

Holy Trinity Heath Town

Praying
Serving
Sharing Jesus

Vestry Meeting
(Election of Church Wardens)
15th May 2026 at 7.00pm

Annual Parochial Church Meeting
15th May 2026 at 7.15pm

(Both meetings in the Church Hall)

The Parish of Holy Trinity Heath Town
Annual Parochial Church Council Meeting
15th May 2026 at 7.15pm
(Preceded by the Meeting of Parishioners)

Holy Trinity Heath Town

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The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Holy Trinity Heath Town Wolverhampton
Registered Charity No: 1191259

Praying – Serving – Sharing Jesus

The vision of the church is for the whole fellowship to express our love for God, for God's world and for the community through: -

- Praying earnestly
- Serving others wholeheartedly
- Sharing our faith relevantly
- Using our buildings appropriately

To bring Christian hope and the love of Jesus to all.

Information for year ending December 2025

Reference & Administrative.

Church & Location:	Holy Trinity Church Bushbury Road, Heath Town Wolverhampton WV10 0LY
Diocese:	Lichfield
Incumbent:	Revd Richard Merrick (Until end December 2025) Holy Trinity Vicarage Bushbury Road Wolverhampton WV10 0LY
Assistant Curate	none
Youth and Community Worker	Emma Hammond (until June 2025)
The Licensed Lay Ministers	Gill Brackett (Reader) William Nicholls (Reader) Emma Bland (Reader) Robert Vassell (Reader)

Area of Mission / Mission Team Leads.

Nurture	Emma Hammond (until June 2025)
	Donna C E Booth (from June 2025)
Pastoral Care	Gill Brackett
Proclaim	Emma Bland
Sustain & Renew	Barbara Joyce (until June 2025)
	Nigel Clark (from June 2025) & Sylvia Gilbert
Transformation	vacant

The members of the PCC from May 2025 were as follows;

Name	Basis of appointment
Revd Richard Merrick (Incumbent/Chair)	Ex Officio
Sylvia Gilbert (Church Warden)	Ex Officio
Nigel Clark (Church Warden, Deputy Treasurer)	Ex officio
Anne Abbiss	Ex-Officio (Safeguarding Officer)
Emma Bland	Ex Officio (Reader)
Gill Brackett	Ex Officio (Reader)
Margaret Nicholls	Ex officio (Deanery Synod Rep)
William (Bill) Nicholls	Ex officio (Reader with PtO, Deanery Synod Rep)
Robert Vassell	Ex officio (Reader)
Rita Duru	Ex officio (Deanery Synod Rep)
Sam Duru	Ex Officio (Diocesan Synod)
Donna C A Booth	Elected
Robert Booth (Deputy Church Warden)	Elected
Stephen Brackett (Deputy Church Warden)	Elected
Joshua Charles (Treasurer)	Elected
Tracey Charles	Elected
David Cope (Lay Chair)	Elected
Elizabeth Cope	Elected
Jayne Forrester (Secretary)	Elected
Emma Hammond	Elected
Alison Vassell (Assistant Safeguarding Officer)	Elected

NB Safeguarding Officer & Deputy Safeguarding Officer swapped roles from October 2025

Principal advisers;

Bankers; Co-operative Bank, P.O. Box 250, Southway, Skelmersdale, WN8 6WT

Architect; Bryan Martin, 36 Banbury Lane, Byfield, Northants, NN11 6UX

Independent Examiner; Bytheway & Co, Heame House, 23 Bilston Street Sedgley DY3 1JA

Structure, Governance & Management

The PCC was first registered as a charity on the 17th of September 2020. Its governing documents are the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure (1956) as amended and APCM the Church Representation Rules.

P.C.C. members are appointed in several ways:

- Clergy and Churchwardens are members by virtue of office.
- Deanery Synod representatives are ex officio and are elected by the Annual Parochial Meeting (APCM) and hold office for 3 years.
- Diocesan Synod Representatives are ex officio and are elected by Deanery Synod and hold office for 3 years.

- General Synod representatives are ex officio and are elected by Diocesan Synod members and hold office for 5 years.
- All Readers are ex-officio, and all Local Lay Ministers are co-opted annually. Other members of the PCC are elected annually for a three-year term or co-opted.
- New PCC members are given induction training as necessary to enable them to carry out their role effectively.

The PCC makes all decisions corporately except that the Standing Committee (see below) has delegated powers to make decisions between PCC meetings subject to keeping the PCC informed as fully as necessary.

The PCC is responsible for all the parish finance. Members of the PCC give delegated responsibility to the Treasurer for keeping accounting records, which disclose with reasonable accuracy the financial position of the PCC and which enable them to ascertain the financial position of the PCC and to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011 and the Statement of Recommended Practice' Accounting by Charities' 2015. The PCC is also responsible for safeguarding the charity's assets and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities. The PCC is also required to ensure that the financial statements are examined by an independent examiner or auditor prior to the presentation to the Annual Parochial Meeting.

In addition, there is:

A Gift Aid Secretary, appointed by the PCC to manage Gift Aid Systems.

Standing Committee –this committee consists of the Clergy, Churchwardens, and Treasurer and up to 5 representatives of the PCC. This group has power to transact the business of the PCC between PCC meetings, reporting to the full PCC as appropriate.

The PCC and Leadership Team meet at appropriate times throughout the year, which may include an Annual Away Day.

The Parish is part of **the Deanery of Wolverhampton**, which is part of the Diocese of Lichfield.

Activities, Achievements & Public Benefit

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Usual Sunday attendance: Adults	100	101	*	*	80	82	89	90
Children	28	27	*	*	21	20	25	21
Christmas Eve/Day attendance :	451	403	69	329	420	451	494	387
Easter Day attendance:	181	187	*	115	129	138	148	217
Baptisms	12	13	1	10	5	14	11	12
Weddings	4	2	0	1	2	3	0	3
Confirmations	3	0	0	0	0	17	13	6
Funerals (church service)	14	16	18	16	8	11	9	9
Funerals (Crematorium)	18	14	18	16	14	4	4	4
Burials	4	5	11	7	3	5	5	5
Burials of Cremated Remains	9	9	8	10	9	5	5	4
Electoral Roll	173	137	140	142	143	149	155	121

* It is impossible to give accurate figures as many services were streamed online.

- There are normally two services each Sunday morning. (9.30 am & 11.15am), the 11.15 service being recorded and shown on YouTube most weeks. Services were also held at other appropriate times in the church calendar. The church continues to serve the wider community by offering 'occasional offices' for baptism, confirmation, marriage, and funerals. In addition, the church is open each Saturday as a "Place of Welcome"; providing free light refreshments, friendship and hospitality, local information and the opportunity for anyone to experience the peace and beauty of the building.

- The church hall is well used by both church and community groups for activities ranging from young people's work, Coffee + Chat Club, Community Friendship Group, Job Club, children's parties and various committee meetings, holiday clubs and She Wolves (women's group).

- Members of PCC serve on Deanery and Diocesan Synods.

- Church Worship Team visited Trinity Primary Academy most weeks during term time to lead worship. (Assemblies)

- Church members serve on the Local Academy Committee of Trinity Primary Academy.

- The work of a Youth and Community Worker continued until June 2025.

'Inclusion for all'
A church where people of all abilities are valued 'to belong'.

We all want our churches to be places of welcome for all: our church communities are only whole when they include everyone. However, there may be barriers, visible or invisible, of which we are not aware. Churches have responsibilities under the Equality Act 2010, which encompasses all the requirements of the earlier Disability Discrimination Act, and also introduces further duties in relation to disability discrimination. In terms of the legal framework, a church is considered to be a voluntary sector organization, and a provider of services.
Our aim is to ensure our buildings, worship and activities are welcoming and inclusive to all people.
In order to play our part in the life of our church, we all need to feel that we 'belong'.

In all we do as a church, we should aim:

- to recognise our equality and to value our diversity.
- to bring about positive and lasting change.
- to identify and remove barriers to 'inclusion'.

In the way we organise all areas of Ministry, inclusion needs to be a priority. **It is important that we keep asking the question in all our discussions: "Is there anyone who we are unintentionally excluding from what we organise?"** We need to recognise the diverse needs and aspirations of our congregation; taking into account the young, elderly, families, people who are unfamiliar with church, L.G.B.T.Q.+, and people with impairments. A reference manual has been created to give information about exclusion issues and is available on request to all congregation members. Clergy, office, and ministry team leaders also have copies.

Plans.

Throughout all activities, the PCC is mindful of the importance of Risk Assessment taking place.

The members of the PCC are aware of the Charity Commission's guidance on the Advancement of Religion for the Public Benefit. Members believe that, by promoting the work of the Church of England in the Ecclesiastical Parish of Holy Trinity Heath Town, it helps to promote the whole mission of the Church (pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical) more effectively within the Ecclesiastical Parish. In doing so it provides a benefit to the public by;

- Providing facilities for public worship, pastoral care and spiritual, moral and intellectual development, both for its members and for anyone who wishes to benefit from what the church offers, and
- Promoting Christian values, and service by members of the Church in and to their communities, to the benefit of individual and society as a whole.

Throughout all activities, we aim to implement our Vision Statement by caring, supporting and serving each other, caring for God's world and sharing the love of Jesus with all.

Standing Orders 2026

(i) Church Wardens will be elected for one year at a time.

(ii) No Church Warden will be able to stand more than six consecutive years before having to stand down for at least a year.

(iii) Number of elected PCC members should not exceed 12 (excluding Church Wardens, General, Diocesan and Deanery Synod members) and will stand (as long as they are willing) for three years. If at any time a PCC member wishes to stand down, for whatever reason, before the end of their three years, the vacated place can be filled by either co-option by the PCC or election at the next APCM. In either case, however, the term of office will run for the length of time left on the vacancy.

(iv) All candidates for election to the PCC or Deanery Synod, when held, must be nominated and seconded in writing by the 2nd Sunday before the APCM and details of the candidates will be posted in church the Sunday before the APCM. The only exception to this being if there are insufficient nominations to fill the vacant posts by the 2nd Sunday, in which case nominations will be accepted up to the day before the APCM. No nominations for these positions will be taken at the APCM. Nomination slips will be provided.

(v) No person can hold more than one of the following positions at any one time:- Church Warden, Treasurer, Stewardship Recorder, Secretary, Electoral Roll Officer.

(vi) All Readers are ex-officio members of the PCC and all Local Lay Ministers are co-opted annually as members of the PCC.

(vii) The leadership team will provide up to five representatives to sit on the PCC. These will normally come through normal electoral procedure.

NB It is recommended that deputies be appointed to the Key positions in (v)

Holy Trinity Church Heath Town

APCM Agenda 15th May 2026

Meeting of Parishioners (the Vestry Meeting). 7.00pm

1. Welcome and Opening Worship.
2. Standing Orders for year 2027 elections
3. Election of Church Wardens.

Annual Parochial Church Meeting. 7.15pm

1. Opening Prayers
2. Apologies
3. Minutes of the A.P.C.M held on 9th May 2025
4. Matters Arising
5. Electoral Roll
6. PCC Report
7. Treasurer's Finance Report & Appointment of Independent Examiner
8. Vicar's report
9. Deanery Synod Report
10. Safeguarding Report
11. Team Reports including Fabric Report, Buildings and Grounds (Wardens)
12. PCC Elections & Appointment of Stewards (sides-persons)
13. A.O.B.
14. Closing Prayers

Annual Parochial meeting of Holy Trinity Heath Town on 9th May 2025

Meeting of Parishioners (Vestry Meeting) at 7.00 pm

The meeting was chaired by Revd. Richard Merrick (Vicar) who welcomed 27 people present. The meeting opened with prayer, a bible reading (1 Peter 2:1-10) and a reminder from Revd. Richard that we are called to collaborative ministry as a church family. He also observed that a number of people had joined the fellowship recently and as a fellowship we needed to help them understand how HTHT works, always being disciples of Christ and honouring Christ in our daily lives. Future leadership needed to represent the diversity of the congregation.

Apologies were received from Steve & Gill Brackett, Jayne Forrester, Margaret Mills, Rob Vassell & Cynthia Walters.

Review of Standing Orders . Proposed by Revd. R Merrick from the chair that there be no amendments to Standing Orders for APCM 2026. This was agreed by all present.

Election of Churchwardens

There were 2 nominations: Sylvia Gilbert, proposed by W Nicholls, seconded by M Nicholls & Barbara Joyce, proposed by N Clark, seconded by E Cope.

As there were no further nominations S Gilbert & B Joyce were duly elected.

The Vestry meeting concluded with prayer.

Annual Church Meeting followed at 7.15pm

1 Revd. Richard Merrick welcomed 30 people to the meeting and opened with prayer.

2 Apologies as above.

2 The meeting began with prayer & worship.

3 Minutes of APCM for previous year. These were accepted as correct. (proposed N Clark, seconded W Nicholls and agreed by all)

4 Matters Arising. There was a question asked regarding reinstating the shared cup at Holy Communion services. This had been reviewed by the PCC in 2024 & it had been decided to continue as we were for the time being. To be reviewed by the PCC again in 2025

5 Vicar's report. In addition to the written report in the APCM booklet, Revd. R Merrick thanked all who work within the church and parish. He also formally announced his retirement from 31/12/2025 both as Vicar & Area Dean. The PCC had already started working on the "Shaping for Mission" document which was to be sent to the diocese.

6 Electoral Roll. The number of people on the electoral roll were 149 for 2023 & 155 for 2024. The roll had been completely revised this year and stood at 121 when the roll was closed before the APCM. There had since been 1 addition.

7 PCC report

8 Financial Report & Approval of Accounts for 2024. The accounts were printed as an appendix to the report booklet. The financial report was presented by Josh Charles (treasurer). Expenditure had exceeded income by £13,894 in 2024 (in 2023 there had been a deficit of £10,578). The loan for the kitchen and toilet in church would continue to be repaid until September 2029. The largest share of income came from stewardship, open plate giving and income tax recovery. Just over 20% of expenditure was our "Common Fund" payment to Lichfield Diocese. Josh thanked Nigel Clark for his support as Assistant Treasurer.

A question was asked about income from the War Graves Commission. This had remained the same for many years. It was suggested that a letter be written from the PCC to request an increase in this payment. Revd Richard Merrick proposed a vote of thanks for Josh & Nigel's work and also to Tony Charles for his work as Gift Aid Secretary

It was proposed by J Charles, seconded by N Clark and agreed by all that Bytheway & Co. continue as Independent Examiners for 2025.

9 Sustain & Renew Report (Wardens) previously called Fabric Report. It was highlighted that fly tipping had increased dramatically and the team was considering putting a barrier on the lane from Powell Street. Also there was a note from Steve Hopley suggesting that the PCC consider some fundraising specifically for the church buildings. Revd Richard Merrick commented that this could be done without compromising our ethos.

10 Reports from Deanery & Diocese.

All the above reports were accepted unanimously by all present.

Note The following Reports were also enclosed in the APCM booklet - Sustain & Renew, Nurture, Pastoral Care, Proclaim, Transformation.

The chair invited questions on the Reports.

The following addendum from Malcolm Ball to the Proclaim report was accepted.

"Prayer for Life meetings have continued to take place on a weekly basis. The group offers prayers for the world, the church and the sick, using Trinity Jottings and the Prayer Diary as aids."

It was noted that a leader for the Transformation Team was needed and this was more of a co-ordinating role.

It was also noted that communication could be improved, and it would be good if someone could take on the role of co-ordinating this.

11 PCC Elections. There were 4 vacancies, and 4 nominations had been received, so no vote was required. The following had been nominated and seconded: - Steve Brackett, Tracey Charles, Liz Cope, Rajendra Gujar, so they were duly appointed.

12 Appointment of Sides people. There was a team in place for this, but new volunteers would be welcome. Barbara and Sylvia to compile a list for next year.

13.Donna C A Booth proposed a vote of thanks for Emma Hammond for all she had done during her 6½ years as Youth and Community Worker, thanking her for her encouragement and making the running of our youth work sustainable, with Alison, Neil, Cathy and Awa leading Rooted.

All wished Emma many blessings in her new role as Curate at Kinver and Enville, following her ordination in June.

14. Bill Nicholls proposed a vote of thanks for Richard for his leadership since 2014.

15 Revd Richard Merrick closed the meeting with a prayer.

Electoral Roll Report

Number of people on the Electoral Roll for 2025 was 121.
For 2026 it is 131

Tracey Charles
Electoral Roll Officer

PCC Report

The PCC met on four occasions in 2025 to discuss the business of the church and to receive reports from the Ministry Teams – Nurture, Pastoral Care, Proclaim, Sustain & Renew, and Transformation.

The meetings open with short act of worship and a reading from the bible and close in prayer at the end of the formal business.

At each PCC meeting, we receive an update on Finance, Buildings & Grounds (from wardens), Synods, and Safeguarding as well as the Ministry Teams and there is an opportunity to consider any current issues and make decisions relating to spending money.

In all our dealings with people, the P.C.C. of Holy Trinity Heath Town recognizes that everyone is vulnerable at some time in their lives. As such the P.C.C. undertakes to adopt the following documents and implement them as parish policy - Safeguarding of Children & Vulnerable Adults, Diocese of Lichfield Safeguarding Policy, All God's Children, Promoting Safe Church, Safeguarding, Social Media & Online Activities, Lone Worker & Taking of photographs.

Mrs Alison Vassell is our Safeguarding Officer. She is responsible for ensuring that all people in positions of leadership have the current up-to-date certifications and all are familiar with any changes in legislation, to this end the P.C.C. review procedures on an annual basis.

The Ministry Team reports provide detailed information and updates about the wide range of activities and issues we are involved in both in church and in the wider community – the APCM Reports provide excellent summaries about what has been achieved in the past year.

The PCC has had an additional responsibility during this year, in relation to preparing for the appointment of a new vicar, following the announcement by Rev Richard Merrick of his intention to retire at the end of December 2025. A small working party was formed to consider, review and update the Parish Profile, which was then presented to the PCC at an Away Day, before formally adopting it. In addition, the PCC attended a meeting with Revd Rob Miles, representing our Patron CPAS, the Archdeacon Venerable Liz Jackson and Rev Matt Hird, Rural Dean, where there was the opportunity to understand and ask questions about the various formal stages of obtaining permission to advertise, interview and appoint a new vicar.

Attendance at the PCC meetings is very good, with PCC members taking an active part in the discussions and decision making. Thank you to all members of the PCC for their willingness to serve on the church council and represent the congregation of Holy Trinity Church

Jayne Forrester
P.C.C. Secretary

Financial Report

This report relates to the financial activities of the Holy Trinity Heath Town Parochial Church Council (PCC) for the year ending 31st December 2025 and should be read in conjunction with the Financial Statements.

The Balance Sheet on page three of the Financial Statements is supported by an attached chart which includes a breakdown of the Restricted Funds at year end. The following table summarises funds:

Unrestricted Funds	£25,263	
Restricted Funds	£36,282	Excluding Kitchen capital of £79,595
Total Funds	£61,545	

In 2025, expenditure exceeded income by £3,636 compared to £13,894 In 2024. Unrestricted funds increased by £7,695 while restricted funds decreased by £8,331. £3,000 of designated funds were released into unrestricted funds.

Income and Expenditure at notes 2 and 3 in the Financial Statements (pages 5 to 8) are supported by two pie charts to show the relative values. The Expenditure pie chart also includes a summary of the Statement of Financial Activities, given in full on page two.

Repayments of the Diocesan loan of £23,150 to support the Kitchen Servery project continued on a quarterly basis, with a balance of £12,733 at the end of 2025. Interest of £716 was incurred during the year. Repayments will continue until September 2029.

Voluntary regular giving from church members reached a record high in 2025, with an average of £1,113 per week, compared to £1,091 per week in 2024 and surpassing our previous highest of £1,100 per week in 2022. While this is a great achievement, our giving has not kept up with inflation, meaning that our income does not go as far as it previously did. Our income has been boosted by the addition of the card reader at the back of church towards the end of the year. We are planning teaching in our services in 2026 to reinforce the importance of our regular giving and that everyone has a part to play.

A key part of our income is the Gift Aid scheme, where the church is able to claim an additional 25p for every £1 donated by taxpayers. This was also at a record high in 2025 when we were able to claim £14,855 under the scheme compared to £11,201 in 2024, which was down slightly on the previous two years.

Total expenditure in 2025 was £142,306, a decrease of £20,254 compared to 2024. 2024 was an outlier because of the one-off roof repair work and 2025's expenditure reflects a small increase when compared to 2023. While there was also further roof work this year, there was also reduced expenditure on wages and salaries as Emma Hammond's employment as youth worker ended in July.

Our Common Fund contributions (previously called Parish Share) of £33,792 were paid in full again. This pays for clergy and other services provided by the Diocese.

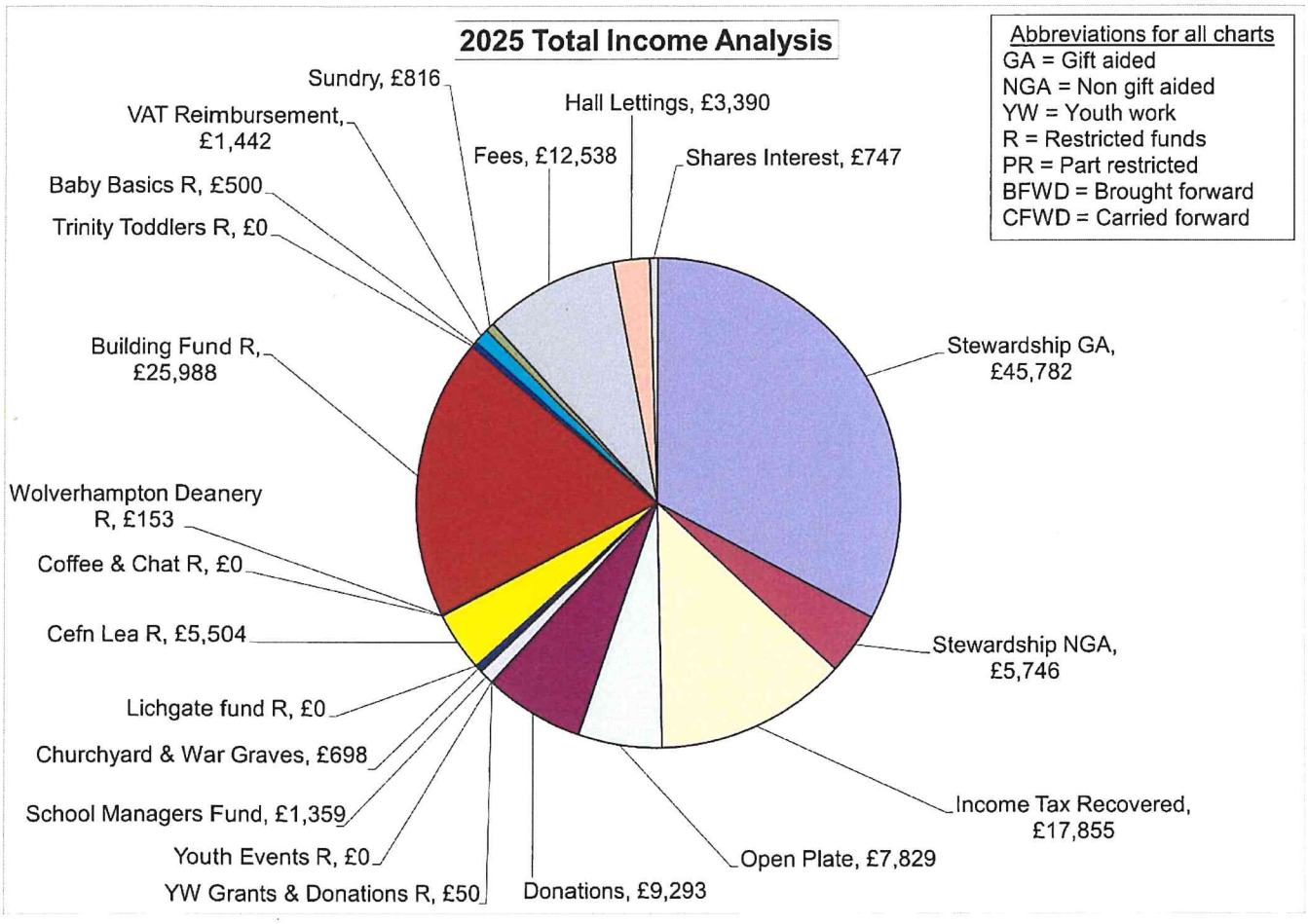
The PCC has continued its practice of donating 10% of voluntary giving to mission organisations and for the first time this year we supported the work of Open Doors, a charity supporting the persecuted church.

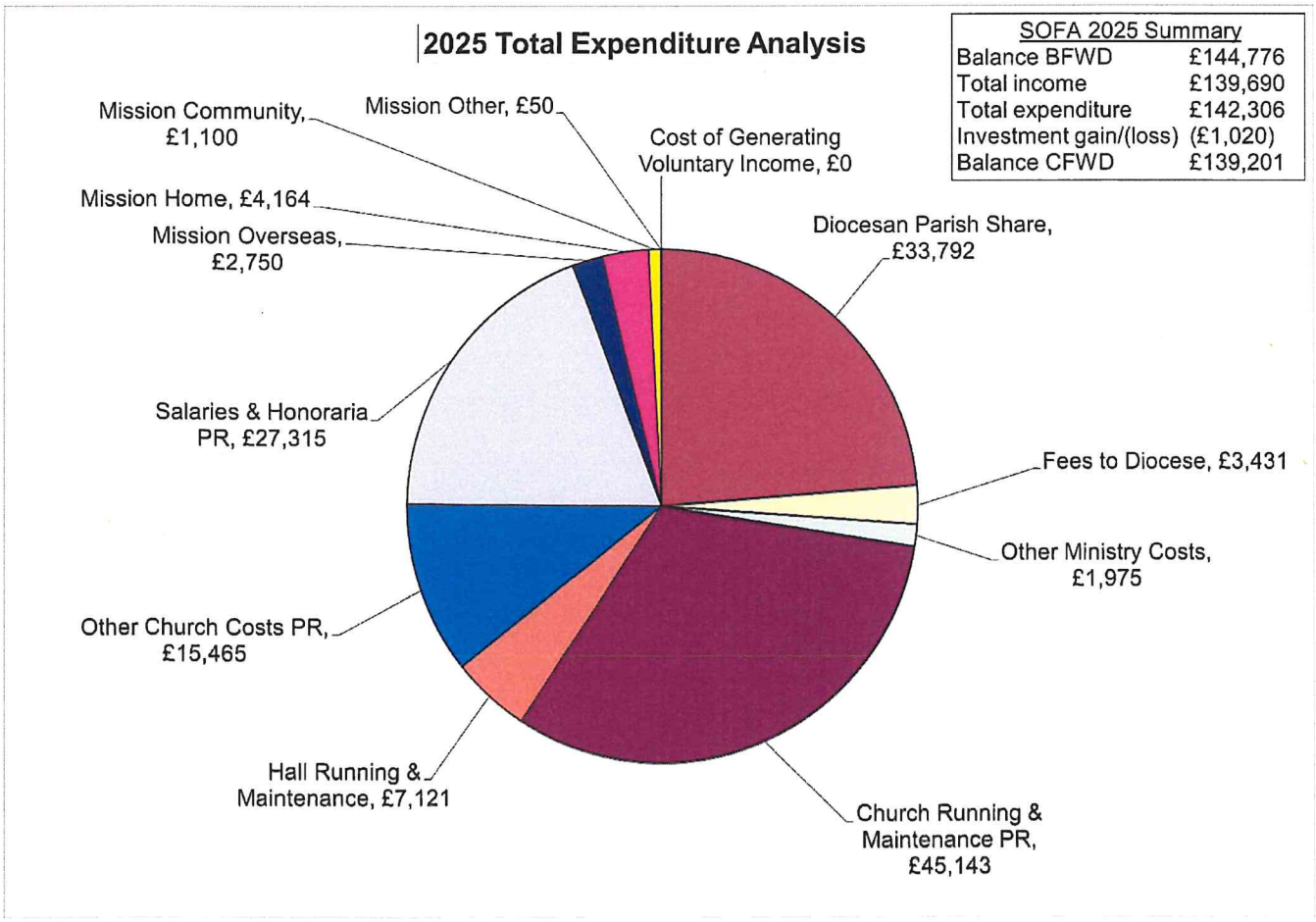
The work on our buildings and grounds continued this year, and this centred on north aisle roof repairs that were completed in November. Since then, we have been working towards renewing the car park although this is still some time away as the Building Fund balance of £9,700 is just a fraction of the cost of the work. Fundraising events have taken place to boost the Building Fund, including a Barn Dance, Festive Fundraiser, and concert from the Veracini Ensemble.

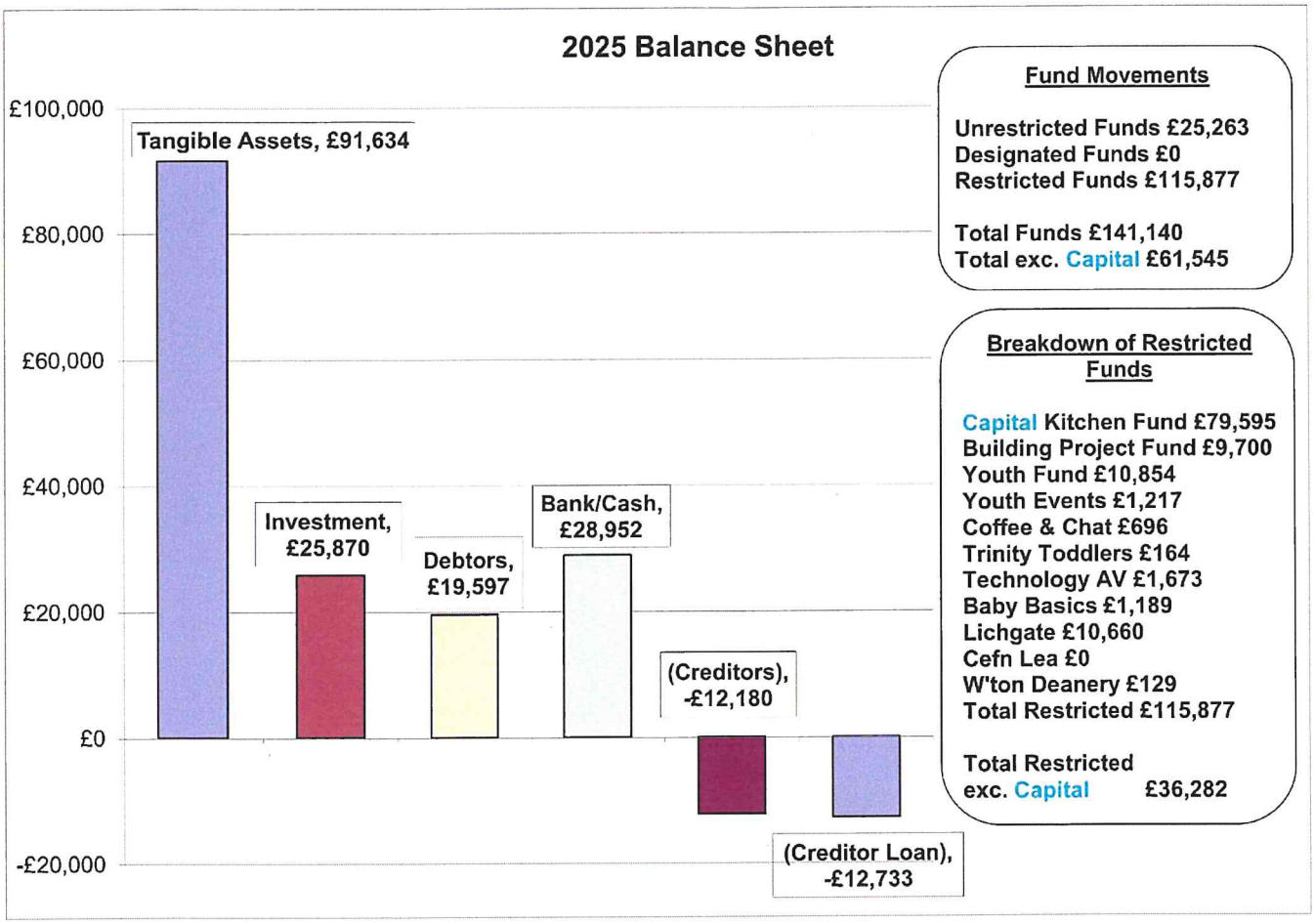
In everything we do we aim to act responsibly with the resources God has given us as we aim to live out our calling. The reports on the following pages from our areas of ministry teams detail so many events and activities over the past year, none of which would have been possible without the generous giving of our congregation. In 2026 we pray that we would continue to be a church that seeks to use the resources God has blessed with for His glory in this church and around this parish.

Joshua Charles

Treasurer


2025 Total Income Analysis
Abbreviations for all charts
GA = Gift aided
NGA = Non gift aided
YW = Youth work
R = Restricted funds
PR = Part restricted
BFWD = Brought forward
CFWD = Carried forward
Sundry, £816
VAT Reimbursement, £1,442
Hall Lettings, £3,390
Fees, £12,538
Shares Interest, £747
Baby Basics R, £500
Trinity Toddlers R, £0
Building Fund R, £25,988
Stewardship GA, £45,782
Wolverhampton Deanery R, £153
Coffee & Chat R, £0
Cefn Lea R, £5,504
Stewardship NGA, £5,746
Lichgate fund R, £0
Churchyard & War Graves, £698
School Managers Fund, £1,359
Youth Events R, £0
YW Grants & Donations R, £50
Donations, £9,293
Open Plate, £7,829
Income Tax Recovered, £17,855


2025 Total Expenditure Analysis
SOFA 2025 Summary
Balance BFWD £144,776
Total income £139,690
Total expenditure £142,306
Investment gain/(loss) (£1,020)
Balance CFWD £139,201
Mission Community, £1,100
Mission Other, £50
Cost of Generating Voluntary Income, £0
Mission Home, £4,164
Mission Overseas, £2,750
Diocesan Parish Share, £33,792
Salaries & Honoraria PR, £27,315
Fees to Diocese, £3,431
Other Ministry Costs, £1,975
Other Church Costs PR, £15,465
Hall Running & Maintenance, £7,121
Church Running & Maintenance PR, £45,143



Vicar's Report

As I reflect on the year past, 2025 has been a year of 'lasts'. With my incumbency as vicar of Holy Trinity Heath Town coming to an end on the last day of the year, the experiences of being and doing things for the final time became insightful as I further reflected on the past 11½ years of ministry in the parish. A time of fulfilments and blessings, and yes at other times frustrations. But I give thanks to the Lord for all of these things. The joys and the sorrows, and by no means least the opportunity to have shared the life of the community, the parish and the church family, and the friends we have made along the way.

January began with some deep sadness with the deaths of our good friends Sue Booth and Stephen Bennett. Following on from the funeral of David Hunter only a few weeks previously, other members of the church family experienced bereavements following the death of John Bustin, and Stephen Bennett's father Bill. All within the first month of the year, conducting funerals for members of the church family was a significant area of ministry, which continued throughout the year. Not least following the death of our dear friend High Chief Sam Duru. These dear brothers and sister in Christ were all significant and beloved members of our church family, faithful servants of the Lord, who will be remembered for the lives and the love they shared with us.

Developing discipleship was a consistent theme throughout the year. Using the materials of 'ReSource ARM', with "Saints Alive", "Alive in Christ", "Your SHAPE for God's Service" and through the support of David and Meg Heywood leading our weekend away at Cefn Lea during July, we focused on God's call on our lives to follow Jesus as his faithful disciples. This dovetailed very much with the diocesan focus on Discipleship, Vocation and Evangelism. Being disciples, understanding God's call to mission and ministry, and sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ as a natural progression of living out our Christian faith, which is evident in the outreach conducted through Holy Trinity Church. Not least through the connections and service within our local schools.

Sharing worship and witness with friends from Harvest Temple demonstrates the understanding that as a church Holy Trinity Heath Town is but a part of the Body of Christ. The Good Friday Walk of Witness, and the shared Carol Service at Christmas are just two elements of understanding that Jesus calls us to unity across the denominational and traditional divisions of The Church. The support I have received over the years from the PCC and leadership of the church has enabled me to play my part in working for this. As a trustee of 'CONNECT: Net Working Wolverhampton's Churches', my involvement with 'Love Black Country' and by no means least within the Anglican Church and the Diocese of Lichfield as Rural Dean of Wolverhampton. Holy Trinity Heath Town has always had a reputation for looking outwards and seeing beyond the confines of the parish. Long may this continue.

Such an attitude and understanding extends the mission and ministry of Holy Trinity Church beyond the church walls into the local community, through the commitment of church members in serving the needs of the people of the parish as faithful disciples of Christ. Heathfield Park CAN Consortium, NPVAN, Friendship Group, Coffee and Chat, Place of Welcome being just some examples of how the Church is called to bear witness to the love of God.

I began with sad reflections on the deaths of friends. Although what are called the Occasional Offices, such as funerals, also includes those of weddings and baptisms. It has been my joy and privilege during the year to preside at three weddings, all for members of the church family. Claire and Simon (Billingham) who joined us to establish their qualifying connection, as did Alison and Carl (Owen), and not forgetting the opportunity to marry our Church Warden to the Verger as we celebrated the marriage of Barbara and Nigel (Clark). These joyous occasions culminated in November with the Baptisms, Confirmations and recommitment to faith for 12 members of our church family.

Endings, by definition provide us with opportunities for new beginnings. During the summer we said farewell to Emma Hammond who had served as our Church Youth and Community worker for six years, having had a significant impact and influence on the lives of our young people & their families during that time. We give thanks to God for Emma's ministry, which extended beyond that to our youth, and for the love she shared with and the service she gave to the church family over the years. Her new beginnings began as she was ordained Deacon at Petertide at Lichfield Cathedral, commencing her curacy at Kinver and Enville.

The end of my ministry at Holy Trinity provides all of us with the opportunity for new beginnings. We trust that God will guide and direct each of us.

In my last sermon in church on the final day of my incumbency, I offered two quotes. The first taken from the poem, "The Gate of the Year".

> "'And I said to the man who stood at the gate of the year:
>
> "Give me a light that I may tread safely into the unknown."
>
> And he replied:
>
> "Go out into the darkness and put your hand into the hand of God.
>
> That shall be to you better than light and safer than a known way."
>
> So, I went forth, and finding the hand of God, trod gladly into the night. And he led me towards the hills and the breaking of the day in the lone East.'

And further quoting the author Corrie Tenboom who wrote:

Psalm 98 begins with the declaration, "Sing a new song to the Lord, for he has done wonderful deeds. His right hand has won a mighty victory; his holy arm has shown his saving power!"

As we each stand on the threshold of our new beginnings, this is a reality that we should hold fast to. As we step out into an unknown future, we can put our trust in the known God. As the writer of Hebrews reminds us.

"God has said, "I will never fail you. I will never abandon you." So, we can say with confidence, "The Lord is my helper, so I will have no fear. What can mere people do to me? Remember your leaders who taught you the word of God. Think of all the good that has come from their lives and follow the example of their faith. Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever.

Now may the God of peace—who brought up from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great Shepherd of the sheep, and ratified an eternal covenant with his blood— may he equip you with all you need

for doing his will. May he produce in you, through the power of Jesus Christ, every good thing that is pleasing to him. All glory to him forever and ever! Amen."

Hebrews 13:5b-8,20-21

Revd Richard Merrick
Vicar

Wolverhampton Deanery Synod Report

Wolverhampton is divided into two deaneries - Wulfrun & Wolverhampton. As a church we belong to Wolverhampton Deanery. The churches in the deanery are St. Martin Bradley, St. Chad, St Mary & St Leonard Bilston, St Luke Blakenhall, St Chad/Mark Graisely, St Peter, St. John & All Saints all part of Central Parish, Holy Trinity Heath Town, St Matthew Willenhall Road, St Jude, Tettenhall Road, St Andrew Whitmore Reans, St Stephen, Holy Trinity Ettingshall & St Martin (which no longer operates)

We met on 3 occasions during the year under the leadership of the Rural Dean (Revd. Richard Merrick)

Each meeting starts with prayer, which is usually led by the Rural Dean. In February, we met at St Martin Bradley, where we discussed Succession Planning & how churches should be prepared for a vacancy. We were reminded that vacancies can last 2 plus years & it was important for leaders to share the load. We were reminded that each church should have a Mission Statement which needs to be reviewed regularly. We also received an update of what's happening in each parish , whether it's about mission, ministry, buildings.

In June we met at St Matthew Willenhall Road & discussed Shaping for Mission – where are we, what direction of travel in our parishes, Deanery, Diocese & National Church. The challenge from Bishop Tim is to focus on Mission & what it looks like for each church & prepare for a revival!

In October we gathered at St Mark & St Chad. We looked at an update on Shaping for Mission 2024-2030, especially on how to develop deeper unity & collaboration, especially between churches in the Deanery. We formally accepted the resignation of Revd Richard Merrick & wished him God's Blessings for his retirement. We noted the Bishop of Lichfield had accepted Revd Matt Hird (St Matthew) as Rural Dean & Revd Kate Watson as Assistant Rural Dean to take up office as from January 2026.

We also accepted the resignation of Mrs Sarah Weston as Secretary to the Deanery, and thanks were expressed for the years of service. Ms Charlie Smith was elected as the next Secretary.

It was noted that elections to Deanery Synod would take place at all APCMs in 2026

Bill & Margaret Nicholls
Holy Trinity PCC Deanery Synod Reps

Safeguarding Report

Proverbs 31:8-9 "Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves, for the rights of all who are destitute"

All PCC members are up to date with their DBS Certificates and continue to update their safeguarding training, when required .

Any safeguarding concerns are recorded and kept on file and if necessary, reported to the Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser.

Safeguarding posters have been updated with current contact details and displayed at the back of Church

The Safeguarding Policy is annually reviewed and re-approved by the PCC and a copy is displayed at the back of Church.

All church activities are noted and follow the Safeguarding Policy . All leaders have DBS certificates , update their safeguarding training and do annual risk assessments. Safeguarding is always on their group meeting agendas.

For the first time a 'Safeguarding Sunday' service took place on the 16th October 2025 giving the chance for the church fellowship to know that is the responsibility of everyone to ensure one another has a safe and welcoming church to belong too. It is for each one of us to have the well being of others at the forefront of our minds. It is hoped that there will continue to be a 'Safeguarding Sunday' service in the future.

It was at this service that an announcement was given that I was stepping down as Parish Safeguarding Officer and the role would be taken up by Alison Vassell. I wish Alison every blessing in this ministry and I will continue to play a part as Assistant PSO.

I wish to give my thanks to Richard and the PCC for leading the church to achieve a positive, effective culture where safeguarding is at the forefront of what we do here at Holy Trinity and may it continue that way.

Anne Abbiss
Safeguarding Officer

Nurture Team Report

Team - Donna Booth, Tracey Charles, Emma Charles, Alison Vassell, Rob Vassell, Cathy Trevor, Maria Macejikova

Rooted - Followed an adapted Saints Alive course with around 7-11 young people. This fell to 5 with the note that there were a few young people in church not a part of Rooted. Rooted created the Advent wreath. A thanks to Cathy and Alison who took over the group after Emma departed.

Kingdom Builders - Numbers started at 5-10 with the young people enjoying reading the bible. This then changed to 7-8 with more younger children so activities were adapted to suit this. This led to a group of 8-12 where the group sometimes splits into two depending on the topic. Covering topics such as David, Daniel, Safeguarding Week, Advent and Christmas.

Trinity Toddlers - A new group called Little Blessings to replace Trinity Toddlers will be starting in April 2026.

Schools Work - Trinity Academy: regular visits from multiple year groups with the Worship Team continuing as normal. Trinity also came into church for their Christmas Celebrations.

Year 4: Looking at what it's like to follow God?

Year 5: Looking at what Jesus did to save human beings.

Heath Park: before leaving Emma Hammond was mentoring 6 children. Heath Park came into church for their carol service.

Creche - This area continues to serve families; however certain items need to keep being replaced due to not being returned.

Adult Discipleship – After a successful weekend at Cefn Lea we continued running the 'Your Shape for God's Mission' course all about discerning our gifts. This led to the Living in Faith course. We had our lent groups. We had someone enrol in the Chad Foundation course.

We had a confirmation service with 6 adults plus one accepted into the Church of England following several baptisms.

MMBB - Meet twice a month on Mondays from 10am - 11.30am in the church hall, for a time of Friendship & Fellowship. We averaged 11 adults over the past year. Over the year, we have covered Psalms of Penitence and Forgiveness, Thanksgiving and Instruction. We have studied parts of the book of James, Philemon and Zephaniah, During lent we looked at Matthew 5 and 6.

Everyone is most welcome to the group

Sunday Services – During the year our children and young people are keen and regular readers of scripture and intercessory prayers.

Over the year, the Nurture team have taken part in a range of different activities.

Cefn Lea was a great weekend with groups being provided for the young people by the Nurture team. These activities were successful and the young people enjoyed them.We produced a light party bag which we gave out to the young people.

Activity sessions once a month at Place of Welcome, with themes like arts and crafts, puzzles and games. This then changed to become themed for example remembrance (where a grave tour was well attended) and Christmas (where the manger scenes were enjoyed by many).

It was great to see people come together to make up the Christingle bags. The children and young people helped lead the Christingle service, which was such a joy to see.

The team have worked hard following the departure of Emma Hammond. Unfortunately, our bid for a Children and Families worker was unsuccessful. We will carry on and pray that in time we will be able to welcome someone to this role.

Thank you to the team for all their hard work and support over this year.

Donna C A Booth
Team Leader for Nurture

Pastoral Care Team Report

This is our prayer for Holy Trinity - **"And may the Lord make (our) love for one another and for all people grow and overflow..."** 1 Thessalonians 3:12

The heart of pastoral ministry is about presence. It's about walking alongside people through all the ups and downs of life. It is about being attentive to people's stories, accompanying them in their struggles, celebrating with them in their joys, and helping them to recognize God's presence in their everyday lives.

The **Connect Circles** are our system of pastoral support at Holy Trinity, through which we hope and pray that as a church we can build friendship and support ,look out for one another , encourage and build one another up– which is all part of being 'the body of Christ' as the Bible calls us as a church. If you are not yet in a circle and would like to be, then please do see a member of the Pastoral Team.

Thanks to Maria and her team of volunteers who run **Place of Welcome** providing a place every Saturday morning, where people from both church and the community can find a welcome, hospitality, friendship and space. Special events to mark 'Remembrance' weekend with a guided walk round the war graves in

the churchyard, and 'Christmas' with a display of Nativity scenes, both attracted extra visitors to the church.

Holy Trinity Community Friendship group meets monthly on the first Monday of each month 10.45am - 1pm (2nd Monday if 1st is a bank holiday). It provides an opportunity for people to meet socially, make friends and offers a range of activities to help make the group an interesting, friendly, and enjoyable place to come. In 2025 some of the activities were Bingo, quizzes, VE Day Celebration, a variety show, subsidised lunch at Albrighton Garden Centre and Trinity School Choir performing for the group. All are welcome and the usual attendance is 30 - 35.

Coffee and Chat meet on the third Thursday of each month 10.30 – 12.30, and provides opportunities for people to get to know one another and enjoy friendship, fellowship and food! The average attendance over the year is 23 people. A selection of food and soft drinks are served free of charge. The group is able to finance themselves through people's donations and profit from the raffle. Christmas and Easter invitation cards are given to all, with a short Biblical talk being fed into the programme. Thanks to Anne and Bill and their team who run this group.

Another **Grave Talk** event was held in July, this time in the church accompanied by scones with jam and cream! A good number came along and again it was well received. Thanks to Margaret and Jayne for organising it.

Thanks to Doreen and her team who organised two **Women's Fellowship** gatherings during the year. The gathering in March focused on worship and the Revd Jassica Castillo – Burley came along to sing. In October, the theme was 'God is good' and ladies were invited to bring poems, readings or songs, and share how God had worked in their lives. A good number attended both gatherings, enjoying food, faith and fellowship together.

The Pastoral Care team seeks to encourage individuals, coming alongside people in times of need; providing **Home Communions** for those unable to attend church, long or short term, and visiting those who are sick or housebound.

The **'Card sending'** ministry is appreciated by those in the church who have been bereaved, and those who are very unwell or in hospital. It is good for them to know that as a church we are thinking of them and praying for them.

Two teams from church lead monthly services at **New Cross Care Home** and at **Verona Court** which have been well received and reasonably well attended. Thank you to Anne, Barbara, Margaret and Liz and Dave who lead these special times for the residents.

Prayer-Line enables urgent or immediate prayer requests to be sent round via email, text and phone. This is on-going and open to anyone who needs such prayer, by contacting the clergy or one of the Pastoral Team. Thanks to Alison for overseeing this ministry.

All those who run the groups are conscious of the importance of being **inclusive and accessible** to all people, and to check that provision is made for those who need some assistance with, or adaption to, the activities. **Safeguarding** is recognised as vitally important for all those involved in pastoral ministry – both to protect those who are being visited or supported, and also to protect those giving the care and support to others.

Thank you to the Pastoral Care Team – to Anne Abbiss, Alison Vassell, Wendy Critcher and Margaret Mills, to the Connect Circle Leaders, and to all who share in this important ministry of showing love, care and support to the church family.

Gill Brackett
Team Leader for Pastoral Care

Proclaim Team Report

Mission
To proclaim the Good News of the Kingdom.

Responsibilities
Oversight and planning of our church's programme of worship and prayer. Developing a programme of outreach and evangelism.

Members
Richard Merrick (until 31 December 2025), Emma Bland, Gill Brackett, David Cope, Liz Cope, Josh Charles, Tony Charles, Bill Nicholls, Rob Vassell

Frequency of meetings
Quarterly

A year in summary
The Proclaim Team is responsible for organising leaders, preachers, intercessors, readers, musicians, projector operators, for services through the year. In addition, below is an outline of the things that were implemented or discussed during the year – some of these cross over and were taken on by other mission areas.

As well as out regular church services Morning Prayer took place on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday mornings at 9.00am on the Chancel. Likewise, Prayer for Life meetings have continued to take place on a weekly basis on Tuesdays at 2.30pm. This group offers prayers for the world, the church and the sick, using Trinity Jottings and the Prayer Diary as aids.

Actions

January

- We reviewed live streaming and internet in church: until internet issues are resolved, services are being recorded and uploaded to YouTube.
- It was agreed to set up a disabled access ramp in the music group area.

February

- Publicised Bishop Tim's 'Call to Prayer', calling the churches in Wolverhampton to gather together with him to pray for revival, renewal and growth.
- Encouraged the church family to complete an electoral roll form to aid compiling our new and updated church membership list.
- A Racial Justice Sunday Service took place on 9th February

March

- An Ash Wednesday Service took place on the evening of 6th March
- A Memorial Service took place on the evening of 23rd March.

April

- On Good Friday there was an all-age service in the morning, followed by hot cross buns and a joint walk of witness with Harvest Temple.
- Easter Saturday there was a 1pm event with other churches in Queens Square.
- Easter Sunday: Joint 10.30am service

May

- An Ascension Service was held on 9th May.

June

• Pentecost Sunday services took place on 8th June.

September

• A series on 'Your Shape for God's Service' began, running over six weeks, focusing on purpose, experience, personality, abilities & heart's desire, spiritual gifts and shaping up.

• At our September meeting we planned service cover over the Interregnum period. This involved choosing themes/readings for upcoming services and inviting priests to visit - to preach and preside at Holy Communion. In response we were visited and supported by Archdeacon Liz Jackson, Bishop Tim, Revd. Wilshire, Revd. Carter. This was a time when the team and wardens truly 'stepped up', pulled together and supported each other, to keep things going and maintain the quality of services.

October

• A Black History Month service was held on 26th October.

November

• Remembrance Sunday services were held on 9th November

• A Memorial service was held on the evening of the 9th November

• Safeguarding Sunday – took place at both services on 16 November

• R Merrick set up a Pilgrim programme to prepare several people seeking baptism. A Deanery Confirmation Service was also held at our church on Sunday 30 November.

December

• The service on 2nd December was used as Gift Day for the food bank.

• Christmas leaflets were distributed in the parish.

• A range of Christmas services were held:

- 21st December: we hosted a joint Carol service with Harvest Temple.

- 24th December: a joint service at 10.30am, followed by two Youth group Christingle services later that day. Approximately 280 people attended Christingle.

- Midnight Communion was also held at 11.15pm.

- 25th December: A joint service at 10.30am. 29th December: A joint service at 10.30am.

• It was Revd Merrick's last service on 28th December, where he focused on 'New Beginnings'.

January

• In church we publicised the 'Turn the Battle' Initiative, calling people to pray and fast for 3 days on 21 – 23 January 2026, with a shared focus around a fresh commitment to prayer, consecration and bold living.

• Easter leaflets and services planned.

• Set up evening Lent groups based on the booklet 'At the Cross'

• We appealed for more volunteers to learn how to operate the laptop/projector, Ising and sound desk and Josh Charles provided a training session.

• In response to prayer, we've seen new musicians and singers join the Music Group and regular music rehearsals continue. As a result, it seems the music is being appreciated by all and there has been a lot of positive feedback from the church family. To add to this, David Cope will be holding a Music Workshop on Saturday 9th May 2026, to help leaders choose hymns for services.

Other things still on our radar

- We continue to pray and look out for a new lead person/(s) for this ministry.
- We continue to look for outreach and evangelism opportunities.

Emma Bland
Team Leader for Proclaim

Sustain and Renew Team Report (Fabric Report)

During last year it was discovered that two Victorian silver cups and two plates (pattens) were mislaid when an inventory was taken. It was reported to the vicar, and it was hoped that they would turn up. This year, after the vicar had cleared the vicarage completely as he retired, it had been hoped that they would turn up, but another inventory check still finds them missing. They may have been donated or lent to another church...

Buildings:

1. This autumn the lower 5 feet or so of the north aisle roof tiles were removed to allow the underfelt and battens to be renewed, along with some of the lowest tiles which had been frost damaged.
2. Some paths, and the tarmac play area next to the hall has become quite mossy after a very damp year. This is in process of being removed with an environmentally friendly moss killer, then brushing.
3. The lychgate work has still not started, due to a serious overrun by the contractors on another job. All funds are in place for the work, which hopefully will commence in the spring.
4. We still have not addressed the issue of one tree on the south aisle side of the church shedding debris on the roof. It is 4.2 metres from the church – too close according to diocesan rules, and in the view of the wardens should be removed.
5. Fund raising is underway for renewing the carpark. So far about 22% of the money needed has been raised.
6. Two noticeboards fronting Bushbury Road have been renewed. These will help with advertising special events.
7. The compound behind the hall was broken into, but nothing was taken. Security has been beefed up.
8. A "Panic Button" has been fitted in the kitchen area.
9. A card reader has been fitted at the back of the church to allow for electronic donations.

Grounds:

A. A "crack willow" tree at the back of the vicarage drive had to be removed due to rot in both main trunks.
B. The St. George's area of the graveyard has been cleared of a former overstocked "dead hedge", and a new one created.
C. Tarmac path edges are in the process of being cleared of overgrown vegetation, and any damaged tarmac is also being repaired.
D. The Aker gravestone in the community garden area has been cordoned off. With all the wet weather the vertical stone has moved even further off vertical. A sign has been put on the grave asking relative to correct it.
E. Three fence panels between the Verona Court garden and the church carpark were blown down in strong winds, along with one of the vicarage garden panels. They were quickly repaired.

The grounds continue to be well looked after by a small, dedicated group of volunteers, with work needing to continue during the colder months with some tasks. The Churchyard Awards scheme was entered again this past year, and we were awarded "Gold" again. We were commended on our signage that

directs people around the site. Thanks must go to the volunteers who have given up their time to keep the church and grounds in reasonable condition over 7 large acres, showing tenacity and grace.

Sylvia Gilbert
Church Warden On behalf of the Sustain and Renew Team

Transformation Team Report

This team did not meet during 2025. With no member of the PCC or the church congregation coming forward, the post of lead person for this area of ministry has remained vacant since the Rev. Kate Tingle left to take up the post of Rector of St Thomas's Wednesfield. There continues the need to grow this team as there are currently only two members, David Cope and Rita Duru, if the church, as a member of the CAN Consortium is going to play a significant role within the community.
Place of Welcome continues to flourish as does the monthly Friendship Group, Coffee and Chat and Baby Basics, and the church facilities continue to be well used by the community.

David Cope
On behalf of the Transformation Team

The Parochial Church of the Ecclesiastical Parish of
Holy Trinity Heath Town
Financial Statements for the period
1 January 2025 to 31 December 2025

Independent Examiners Report to the Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical parish of Holy Trinity Heath Town

This report on the financial statements of the PCC for the year ended 31 December 2025 set out on the following pages is in respect of an examination carried out in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2011(the Regulations) and s145 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Act).

Respective responsibilities of PCC and the examiner

As members you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements; and consider that the audit requirement of s144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the Act) does not apply and that an independent examination is needed. It is my responsibilty to examine the accounts under s145 of the Act, state on the basis of procedures specified in the General Directions given by the Charities Commissioners under s145(5)(b) the Act, and state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiners' report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions under s145(5)(b) of the Act and to be found in the Church guidance 2011 edition. That examination includes a review of accounting methods kept by the PCC and a comparison of the accounts presented with these 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 no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a "true and fair view" and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiners' statement

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

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect, the requirements:

to keep accounting records in accordance with s130 of the Act; and

to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the Act and regulations

have not been met, or

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

Bytheway and Co.

Bytheway & Co Chartered Certified Accountants
Heame House
23 Bilston Street
Sedgley
Dudley
DY3 1JA

Holy Trinity Church, Heath Town
Statement of Financial Activities
For the year ended 31 December 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds	Total Funds
			2025			2024
		£	£	£	£	£
Incoming resources						
Voluntary income	2(a)	90,820	-	32,195	123,015	129,468
Charitable activities	2(b)	12,538	-	-	12,538	12,566
Other trading activities	2(c)	3,390	-	-	3,390	4,085
Investment income	2(d)	747	-	-	747	1,196
Total Income		107,495	-	32,195	139,690	147,315
Resources expended						
Raising funds	3(a)	-	-	-	-	158
Charitable activities	3(b)	101,077	-	41,229	142,306	162,402
Total Expenditure		101,077	-	41,229	142,306	162,560
Increase/(Decrease) in value of Investment	*	(1,020)	-	-	(1,020)	1,351
Net Income/(Expenditure)		5,398	-	(9,034)	(3,636)	(13,894)
Total funds brought forward		17,568	3,000	124,208	144,776	158,670
Transfers		2,297	(3,000)	703	-	-
Total funds carried forward		25,263	-	115,877	141,140	144,776

* Includes increased value of investment
** See note 10 for full comparatives for 2024

Holy Trinity Church, Heath Town
Balance Sheet
For the year ended 31 December 2025

	Notes	2025		2024	
		£	£	£	£
Fixed Assets					
Tangible assets for use by the Church	5(a)	91,634		98,966	
Investment	5(b)	25,870	117,504	26,890	125,856
Current Assets					
Debtors	6	19,597		16,157	
Cash at bank and in hand		28,952		32,421	
		48,549		48,578	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	7	(12,180)		(13,529)	
Net Current Assets			36,369		35,049
Total assets less current liabilities			153,873		160,905
Creditors: amounts falling due after one year					
Loan	8		12,733		16,129
Net Assets			141,140		144,776
Funds of the charity					
Unrestricted Funds			25,263		17,568
Designated Funds			-		3,000
Restricted Funds			115,877		124,208
			141,140		144,776

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 14/4/2026 and signed on their behalf

Signed .....

Holy Trinity Church, Heath Town
Notes to the accounts
For the year ended 31 December 2025

1 Accounting policies

Basis of preparation

The charity constitues a public benefit entity as defined by FRS102. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) published on 16 July 2014, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) the Charities Act 2011 the Companies Act 2006 and UK Generally Accepted Practice as it applies from 1 January 2015.
The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis under the historical cost convention modified to include certain items at fair value.

Funds

Unrestricted funds are funds which are to be spent on the PCC's general purpose.
Restricted funds comprise of two elements:-
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 each year must be carried forward as a balance on that fund.
The PCC does not usually invest separately for each fund. Where there is no separate investment, interest is apportioned to individual funds on an average balance basis.

Income

Planned giving, collections and donations are recognised when received. Tax refunds are recognised when the incoming resource to which they relate is received. Grants and Legacies are accounted for for when the PCC is legally entitled to the amounts due. Dividends are accounted for when receivable, interest is accrued. All other income is recognised when it is receivable. All incoming resources are accounted for gross.

Resources expended

Grants and donations are accounted for when paid over, or when awarded, if that award creates a binding or constructive obligation on the PCC. The diocesan parish share is accounted for when due. Amounts received specifically for mission are dealt with as restriced funds. All other expenditure is generally recognised when it is incurred and is accounted for gross.

Fixed assets

Consecrated and benefice property is not included in the accounts by s10(2)(a)&(c) of the Charities Act 2011.
Moveable church furnishings held by the Vicar and Churchwardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal are inalienable property, listed in the Church's inventory, which can be inspected (at any reasonable time). For anything acquired prior to 2000 there is insufficient cost information available and therefore such assets are not valued in the Financial Statements.
Equipment is capitalised if it can be used for more than one year, and cost at least £1,000. They are valued at cost.
The depreciation is 25% straight line
The Kitchen is depreciated at 5% straight line.

Holy Trinity Church, Heath Town
Notes to the accounts continued
For the year ended 31 December 2025

2. Analysis of incoming resources	2025 Unrestricted Funds £	2025 Restricted Funds £	2025 Total £	2024 Total £
(a) Voluntary income				
Tax efficient planned giving	45,782	-	45,782	41,313
Other planned giving	5,746	-	5,746	5,831
Tax recovered	4,855	-	4,855	1,858
Tax due Apr - Dec 25	13,000	-	13,000	10,000
Collections (open plate)	7,829	-	7,829	9,754
Donations	9,293	-	9,293	4,648
Youth worker grants and donations	-	50	50	13,000
Youth event income	-	-	-	300
School managers fund	1,359	-	1,359	2,730
Churchyard and war graves	698	-	698	648
Lichgate fund	-	-	-	5,000
Cefn Lea	-	5,504	5,504	500
Coffee and chat	-	-	-	164
Wolverhampton Deanery	-	153	153	508
Energy grant	-	-	-	-
Building Fund	-	25,988	25,988	27,961
Trinity Toddlers	-	-	-	155
Baby Basics	-	500	500	1,425
VAT Reimbursement	1,442	-	1,442	3,751
Sundry income	816	-	816	(78)
	90,820	32,195	123,015	129,468
(b) Income from church activities				
Fees	12,538	-	12,538	12,566
	12,538	-	12,538	12,566
(c) Other trading activities				
Church hall lettings	3,390	-	3,390	4,085
	3,390	-	3,390	4,085
(d) Income from investments				
CBF shares	747	-	747	1,196
	747	-	747	1,196
Total Income	107,495	32,195	139,690	147,315

Holy Trinity Church, Heath Town
Notes to the accounts continued
For the year ended 31 December 2025

3. Analysis of resources expended

	2025			2024
	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total £	Total £
(a) Cost of generating voluntary income				
Stewardship envelopes	-	-	-	158
	-	-	-	158
(b) Church activities				
Ministry				
Diocesan common fund	33,792	-	33,792	33,131
Fees paid to Diocese	3,431		3,431	3,041
	37,223	-	37,223	36,172
Other ministry costs				
Working expenses of incumbent	228	-	228	108
Working expenses of curate	-	-	-	-
Discretion	349	-	349	60
Vicarage	500	-	500	250
Visiting speaker	898	-	898	850
	1,975	-	1,975	1,268
Church running and maintenance				
Heat and light	9,141	-	9,141	5,268
Upkeep of churchyard	1,146	-	1,146	956
Insurance	5,166	-	5,166	5,055
Maintenance	4,062		4,062	34,724
Building projects fund	-	16,288	16,288	-
Security and fire protection	514		514	1,602
Music	732	-	732	710
Church service costs	1,044	-	1,044	1,070
Kitchen depreciation	-	7,050	7,050	7,050
	21,805	23,338	45,143	56,435
Church Hall running and maintenance				
Heat and light	4,056	-	4,056	2,390
Water and sewerage	1,142	-	1,142	1,185
Telephone and internet	866	-	866	787
Maintenance	775	-	775	1,846
Equipment depreciation	282	-	282	279
	7,121	-	7,121	6,487

3. Analysis of resources expended continued

	2025			2024
	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total £	Total £
(b) Church activities continued				
Other church related costs				
Youth ministry	105	-	105	248
Youth Events	-	-	-	2,183
Household disposables and refreshments	1,453	-	1,453	791
Printing, stationery and computer expenses	3,075	-	3,075	2,366
Expenditure on books and resources	38	-	38	617
Childrens ministry	618	-	618	2,087
Trinity Toddlers	-	-	-	29
Courses/Away days	100	-	100	311
Postage	21	-	21	102
Affliliation fees	115	-	115	115
Admin expenses	-	-	-	-
Resources	-	-	-	-
Evangelism and outreach	980	-	980	1,043
Independent examination and accounts preparation	1,740	-	1,740	1,620
Coffee & chat	-	-	-	790
Wolverhampton Deanery	-	198	198	113
CEFN Lea	-	5,800	5,800	500
Gifts	503	-	503	-
Sundry expenses	-	-	-	3
Technology AV	-	-	-	-
Bank charges	3	-	3	-
Loan interest	716	-	716	1,023
	9,467	5,998	15,465	13,941
Salaries and honoraria				
Youth worker	1,771	11,329	13,100	24,974
Administrator salary costs	7,966	-	7,966	8,029
Cleaners, organist and verger	5,823	-	5,823	5,543
Payroll administration	378	-	378	378
Youth worker costs	48	-	48	562
	15,986	11,329	27,315	39,486
Missionary and charitable giving				
Overseas				
Leprosy mission	-	-	-	-
Bible society	1,000	-	1,000	700
Crosslinks	1,000	-	1,000	1,055
Christian solidarity	500	-	500	350
Mission aviation fellowship	250	-	250	250
	2,750	-	2,750	2,355

3. Analysis of resources expended continued

	2025			2024
	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total £	Total £
(b) Church activities continued				
Missionary and charitable giving				
Home				
C.P.A.S.	600	-	600	600
Childrens society	-	-	-	10
Wolverhampton connect	150	-	150	500
Mercian Trust	350	-	350	350
Love Black Country	300	-	300	300
Good Shepherd ministries	700	-	700	600
The Message Trust	(300)	-	- 300	300
Christians against poverty	700	-	700	400
Baby basics	-	564	564	1,893
Stop Hate UK	(100)	-	- 100	100
The Well	700	-	700	600
Open Doors	500	-	500	-
Samaritans Purse	-	-	-	-
	3,600	564	4,164	5,653
Community Parish				
Hope Community	700	-	700	300
NPVAN	400	-	400	200
	1,100	-	1,100	500
Other				
Small donations	-	-	-	55
National churches trust	50	-	50	50
	50	-	50	105
Total Church Activities	101,077	41,229	142,306	162,402

Holy Trinity Church, Heath Town
Notes to the accounts
For the year ended 31 December 2025

4. (a) Staff Costs	**2025**	**2024**
	£	**£**
Wages and salaries	25,833	38,546
Pension costs	291	562
	26,124	39,108

The PCC employed a full time Youth worker until July 2025.
The PCC has a part time Administrator.
There is a part time Cleaner.
Verger and Organists are paid by fees received.

4. (b) PCC costs

The PCC has a policy to reimburse any purchases made by individuals on behalf of the PCC. No other payments or expenses were paid to any PCC member, persons closely connected to or related parties.

5. Fixed Assets

(a) Tangible	**2025** £ **Equipment**	**2025** £ **Kitchen**	**2025** £ **Total**	**2024** £ **Total**
Cost				
As at 1 January 2025	1,119	140,984	142,103	142,103
Additions	-	-	-	-
As at 31 December 2025	1,119	140,984	142,103	142,103
Depreciation				
As at 1 January 2025	837	42,300	43,137	35,808
Charge for year	282	7,050	7,332	7,329
As at 31 December 2025	1,119	49,350	50,469	43,137
Net Book Value as at 31 December 2025	-	91,634	91,634	98,966

(b) Investments	**2025**	**2024**
As at 1 January 2025	26,890	45,539
Redemption	-	(20,000)
Revaluation gain/(loss)	(1,020)	1,351
As at 31 December 2025	25,870	26,890

The holding in CBF CofE Investment Fund is 1162.92 shares. Unit value 31 December 2025 bid market unit share value 2219.83p. (December 2024 1162.92 shares bid market unit value 2312.27p)

6. Debtors	**2025**	**2024**
	£	**£**
Gift Aid Tax recoverable	13,000	10,000
Prepayment and Debtors	6,597	6,157
Grant Due	-	-
	19,597	16,157

7. Creditors: amounts falling due in one year	**2025**	**2024**
	£	**£**
Inland Revenue	(314)	580
Accruals and creditors	12,494	12,949
	12,180	13,529

8. Creditors: amounts falling due after one year	**2025**	**2024**
	£	**£**
Diocese of Lichfield Loan	12,733	16,129
	12,733	16,129

Loan details

Resourcing parish mission on behalf of Lichfield Diocesan Board of Finance Ltd
Kitchen Servery Project

Term	7 years
Payable	Quarterly
	0.5% above Church Commissioners variable debt rate (no lower than 1%)

Holy Trinity Church, Heath Town
Statement of Financial Activities
For the year ended 31 December 2025

9 Fund Movements

	Balance as at 1 January 2025	Incoming resources	Outgoing resources	Transfers	Balance as at 31 December 2025
		£	£	£	£
Restricted Funds					
Capital Fund					
Kitchen project	86,645	-	7,050	-	79,595
Revenue Funds					
Building fund	-	25,988	16,288	-	9,700
Youth fund	22,133	50	11,329	-	10,854
Youth event fund	1,217	-	-	-	1,217
Coffee and chat	696	-	-	-	696
Trinity Toddlers	164	-	-	-	164
Technology AV	1,673	-	-	-	1,673
Baby Basics	1,253	500	564	-	1,189
Lichgate fund	10,660	-	-	-	10,660
Cefn Lea	(500)	5,504	5,800	796	-
Wolverhampton Deanery	267	153	198	(93)	129
	124,208	32,195	41,229	703	115,877
Designated funds					
Youth fund	3,000	-	-	(3,000)	-
Unrestricted funds					
General fund	17,568	106,475	101,077	2,297	25,263
Total Funds	144,776	138,670	142,306	0	141,140

Restricted Funds Description
The Church holds the following funds that are restricted
Kitchen Project: For construction of kitchen within church
Building Fund: To fund building improvements and major repairs.
Youth Fund: To fund the Youth Worker
Youth Event Fund: To fund specific youth events
Technology AV Fund: To support the provision of technology/AV in church.
Coffee and Chat
Trinity Toddlers: Restarting in 2026 as Little Blessings.
Baby Basics
Lichgate fund
Cefn Lea
Wolverhampton Deanery: To hold funds on behalf of and to finance the activitiesof the Deanery of Wolverhampton.
Designated Funds
The PCC agreed to free reserves of £3,000 into unrestricted funds.

9 Fund Movements - continued

CCLA – COIF Charities Investment Fund – Income Units Account Number 454890001T. A trust fund originally in the name of The Managers Holy Trinity Church Schools, Heath Town Wolverhampton.

The PCC bank account receives an income each year from a Trust Fund, invested in the above COIF account, for the purposes of providing general furtherance of religious education in the parish of Holy Trinity Heath Town. Such income is to be used at the discretion of the Parochial Church Council of Holy Trinity Heath Town. The trust fund is represented from the historical sale proceeds of land adjacent to St Faith's Church of England School within the parish. Any income received from this fund is recorded in the Financial Statements in the form of a grant to the PCC, the capital sum, administration and purposes of the trust fund are over seen by the trustees of the fund, the Incumbent and Church Wardens of the parish of Holy Trinity Heath Town.

Holy Trinity Church, Heath Town
Statement of Financial Activities
For the year ended 31 December 2025

10. SOFA Comparatives

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds
			2024		
		£	£	£	£
Incoming resources					
Voluntary income	2(a)	80,455	-	49,013	129,468
Charitable activities	2(b)	12,566	-	-	12,566
Other trading activities	2(c)	4,085	-	-	4,085
Investment income	2(d)	1,196	-	-	1,196
Total Income		98,302	-	49,013	147,315
Resources expended					
Raising funds	3(a)	158	-	-	158
Charitable activities	3(b)	94,811	-	67,591	162,402
Total Expenditure		94,969	-	67,591	162,560
Increase/(Decrease) in value of Investment	*	1,351	-	-	1,351
Net Income/(Expenditure)		4,684	-	(18,578)	(13,894)
Total funds brought forward		17,107	3,000	138,563	158,670
Transfers		(4,223)	-	4,223	-
Total funds carried forward		17,568	3,000	124,208	144,776