leadership development, and a continued focus on worship, fellowship, and mission, AALC remains committed to building a spiritually thriving, inclusive, and sustainable church for the future.



Chair of Trustees

The Anglican Asian Living Church

Registered Charity Number: 1188895

Annual Accounts

1 January 2025 - 31 December 2025

Balance Sheet

	31.12.25	31.12.24
Current Assets		
Cash at bank and in hand	£52,203	£47,529
Debtors	£0	£0
Current Total Assets	**£52,203**	**£47,529**
Creditors	£0	£0
Nett Current Assets (Liabilities)	**£52,203**	**£47,529**
Capital and Reserves		
Restricted Funds	£0	£0
Designated Funds	£0	£0
General Fund	£52,203	£47,529
Total Capital and Reserves	**£52,203**	**£47,529**
Represented by		
Cash at bank (Lloyds bank)	£52,203	£47,529
Cash in hand	£0	£0

Profit and Loss Account

Opening Balance	**£47,529**	**£35,812**
Current year earnings(loss)	£4,674	£11,717
Closing Balance	**£52,203**	**£47,529**

Statement of Income and Expenditure

	2025	2024
INCOME		
Planned giving: Standing order	£1,423	£890
Planned giving: Envelope	£862	£1,719
Collections: Special Services	£3,307	£1,911
Collections: Sunday services	£7,726	£10,670
Collections: Wednesday meetings	£2,831	£2,924
Tax reclaimed (Gift Aid)	£0	£0
Charity Event	£1,230	£0
Prepayments	£0	£481
Refund on purchase	£87	£0
Total incoming resources	**£17,466**	**£18,594**
EXPENDITURE		
Payment to ministers	£4,330	£3,450
Rental of premises *	£100	£0
Church catering	£1,411	£0
Insurance	£252	£251
Church operating expenses	£1,510	£1,955
Purchase of PA Equipment	£3,046	£0
Deanery Share	£120	£120
Youth Work (Alpha)	£375	£0
Church Outing (Coach cost)	£800	£0
Sundry payments (cash payments)	£795	£1,100
Bank Charges	£53	£0
Total outgoing resources	**£12,792**	**£6,877**
Operating profit(deficit)	£4,674	£11,718

* **Note on accounts** : Rental of premises is shown as £0 in 2024 and £100 in 2025 as no regular invoices have been received from Cowley PCC in this period. However we understand that back-dated invoices will be received during 2026 and that a substantial sum will be requested. Reserves however are more than sufficient to cover this cost in 2026.



Chair of Trustees