Report of the Trustees and

Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2025

for

Hertford Town Church

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Hertford Town Church

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 December 2025

The trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2025. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (published October 2019).

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives and aims

The purposes of the church are:

1. The advancement of the Christian faith in accordance with the Basis of Faith primarily but not exclusively within Hertford and the surrounding neighbourhood; and

2. Such other charitable purposes as shall, in the opinion of the charity trustees, put into practice the Christian faith in accordance with the Basis of Faith, including but not limited to: 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

provided that the advancement of such purposes must be undertaken in a manner that is consistent with the Doctrinal Distinctives and Ethical Statements as may be adopted and amended by the church from time to time.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES (continued)

The church's ministries

In fulfilment of these purposes, the church appointed Josh Wynn as pastor in April 2023, responsible for maintaining a regular ministry and pastoral care for the congregation. Extensive use is made of the regular church attendees who willingly volunteer their time to, for example, support children's work, undertake visits/phone calls to church members and other regular attendees, provide oversight, maintain the premises and serve in the wider community.

The church has brought benefit through:

1. A programme of meetings and events which seeks to deepen the spiritual lives of those attending the church, help them to live out the Christian life where they live and work, and provide opportunities for other members of the public to hear the Christian gospel. Our meetings included:
- morning services each Sunday (live-streamed for those not able to meet in person). A nearby church hall was rented as the church had outgrown the space in the church building – and having outgrown this location, the decision was made to move to a local school for our morning services from January 2026.
- morning children's ministry;
- a mid-week programme, including meetings for both prayer and teaching;
- Town Tots, a weekly group for parents/carers with children up to the age of 5;
- Easter, summer and Christmas family fun days and a summer holiday club;
- regular church lunches; and
- Christmas carol services.

2. Encouragement to those who attend the church to pray for the wider church, the needs of the world and to volunteer their time in the name of Christ to serve the needs of the community.

3. Buildings which provide for Sunday worship and facilitate meetings throughout the week and for the encouragement of the Christian faith amongst all ages within the local community. These were enhanced with the provision of equipment to enable the live broadcast of services to those unable to attend in person.

Public benefit

The Trustees are aware of the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit (PB1). They consider that the church's objectives and activities, and their decision-making in relation thereto, are and have been consistent with that guidance.

Grant making

There are specially announced appeals with the monies donated being given directly to the organisation concerned – and when it spans a financial year end, some of the income is shown in one financial report, with the remainder of the income and the grant being made in the following years financial report. Research into a suitable project is undertaken by the Trustees and the project approved by the Trustees. Reports are received from the organisation on the benefit derived from that giving. Such grants are made as restricted gifts and, for the period covered by this annual report, were for the following purposes:

- Christmas 2025: to the church in Pakistan supporting a building project

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

Charitable activities

During 2025, the church has continued to focus on teaching the Bible and promoting prayer and fellowship, including through the teaching and outreach ministries outlined above.

In addition to weekly services and mid-week fellowship and teaching, there were no baptisms (2024: two) during the year.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Principal funding sources

The church is dependent on donations made by those who attend the church and other donors. The amount given fell slightly in 2025 despite the number attending the church having increased. For the period ended 31 December 2025 the church received unrestricted donations of £54,899 (2024: £60,240) plus restricted giving of £2,936 (2024: £5,400). In addition, Spicer Street Church provided support of £30,000 (2024: £40,000) towards the cost of a pastor.

Investment policy and objectives

The church's investment assets comprise the church building. The value of the property is reviewed from time to time by the Trustees and Treasurer to ensure that the market value is greater than the investment. The remaining financial assets of the church are held in an instant access bank current account, an instant access deposit account and a 32-day notice deposit account. There is no exposure to stock market shares.

Reserves policy

The Trustees policy is to maintain a reserve of at least three months' expenditure. It is not the policy of the church to build up general reserves, preferring to rely on God's providence to meet needs as they arise. The reserves at 31 December 2025 are currently in excess of three months expenditure although the Trustees see this as a short-term situation that will help as expenditure increases.

Property and Land

The property and land consisting of Hertford Town Church are owned by the church.

FUTURE PLANS

Several items are proposed for 2026. These have arisen through an ongoing review of activities and a desire to enable those outside the church to understand the gospel of Jesus Christ. Such plans include:

- Continuing to share the Christian faith with others;
- Continuing to welcome the new people who are attending the church;
- Facilitating fellowship amongst those attending the church;
- Easter, summer and Christmas family fun days;
- A third year of Town Tots; and
- The continued rolling out of affiliate membership at the church to help identify who belongs to the church, to help with governance and pastoral care and to encourage service in the church.
- A move of our Sunday morning services to the Simon Balle school from January 2026.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The church's governing document is a written Constitution approved and adopted at a Trustees members' meeting held on 21 July 2020. The church is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation, with registration number 1190784.

Recruitment and appointment of new trustees

Appointment of Trustees is set out in the Constitution. Trustees are appointed by the Trustees and serve as elders – and a pastor would become a trustee on appointment by virtue of their role as an elder. Recommendations for new Trustees are brought to the trustees meeting by the existing trustees. They are appointed at a Trustees meeting via a resolution that must be passed by a 75% majority of the quorum then present.

Organisational structure

The Trustees and Treasurer regularly review and discuss the affairs of the church.

Induction and training of new officers

New Trustees and Treasurers are briefed as necessary on their obligations under charity law, the Constitution and the decision-making processes of the church.

Safeguarding
Hertford Town Church's ministry for children and young people operates under a Safeguarding Policy and Procedures tailored to the needs of that ministry. The Policy and the Procedures were reviewed and adopted by the Trustees. The Trustees and all children's ministry volunteers receive specific training on safeguarding children and young people. Processes are in place for the proper handling of concerns about the welfare of children and young people and referral to authorities where necessary or appropriate.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS
Registered Charity number
1190784

Principal address
2 Hartham Lane
Hertford
SG14 1QN

Trustees
G Strain
C Bancroft, resigned 31 October 2025
J Purvis
J Wynn

The elders of the church are classified as trustees for legal purposes.

Independent Examiner
Philip John Dymond FCCA
Chartered Certified Accountant
Cheyettes Ltd
167 London Road
Leicester
LE2 1EG

Treasurer
R McClure

Bankers
Lloyds Bank plc
5/6 Market Place
Hertford
SG14 1DF

CHURCH'S WEBSITE
Further details of the church may be found at its website: www.hertfordtownchurch.org.uk.

Approved by order of the board of Trustees on 15 June 2026 and signed on its behalf by:

.....
G Strain - Trustee

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Hertford Town Church

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Hertford Town Church
I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of Hertford Town Church (the Trust) for the year ended 31 December 2025.

Responsibilities and basis of report
As the charity trustees of the Trust 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 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all 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 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.

Philip John Dymond FCCA
Chartered Certified Accountant
Cheyettes Ltd
167 London Road
Leicester
LE2 1EG

Date: 07/08/2026

Hertford Town Church

Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 December 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2025 Total funds £	2024 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies	2	54,899	2,936	57,835	65,640
Other income		30,535	-	30,535	40,371
Total		85,434	2,936	88,370	106,011
EXPENDITURE ON					
Charitable activities	3				
Gifts to Christian causes		-	(1,591)	(1,591)	(5,675)
Church ministry		(55,333)	-	(55,333)	(45,042)
Property costs		(14,581)	-	(14,581)	(33,171)
Governance		(919)	-	(919)	(1,152)
Total		(70,833)	(1,591)	(72,424)	(85,040)
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		14,601	1,345	15,946	20,971
Transfers between funds	10	-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds		14,601	1,345	15,946	20,971
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Funds transferred from Hertford Town Church		-	-	-	-
Total funds brought forward		258,348	-	258,348	237,377
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		272,949	1,345	274,294	258,348

The notes form part of these financial statements

Hertford Town Church

Balance Sheet
31 December 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2025 Total funds £	2024 Total funds £
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	7	210,000	-	210,000	210,000
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	8	3,249	-	3,249	6,852
Cash at bank		64,571	1,345	65,916	44,306
		67,820	1,345	69,165	51,158
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	9	(4,871)	-	(4,871)	(2,810)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		62,949	1,345	64,294	48,348
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		272,949	1,345	274,294	258,348
NET ASSETS		272,949	1,345	274,294	258,348
FUNDS					
Unrestricted funds				272,949	258,348
Restricted funds				1,345	-
TOTAL FUNDS	10			274,294	258,348

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 15 June 2026 and were signed on its behalf by:

.....
G Strain - Trustee

.....
J Purvis - Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

Hertford Town Church is a charitable incorporated organisation registered in England and Wales.

The financial statements of the charity, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (published October 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Charities Act 2011. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

The financial statements have departed from the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 only to the extent required to provide a true and fair view. This departure has involved following the Statement of Recommended Practice for charities applying FRS 102 rather than the version of the Statement of Recommended Practice which is referred to in the Regulations but which has since been withdrawn.

The financial statements are prepared in Sterling, which is the functional currency of the charity. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

Income

All incoming resources are included on the Statement of Financial Activities when the charity is legally entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy.

Income is accounted for when received, with the exception of income tax recoverable on gift aid donations, and interest arising on deposits which are accounted for on an accruals basis.

For legacies, entitlement is the earlier of the charity being notified of an impending distribution or the legacy being received.

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings, they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Grants offered subject to conditions which have not been met at the year-end date are noted as a commitment but not accrued as expenditure. Grants are recognised as a liability when the church is under an obligation to make a payment.

Going concern

At the time of approving the accounts, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. The trustees have therefore adopted the going concern basis in preparing the accounts.

Governance costs

Governance costs include all expenditure to comply with statutory and legal requirements.

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Tangible fixed assets
Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Fixtures and fittings	- 25% on cost
Motor vehicles	- 25% on cost

No depreciation is provided on freehold buildings. The charity adopts a policy of maintaining properties to a high standard, which prolongs their useful lives and enhances their residual value (based on prices prevailing at the time of acquisition or subsequent valuation) and accordingly the Trustees consider depreciation arising to be immaterial.

Fixed assets with a value under £1,000 are written off as expenditure in the Statement of Financial Activities.

Taxation
The charity is exempt from tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting
Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Fund accounting
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.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

Cash at bank and in hand
Cash at bank and in hand represents such accounts and instruments that are available on demand or have a maturity of less than three months from the date of acquisition. Deposits for more than three months but less than one year have been disclosed as short-term deposits.

Debtors and creditors
Debtors are recognised at their settlement amount, less any provision for non-recoverability. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid. They have been discounted to the present value of the future cash receipt where such discounting is material.

Creditors and provisions are recognised when there is an obligation at the balance sheet date as a result of a past event, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefit will be required in settlement, and the amount of the settlement can be estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are recognised at the amount the charity anticipates it will pay to settle the debt.

2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2025 £	2024 £
Donations	45,564	2,350	47,914	53,114
Gift aid	9,335	586	9,921	12,526
TOTAL FUNDS	54,899	2,936	57,835	65,640

continued…

3. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS

	Direct Costs £	Grant funding of activities £	Totals £
Gifts to Christian causes (note 13)	-	1,591	1,591
Church ministry	55,333	-	55,333
Property costs	14,581	-	14,581
Governance	919	-	919
	70,833	1,591	72,424

Church ministry costs includes staff costs as per note 5.

Included in property costs is £nil (2024: £18,400) for the rent of a manse, £nil (2024: £2,705) for manse council tax and water charges and £4,338 (2024: £3,516) for the hire of the Hertford URC church and Simon Balle School for Sunday morning services.

Included in governance costs above are fees payable to the Independent Examiner in the sum of £810 (2024: £780).

4. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	60,240	5,400	65,640
Other income	40,371	-	40,371
Total	100,611	5,400	106,011
EXPENDITURE ON			
Charitable activities			
Gifts to Christian causes	-	(5,675)	(5,675)
Church ministry	(45,042)	-	(45,042)
Property costs	(33,171)	-	(33,171)
Governance costs	(1,152)	-	(1,152)
Total	(79,365)	(5,675)	(85,040)
NET INCOME	21,246	(275)	20,971
Net movement in funds			
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	237,102	275	237,377
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	258,348	-	258,348

continued…

5. STAFF COSTS

	2025	2024
	£	£
Wages and salaries	38,875	29,921
Social security costs	-	-
Other pension costs	3,131	3,036
	42,006	32,937

The average monthly number of employees and office holders during the year was as follows:

	2025	2024
Pastoral team	1	1

No employee or office holder received employee benefits of more than £60,000 (2024: nil).

6. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

In accordance with the Hertford Town Church Constitution approved and adopted at a Trustees members' meeting held on 21 July 2020, the following trustees were paid these amounts in service to the church:

	Stipend	Pension	Total
	£	£	£
J Wynn	38,875	3,131	42,006

J Wynn also received the benefit of housing provided by the church, the costs of which are detailed in note 3.

One trustee (2024: 1) received expenses for travelling, hospitality and books of £869 during the year (2024: £1,448). In addition, three trustees (2024: 3) were reimbursed for expenditure incurred on behalf of the Church of £1,809 (2024: £2,292).

7. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Freehold property	Totals
	£	£
COST AND NET BOOK VALUE		
At 31 December 2025 and at 31 December 2024	210,000	210,000

The Trustees are of the opinion that the market value of the church building is much higher than the book value.

continued…

8. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2025 £	2024 £
Other debtors	3,166	4,916
Prepayments	83	1,936
	3,249	6,852

9. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2025 £	2024 £
Accruals	4,871	2,810

10. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 31.12.24 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.12.25 £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	48,348	14,601	-	62,949
Hartham Lane reserve	210,000	-	-	210,000
Restricted funds				
Other Christian causes	-	1,345	-	1,345
TOTAL FUNDS	258,348	15,946	-	274,294

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	85,434	(70,833)	14,601
Restricted funds			
Other Christian causes	2,936	(1,591)	1,345
TOTAL FUNDS	88,370	(72,424)	15,946

continued…

10. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS (*continued*)

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 31.12.23 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.12.24 £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	27,102	21,246	-	48,348
Hartham Lane reserve	210,000	-	-	210,000
Restricted funds				
Other Christian causes	275	(275)	-	-
TOTAL FUNDS	237,377	20,971	-	258,348

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	100,611	(79,365)	21,246
Restricted funds			
Other Christian causes	5,400	(5,675)	(275)
TOTAL FUNDS	106,011	(85,040)	20,971

11. OPERATING LEASES

The rental of the Hertford URC building for Sunday morning services may be terminated on the giving of one month's notice and the commitment at 31 December 2025 was £408 (2024: £272).

12. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

Donations, excluding gift aid, given by the trustees amounted to £15,495 (2024: £17,800).

Spicer Street Church, St Albans, provided some administration support in both the years ended 31 December 2025 and 31 December 2024 and did not recharge the costs to Hertford Town Church.

Spicer Street Church, St Albans, provided support of £30,000 in the year ended 31 December 2025 (2024: £40,000) towards the cost of a pastor – the support is included in other income.

G Strain (trustee) and R McClure (treasurer) are trustees at Spicer Street Church.

continued…

13. APPLICATION OF FUNDS

The General fund represents the free funds of the charity which are not designated for particular purposes.

Gifts to Christian Causes were as follows:

	2025 £	2024 £
Interserve	-	625
COCM	375	4,775
To the church in Pakistan supporting its ministry to refugees	779	-
MAF	125	-
SIM	312	-
	1,591	5,400