The Parish Church of St Oswald, Durham

MEETING OF PARISHIONERS

TO ELECT CHURCHWARDENS

and the ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

The meeting will be held on

Sunday 3rd May 2026 after the Parish Eucharist

AGENDA

1. Opening Prayers
2. Apologies for absence.
3. Minutes of the Meeting of 18th May 2025
4. Matters arising from the minutes
5. Election of Churchwardens
6. Electoral Roll Report
7. Annual Report
8. Financial Statements for 2023
9. Report on the Goods and Fabric of the Church
10. Report on the proceedings of Deanery Synod
11. Election of PCC members.
12. Appointment of Independent Examiner
13. Renewal of Health and Safety and Safeguarding Policies
14. Any questions about church matters.

Minutes of the St Oswald's Church, Durham

Meeting of Parishioners and Annual Parochial Church Meeting

Sunday 18 May 2025

2) Apologies for absence

Apologies: Alan Middleton; John McManners.

3) Approval of the minutes of the last Meeting of Parishioners and APCM held on 28 April 2024

The minutes were approved as an accurate record and signed by the chairman.

4) Matters arising from the Minutes

There were no matters arising.

Meeting of Parishioners

5) Election of churchwardens

There was one nomination for churchwarden: Andy Jones was nominated by David Harris and Sheila Hingley. Andy was duly elected as churchwarden for 2025/26. He was thanked for his work in the last year.

Annual Parochial Church Meeting

6) Electoral roll report

The report was given by Sue Pitts, Electoral Roll officer. A whole new register had been created for this year. On the roll in 2025 there were 53 names. This was 14 less people on the roll than last year. The roll showed that members were half people who lived in the parish and half people who lived outside the parish now. A copy of the roll with the names only has been displayed in the church porch.

Sue was thanked for all her work in preparing the roll.

7) Annual report

Rector's Report

The Rector's report was circulated with the papers for the meeting. There were regular Holy Communion services every Sunday at 11 am and every Wednesday at 10 am. Peter gave his warm thanks to Reverends Alan Middleton and John McManners and Canon Gavin Wort for their support for these services along with John, Andrew and Thomas Wort, and DU students Hamish and James. Those who set up for these services and welcomed the congregation were also thanked. David Harris and the choir had provided some great contributions to worship at St Oswald's and their hard work was much appreciated.

Highlights were the joint Covenant service at Elvet Methodist Church, the joint Ash Wednesday service with St Mary's College, Holy Week and Easter, the Ascension Day service at Finchale Priory, and the Advent and Christmas Carol services. School assemblies and services at church have been well attended. Jane Middleton and Peter have begun to provide fortnightly services at Sherburn House.

Thanks were given to the social committee who had catered, sometimes at short notice, for a number of events. The Epiphany parish lunch proved popular again as a substitute for the former pre-Christmas lunch. Wendy and Anne Stevenson had once again this year provided wonderful flower arrangements to enhance the church. Peter thanked all of these. There was a record number of concerts held in the church this year and Peter thanked Sue Pitts and the stewards involved.

Outreach report

Christian Aid week raised over £4,000 in 2024. The cause chosen for support in Advent 2024 was the international appeal of the Disaster Emergency Committee (DEC). The main focus for relief was Gaza when our collection began. The Israeli government unfortunately delayed the delivery of aid to Gaza, but the Lebanon and the West Bank were also within the scope of the appeal. St Oswald's raised £1,943.50 and since most of this was gift aided the total raised was £2,373.50. The UK government promised to match all donations raised for this appeal. The local appeal for Lent through to Easter was for St Cuthbert's Hospice which was facing a deficit of £1.3 million and had to cut 18% of its workforce. St Oswald's raised £1,820 and with gift aid the total was £2,147.50.

Music Report

David Harris provided a report on the work of the choir during the year. The choral scholars had proved as successful as for previous years. This year several of the choral scholars had requested help to improve their organ-playing skills. David was thanked for his work to produce imaginative music especially for the extra services such as the Advent and Christmas Carol Services.

Safeguarding Report

Gill Aubrey had stood down as Safeguarding Officer. Gordon Mitchell had kindly undertaken this role. Gordon presented the annual report with the Parish Safeguarding Policy agreed by the PCC. Gordon explained about the Parish Safeguarding Dashboard and he has continued the work of Gill Aubrey ensuring that St Oswald's score was 100% on our dashboard. Thanks were given to Gill and Gordon for their hard work as Safeguarding Officers.

8) Financial Statements for 2024

The Treasurer, Fenella Wright presented the detailed accounts audited by Andrew French as Independent Examiner. Despite significant increases by individuals in planned giving by standing order or other gift-aided payments, the church is very dependant on the bequests given to the church. The income from the invested money in these charities has had to be used to cover general running costs but has also paid towards the major works done this year. This money has also been able to be used as matched funding when applying for grants. In 2024 thanks to the hard work of Roz Layton and Andy Jones we obtained a grant of £20,000 to the cost of the Institute refurbishment, and a grant of £1,100 from the Diocese towards the cost of insulation of the Institute. We also recouped £1,463 from the Listed Places of Worship Scheme. Thanks were given to Gill Aubrey for her continued care of the online giving Sum-Up Tin scheme.

Income for use of the Institute increased in 2024 to £21,905 ((£18,978 in 2023) and income from concerts in the church rose to £1,170 for the year. The Parish Share of £40,000 was paid from income in our general account (£16,500) supplemented by £23,500 from the Combined Charities account. Our outgoings exceed our income as in all recent years, but we are still able to support this.

Warm thanks were given to Fenella for her work as Treasurer bringing positivity as well as efficiency to the role. Fenella gave thanks to Jane Walker, who did the day-to-day bookkeeping and assisted in the production of the annual Accounts.

9) Fabric and Goods of the Church

The churchwarden's detailed Fabric Report was circulated with the meeting papers, including a report on the churchyards by Roz Layton. The Quinquennial Inspection report was received in July 2024 from Crosby Granger. The main recommendations concerned the state of the external masonry and the replacement of the tower roof. It was recommended that a detailed survey be made of the external stonework using a cherry-picker to identify repairs needed to the walls and also to the roof.

The heating once again caused major concern and continues to be patched up ahead of a major decision on its future. Andy gave a detailed description of Phase 2 of the

work on the Institute, which was nearing completion. The upgrading of the kitchen, Phase 3, will be completed by Spring 2026.

Rough sleepers in the churchyard had provided Andy with some challenges, which he managed to solve working with people providing local resources for the homeless. All the external noticeboards have been repaired and improved. Concern was expressed by the Highways Department of DCC about 2 lime trees behind the retaining wall on Church Street. The issue has been put on hold after internal DCC discussions.

10) Deanery Synod

Peter reported on the activities of the Deanery Synod in a paper circulated with the meeting papers. Sue Pitts and Sheila Hingley were St Oswald's representatives on the Synod.

11) Election of PCC members

Peter thanked all the members of the PCC for their hard work this year. David Harris, Roz Layton and Gordon Mitchell were duly elected for another term.

12) Appointment of independent examiner for the accounts

The meeting thanked Andrew French for his work in this role, and reappointed him for 2024/25.

13) Health & Safety and Safeguarding

The meeting formally affirmed the Safeguarding policy and the Health & Safety policy.

14) Any questions

There was praise for the high quality of the parish magazine and for the excellent work done by David Harris. Warm thanks were expressed to Alan Middleton, John McManners and Gavin Wort for all that they did for St Oswald's

The meeting closed at 1:00pm with the Grace

PCC Membership

The PCC has the responsibility of co-operating with the Rector, the Rev'd Peter Kashouris, in promoting in the parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical.

The PCC membership following the annual meeting 2026 is:

	Name	**Capacity on PCC** (and position)	**Term of Office**
1.	Peter Kashouris	Rector (Chairman)	*Ex officio*
2.	Roz Layton	Churchwarden	*Ex officio*
3.	Andy Jones	Churchwarden & Acting Treasurer	*Ex officio*
4.	Sue Pitts	Deanery Synod 1:2026-2029	*Ex officio*
5.	Gordon Mitchell	Elected member (Lay Vice Chairman)	2:2025-2028
6.	Fenella Wright	Elected member	3:2024-2027
7.	Sheila Hingley	Elected member	2:2024-2027
8.	Nick Storey	Elected member	1:2026-2029
9.	David Harris	Elected member (Director of Music)	2:2025-2028

Peter Shambrook's term of office came to an end, and he did not stand for re-election.

Jane Walker (Parish Administrator) acts as PCC Secretary.

LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

The governance of the Church of England comes under the Church Representation and Ministers Measure 2019, **and the Church Representation Rules 2020.**

Data protection – GDPR, May 2018

The church has complied with the new GDPR regulation, using a form to seek the consent of its church members to hold contact details and to be in touch with them for limited reasons, to which they could agree or not.

Safeguarding

The PCC has complied with the duty under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016 (duty to have regard to House of Bishops' guidance on the safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults).

Safeguarding and **Health & Safety** appear on every PCC agenda.

Safeguarding report 2025-6

Safeguarding means the action the Church takes to promote a safer culture. We need to promote the welfare of children, young people and adults, seek to protect those who are at risk of being abused and respond well to those who have been abused as well as identifying where a person may present a risk to others and offer support to them while taking steps to mitigate any risks. Church Officers and anyone who comes into contact with children, young people and adults all have a role to play in safeguarding.

Our annually revised Church Safeguarding Policy is on the ACNY website and is displayed in Church and institute with contact details.

The Diocese of Durham has introduced Parish Safeguarding Dashboards to support Parish Safeguarding Officers, Clergy and PCCs in reviewing and monitoring their local safeguarding policies and procedures. The dashboard is rooted in safeguarding actions which are necessary under the Church of England 'Promoting a Safer Church' policy and the Durham Diocesan Safeguarding Policy. The Dashboard system is in use by over 7,000 churches across 38 dioceses throughout the Church of England.

St Oswald's dashboard is currently showing progress at 97% with "One urgent action needs to be completed". This action is for one PCC member to refresh foundation training undertaken three years ago which was only available online but which has recently been made available face to face at a small number of venues, the nearest of which was Darlington. I am still investigating alternatives.

Gordon Mitchell

The following policy was agreed at the Parochial Church Council (PCC) meeting held in March 2019 and by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting in 2025.

In accordance with the Church of England Safeguarding Policy our church is committed to:

- Promoting a safer environment and culture.

- Safely recruiting and supporting all those with any responsibility related to children, young people and vulnerable adults within the church.
- Responding promptly to every safeguarding concern or allegation.
- Caring pastorally for victims/survivors of abuse and other affected persons.
- Caring pastorally for those who are the subject of concerns or allegations of abuse and other affected persons.
- Responding to those that may pose a present risk to others.

The Parish will:

- Create a safe and caring place for all.
- Have a named Parish Safeguarding Officer (PSO) to work with the incumbent and the PCC to implement policy and procedures.
- Safely recruit, train and support all those with any responsibility for children, young people and adults to have the confidence and skills to recognise and respond to abuse.
- Ensure that there is appropriate insurance cover for all activities involving children and adults undertaken in the name of the parish.
- Display in church premises and on the Parish website the details of who to contact if there are safeguarding concerns or support needs.
- Listen to and take seriously all those who disclose abuse.
- Take steps to protect children and adults when a safeguarding concern of any kind arises, following House of Bishops guidance, including notifying the Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser (DSA) and statutory agencies immediately.
- Offer support to victims/survivors of abuse regardless of the type of abuse, when or where it occurred.
- Care for and monitor any member of the church community who may pose a risk to children and adults whilst maintaining appropriate confidentiality and the safety of all parties.
- Ensure that health and safety policy, procedures and risk assessments are in place and that these are reviewed annually.
- Review the implementation of the Safeguarding Policy, Procedures and Practices at least annually.

Each person who works within this church community will agree to abide by this policy and the guidelines established by this church. This church appoints Gordon Mitchell as the Parish Safeguarding Officer.

PSO	Gordon Mitchell	0191 378 1014
Incumbent	Peter Kashouris	0191 374 1681

email: pzkashouris@gmail.com

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Oswald, Durham

Charity number **1196296**

Annual Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2025

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees

This report on the accounts of the Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Oswald, Durham ("the PCC") for the year ended 31 December 2025, which are set out on the attached pages, is in respect of an examination carried out under Regulation 3(3) of the Church Accounting Regulations 1997 and section 145 of the Charities Act 2011.

Respective Responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

As the members of the PCC you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("The Act").

I report that, in carrying out my examination of the PCC's accounts pursuant to section 145 of the Act, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Basis of this Report

My examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the PCC and a comparison of the accounts with those records. It also includes considering any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from you concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

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 PCC as required by section 130 of the Act: or
2. The accounts do not accord with those records.

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

Signed [signature] Date 1 MAY 2026

Name ANDREW A DODSETT

Address 5 COPELAND COURT
DURHAM
DH1 4LF

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St. Oswald, Durham

Receipts & Payments for Year Ending **31st December 2025**

2025

				General a/c	Combined Charities a/c	Total		
			Cash at bank & in hand 1st Jan.	£3,892	£2,078	*£5,970*		
RECEIPTS	Regular giving	A1	Standing orders	£29,410		£29,410	£47,871	Total giving £52,961 [1, 2]
		A2	Envelopes	£4,910		£4,910		
		A3	Other gift-aided donations	£3,314		£3,314		
		A4	Gift Aid recovery	£10,237		£10,237		
	Misc. giving	B1	Loose cash collections	£1,487 [1]		£1,487 [1]	£5,090 [1, 2]	
			[1] + £60 not banked, used for Ashton charity distribution					
		B2	Sundry donations	£1,503		£1,503		
		B3	Bequests					
		B4	Church box & SumUp/CollecTin[2]	£2,101 [2]		£2,101 [2]		
			[2] includes £79 collected on behalf of DU Orchestral Soc., passed on to them as part of item V3					
	Other operating income	C1	Magazine trading income	£1,116		£1,116	£16,087 [3]	Operating income £39,485 [3]
		C2	Weddings, funerals[3]	£7,703 [3]		£7,703 [3]		
			[3] includes £1,166 in fees collected on behalf of the diocese (see item V2)					
		C3	Events (concerts, etc.) in church	£1,980		£1,980		
		C4	Fundraising	£691		£691		
		C5	Bank interest, refunds	£2,863		£2,863		
		C6	Shincliffe admin. contribution	£1,735		£1,735		
	Institute income	D1	King's Church, Durham (KCD)	£13,082		£13,082	£23,398	
		D2	Main Hall rental	£10,316		£10,316		
	Rector & ch'warden charities – Inc.	E1	Caldcleugh income a/c		£14,300	£14,300	£15,300	
		E2	Ternent income a/c		£1,000	£1,000		
	Rector & ch'warden charities – Capital grants	E3	Caldcleugh investment fund		£71,401	£71,401	£71,716	
		E4	Ternent investment fund					
		E5	Adamson deposit fund (Ashton monies)	£0 [4]	£250	£250		
			[4] £60 transf'd CC to Gen 28 Jan 2026 to cover 2025 Ashton distrib.					
		E6	Cock Charity dividend, non-educational		£54	£54		
		E7	Cock Charity dividend, educational		£11	£11		
	External grants	F1	County & City Councils	£12,000		£12,000	£13,607	
		F2	Listed Places of Worship Scheme	£607		£607		
		F3	Diocesan Grants					
		F4	Ecclesiastical					
		F5	Lord Crewe Charity	£1,000		£1,000		
		G	**TOTAL RECEIPTS:**	**£106,054**	**£87,016**	**£193,070**		

			2024					
		General a/c	Comb. Char. a/c	Total				
		£1,796	£25,083	*£26,879*				
Total non-grant income **£92,447** [1, 2, 3]	Total receipts **£193,070** [1]	£30,400		£30,400	£48,113	Total giving **£52,092**	Total non-grant income **£84,827**	Total receipts **£181,456**
		£4,830		£4,830				
		£2,914		£2,914				
		£9,969		£9,969				
		£1,845		£1,845	£3,979			
		£1,167		£1,167				
		£967		£967				
		£720		£720	£10,830	Operating income **£32,735**		
		£6,369		£6,369				
		£1,170		£1,170				
		£711		£711				
		£125		£125				
		£1,735		£1,735				
		£12,782		£12,782	£21,905			
		£9,123		£9,123				
			£15,000	£15,000	£18,000			
			£3,000	£3,000				
			£55,000	£55,000	£55,066			
			£55	£55				
			£11	£11				
		£20,000		£20,000	£23,563			
		£1,463		£1,463				
		£1,100		£1,100				
		£1,000		£1,000				
		£108,390	£73,066	£181,456				

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St. Oswald, Durham

Receipts & Payments for Year Ending **31st December 2025** *contd.*

				2025				
				General a/c	Combined Charities a/c	Total		
PAYMENTS	Ministry	Z1	Parish share	-£12,000	-£20,000 [5]	-£32,000 [5]	-£36,885 [5, 6]	
			[5] final -£8000 left Comb. Char. a/c 02 Jan 2026					
		Z2	Magazine	-£790		-£790		
		Z3	Missions & charities	-£1,452		-£1,452		
		Z4	Cock & Ashton distributions		-£64	-£64 [6]		
			[6] Further – £60 taken from the cash collection for the 2025 Ashton distribution					
		Z5	Vicarage costs	-£626		-£626		
		Z6	Stipendiary clergy working expenses	-£955		-£955		
		Z7	Stipendiary clergy working expenses	-£998		-£998		
	Church & churchyards	Y1	Gas	-£4,796		-£4,796	Church utilities -£15,699	-£27,951
		Y2	Water	-£144		-£144		
		Y3	Insurance	-£6,617		-£6,617		
		Y4	Cleaning	-£2,808		-£2,808		
		Y5	Electricity	-£1,334		-£1,334		
		Y6	Church maintenance & repairs	-£3,880	-£5,436	-£9,316		
		Y7	Sundries	-£2,408		-£2,408		
		Y8	Churchyard & Bow Cemetery	-£528		-£528		
	Music	X1	Organ playing & choir direction	-£10,985		-£10,985	-£34,346	
		X2	Organ & piano tuning	-£410	-£632	-£1,042		
		X3	Music, other	-£1,318	-£15,000	-£16,318		
		X4	Music scholarships	-£6,000		-£6,000		
	Institute	W1	Main hall electricity	-£974		-£974	Institute operations -£12,992	
		W2	Gas (50% recouped from KCD[7])	-£3,675		-£3,675		
		W3	Insurance	-£1,552		-£1,552		
		W4	Water (50% recouped from KCD[7])	-£306		-£306		
		W5	Cleaning (part recouped from KCD[7])	-£2,808		-£2,808		
		W6	Waste collection (67% recouped from KCD[7])	-£749		-£749		
		W7	Sewerage (50% recouped from KCD[7])	-£436		-£436		
		W8	Appleby Rms. electricity (100% recouped from KCD[7])	-£1,553		-£1,553		
			[7] payments from King's Church, Durham are included in item D1					
		W9	Maintenance & repair	-£937		-£937		
		W10	**Institute development**	-£19,614	-£26,347	-£45,960	-£45,960	
	Other	V1	Admin.	-£12,301		-£12,301	-£14,219	
		V2	Fees collected on diocese's behalf	-£1,166		-£1,166		
		V3	Misc. expenses	-£752		-£752		
		U	**TOTAL PAYMENTS:**	**-£104,875**	**-£67,479**	**-£172,354**		
		G + U	Surplus/deficit for year	£1,179	£19,537	*£20,716*		
			Cash at bank & in hand 31st Dec.	£5,071	£21,615	*£26,687*		

			2024			
	General a/c	Comb. Char. a/c	Total			
	-£16,500	-£23,500	-£40,000			
	-£990		-£990			
	-£1,960		-£1,960			
		-£120	-£120	-£45,549		
	-£526		-£526			
	-£955		-£955			
	-£998		-£998			
	-£3,017		-£3,017	Church utilitie -£13,813	-£29,290	
	-£133		-£133			
	-£6,514		-£6,514			
	-£2,760		-£2,760			
	-£1,389		-£1,389			
	-£8,331		-£8,331			
	-£3,390		-£3,390			
	-£3,756		-£3,756			
	-£9,170		-£9,170			
	-£1,982		-£1,982	-£18,736		
	-£845		-£845			
	-£6,739		-£6,739			
	-£1,134		-£1,134	Institute operations	-£12,820	
	-£2,366		-£2,366			
	-£1,528		-£1,528			
	-£358		-£358			
	-£3,132		-£3,132			
	-£713		-£713			
	-£238		-£238			
	-£2,083		-£2,083			
	-£1,268		-£1,268			
	-£9,655	-£72,451	-£82,106	-£82,106		
	-£12,033		-£12,033			
	-£1,096		-£1,096	-£13,863		
	-£734		-£734			
	-£106,293	**-£96,071**	**-£202,364**			
	£2,097	-£23,005	*-£20,908*			
	£3,892	£2,078	*£5,970*			

Total payments **-£172,354** [5, 6]

Total payments **-£202,364**

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St. Oswald, Durham

Receipts & Payments (showing Designated & Restricted Funds) for Year Ending 31st December

2025

				General a/c	Combined Charities a/c	UNRESTRICTED	DESIGNATED	RESTRICTED	ENDOWMENT	Total
			Cash at bank & in hand 1st Jan.	£3,892	£2,078	£1,832	£52	£4,086		£5,970
RECEIPTS	Regular giving	A1	Standing orders	£29,410		£29,382	£28		No endowments are held within the accounts	£29,410
		A2	Envelopes	£4,910		£4,910				£4,910
		A3	Other gift-aided donations	£3,314		£660		£2,654		£3,314
		A4	Gift Aid recovery	£10,237		£10,237				£10,237
	Misc. giving	B1	Loose cash collections	£1,487 [1]		£1,487				£1,487 [1]
			[1] + £60 not banked, used for Ashton charity distribution							
		B2	Sundry donations	£1,503		£933		£570		£1,503
		B3	Bequests							
		B4	Church box & SumUp/CollecTin[2]	£2,101 [2]		£2,101				£2,101 [2]
			[2] includes £79 collected on behalf of DU Orchestral Soc., passed							
	Other operating income	C1	Magazine trading income	£1,116		£1,116				£1,116
		C2	Weddings, funerals[3]	£7,703 [3]		£7,703				£7,703 [3]
			[3] includes £1,166 in fees collected on behalf of the diocese (see i							
		C3	Events (concerts, etc.) in church	£1,980		£1,980				£1,980
		C4	Fundraising	£691		£43	£431	£217		£691
		C5	Bank interest, refunds	£2,863		£2,863				£2,863
		C6	Shincliffe admin. contribution	£1,735		£1,735				£1,735
	Institute	D1	King's Church, Durham (KCD)	£13,082		£13,082				£13,082
		D2	Main Hall rental	£10,316		£10,316				£10,316
	Rector & ch'warden charities Inc.	E1	Caldcleugh income a/c		£14,300	£14,300				£14,300
		E2	Ternent income a/c		£1,000	£1,000				£1,000
	Capital grants	E3	Caldcleugh investment fund		£71,401	£71,401				£71,401
		E4	Ternent investment fund							
		E5	Adamson deposit fund (Ashton monies)		£250			£250		£250 [4]
			[4] £60 transf'd CC to Gen 28 Jan 2026 to cover 2025 Ashton distrib.							
		E6	Cock Charity dividend, non-educational		£54			£54		£54
		E7	Cock Charity dividend, educational		£11			£11		£11
	External grants	F1	County & City Councils	£12,000				£12,000		£12,000
		F2	Listed Places of Worship Scheme	£607		£607				£607
		F3	Diocesan Grants							
		F4	Ecclesiastical							
		F5	Lord Crewe Charity	£1,000				£1,000		£1,000
		G	**TOTAL RECEIPTS:**	**£106,054**	**£87,016**	£175,855	£459	£16,756		**£193,070**

				General a/c	Combined Charities a/c	*UNRESTRICTED*	*DESIGNATED*	*RESTRICTED*	*ENDOWMENT*	Total
PAYMENTS	Ministry	Z1	Parish share	-£12,000	-£20,000 [5]	*-£32,000* [5]			No endowments are held within the accounts	-£32,000 [5]
			[5] final -£8000 left Comb. Char. a/c 02 Jan 2026							
		Z2	Magazine	-£790		*-£790*				-£790
		Z3	Missions & charities	-£1,452		*-£1,305*		*-£147*		-£1,452
		Z4	Cock & Ashton distributions		-£64			*-£64*		-£64 [6]
			[6] Further – £60 taken from the cash collection for the 2025 Ashton							
		Z5	Vicarage costs	-£626		*-£626*				-£626
		Z6	Stipendiary clergy working expenses	-£955		*-£955*				-£955
		Z7	Stipendiary clergy working expenses	-£998		*-£998*				-£998
	Church & churchyards	Y1	Gas	-£4,796		*-£4,796*				-£4,796
		Y2	Water	-£144		*-£144*				-£144
		Y3	Insurance	-£6,617		*-£6,617*				-£6,617
		Y4	Cleaning	-£2,808		*-£2,808*				-£2,808
		Y5	Electricity	-£1,334		*-£1,334*				-£1,334
		Y6	Church maintenance & repairs	-£3,880	-£5,436	*-£9,316*				-£9,316
		Y7	Sundries	-£2,408		*-£2,408*				-£2,408
		Y8	Churchyard & Bow Cemetery	-£528		*-£528*				-£528
	Music	X1	Organ playing & choir direction	-£10,985		*-£10,985*				-£10,985
		X2	Organ & piano tuning	-£410	-£632	*-£1,042*				-£1,042
		X3	Music, other	-£1,318	-£15,000	*-£16,318*				-£16,318
		X4	Music scholarships	-£6,000		*-£5,000*		*-£1,000*		-£6,000
	Institute	W1	Main hall electricity	-£974		*-£974*				-£974
		W2	Gas (50% recouped from KCD [7])	-£3,675		*-£3,675*				-£3,675
		W3	Insurance	-£1,552		*-£1,552*				-£1,552
		W4	Water (50% recouped from KCD [7])	-£306		*-£306*				-£306
		W5	Cleaning (part recouped from KCD [7])	-£2,808		*-£2,808*				-£2,808
		W6	Waste collection (67% recouped from KCD [7])	-£749		*-£749*				-£749
		W7	Sewerage (50% recouped from KCD [7])	-£436		*-£436*				-£436
		W8	Appleby Rms. electricity (100% recouped from KCD [7])	-£1,553		*-£1,553*				-£1,553
			[7] payments from King's Church, Durham are included in item D1							
		W9	Maintenance & repair	-£937		*-£937*				-£937
		W10	**Institute development**	-£19,614	-£26,347	*-£31,719*		*-£14,241*		-£45,960
	Other	V1	Admin.	-£12,301		*-£12,301*				-£12,301
		V2	Fees collected on diocese's behalf	-£1,166		*-£1,166*				-£1,166
		V3	Misc. expenses	-£752		*-£752*				-£752
		U	**TOTAL PAYMENTS:**	**-£104,875**	**-£67,479**	*-£156,902*		*-£15,452*		**-£172,354**
		G + U	Surplus/deficit for year	£1,179	£19,537	*£18,953*	*£459*	*£1,304*		*£20,716*
			Cash at bank & in hand 31st Dec.	£5,071	£21,615	***£20,785***	***£511***	***£5,390***		*£26,687*

Unrestricted funds can be spent on anything we are legally entitled to do. **Designated** funds have been set aside by the PCC for a particular purpose (in our case, the Social C'tee). **Restricted** funds have been donated for a specific purpose, and may not legally be used for anything else. **Endowments** *(of which we have none)* may not be spent at all; only income from investing them may be used.

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St. Oswald, Durham

Statement of **Assets & Liabilities** for Year Ending **31st December 2025**

			2025					2024	2023	2022
			UNRESTRICTED	*DESIGNATED*	*RESTRICTED*	*ENDOWMENT*	**Total**	Total	Total	Total
31st December 2025	Cash funds	General + Combined Charities a/cs	*£20,785*	*£511*	*£5,390*	*£0*	**£26,687**	£5,970	£26,879	£19,649
		Ashton deposit a/c			*£3,221*		**£3,221**	£3,336	£3,173	£3,168
	Other monetary assets	Gift Aid recoverable *(estimate)*	*£7,511*		*£664*		**£8,174**	£8,500	£7,500	£7,478
		Recoverable from LPoW Scheme	*£0* [8]				**£0** [8]	£1,000	£800	£0
		[8] the scheme for refunding VAT on repair and maintenance of listed places of worship closed early								
	Investment assets	Cock Charity (non-educational)			*£1,322*		**£1,322**	£1,302	£1,362	£1,340
		Cock Charity (educational)			*£273*		**£273**	£269	£281	£277
	Assets retained for church use						**£0**	£0	£0	£0
	Liabilities	Cheques yet to be banked					**£0**	£0	-£2,796	-£833
							£39,677	£20,377	£37,199	£31,079

Registered Charity no. 1196296

The Rev'd John Cock's Charities						
			2025	2024	2023	2022
Exclusive of Education (BlackRock a/c 3395)						
Dividend income *(held in Combined Charities bank a/c)* 01-Jan			£663	£608	£559	£453
Receipts from BLK Charities UK Bond Fund A Inc.	20-Jan-2025	£7.95				
	22-Apr-2025	£13.78				
	21-Jul-2025	£18.37				
	20-Oct-2025	£13.78				
	Total receipts		£54	£55	£55	£110
	Payments		-£4		-£6	-£4
Dividend income *(held in Combined Charities bank a/c)* 31-Dec			£713	£663	£608	£559
Capital Fund *(invested with BlackRock Inv. Mgmt. [UK] Ltd.)* 31-Dec			£1,322	£1,302	£1,362	£1,340
Education (BlackRock a/c 3396)						
Dividend income *(held in Combined Charities bank a/c)* 01-Jan			£148	£137	£126	£103
Receipts from BLK Charities UK Bond Fund A Inc. (two sources: Fund 01 & 'Accumulations of Income')	20-Jan-2025	£0.54				
		£1.10				
	22-Apr-2025	£0.94				
		£1.90				
	21-Jul-2025	£1.25				
		£2.54				
	20-Oct-2025	£0.94				
		£1.91				
	Total receipts		£11	£11	£11	£23
	Payments					
Dividend income *(held in Combined Charities bank a/c)* 31-Dec			£159	£148	£137	£126
	Fund 01	£90.09				
	Fund 'Accumulations of income'	£183.08				
Capital Fund *(invested with BlackRock Inv. Mgmt. [UK] Ltd.)* 31-Dec			£273	£269	£281	£277

Ashton Bequest

Funds held in Combined Charities bank a/c and restricted to Ashton Bequest use

Summary & comparison with previous years		**2025**	**2024**
01-Jan	B/fwd	£0	£120
	Receipts from investment	£250	
	Distribution	-£60	-£120
31-Dec	Balance	£190	£0

St. Oswald's Church Durham (Mary Adamson – Bequest) a/c — detailed breakdown

Invested in the COIF Charities Deposit Fund

Account now used for the Ashton Bequest capital

		2025	
01-Jan-2025		B/fwd:	£3,336
Income reinvested:			
03-Jan-2025		£13.00	
04-Feb-2025		£12.98	
04-Mar-2025		£11.46	
02-Apr-2025		£12.18	
02-May-2025		£11.15	
03-Jun-2025		£11.22	
02-Jul-2025		£10.36	
02-Jul-2025	*(sic)*	£0.36	
04-Aug-2025		£11.00	
02-Sep-2025		£10.71	
02-Oct-2025		£10.25	
04-Nov-2025		£10.53	
02-Dec-2025		£10.16	
			£135
Withdrawals:			
20-Mar-2025		-£250	
			-£250
31-Dec-2025		Total:	**£3,221**

			2025	2024	2023	2022
Summary of activity in restricted funds held in General a/c						
Ayton Trust *(no change)*	31-Dec		£462	£462	£462	£462
Restricted to sacristy purposes (purchases of fair linen, repairs to frontals and vestments, etc.)						
Choir Fund *(no change)*	31-Dec		£2,813	£2,813	£2,813	£2,813
Restricted to spending on choir robes						
Churchyard	01-Jan		£0	£0	£0	£0
Restricted to tree-labelling equipment	31-Dec		£200	£0	£0	£0
Institute Development Phase III	01-Jan	£0				
Kitchen refurbishment, building hatchway and Hall cupboards	Grant	£12,000				
	Donations[9]	£1,824				
[9] Gift Aid recovered on applicable donations will also contribute to total spending on this project						
	Fundraising	£417				
	Restricted funds spent	-£14,241				
	31-Dec		£0			
Grant from **Lord Crewe's Charity**	01-Jan	£0				
Restricted to educational purposes	Rec'd	£1,000				
	Spent on school-leavers' Bibles for St. Oswald's Primary School	-£147				
	31-Dec		£853			
Organochoral Scholar Tuition Fund	01-Jan	£0		£0	£0	
Funding for extra scholars	Rec'd	£1,000		£1,000	£1,000	
	Disbursed to additional scholars	-£1,000		-£1,000	-£1,000	
	31-Dec		£0	£0	£0	-£205
TOTAL:			**£4,328**	**£3,275**	**£3,275**	**£3,070**
End of year balances for restricted funds held in Combined Charities a/c						
See separate accounts for details						
Ashton Bequest	31-Dec		£190	£0	£120	£51
Cock Charity, Exclusive of Education	31-Dec		£713	£663	£608	£559
Cock Charity, Education	31-Dec		£159	£148	£137	£126
TOTAL:			**£1,062**	**£811**	**£865**	**£736**
END OF YEAR TOTALS ACROSS BOTH ACCOUNTS:			£5,390	£4,086	£4,140	£3,806

			2025	2024	2023	2022
Summary of designated funds held in General a/c						
Social Committee	01-Jan	£52				
Surplus from *Much Ado About Nothing* (performed on 9th Nov. 2024)		£316				
Surplus from Parish Lunch (held on 5th Jan. 2025)		£115				
Reimbursement for Parish Lunch meteorological non-attenders		£28				
Funds raised at Harvest Supper & Quiz Evening for Institute kitchen refurb.		£217				
Reassigned as **Institute Development Phase III** restricted funds		-£217				
	31-Dec		£511	£52	£302	£190
TOTAL:			**£511**	**£52**	**£302**	**£190**
No designated funds are presently held in the Combined Charities a/c						

Commentary on the church accounts

Introduction

'Church accounts' effectively means the church *bank* accounts, as apart from £60 from the Sunday collections used last year directly in cash, all the church's money passes through them. There are two accounts, General and Combined Charities, the latter being set up in the main to receive grants from the Rector and churchwarden charities *(see below)*, the capital of which is invested elsewhere.

Money coming into the church accounts is grouped here into four big income streams:

- **giving** *(categories A & B in the spreadsheet; from people's generosity, for which thank you very much!)*
- **operating income** *(cat. C & D; from things we do, provide or make that people directly pay for, such as the magazine, weddings and funerals, hire of facilities)*
- **grants from Rector and churchwarden trusts** *(cat. E; money granted from the at the Rector and churchwardens' discretion to support anything the church does, from charities — the Caldcleugh and Ternent Trusts — set up to administer some generous bequests left to St. Oswald's in the past)*
- **grants from external bodies** *(cat. F; money applied for to support particular projects, from local authorities, charities that support church buildings, etc.)*

"One of these is not like the other ones," as the Americans say: while giving, operating income, and external grants represent money new to St. Oswald's, Caldcleugh and Ternent grants function in practice, if not exactly in law, more like the drawing down of reserves.

Money leaving the accounts is grouped five ways:

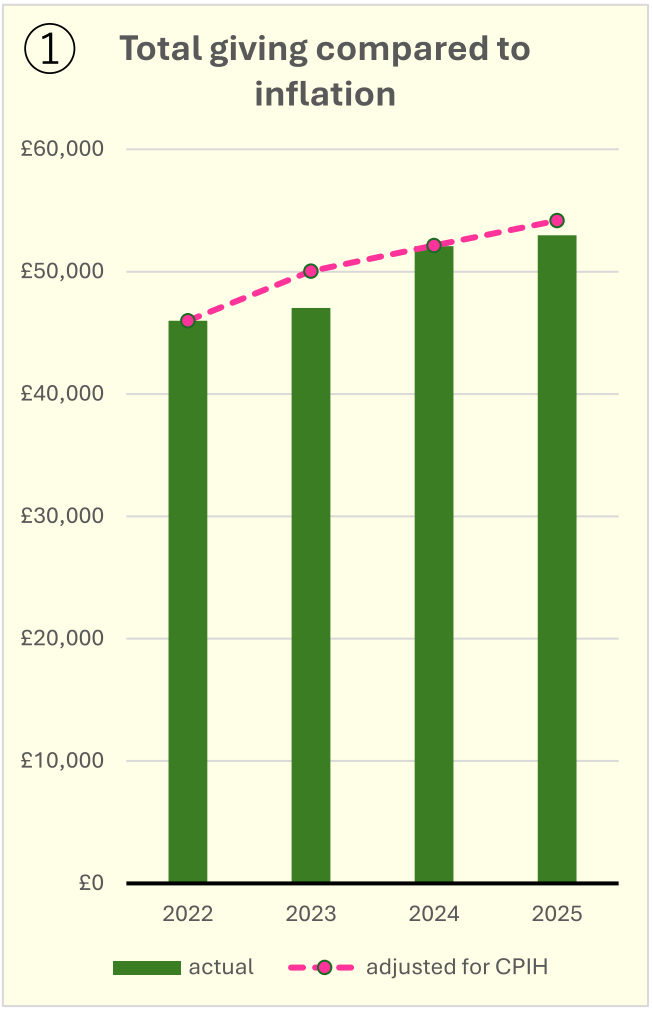
- **ministry** *(cat. Z; mostly, our share of the costs of supporting a full-time clergyman in the benefice)*
- **church and churchyards** *(cat. Y; maintenance and running costs)*
- **music** *(cat. X)*
- **Institute** *(cat. W; maintenance and running costs, and also development)*
- and that perennial favourite, **other** *(cat. V; mostly our parish administrator's salary)*

Outgoings are shown as negative numbers. Please note that the final two 2025 parish share payments, totalling £8,000, did not leave our bank until 2nd Jan. 2026; the year's outgoings are therefore artificially flattered by this amount.

Trends

Income from **external grants** varies enormously from year to year, depending on what big projects we're undertaking, and how attractive they are to the grant-awarding bodies that concern themselves with the kinds of projects we're doing. These grants are vital, and we are very grateful indeed to their donors; there's little point, however, in trying to discern trends in them from year to year. It's a delight to note, though, an unexpectedly generous grant of £12,000 from the City Council (we'd only applied for £5,000!) towards the Institute kitchen refit.

Giving (graph ①) has been on a rising trend over the past four years, though not quite keeping pace with inflation *(the pink dashed line)*. The regular, planned giving of members of the congregation (and other friends of the church) makes up the overwhelming bulk of the total — a huge thankyou, therefore, to everyone who contributes what they can, when they can!





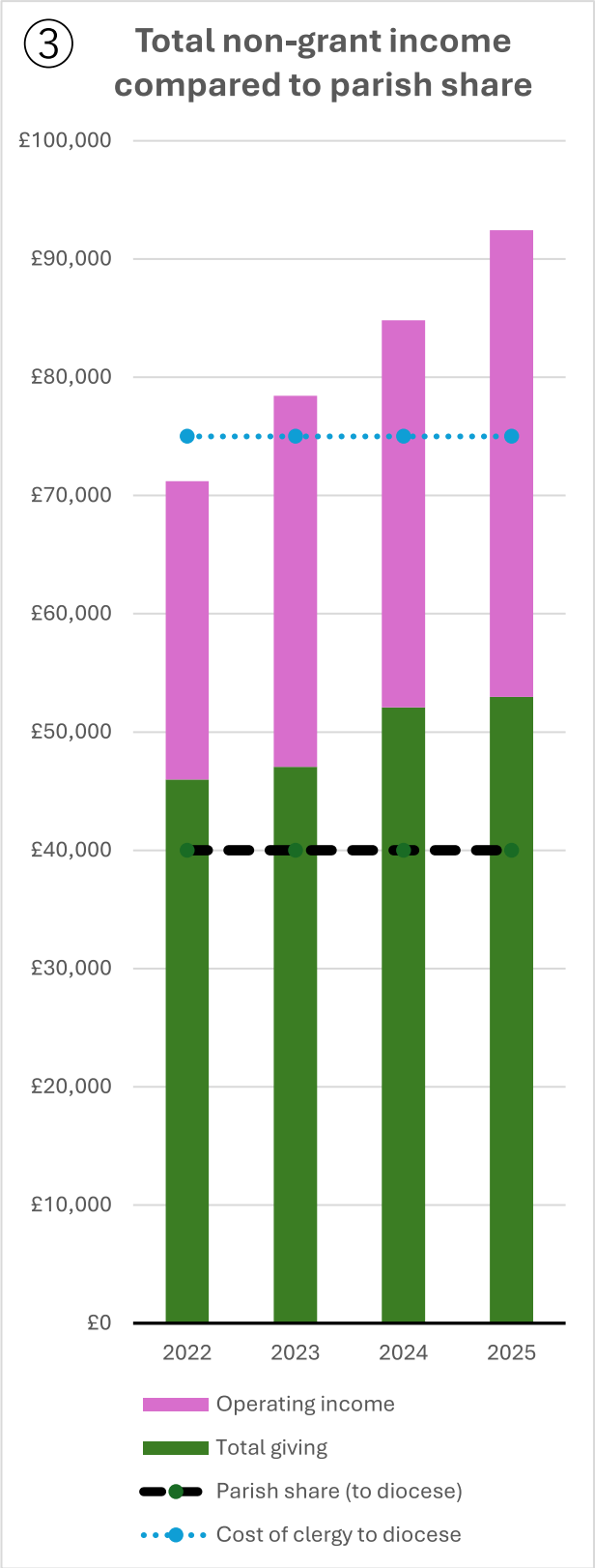
(Bar charts are, as far as possible, to the same vertical scale.)

Total **non-grant income** (**giving** + **operating income**, graph ②) has also risen, and faster than inflation.

①

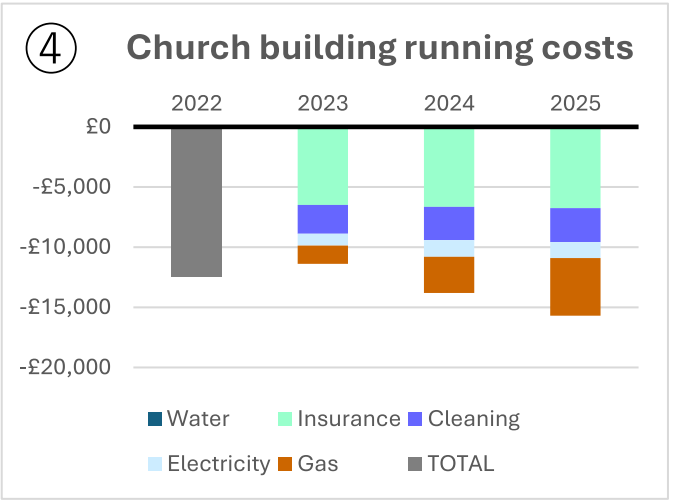
②

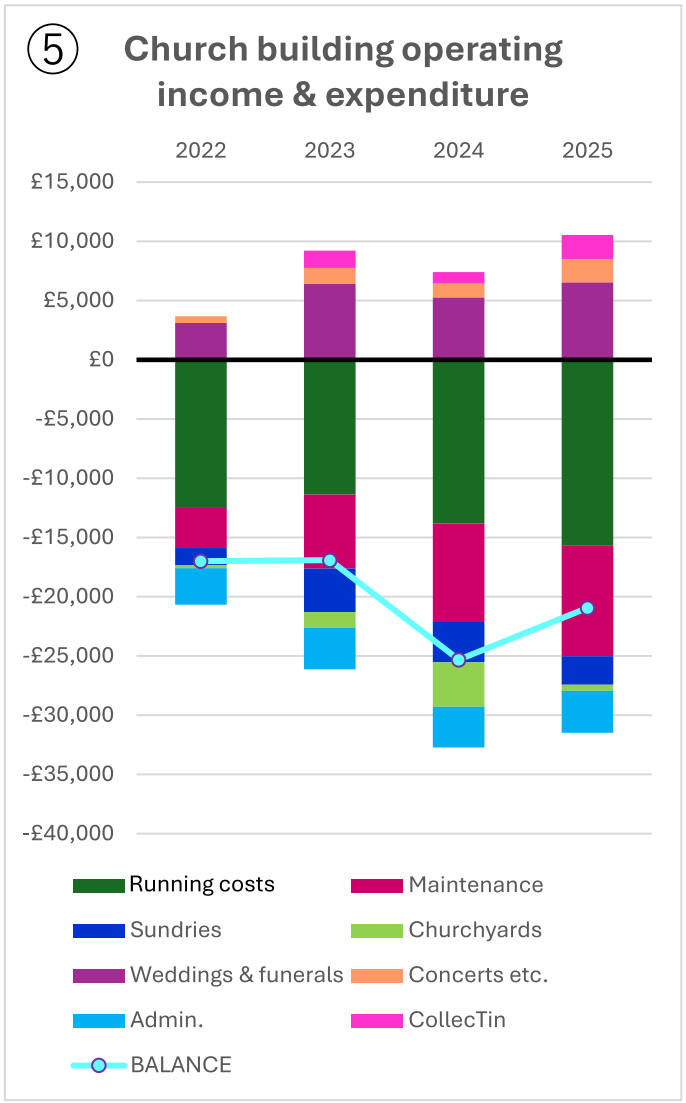
③

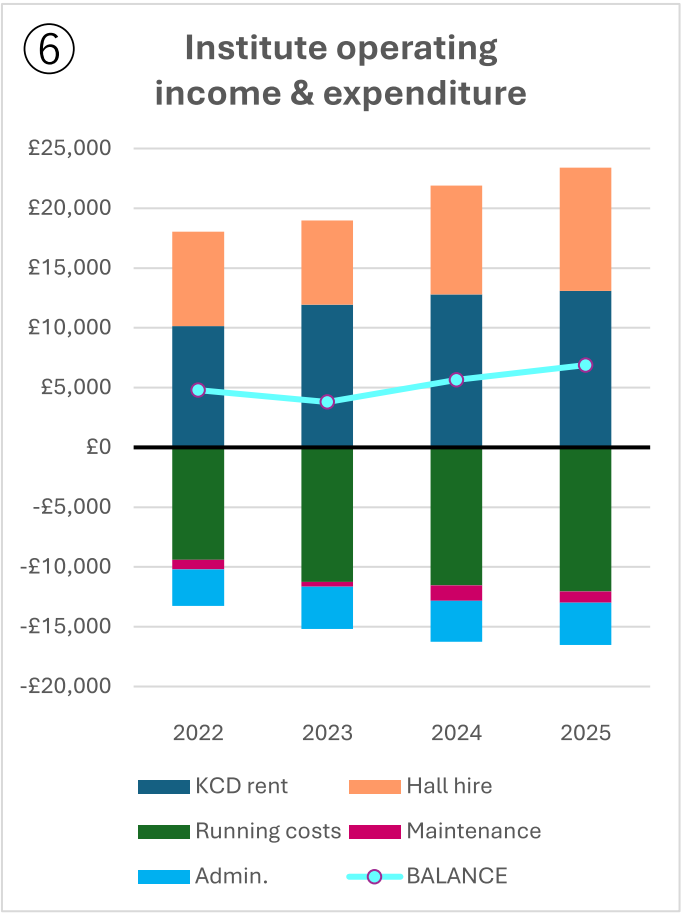


Graph ③ is a slightly closer look at how our non-grant income compares to our largest regular outgoing, the parish share we pay to the diocese. *Per* the dotted black line, the £40,000 we have paid annually for the past few years has taken almost all of our giving, and more each year than our operating income. Although there is no direct or formal linkage between parish share and clergy pay and housing, it's worth pondering how parish share compares to our proportion of the cost to the diocese of supporting a full-time clergyman in the benefice, and a commonly-quoted figure for this nationally is £75,000 p.a. (dotted blue line). The parish shares of the four parishes in the benefice have more than matched this notional £75,000 figure.

Graphs ⑤ and ⑥ show the regular income and outgoings associated with the church building and the Institute, while graph ④ looks inside the dark green bars in graph ⑤. As expected, the church itself is a net user of funds; the Institute, though, generates a healthy surplus year on year. The low church gas costs in 2023–4 were due to boiler breakdowns.




5
Church building operating income & expenditure
2022
2023
2024
2025
£15,000
£10,000
£5,000
£0
-£5,000
-£10,000
-£15,000
-£20,000
-£25,000
-£30,000
-£35,000
-£40,000
Running costs
Maintenance
Sundries
Churchyards
Weddings & funerals
Concerts etc.
Admin.
CollecTin
BALANCE


6
Institute operating income & expenditure
£25,000
£20,000
£15,000
£10,000
£5,000
£0
-£5,000
-£10,000
-£15,000
-£20,000
2022
2023
2024
2025
KCD rent
Hall hire
Running costs
Maintenance
Admin.
BALANCE

5

6

Graph ⑦ is regrettably complicated, but for a reason. The thing to watch for is the size of the overlap between the salmon pink bars and the bright blue ones...

The Caldcleugh and Ternent capital is invested, and earns an income (a bit like bank interest). Grants into the parish accounts can come either from the income as it builds up (light green bars), or from the underlying capital (salmon pink).

(These bars represent the money ***spent*** *in each year from each source, not simply the amounts of grants made: they thus won't match grant figures in the accounts. Also, unlike the other graph bars, they're from a quick and dirty calculation and are only accurate to two or three hundred pounds either way; but as that's only about half a millimetre on the graph scale, I hope you won't feel the inaccuracy matters too much.)*

At the top of the right hand bar of each pair, in indigo, is the part of Institute renovation spending not covered by external grants, and below it in amber in 2025 is the price of our lovely new (-to-us) piano. Using reserve capital on major projects and capital purchases like these is generally reckoned to be prudent.

What is *not* sustainable is to draw down reserve capital to finance ordinary running costs, and seeing how far the salmon reserve-capital-spending bars overshoot the indigo and amber major projects bars shows the extent to which we've needed to do this in the past few years.

(It doesn't really make sense to say that this overshoot has been spent on one regular item rather than another, but for purposes of comparison, bright blue parish share and plum-coloured church running and maintenance cost bars are placed side by side with it.)

The magenta line at the top of the graph shows the size of the overshoot, and emphasises the **good news** that, even if it has not yet been quite done away with, the trend of unsustainable capital drawdown seems to have been reversed.

⑦ **Use of Caldcleugh/Ternent income & capital grants to cover capital and regular expenditure**

