HAVEN CHURCH GOSPORT

(Formerly Gosport South PCC)

The Annual Parochial Church Meeting

Monday 18 May 2026
Christ Church, 7pm



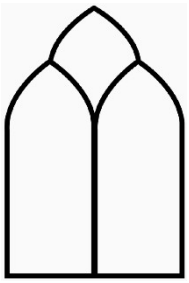




THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND

Diocese of Portsmouth

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Agenda

Opening prayer

Meeting of parishioners

Attendees: All parishioners wishing to attend

1. Appointment of counters
2. Election of churchwardens

Annual Parochial Church Meeting

Attendees: Electoral Roll members only

1. Apologies
2. Corrections to minutes of previous APCM
3. Matters arising from minutes of previous APCM
4. Vote on Scheme of Representation

5. Elect parochial representatives of the laity to the **deanery synod** (five positions)
6. Elect parochial representatives of the laity to the **PCC** (seven vacancies*):
   At least:
   - x4 three-year term for Christ Church
   - x1 three- year term for Saint Johns
   - x2 two-year term for Holy Trinity

   Churchwarden and deanery elections may create additional vacancies

7. Appointment of independent examiner

8. Discussion of contents of PCC annual report
   - Parish overview
   - Structure, governance and management
   - Activities and achievements
     - Christ Church and Saint John's
     - Holy Trinity
   - Safeguarding
   - Financial summary
   - PCC membership
   - Electoral roll
   - Fabric reports
     - Christ Church and Saint John's
     - Holy Trinity
   - Deanery synod
   - Financial accounts

9. Hybrid / postal voting for next year's APCM – discussion and vote
10. Any other business

Closing prayer

First meeting of the new PCC in the Choir Vestry

Attendees: PCC members only

1. Appointment of:
    a. Vice chair[1]
    b. Treasurer
    c. Secretary[2]
    d. Electoral roll officer[3]
    e. Standing committee (Ray and Godfrey, one churchwarden from each church, two other members of the PCC)

2. Co-option vote:
    a. Treasurer (if required)[4]

3. New PCC members to draw lots for term length (if required)

Parish overview

Helen Kendry, PCC Secretary

The Parish of Haven Church Gosport (Charity number: 1199183) consists of two parish churches (Christ Church and Holy Trinity) and a Mission Hub based out of Saint John's Forton. Together, these worshipping communities represent a broad diversity of expressions within the Anglican tradition. The Parish was formed from the merger of the three churches in 2020.

Christ Church and Saint John's, which are part of the HTB network, express their vision as follows:

> The vision of Haven Church is to play our part in the evangelisation of the nation, the revitalisation of the church and the transformation of society.
>
> **We are for all.**
> Whatever your background, age, or story, you can come as you are and find a place to belong.

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[1] The PCC must elect a lay member as **vice-chair**; and the vice-chair acts as chair and accordingly has the powers vested in the chair – (a) where there is no minister, (b) where the minister is absent or unable to act for some other reason, or (c) where the minister invites the vice-chair to act as chair. (*Church Representation Rules 2025 (CRR), Part 9, M19*)

[2] The PCC may appoint one of its members as **secretary**... The secretary has the following functions – a) to have charge of all the documents relating to the current business of the PCC other than the roll of the parish; (b) to keep the minutes; (c) to record all resolutions passed; (d) to notify his or her name and address to the secretary of the deanery synod and the secretary of the diocesan synod. (*CRR, Part 9, M20*)

[3] The PCC must appoint a person as **electoral roll officer** to act under its direction for the purpose of carrying out its functions with regard to the roll of the parish. The electoral roll officer accordingly has charge of the roll of the parish and must keep it up to date in accordance with these Rules. The person appointed... need not be a member of the PCC and may also be the secretary. (*CRR, Part 9, M21*)

[4] Where the person appointed as secretary or **treasurer** is not a member of the PCC, he or she does not become a member merely as a resulting of holding the office in question but may be co-opted under Rule M15(1)(k) (*(CRR, Part 9, M20*)

We are for Jesus.
We believe that the church is the presence of Jesus in the world, so all that we do is for Him, with him and in him.

We are for Gosport.
We love this town. We are passionate about celebrating Gosport and helping to play our part in seeing it flourish.

Holy Trinity is a church within the modern Anglo-Catholic tradition and outlines its vision as follows:

Since our consecration in 1696, our purpose has been to **proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ afresh in each generation** to the people of Gosport and beyond.

Our life as a church is centred around Christ, expressed through four modes:

- **Worship** – the primary purpose of Holy Trinity is the worship of God through Jesus Christ, by participation in which we our transformed and renewed. As a worshipping community within the Anglo-Catholic tradition of the Church of England, we aim to be a centre of excellence for this expression of the Christian Faith.
- **Discipleship** – as Christians we aim to ever-deepen our understanding of the life and work of Christ and of the Christian Faith to better follow in His example and grow in holiness.
- **Fellowship** – though we are many, we are one body: as a community we seek to support each other through mutual love and affection.
- **Service** – the Church exists primarily for the benefit of those outside it. We are committed to serving the people of Gosport, both friend and stranger, without condition or reward. In our example we aim to model and witness Christ, who came to serve, not to be served.

Across all we do, we seek to embody three key values:

- **Welcoming** – that all who visit Holy Trinity, in whatever capacity, are received as if Christ and are refreshed and rewarded by the experience.
- **Caring** – that in all we do, both within our congregation and beyond, we put care and love of one another at the heart of our action, seeking always to give, rather than receive.
- **Outward-facing** – Christ founded his Church for the whole world and we are merely its stewards. As a community, we must always look to those beyond our congregation, seeking out ways in which we can demonstrate Christ's love for them.

Following a period of consultation, the PCC voted in December last year to pursue the uncoupling of Haven Parish into two new parishes.

Since January this year, the PCC has been engaged in ongoing consultation with St Mary's Alverstoke PCC regarding the implications for parish boundaries and the future configuration of neighbouring parishes. A proposal for boundary reorganisation has been developed in discussion with diocesan officers and local clergy and was received and agreed by the PCC as the basis for further discernment.

The current proposal under consideration includes merging the Haslar area of Alverstoke with Holy Trinity to form a new Parish, while Christ Church and Saint John's would be merged with the Leesland area of Alverstoke.

The current position is that Haven PCC is awaiting Alverstoke PCC's discernment and decision on their future before any next steps can be taken toward formal diocesan pastoral reorganisation.

Structure, governance and management

Helen Kendry, PCC Secretary

The three churches of the parish of Haven Church are governed by a combined parochial church council (PCC) which follows Church of England legislation (*Church Representation Rules*). In addition, there are two 'church committees', one for Christ Church and Saint John's, and another for Holy Trinity, which deal with delegated business relating to the specific churches and which are made up of the PCC members who worship there, and any co-opted members.

Christ Church is situated on Stoke Road, Gosport, PO12 1JQ.
Holy Trinity is situated on Haslar Road, Gosport, PO12 1HL.
Saint John's is situated at 133-141 Forton Road, Gosport, PO12 4TQ.

Membership of the PCC is via four main routes: [5]

A. All stipendiary clergy or lay workers licensed to the parish
B. Members serving ex-officio[6] by virtue of being churchwarden, a member of deanery, diocesan or general synod
C. Lay members elected under the Church Representation Rules to serve on the PCC
D. Any other members co-opted by the PCC

On the 14th April 2025 the PCC voted in favour of a scheme of representation which distributed the 15 electable positions (C) as:

- Christ Church: **6**
- Holy Trinity: **6**
- Saint's Johns: **3**

This scheme was to run for one year until 11 May 2026, and will need to be reconfirmed at this year's APCM.

All PCC members act as charity trustees for the parish and hold ultimate responsibility for its governance, strategy and compliance with legal requirements. Acting collectively, they are responsible for compliance with charity law, safeguarding the parish financially and reputationally, and hold legal liability for the parish's actions.

[5] Full membership rules can be found in *Church Representation Rules 2025,* Part 9, M15
[6] *Ex officio* is a Latin phrase meaning "by virtue of office" or "because of one's position". It describes a person who holds a position on a board, committee, or group automatically because they hold another, primary position.

Activities and achievements

Christ Church and Saint John's

Revd Ray Driscoll

It has been another deeply encouraging year in the life of Christ Church and Saint John's, and I remain profoundly thankful to God for all that He is doing among us. Across our Sunday gatherings, midweek ministries, outreach, and discipleship, we continue to see growth, spiritual hunger, and increasing engagement from people of all ages.

Services

9:30am Traditional Service

Our 9:30am Traditional Service continues to be a Common Worship Holy Communion service following the lectionary readings. It has been wonderful to see this congregation grow from approximately 30–40 people at the time of last year's APCM to now regularly welcoming 45–50 each week. This steady growth has seen the average age of the congregation decline and it reflects a deepening commitment to worship and discipleship within our traditional congregation.

11:00am Contemporary Service

Our 11:00am Contemporary Service experienced significant growth during the year, reaching over 200 attendees through February. This growth was a tremendous encouragement, though it also meant we reached the limits of our available space. In response, we launched an additional service—The Six—in March. While this has led to a slight reduction in numbers at the 11:00am, we continue to see many new faces joining us each week, and we pray this service will continue to flourish and grow.
Haven Kids and Haven Youth meet as a part of this service, drawing 45-55 under 16's to the service, making us one of the largest churches in the diocese for children and young people. The team do a great job in teaching the children and young people in a fun and engaging way.

The Six

Launched in March, The Six is our additional contemporary service held in a more relaxed format, without children's groups during the service but with youth provision afterwards. Attendance has quickly grown to around 50 people, including approximately 10 young people. It has been especially encouraging to see how many new people have connected with church through this gathering, and we pray for continued growth and fruitfulness in this congregation.

Wednesday Holy Communion

This weekly service provides a space for worship and community for the 10-15 people that attend each week, all centred around the eucharist. This is the primary service of worship for several of this congregation.

Teaching and Discipleship

Throughout the year, our Sunday teaching has focused on a range of themes designed to deepen discipleship and biblical understanding. Series have included Genesis, The Parables, Discipleship, Joy and the Wilderness (our Lent series). It has been a privilege to teach through these themes and witness the ways God is using His Word to shape and encourage our church family.
We have invested in our prayer ministry and pastoral teams this year. Our curate, Rachel Rider, provided training for a new group of prayer team members and several of the congregation completed the diocesan lay pastoral assistants course. This means that we are able to provide prayer and pastoral care each Sunday.

Licenced Lay Ministry
We are blessed to have our Anna Chaplain, Pat Hewitt and our ordinands, Jonnie Angel, Karen Angel and Kyle Gray supporting ministry in the parish. Pat provided pastoral care to the older generation, Karen supports us with the pastoral care team and Kyle works with the welcome team and youth work. In addition, we have been blessed by their ministry in services as they learn to lead the different elements that make up our Sunday Services.

Midweek Ministries

Haven Tots
Held every Monday from 10:00–11:30am, Haven Tots has continued to thrive and now regularly welcomes between 40–50 children and their carers each week.

Haven of Hope
Meeting fortnightly on Mondays after school, Haven Home provides a space for play, community, and hospitality, including access to The Pantry, a food provision for families and individuals who may be experiencing financial difficulties or food poverty. Shine continues to provide a safe space for women who have experienced domestic abuse to grow in confidence in the context of community.

Schools Ministry
Our schools ministry remains a vital and growing part of church life, with regular ministry in Newtown Primary (weekly), St John's Primary (weekly) and Haselworth Primary (monthly). We love to welcome the schools to the church for their festival services, and the building is always full.

Youth Ministry
Our Tuesday and Wednesday Hangout sessions for young people aged 11–18 regularly welcome 30–40 teenagers per session, providing a vital place of belonging, discipleship, and outreach.

Life Groups
We now have **9 Life Groups** meeting regularly, including **1 youth group**, gathering to study Scripture, pray together, and deepen community.

Alpha
Alpha continues to run every term on Wednesday evenings at 7:30pm and remains an important part of our evangelistic ministry.

Youth Alpha
Youth Alpha has also been running midweek at St John's at various points throughout the year.

Worship and Choir
Our choir and worship teams continue to serve faithfully, with rehearsals held every Thursday evening.

Youth Outreach in Schools and Colleges
Our team continues outreach work throughout the week in St Vincent College, Bay House and Brune Park schools, including assemblies, clubs, and pastoral support.

Other Activities and Notable Achievements

Haven Women
Held three times each year on Saturday mornings, Haven Women continues to be a valuable space for breakfast, worship, prayer, and fellowship.

Lunch Club
Our monthly Lunch Club at Christ Church continues to serve 25–30 people each month, providing welcome, hospitality, and community.

Heart for Hospitality
H$H is a monthly meal serving on a Sunday afternoon for any adult for anyone in need, serving 20 guests who enjoy the meal and each other's company.

Eco Church
We are delighted to have achieved the **Bronze Eco Church Award**, recognising our commitment to environmental stewardship as part of our Christian witness.

Thanksgiving

Sundays at Christ Church and Saint John's are incredibly special, and none of what happens across the life of our churches would be possible without the extraordinary dedication of so many people.

I want to express my heartfelt thanks to every team leader, every volunteer, and every person who faithfully attends, serves, gives, prays, and contributes to the life of our church communities. In particular, I am deeply grateful for our wardens and deputy wardens, worship teams, welcome teams, children's and youth leaders, prayer teams, pastoral teams, and the many others who serve faithfully behind the scenes in ways often unseen but never unnoticed.

I would also like to thank our PCC, Treasurer and Parish Safeguarding Officers for their incredible support, whose impact often goes unseen. We simply could not be the parish we are without them.

I would also like to express my sincere gratitude to our staff team for their exceptional commitment, hard work, and faithful service throughout the year. Their dedication, creativity, and perseverance underpin so much of the life and ministry of Christ Church and Saint John's, often in ways that go unseen. They serve the parish with remarkable generosity and professionalism. I am deeply thankful not only for all they do to strengthen and sustain the ministry of our churches, but also for the encouragement, partnership, and friendship they offer to me personally. It is a joy and privilege to serve alongside such a gifted and committed team.

Thank you not only for your service to the ministries of Christ Church and Saint John's, but also for the support, encouragement, and partnership you offer to me personally in my ministry as your Priest. It is a privilege to serve alongside you all. Your faithfulness, generosity, and love make ministry here a joy, and I thank God continually for each one of you.

Closing Reflection

As we look ahead to the coming year, we do so with gratitude for all that God has done and with faith for all that He will continue to do among us. We pray for continued growth in discipleship, depth in community, and fruitfulness in mission as we seek together to know Jesus and make Him known.
Rev. Ray Driscoll

Holy Trinity

Fr Godfrey Chigumira

Worship and services

Our main service remains the one at 11 am on Sundays, a service very much Anglo-Catholic in style. It is steadfast and solid. Those who like this service seem to enjoy it, and of late, there has been some gravitation towards making it even more liturgically meaningful. Embarrassingly, the vicar very often comes across as the one less Anglo-Catholic and has, a few times, expressed the fear that the church was tilting too far 'to the right.'

More often than not, there's now a concelebration by two or more priests on a Sunday. Many church members seem to like this. The climax of this occurs on major feast days, when 3 or 4 clergy members often take turns leading different parts of the Mass.

The clergy are meeting more frequently and are taking that opportunity to discuss different aspects of the liturgy, ever more seeking to make the service more meaningful and more appealing to the church members. As a result, there is more input of different ideas of the liturgy from the different clergy. The working together of the clergy has become more important as we look forward to becoming a parish. Not only do the retired clergy support the vicar, but they also help towards making the pastoral and spiritual vision a reality with their ideas and work. A team of clergy will be needed to lead a church for which the celebration of the Eucharist is central to its way of worship.

The number of attendees of the main service has not grown exponentially, but there is some notable increase in attendance of late, an indication of some steady growth. While the majority of those who have joined us are seniors, some young people have also become part of our spiritual family. More importantly, a few of the young people have gone on to play distinctive and important roles in our main service and in our life of worship.

The idea of a Choir Church was born out of a desire to bring the main service to a level of excellence by engaging a choir and improving the singing. While there is now some work towards building a choir church at St John's Primary School, this will not necessarily result in a choir at Holy Trinity. However, the idea of having a choir at Holy Trinity has not died with this development. There is still a lingering thought to build a choir to help the main service in the long term.

The Thursday mid-week service has, of late, been facing a challenge in the form of fewer attendees. It could be standing on its last legs. Many of the people who used to attend this service regularly are finding it more difficult to do so. At the same time, not enough new faces have joined the service. A few adjustments and tweaks to attract new members have not yielded positive results so far. We are looking at the possibility of doing a similar service during the evenings – a time when those who go to work during the day may be able to attend.

Evening prayer on Sunday evenings is the most recent of our services. This is a traditional Anglican service which offers gratitude for the day, confession of sins, and a request for peaceful rest. It is meant to cap the day off by offering all we have gone through in the day to God and resigning ourselves to his care as we prepare to rest and sleep. This service, at Holy Trinity, is showing some promising signs of growth, and what is special about it is that it is the creation of the younger generation of Holy Trinity. They do all the background preparations for it and lead it. It came about when the younger generation stepped in to fill the gap that was created when benediction and the night prayer services folded. The service started as a trial to see if the younger generation could succeed where the older folks had apparently not done very well, and they nailed it. That service has proved that when the younger people are given the opportunity to be inventive and lead, they can make a huge positive

difference at Holy Trinity. The evening prayer service is attended by a mixture of the younger and the older generation.

Discipleship
For a period of time, Holy Trinity had a running prayer session called Lectio Divina, which had few but very devout followers. The group did not show signs of growth, and in the end, the decision was made to replace it with a Bible study group. Bible study has been going strong for quite a while and is still generating some healthy interest, with people looking forward to discussing the Bible each week. This group does not do any in-depth study of the Bible. Rather, it is mainly about reading a passage and discussing it. A lot of effort is put into relating the Bible passage to personal experiences, and into discerning in what ways a passage could relate to one's life today. Those who attend the study seem to be getting some substantial spiritual nourishment out of this. The Bible study is also acting as a vehicle for our outreach. Some people who don't usually come to our church services come for Bible study. The time when the Bible study happens, in the mid-afternoon, means most of those who work during the day cannot be part of it. We are still thinking about what sort of spiritual groups we could have that would cater to the day workers in the evenings.

During the Lent period, Holy Trinity had a session of silent prayer and meditation, which was well received by those who attended it. There is now a plan in place to have three or four such sessions during the year. The next one will come just before Pentecost. In line with this, there are plans to start a Julian Meeting Group at Holy Trinity. A Julian Meeting Group is a contemplative prayer group, named after Julian of Norwich, a fourteenth-century mystic.

There are also plans to start an Anglo-Catholic kind of Alpha for those who have started coming to Holy Trinity but would like to understand more about their faith and Holy Trinity's way of worship. We hope this course will also welcome some people who have never heard the gospel message before and reawaken the faith in those who have.

A few church attendees have been booked for confirmation on the 18th of July at the cathedral, ranging from some who have just become old enough to be confirmed to others quite senior. Before then, there will be a few sessions for preparation run by the church.

Community Engagements
There are two main forms of community engagement at Holy Trinity: the community lunch project and the Five Towers chat group. Community lunches have transformed the life at Holy Trinity. Launching them was a big challenge, but once they had started, community lunches have done very well, despite the hard work involved for those running them. Through community lunches, we have gained friends and colleagues. Some people we had never met before now come regularly to Trinity to socialise and be fed. Some of them have shown great interest in being engaged in the life of the church. The lunches have also opened the church doors for those living in our neighbourhood. We used to speak of invisible walls separating Holy Trinity church from the community around. We also used to speak of the church being an island, which nobody from the neighbourhood took notice of. No more. Some people from the neighbourhood are now actively part of the team that serves community lunches.

For a few years, the Five Towers Association has used the church for their monthly gatherings, which they call chitchat. These gatherings have been a window for our church to reach out mainly to the residents of the four towers built around the church. Sometime late last year, the organisers of the chit-chat decided they could no longer continue doing so, and some church members stepped in to run the group. This has worked out very well so far. The church's relationship with the people who live in the towers has drastically improved. This relationship has not yet transformed into a community

that worships together, but there is now some understanding that the church exists for the community, and some appreciation of that role of the church by the community.

With the onset of the summer weather, a few young families have started gathering on the church grounds on Saturday afternoons. So far, the main attraction of that gathering is the outdoor games such as snooker, table tennis, and a few ball games, with some refreshments. At the moment, this seems to be working well. We hope that before the return of the cold season, this will grow into a prayer group. It will be an interesting challenge to make the transition from just a loose group of people who are enjoying themselves on a Saturday afternoon to a prayer group or a worshipping community.

Mission and Outreach

A recent addition to our effort to reach out is the Choir Church. This has been on the cards for a long time coming. We are so pleased that in the end, it has come to fruition. The diocese, through the cathedral, has provided us with a choir director who now works with us at St John's Primary School. The arrangement is that I go with the choir director into St John's on Tuesday afternoon to teach a group of children about faith, mainly through Christian songs. This has gone well for the past few months. About 14 children are attending each music session, and they seem to be enjoying themselves. The teaching of faith through music is itself an important goal of evangelisation for the Choir Church. The children have now gained the confidence they need to sing or to perform in front of the rest of the school and of the parents during collective worship. An enduring logistical challenge will be that of connecting the Choir church with Holy Trinity due to the distance between the church and the school. Even then, we hope to come up with some form of arrangement so that the children can come to the church to do a concert or something similar in the summer.

Our church building is facing some extensive wall and roof challenges, which will take a long time to fix, as well as a lot of fundraising. In order to get the funds, we will need to ramp up our efforts to reach out to and work with the local community. Apparently, without proof of sustained work that benefits the local community, there is little chance that we will get the funds we need when we apply. This means we have to engage the community a lot more than we have done so far. We will need to provide evidence from the community, which shows in what ways the community believes it could benefit from us, such as results from questionnaires or surveys. We are in the process of writing a mission action plan, which we will use for our application for funds. That mission action plan will be supported by some of our findings from the community.

The notion of becoming a parish already requires that we have a new perspective, a new mission outreach plan, which will enable us to have an effective and sustainable presence in the whole parish. We need to make sure we have a notable presence in every part of the parish, more so, in places that stand out, such as the High Street, the Royal Clarence Yard and potentially Haslar. The majority of worshippers who come to Holy Trinity currently drive from outside the parish. We need to make sure the community within the future parish boundaries can relate to the parish and see themselves as belonging to it, and also see the future of the church as, at least to some degree, dependent on their life of faith.

Safeguarding

Anna Mellers, Parish Safeguarding Officer

The PCC remains committed to safeguarding all, especially children, young people, and vulnerable adults. The parish follows the *"Promoting a Safer Church"* policy, reviewed annually.

Safer recruitment, DBS checks, training, and clear reporting procedures are in place. New teams (Pastoral, Prayer, Six) have been safely recruited, trained, and recorded on the Diocesan dashboard. DBS renewals are now due for many as they were completed at my start of my role three years ago.

16 concerns have been reported this year, mostly from Christ Church. We continue to be a busy church with groups for vulnerable adults. All were managed in line with diocesan procedures, with referrals made where necessary.

Priorities include maintaining risk assessments, strengthening recruitment and recording, encouraging vigilance (including using the new QR reporting), and working closely with Safeguarding Leads and the Pastoral Team to support people following disclosures.

PCC membership

The table below outlines the current make-up of the PCC. Elected members serve on three-year terms, on a rolling basis, and therefore the full number of positions is not up for re-election. The positions to be filled this year are as follows:

- 4 **churchwardens** to be elected at the Meeting of Parishioners (two for each location)
- 5 **deanery synod representatives** to be elected at the APCM
- 7 **parochial representatives of the laity** to be elected at the APCM:
  - x4 three-year term for Christ Church
  - x1 three- year term for Saint Johns
  - x2 two-year term for Holy Trinity

Note: A number of people have applied to stand for both the deanery synod and the PCC, or are currently serving on the PCC and wish to stand for deanery synod. As a result, the number of elected positions available may increase during the course of the meeting – this will be announced.

Name	Position on PCC	Church	Elected, Ex Officio, or Co-opted	Status at APCM
Revd Ray Driscoll	Chair / Licensed Clergy		Ex officio	-
Fr Godfrey Chigumira	Licensed Clergy		Ex officio	-
Revd Rachel Rider	Licensed Clergy		Ex officio	-
Tim Glennie	Pioneer Minister		Ex-officio	-
Amelia Somerset	Treasurer		Co-opted	Term ending
Jonathan Cousins-Booth	Churchwarden		Ex officio	Term ending

Adam Kemp	Churchwarden - Vice Chair		Ex officio	Term ending
Irene Demetriou	Churchwarden		Ex officio	Term ending
Peter Darcy	Churchwarden		Ex officio	Term ending
	Deanery Synod		Ex officio	Term ending
Brian Cossins	Deanery Synod		Ex officio	Term ending
Jenny Darcy	Deanery Synod		Ex officio	Term ending
	Lay member	**HT**	Elected	1 year remaining
Kyle Gray	Deanery Synod		Ex officio	Term ending
Wendy Hunt (Alfie Richardson)	Deanery Synod		Ex officio	Term ending
	Lay member	**HT**	Elected	1 year remaining
Adam Kendry	General Synod		Ex officio	2 months remaining
Christine Gration	Lay member	**CC**	Elected	Term ending
Pat Hewitt	Lay member	**CC**	Elected	Term ending
John Hewitt	Lay member	**CC**	Elected	1 year remaining
Elizabeth Hodgson	Lay member	**HT**	Elected	Resigned with 2 years remaining
Helen Kendry	Lay member - PCC Secretary	**HT**	Elected	1 year remaining
Jan MacNally	Lay member	**CC**	Elected	Term ending
Deborah Martin	Lay member	**HT**	Elected	2 years remaining
Chrissie O'Neill	Lay member	**HT**	Elected	Resigned with 2 years remaining
Sheryl Palmer	Lay member	**SJ**	Elected	2 years remaining
Phil Reeves	Lay member	**CC**	Elected	Term ending
Tracy Reid	Lay member	**SJ**	Elected	2 years remaining
Will Simmons	Lay member	**CC**	Elected	1 year remaining
Louise Taylor	Lay member	**SJ**	Elected	Term ending

Electoral roll

Pat Hewitt, Electoral Role Officer

Provided below are the current numbers on the electoral roll and overall change since last year.

	May 2025	**May 2026**	**Change**
Christ Church	145	**192**	↑47 (32%)
Holy Trinity	59	**76**	↑17 (29%)
Total	204	**268**	↑64 (31%)

Of the numbers above, below are those who live within and outside the parish.

	April 2025	April 2026	Change
Within Parish	74 (36%)	117 (44%)	+8%
Outside Parish	130 (64%)	151 (56%)	-8%

Fabric reports

Christ Church and Saint John's

Jon Cousins-Booth and Adam Kemp, Churchwardens

Over the past year, the Churchwardens have continued to support the life and mission of Christ Church and St John's through the care of our buildings, oversight of key projects and close collaboration with clergy, staff, PCC members and volunteers.

Warden Team and Ways of Working
Following the APCM last year, there was a change within the Churchwarden team and a period of handover across projects and responsibilities for both buildings. During the year, the wardens have worked closely with diocesan officers and the operations team to review and identify priorities for maintenance and development. Actions arising from these reviews have informed ongoing and planned work across both sites.

Fabric, Maintenance and Grounds
Both churches continue to see high levels of use throughout the week, which is encouraging but brings increased wear and tear. Over the year, work has taken place at Christ Church relating to stained glass, stonework and tiling, alongside more routine maintenance. Volunteer support has been vital to help with basic grounds work and minor DIY tasks, improving the appearance of the sites and supporting good stewardship.

Relationships with Quay West Studios and Noah's Ark Pre-School continue to be positive, with many constructive and supportive conversations taking place to ensure the smooth running of the building and wider site.

Heating and Environmental Responsibility
A major focus the over the past year has been church heating particularly at Christ Church. After a period without a working boiler, the wardens worked closely with the DAC, Operations Team and national decarbonisation advisers to explore viable heating options in line with the Church of England's Net Zero Carbon commitments.

A phased approach was agreed. Stage One, the installation of a replacement gas boiler to provide reliable background heat, has now been completed. This has made a significant difference to comfort over the winter months and has been warmly welcomed by congregations and community users. The full cost of this work was raised locally by the Christ Church congregation, for which the wardens express their gratitude.

Work is continuing to assess the most appropriate next steps for further heating provision at Christ Church and to evaluate suitable heating options for the St John's building.

Internal Layout and Use of Space
Several changes have been made, or are under consideration, to ensure our buildings remain flexible and fit for purpose. These include the removal of the grand piano at Christ Church which had sadly aged beyond repair, re-organisation of technical equipment within the Lady Chapel and ongoing reflection on how best to use internal space for worship, hospitality and fellowship.

Following the failure of the large overhead screen at Christ Church, a period using a temporary solution prompted reflection on the visual and architectural character of the building. Feedback highlighted the beauty of the church interior without a large central screen, particularly the visibility of the stained glass. Funds have since been raised by the congregation towards a more sensitive visual solution, in the form of side screens, that supports worship while preserving the openness of the space.

Plans are also being explored to reposition the coffee bar to improve circulation and create better opportunities for connection before and after services.

Compliance and Safety
A full electrical survey at Christ Church has recently been undertaken as part of routine insurance and safety requirements. As anticipated, there is some remedial work required given the age of the electrical installation and this will be addressed over the coming year.

Looking Ahead
The past year has been characterised by careful stewardship and steady progress, alongside forward planning for future needs. As activity across both churches continues to grow, the wardens remain committed to ensuring that Christ Church and St John's are safe, welcoming, well-maintained and able to support worship, mission and community life.

The Churchwardens would like to thank clergy, Deputy wardens, PCC members, staff teams and volunteers for their partnership, support and generosity throughout the year.

Holy Trinity

Peter Darcy, Churchwarden

During the year all safety checks and required servicing have been carried out.

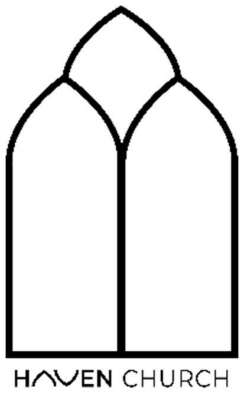
Generally speaking the interior of the building is in good repair; some repairs to the lighting system and replacement of some appliances have been carried out during this year. Regarding the exterior the major area of concern is the loss of the mathematical tiles to the outside of Holy Trinity. A number of meetings have taken place with the architect, DAC and most recently a quantity surveyor. We are still waiting for a report from him, this should enable applications for grant funding to proceed. Sample tiles were removed and a brickworks company who can produce replacements has been located; the tiles will need to be hand made as a special one-off order. On examination it is unlikely that many of the original tiles will be salvageable. GBC who are monitoring this problem have been made fully aware of the current situation and are satisfied with our progress. The total project is expected to exceed £250,000.

The lift at Holy Trinity has recently had one of the required inspections and the report has revealed deterioration of the main hydraulic hose; this will need replacement. I have received an estimate for the cost of replacement which I feel is very high and am currently awaiting information from other lift companies with regard to this work.

The sound system has become unreliable and is reaching the end of its life. We are currently looking at what is required to upgrade and ensure good sound in church.

Deanery Synod report

None received.



THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF HAVEN CHURCH

PCC & Annual Church Parochial Council

(charity number: 1199183)

REPORT AND UNAUDITED ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

HAVEN CHURCH GOSPORT
TRUSTEES REPORT

Year Ended: 31 December 2025

Charitable Number: 1199183

Address: St. Johns Church
Forton Road
Gosport
PO12 4TQ

Phone: 07415414305

Diocese: Portsmouth

Trustees: Rev Raymond Driscoll (Chair)
Fr Godfrey Chigumira
Mr Tim Glennie
Rev Rachel Rider
Mr Jonathan Cousins-Booth
Mr Adam Kemp
Mr Peter Darcy
Mrs Irene Demetriou
Mrs Jenny Darcy
Mrs Christine Gration
Mrs Pat Hewitt
Mr John Hewitt
Mrs Elizabeth Hodgson
Mrs Wendy Hunt
Mrs Helen Kendry
Mrs Janet MacNally
Mrs Deborah Martin
Mrs Chrissie O'Neill
Mr Phil Reeves
Mr Tracy Reid
Mr Will Simmons
Mrs Louise Taylor
Mrs Amelia Somerset

Structure, Governance and Management
The Parochial Church Council (PCC) of Haven Church Gosport is a charity registered with the Charity Commission (Charity Number: 1199183) and operates in accordance with the Parochial Church Councils (Powers) Measure 1956 and other relevant legislation of the Church of England.
The PCC works in partnership with the incumbent to promote the mission of the church within the parish. Members of the PCC are either ex-officio, elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM), or co-opted where appropriate. All PCC members serve as trustees of the charity.
The PCC is responsible for the financial affairs of the parish, the care and maintenance of its church buildings and associated property, and for ensuring that the parish fulfils its charitable objectives.
The PCC normally meets four times each year to consider matters relating to governance, finance, ministry and mission within the parish. Where appropriate, the PCC may delegate specific responsibilities to sub-committees or working groups, which report back to the PCC to ensure appropriate oversight and accountability.

HAVEN CHURCH GOSPORT
TRUSTEES REPORT

Objectives and Activities

Haven Church Gosport is a Church of England parish comprising three church buildings: Christ Church on Stoke Road, Holy Trinity on Trinity Green, and Saint John's on Forton Road.

The principal objective of the parish is the advancement of the Christian faith in accordance with the doctrines and practices of the Church of England. The PCC seeks to promote the mission of the church through public worship, prayer, teaching, pastoral support and community engagement.

In planning its activities, the PCC has had regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit. The PCC seeks to provide opportunities for people of all ages and backgrounds to explore the Christian faith through regular services, discipleship groups and courses such as Alpha, alongside other opportunities for prayer and spiritual growth.

The parish embraces a mixed ecology of worship and offers a range of services reflecting the diversity of traditions within the Church of England. In recent years the PCC has been encouraged to see continued growth in attendance across its congregations.

Community Engagement

Alongside its worshipping life, Haven Church Gosport seeks to serve the wider community of Gosport through a range of activities and partnerships.

The parish provides a number of activities which benefit the local community, including toddler and children's groups, youth activities, concerts and engagement with local schools and colleges. The church also works with individuals and families from a variety of backgrounds, including those experiencing social or economic challenges.

Specific initiatives within the parish support people struggling with substance use and women who have experienced abuse. These ministries seek to provide support, community and opportunities for restoration and growth.

The church buildings also serve as important community spaces within the town. In addition to church activities, the buildings are used by a range of local organisations including residents' associations, charities, exercise groups and dance classes.

Through these activities the PCC seeks to promote the Christian faith, serve the local community and ensure that the church remains a welcoming and accessible place for worship, support and community engagement.

Financial Review

In the year to the end of December 2025 Haven Church PCC raised total income of £332k against total expenditure of £323k. Unrestricted funds ended the year on £72k (2024 £60k). Restricted funds totalled £92k at the year end. Please see the financial statements following this report for the details behind these figures.

Future Plans

The Charity plans on continuing the activities outlined above in the forthcoming year subject to satisfactory funding arrangements.

The PCC is currently participating in a formal diocesan process to review and revise parish boundaries within Gosport. As part of this wider review, it is proposed that Holy Trinity will become a separate parish from Christ Church and St John's, alongside the possibility of further boundary adjustments in the area. The formal review is expected to take a minimum of one year, with any agreed changes anticipated to take effect no earlier than 2027.

Reserves policy

It is the aim of the trustees to hold a balance of 3 months of expenditure for free (i.e. unrestricted) reserves, which would indicate a target on net current assets of £42k. At the end of 2025 the balance on free reserves came to £58k representing 4.2 months of unrestricted expenditure. The reserves are therefore sufficient for the current unrestricted spending but will be monitored to ensure this remains.

HAVEN CHURCH GOSPORT
TRUSTEES REPORT

Statement of Responsibilities of Trustees

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and the United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (UK GAAP).

The Charities Act requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity at the end of the year and of the surplus or deficiency for the year then ended.

In preparing those financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently

- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent

- observe the methods and principles in the charities SORP

- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and

- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011. The Trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved and signed on its behalf by:



Rev. Ray Driscoll
Priest-in-Charge and Chair for Haven Church Gosport Parish
Sunday 12th April 2026

HAVEN CHURCH GOSPORT

YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Haven Church Gosport for the year ended 31 December 2025, which are set out on pages 6 to 19.

Responsibilities and Basis of Report

As the trustees of the Charity, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011.

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

Independent Examiner's Statement

Since the charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales, which is one of the listed bodies.

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 Charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or

2. the accounts do not accord with those records.

3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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



20/04/2026

C J Goodhead FCA

Knight Goodhead Limited
7 Bournemouth Road
Chandler's Ford
Eastleigh
SO53 3DA

HAVEN CHURCH GOSPORT

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025
(Including Income and Expenditure Account)

	Note	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	2025	2024
		£	£	£	£	£
INCOME						
Voluntary income	3	132,005	149,860	-	281,865	331,037
Charitable activities	4	40,288	2,495	-	42,783	45,730
Other income		4,006	1,600	-	5,606	1,268
Investment income		625	1,550		2,175	2,096
TOTAL INCOME		**176,924**	**155,505**	**-**	**332,429**	**380,131**
EXPENDITURE						
Charitable activities	5	166,134	157,359	-	323,493	347,689
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		**166,134**	**157,359**	**-**	**323,493**	**347,689**
NET INCOME FOR YEAR BEFORE TRANSFERS		**10,790**	**(1,854)**	**-**	**8,936**	**32,442**
TRANSFERS BETWEEN FUNDS		1,530	(1,530)	-	-	-
NET INCOME FOR YEAR AFTER TRANSFERS		**12,320**	**(3,384)**	**-**	**8,936**	**32,442**
GAIN/(LOSS) ON INVESTMENTS		-	(78)	(284)	(362)	235
FUND BALANCES AT 1 JANUARY 2025		**59,584**	**95,605**	**12,862**	**168,051**	**135,374**
FUND BALANCES AT 31 DECEMBER 2025		**71,904**	**92,143**	**12,578**	**176,625**	**168,051**

This statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

All incoming resources and resources expended derive from continuing activities.

HAVEN CHURCH GOSPORT

Charity number: 1199183

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2025

		Notes		2025 £		2024 £
Fixed Assets						
	Tangible Assets	7		-		-
	Investments	8		6,830		10,255
				6,830		10,255
Current Assets						
	Debtors	9	16,376		33,815	
	Cash at bank and in hand		167,974		143,410	
Creditors	Amounts falling due in one year	10	(14,555)		(19,429)	
NET CURRENT ASSETS				169,795		157,796
NET ASSETS		13		176,625		168,051
FUNDS						
Endowment Funds		11		12,578		12,862
Restricted Funds		11		92,143		95,605
Designated Funds		12		13,675		14,217
Unrestricted funds		12		58,229		45,367
TOTAL FUNDS				176,625		168,051

Approved by the trustees on and signed on their behalf by



Rev. Ray Driscoll
Priest-in-Charge and Chair for Haven Church Gosport Parish
Sunday 12th April 2026

HAVEN CHURCH GOSPORT

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

a) Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with applicable accounting standards, the Charities Act 2011 and the Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with FRS 102 (effective January 2019).

Haven Church meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes.

The accounts have been prepared on the going concern basis. There are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue.

b) Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are funds that are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the charity for particular purposes.

The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

c) Income

All income is included in the Statement of Financial Activities when the charity is legally entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

- Investment income is included when receivable.
- Charitable activities income is accounted for when earned.

d) Expenditure

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category. Expenditure is not netted off against related income and is shown inclusive of VAT which cannot be reclaimed.

Charitable expenditure comprises of those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

All costs are allocated between the expenditure categories of the Statement of Financial Activities on a basis designed to reflect the use of the resource. Costs relating to a particular activity are allocated directly.

e) Fixed assets

Additions and improvements to the rented church premises are written off as incurred.

Expenditure on movable church furnishings and other functional equipment is capitalised where the cost exceeds £2,000. Equipment is depreciated on a straight line basis over 5 years.

HAVEN CHURCH GOSPORT

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

2 ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

The charity is unincorporated and registered as a charity on 6 June 2022 with the Charity Commission. Its registration number is 1199183. The charity is a public benefit entity. The registered address of the charity is St John's Church, Forton Road, Gosport, PO12 4TQ.

3 VOLUNTARY INCOME

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2025 £	2024 £
Donations	102,461	8,493	110,954	98,175
Gift aid recoverable	15,494	554	16,048	15,924
Collections	13,910	1,637	15,547	15,773
Donations from organisations	140	450	590	5,609
Grants	-	138,726	138,726	195,556
	132,005	**149,860**	**281,865**	**331,037**

4 CHARITABLE INCOME

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2025 £	2024 £
Wedding and funeral fees	5,228	2,495	7,723	10,206
Events	1,890	-	1,890	1,651
Hire income	31,355	-	31,355	32,168
Coffee income	1,815	-	1,815	1,705
TOTAL INCOME	**40,288**	**2,495**	**42,783**	**45,730**

HAVEN CHURCH GOSPORT

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

5 EXPENDITURE

	Note	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	2025	2024
		£	£	£	£
Worship		9,326	1,866	11,192	8,717
Leadership development		1,960	527	2,487	7,531
Publications & Printing		2,931	41	2,972	3,042
Pastoral		112	8	120	507
Community		4,711	9,334	14,045	9,132
Youth		4,479	1,594	6,073	1,697
Travel		823	5	828	1,703
Owned and leased facilities		1,301	1,745	3,046	26,625
Hospitality		661	41	702	1,492
Parish Share		35,000	-	35,000	30,000
Heat and Light		35,628	-	35,628	35,002
Insurance		10,632	-	10,632	10,106
Parochial fees		156	2,495	2,651	4,016
Office costs		12,219	101	12,320	18,001
Rates and water		5,345	-	5,345	4,349
Church outreach		-	-	-	-
Missions		2,575	2,592	5,167	12,240
Bank charges		185	-	185	199
Repairs and maintenance		27,642	1,323	28,965	44,703
Staff costs		(149)	134,978	134,829	123,517
Legal and professional services		3,973	-	3,973	2,107
Accounting and bookkeeping		1,188	-	1,188	1,122
Coffee Hub expenses		149	-	149	767
Depreciation		-	-	-	-
Loss on sale of asset		-	-	-	-
Sundry		5,287	709	5,996	2,113
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		**166,134**	**157,359**	**323,493**	**347,689**

Included within accounting and bookkeeping, is £1,188 (2024: £942) payable to the independent examiners.

HAVEN CHURCH GOSPORT

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

6 STAFF COSTS AND RELATED PARTIES

Staff costs included below include all Staff employed by Haven and paid directly. Some staff members are subsequently funded by other organisations or grants, including Diocese funded or SDF grant funded.

No employees earned more than £60,000 during this or the prior year.

Haven Church PCC employed six staff members at December 2025 (seven at December 2024).

STAFF COSTS	**2025**	**2024**
Wages and salaries	149,872	112,531
Social security costs	7,664	7,743
Employers' contribution to pension	3,217	2,213
Operating costs of pension scheme	-	-
Other employee benefits	1,416	1,030
Reimbursed staff costs	(27,340)	
	134,829	123,517

No trustees were reimbursed expenses (2024: £nil) for other costs incurred on behalf of the charity.

One trustee has been paid for goods and services (Total 2025 £3162) delivered to the charity by a company owned by the trustee. In line with requirements of the Charity Commission, these services have been assessed in comparison with other providers to ensure that the cost is at a fair value and of appropriate quality, and the individual trustee has not been involved in decision making given the conflict of interest.

7 TANGIBLE ASSETS

		Total
COST	**£**	**£**
At 1st January 2025		-
	-	
Additions during the year		-
	-	
Sale during year	-	-
At 31 December 2025		-
	-	
DEPRECIATION		
At 1 January 2025		-
	-	
Charge for year		-
	-	
Eliminated on disposals	-	-
At 31 December 2025		-
	-	
NET BOOK VALUE		
At end of the year	-	-
At beginning of year		-
	-	

8 FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS

	CCLA Investments
	£
Cost or market value of investments at 1 January 2025	10,255
Additions	-
Disposals during year	(3,063)
Loss on revaluation of investment assets	(362)
Cost or market value of investments at 31 December 2025	6,830

9 DEBTORS

	2025	2024
	£	£
Income tax recoverable	7,065	10,998
Other debtors	6,735	16,442
Prepayments	2,576	6,735
	16,376	33,815

10 CREDITORS: amounts falling due within one year

	2025	2024
	£	£
Other creditors	3,519	614
Accruals and deferred income	7,929	4,478
Payroll liabilities	3,107	7,753
	14,555	9,642

HAVEN CHURCH GOSPORT

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

11 RESTRICTED FUNDS

	At beginning of year	Income and gains	Expenditure	Transfers between funds	At end of year
	£	£	£	£	£
RESTRICTED FUNDS					
CC Crosses fund	61	-	(61)	-	-
CC Home communion sets	13	-	(13)	-	-
HT Fabric Fund	17,218	571	-	-	17,789
HT Clock Tower Campanile	1,921	-	-	-	1,921
HT Friends of Holy Trinity	8,031	5,049	(2,317)	-	10,763
HT Church Arts Initiative	4,880	178	(129)	-	4,929
HT Organ Restoration	15,862	801	-	-	16,663
HT Organ Maintenance	1,118	1,399	(643)	-	1,874
St Francis Hall	3,141	-	(78)	(3,063)	-
SDF Gosport	886	116,112	(116,112)	-	886
CRT - Ray	8,907	-	-	-	8,907
All Church Trust heating	5,600	-	-	-	5,600
National Lottery - Queen's Jubilee	392	-	-	-	392
Kitchen Table	4,502	2,511	(2,592)	-	4,421
Hearts for Hospitality	423	250	(332)	-	341
Statutory Fees	-	2,495	(2,495)		
Vista	18,752	2,454	(21,206)	-	-
Love Community	243	-	-	-	243
Alpha	110	-	-	-	110
St John’s Art Exhibition	3,545	-	(3,546)	1	-
Haven of Hope	-	19,106	(3,334)	1,532	17,304
Focus	-	4,579	(4,579)	-	-
	95,605	155,505	(157,437)	(1,530)	92,143
ENDOWMENT FUNDS					
St John's Forton - Sturmey Fund	12,862	-	(284)	-	12,578
	12,862	-	(284)	-	12,578

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

11 RESTRICTED FUNDS continued

Christ Church Crosses Fund
Accumulated congregational donations for crosses bought for Palm Sundays.

Christ Church Home Communion Sets
Accumulated congregational donations for communion supplies.

Holy Trinity - Fabric fund
Represents accumulated donations and appeals for fabric maintenance.

Holy Trinity - Clock Tower Campanile
Represents accumulated donations and appeals for The Holy Trinity Clock and Campanile Restoration.

Holy Trinity - Friends of Holy Trinity
Donations from the members of The Friends of Holy Trinity Church assist in the repair, conservation and improvement of the fabric and the historically valuable artefacts of the church.

Holy Trinity - Church Arts Initiative
Represent accumulated donations and appeals for The Holy Trinity Arts Initiative Funds.

Holy Trinity - organ restoration
Represents accumulated donations and appeals for the restoration of The Holy Trinity organ, including the balance of the grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund.

Holy Trinity - organ maintenance
Represents accumulated donations and appeals for the maintenance and upkeep of Holy Trinity Organ and Pianos.

St Francis Hall
Historic St John's Forton fund from a mission cabin in the town of Gosport that was closed down and remaining funds were set aside for future missional use.

SDF Gosport
Strategic redevelopment grant from the Church Commissioners.

CRT - Ray
Church Revitalisation Trust grant for administrative support.

All Churches Trust heating
Grant contribution to the installation of a new heating system at Christ Church.

National Lottery - Queen's Jubilee
Project to celebrate Queen's Platinum Jubilee.

St John's Forton - Sturmey Endowment Fund
Bequests received by St John's Forton.

Kitchen Table
Community project to provide food to local families to support with cost of living.

11 RESTRICTED FUNDS continued

Hearts for Hospitality
Churches Together In Gosport have a heart for the homeless, the disadvantaged and the displaced, to give people hope and see people's lives transformed through hospitality.

Statutory Fees
Fees collected for Wedding and Funeral services on behalf of the Diocese

Vista
Vista Gosport is a project aiming to reach out to women in the sex industry, past or present. The team offer 1:1 meet-ups, a chance to talk and help with planning safety and next steps if they are seeking change. Listening and emotional support, and prayer if they would like that. The team can help them access money management, immigration and legal advice, drug and alcohol, housing, sexual health, domestic abuse and sexual violence services and counselling.

Love Community
Funds to support outreach activity in Gosport through activities to engage the local community.

Alpha
Grant to support parishes starting an Alpha course in low-income areas. Alpha is an 11-week course that creates a space, in person, where people are excited to bring their friends for a conversation about faith, life and God.

St John's Art Exhibition
Funding from Gosport Council Heritage fund for art exhibition at Saint John's church.

Haven of Hope
Haven of Hope is a community initiative of Haven Church Gosport supporting women and families facing vulnerability, abuse, exploitation and financial hardship. Building on its earlier outreach work with women in the sexual industry through the Vista project from Harbour Church Portsmouth, it currently delivers Shine, a programme helping women rebuild self-esteem and form healthier relationships. Throughout 2025 Haven of Hope delivered Kitchen Table, a community food project offering practical support and shared meals for children aged under 18 and their families.

Focus
Grants and donations received to provide financial support for the congregation to attend Focus, an annual HTB network event providing time of worship, teaching, and community.

HAVEN CHURCH GOSPORT

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

12 UNRESTRICTED FUNDS

	At beginning of year	Income and gains	Expenditure	Transfers between funds	At end of year
	£	£	£	£	£
UNRESTRICTED FUNDS					
Christ Church - donations fund	1,000	-	-	-	1,000
Christ Church - Fabric Fund	1,777	-	-	-	1,777
Holy Trinity church assets	1,037	-	-	-	1,037
St John's Forton church assets	6,897	-	-	-	6,897
Defibrillator	394	-	(310)	-	84
Flowers	92	-	(22)	-	70
Holy Trinity Outreach	396	-	-	1,532	1,928
St. John's Arts	2,624	-	(1,740)	(2)	882
Diocese Expenses	-	-	-	-	-
	14,217	-	(2,072)	1,530	13,675
General funds	45,367	176,924	(164,062)	-	58,229
	59,584	176,924	(166,134)	1,530	71,904

Christ Church - donations fund
Congregational giving for worship costs.

Christ Church - Fabric fund
Congregational giving and fundraising for investment into the building.

Holy Trinity Church assets
These relate to the assets of Holy Trinity Church, gifted to the PCC, together with income and expenditure attributed to that particular church for 2021.

St John's Forton Church assets
These relate to the assets of St John's Forton, gifted to the PCC, together with income and expenditure attributed to that church for 2021.

Defibrillator
Funds raised for purchase, installation and maintenance of defibrillator at Christ Church location, Stoke Road.

Flowers
Collections for flowers displays within the churches.

Holy Trinity Outreach
The Holy Trinity Outreach fund is dedicated to raising funds for community events such as BBQs, pancake lunches, and fish and chip lunches etc.. These events aim to engage and connect residents, fostering a sense of community and encouraging social interaction.

12 UNRESTRICTED FUNDS continued

St. John's Arts

Series of community arts events hosted at St. John's Church in Gosport, aim to engage local youth in creative activities such as the Gosport Play, DJ workshops, barn dances, and youth open mic nights. The initiative fosters artistic expression, provides opportunities for skill development, and strengthens community connections, all while promoting access to the arts for young people in the area.

Diocese Expenses

Expenditure incurred on behalf of the Diocese and due to be reclaimed, including staff costs.

13 ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BY FUND

At 31 December 2025	Restricted Funds	Unrestricted funds	Endowment funds	2025 Total
	£	£	£	£
Tangible assets	-	-	-	-
Investments	-	-	6,830	6,830
Current assets	101,319	77,283	5,748	184,350
Current liabilities	(9,176)	(5,379)	-	(14,555)
	92,143	71,904	12,578	176,625

At 31 December 2024	Restricted Funds	Unrestricted funds	Endowment funds	2024 Total
	£	£	£	£
Tangible assets	-	-	-	-
Investments	3,141	-	7,114	10,255
Current assets	100,817	70,660	5,748	177,225
Current liabilities	(8,353)	(11,076)	-	(19,429)
	95,605	59,584	12,862	168,051

HAVEN CHURCH GOSPORT

14 PRIOR YEAR STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024
(Including Income and Expenditure Account)

		Note	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	2025	2024
			£	£	£	£	£
INCOME							
	Voluntary income	3	122,839	208,198	-	331,037	201,295
	Charitable activities	4	41,679	4,051	-	45,730	40,389
	Other income		1,030	238	-	1,268	4,849
	Investment income		370	1,726		2,096	1,302
	TOTAL INCOME		**165,918**	**214,213**	**-**	**380,131**	**247,835**
EXPENDITURE							
	Charitable activities	5	156,572	191,117	-	347,689	220,899
	TOTAL EXPENDITURE		**156,572**	**191,117**	**-**	**347,689**	**220,899**
NET INCOME FOR YEAR BEFORE TRANSFERS			9,346	23,096	-	32,442	26,935
TRANSFERS BETWEEN FUNDS			-	-	-	-	-
NET INCOME FOR YEAR AFTER TRANSFERS			9,346	23,096	-	32,442	26,935
GAIN ON INVESTMENTS			-	76	159	235	837
FUND BALANCES AT 1 JANUARY 2025			50,238	72,433	12,703	135,374	107,601
FUND BALANCES AT 31 DECEMBER 2025			59,584	95,605	12,862	168,051	135,374

HAVEN CHURCH GOSPORT

15 PRIOR YEAR FUND MOVEMENTS

	At beginning of year	Income and gains	Expenditure	Transfers between funds	At end of year
	£	£	£	£	£
RESTRICTED FUNDS					
CC Crosses fund	61	-	-	-	61
CC Home communion sets	13	-	-	-	13
CC Organ fund	55	-	(55)	-	-
HT Fabric Fund	16,582	636	-	-	17,218
HT Clock Tower Campanile	1,921	-	-	-	1,921
HT Friends of Holy Trinity	4,390	5,920	(2,279)	-	8,031
HT Church Arts Initiative	4,682	198	-	-	4,880
HT Organ Restoration	14,970	892	-	-	15,862
HT Organ Maintenance	1,118	-	-	-	1,118
All Churches Trust Coffee Van	495	-	(495)	-	-
St Francis Hall	3,065	76	-	-	3,141
Mrs P Brading Legacy	96	-	(96)	-	-
SDF Gosport	-	139,789	(138,903)	-	886
CRT - Ray	15,915	5,000	(12,134)	126	8,907
All Church Trust heating	5,600	-	-	-	5,600
Love Christmas	-	-	-	-	-
CRT - Kids worker	126	-	-	(126)	-
National Lottery - Queen's Jubilee	392	-	-	-	392
CAP	2,001	-	(2,001)	-	-
Kitchen Table	337	12,021	(7,856)	-	4,502
Hearts for Hospitality	423	-	-	-	423
Statutory Fees	-	4,051	(4,051)	-	-
Earthquake Syria	190	-	(190)	-	-
Vista	-	41,682	(22,930)	-	18,752
Love Community	-	369	(126)	-	243
Alpha	-	110	-	-	110
St John's Art Exhibition	-	3,545	-	-	3,545
	72,433	214,289	(191,117)	-	95,605
ENDOWMENT FUNDS					
St John's Forton - Sturmey Fund	12,703	159	-	-	12,862
	12,703	159	-	-	12,862

MINUTES OF THE PARISH OF GOSPORT SOUTH'S ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

Agenda Date: Monday 12th May 2025

Time: 7.00pm Venue: Christ Church

Present:

Chair: Rev Ray Driscoll

Team Vicar: Fr Godfrey Chigumira

Pioneer minister – Tim Glennie

Church Wardens - Glynis Wright, Adam Kemp, and Jo Snape

Elected PCC Reps: Patricia Spragg, Pat Hewitt, Phil Reeves, Helen Reeves, Will Simmons, Jenny Darcy, Wendy Hunt, Helen Kendry, Lynda Sheffield, John Hewitt, James Howe, Rachel Pipe (resigned 2024, vacancy as a result), Janet MacNally, Dominic Dawson, Elizabeth Miles.

Deanery Synod Reps: Peter Darcy, Jack McDonald, Michelle Bunter, Mary Ball, Dawn Bradshaw (resigned 2024, vacancy as a result).

Diocesan Reps: Peter Darcy

Treasurer: Amelia Somerset

Parish Safeguarding Officer: Anna Mellers

PCC Secretary: Vacant - Jo Snape minute taker for the meeting

Minutes

The meeting started at 19:30 when Rev. Ray welcomed everyone and thanked them for attending. He went on to explain the order of the meeting.

Opening Prayer **-** Godfrey led an opening prayer.

Part 1

Annual meeting of Parishioners

1. Apologies

Jane Piper; Sheryl Palmer; Joan Millard; Mary Ball; Karen Angel; Dominic Dawson; Jan McNally; Elizabeth and Roger Miles.

2. Election of Counters

The election of 3 counters: Karlie Palmer (Staff member), Jenny Darcy (HT), and Amber Roper (CC) were proposed by Patricia Spragg and seconded by Wendy Hunt. The proposal was unanimously accepted.

3. Election of Churchwardens

Ray announced that there will be three vacancies, two for Holy Trinity and 1 for Christ Church/St John's due to those in post either having already or wishing to now step down.

Rev. Ray read out the nominees thanking them for being willing to stand:

- Peter Darcy (HT)
- Iene (Rene) Demetriou (HT)
- Jonathan (Jon) Cousins-Booth (CC)
- Adam Kemp (CC) willing to stand again

As the vote is unopposed Rev Ray asked the meeting to mark their acknowledgment by a vote of confidence which was unanimous.

This concludes the Annual Meeting of the Parishioners.

Part 2

Annual Parochial Church Meeting

1. Minutes of the previous APCM.

With the amendment requested by Jonnie Angel to page 4 amending the name of Will Simmonds to Will Simmons, the minutes of the last APCM dated 20 May 2024 were presented to the meeting for acceptance.

Proposed: by Adam Kemp

Seconded: by Helen Kendry

Accepted: Unanimously

2. Annual Reports

Rev. Ray explained that the Annual Reports had been circulated prior to the meeting. He went on explain that there was a missing report about the Eco Church Project, which would be made available, but read out the late report to the meeting, thanking Sally Sudworth who prepared the report.

Rev. Ray then asked the meeting to discuss the following points with those next to them:

- What do you love about your parish?
- What's been the high point this year?

Ray then asked for responses to the above questions:

- Nicky Hayden: Spoke of the wonderful welcome and friendship found at CC, and highlighted the Christmas Carol Service, Easter Baptisms, the RSPB Birdwatch and Kitchen Table.

- Petica Tedbury: Echoed the welcome and fellowship at CC together with the kindness shown to older people attending the services. She also mentioned being impressed with the contemporary service at CC and the ongoing growth of the Kingdom of Heaven in Gosport.
- Yvette Dawson: Highlighted how the churches within the Parish reach out to those in Gosport making a statement of Christian action and Worship to all. She identified the Saturday Soup Lunch at HT which has had a positive impact on the local community.
- John ??: Appreciated how those new to church are sharing their faith with others and bringing other new people to church. He also spoke of the Eco Church project and wondered if this was on opportunity to reach out to St Vincent's for support in the projects.
- Dawn Bradshaw: Spoke emotionally of the love and support she and her family had received during a very hard year from the congregation at Holy Trinity, Her witness receiving acknowledgement from those at the meeting.
- Fr Godfrey responded to Dawn saying how much he appreciated Dawn, and her families support of the congregation and the services and activities in which they participate. He went on to say how he celebrates the support shown between people, their support of each other, particularly for those who are sick. He expressed gratefulness for the ministry of Mthr Margaret in reaching out to people and in her role as Anna Chaplain and taking the opportunity to thank her.
- Chrissie O'Neill: Said that the last year had been very difficult for her and expressed her thanks to her church family and the PTOs especially Mthr Margaret for their support and care.
- Rev. Ray: expressed what a privilege and honour it is to be here at such a dynamic and welcoming church. Throughout the year there has been visible numerical growth across all churches in the Parish, with the new after school service (Lego Church) at St John's school reaching new people; 10 Baptisms during the Easter Day service, and the participation of young people in the now annual Maundy Thursday service. He went on to inform the meeting that 7 people from the Parish are going through the process of discernment, exploring their calling to ordination.

Ray opened the floor for questions or feedback on the report.

There being no questions or feedback the meeting unanimously approved the Annual Report with thanks being given to Nic Driscoll for producing the report.

Election of PCC officers

Current PCC Status and Election Process

Rev. Ray asked if there were any further nominations from the floor explaining that the existing PCC consists of 15 members with several members either having had stood down or had given notice of standing down, the number of vacancies being eight.

Scheme of Representation

M34 (1) If there are in the parish two or more churches or buildings licensed for public worship, the annual meeting may make a scheme for the election of representatives of the laity to the PCC in a way that is intended to make ***due provision for the representation*** of the congregation of each church or building.

Rev. Ray explained to the meeting that on 14 April 2025 the PCC meeting had been asked to consider a Scheme of Representation as there was a question of concern about the limited diversity of membership of worshipping communities and the need to address changes in worship provision across the 3 churches. The PCC had agreed by majority that such a scheme should be agreed at the APCM and with the size of the electoral roll currently supports 15 PCC seats for the whole Parish representation be:-

Holy Trinity 6 seats

Christ Church 6 seats

St John's 3 seats

The meeting is asked to deliberate and pass this proposal for the Scheme of Representation.

Rev. Ray then opened the floor for debate.

- Yevette Dawson: How were the allocation of numbers identified?
  Rev. Ray explained that Fr Godfrey and himself had asked the PCC to consider options for a Scheme of Representation and consider.
  a. 50/50 split HT/CC
  b. 30/70 split HT/CC and STJ combined (there is now an established Tuesday evening service at St Johns for young people) – this is across clergy oversight.

  During the PCC meeting a further suggestion was made by Jo Snape that St Johns allocation be considered based on congregation and the split be 40/40/20 (6 seats/6 seats/3seats HT/CC/St J. The 3 St John's seats being filled by adults with vested interest in Youth and Children's worship until such time as representatives for St Johns are eligible to serve from the congregation.

Those PCC members who attended the meeting on 14th April confirmed that this was an accurate reflection of the proposal of representation.

- Jonnie Angel: What is the age limit for PCC membership?
  Rev Ray confirmed that the minimum age is 16 years old with 6 months registered on the electoral roll.
- Canon John Draper: Is this year's notice or is it proposed to start with immediate effect?
  Rev. Ray confirmed that the PCC members having considered the proposal and recorded it within the minutes and acting on behalf of the electorate the Scheme

of Representation would be implemented immediately once and if agreed by the APCM.
Fr Godfrey added that this Scheme is in line with the plan already agreed and in place to increase PCC membership as and when St Johns is able to support full representation (by ministry and electoral roll). 2024 determined full representation across all churches would be 5/5/5 HT/CC and St J.
Rev. Ray added that the Scheme proposed would be in place for 1 year and evaluated at 2026 APCM.

- Ann Wood: supported the 1-year evaluation.
- Chris Gration: When voting for PCC members will it be known if they have a focus on young people?
  Rev. Ray responded yes.

Election of Candidates

Rev Ray reiterated that there are 8 vacancies on the PCC due to the stepping down or time served of some current members. If these are identified in line with the suggested Scheme of Representation of 6/6/3 (40/40/20) this would reflect the following allocation of vacancies:

Holy Trinity 4
Christ Church 1
St Johns 3
Currently there are only 2 candidates for HT, 3 for Christ Church - and 3 for St Johns:

HT – Jenny Darcy
Debbie Martin
2 vacancies remain.
St Johns – Tracy Reid: a Youth Volunteer
Sheryl Palmer: a Youth Volunteer
Louise Taylor: a congregant with a passion for Youth and Children's ministry
Christ Church – Christine Gration
Patricia Spragg
Carole Backhouse

If this scheme is approved by two thirds of the meeting, we will be voting for 13 seats this evening and leaving two vacant even though we technically have enough candidates for a full PCC. This would leave us with two "casual vacancies", which would be at the discretion of the new PCC.

If this scheme is rejected, the 8 candidates will be elected unopposed, and all eight candidates will be elected, and the PCC will be at full strength.

Proposal for Scheme of Representation

The meeting is asked to consider the following proposal brought by the PCC:

Option a: Approve the Scheme of representation leaving two seats on the PCC vacant, at their discretion. This decision prioritises representation over strength.

Option b: Reject the scheme of representation, enabling an unregulated election, which would mean that the election would be uncontested, and all 8 candidates would be elected. This decision prioritises strength over representation.

Note: Both options can be revisited at the APCM 2026.

Rev Ray opened the meeting for questions and clarifications:

- Peter Darcy – As we are being asked to consider voting on the proposal 2 people have asked if they are able to put their names forward for nomination from the floor.
  Rev Ray asked for consensus from the meeting to approve submission of nominations from the floor, which was forthcoming.
  Rev. Ray asked if there were any further nominations from the floor and nominations forms were circulated to those expressing willingness to stand once completed forms were handed to Rev Ray for consideration:
  Chrissie O'Neill proposed by Lynda Sheffield, Seconded by Shelagh Perch
  Elizabeth Hodgson proposed by Lynda Sheffield, seconded by Jenny Darcy
- Adam Kendry – stated that his question had been overtaken by events. However, did add that in the discussion at the PCC meeting in considering a Scheme of Representation it was noted that the 70/30 split would give HT 6 seats against St J/CC 9 seats, and that once deliberated upon the suggested options were revised to reflect either a 50/50 split which would exclude St Js having independent representation or the 40/40/20 split discussed earlier in this meeting.
- Ann Wood – stated that in selecting representation option b does give strength as it would result in a full PCC.
- Canon John Draper- What would be the numerical representation be for Option b?
  Rev Ray responded:

Church	Filled	Vacancies	Total
HT	2	2	4
CC	5	3	8
St Johns	0	3	3
Total	7	8	15

  Rev. Ray went on to say that in a time when many churches are having issues with people coming to church having the voice of young people was very positive.
- Petica Tedbury – Said that in the 1950's when she was a young woman and considered old enough to be on the PCC, she was handed a form to fill in and was told that she would be the Youth representative, with no vote but would be able to have her say.

Rev Ray then brought the meeting to order and stated that the vote on the scheme of Representation would be by majority vote and reviewed clause M34(1) again with the meeting.

Vote on accepting a Scheme of Representation of 40/40/20 for 1 year with review at the 2026 APCM.

Proposed Peter Darcy
Seconded Wendy Hunt
Against 3
Abstained 3
Passed by majority vote.

Nominations and Voting Results:

The Scheme of Representation 40/40/20 enables the uncontested election of PCC membership from the 7 nominees for HT and ST Johns:

Holy Trinity – Jenny Darcy
Debbie Martin
Chrissie O'Neil
Elizabeth Hodgson

St Johns - Tracy Reid
Sheryl Palmer
Louise Taylor

The Election of PCC representatives for Christ Church has 3 nominees for 1 vacancy.

Nominees- Christine (Chris) Gration – has attended all 3 churches in the Parish and is active in the church and participates in fund raising.

Patricia Spragg – has worshipped at CC since 2003 has been a PCC member for some time and is active in the church.

Carol Backhouse – is the wife of a Naval Chaplain with a ministry of her own and has been worshipping at CC since 2021.

Voting took place by signed ballot with the three counters confirming the result with Christine (Chris) Gration voted onto PCC.

Ray congratulated and welcomed the new members.

4. Changes to the Electoral Roll

Ray thanked Pat Hewitt for her commitment to holding this position over the last year. He referred to the report and provided a detailed breakdown of the electoral roll:

Church	No on Electoral Roll
Christ Church	145
Holy Trinity	59
Total	**204**

The above numbers are broken down as follows:

Breakdown of Numbers	
Within the Parish	74
Outside of Parish	130

Proposed by Phil Reeves
Seconded by Patricia Spragg
Passed Unanimously

5. Safeguarding

Rev. Ray thanked Anna Mellers for her report which demonstrated considerable progress in achieving compliance with the Dashboard, and her hard work and commitment in achieving this. He also noted that all PCC members must ensure that they have completed their DBS (Enhanced) and Safeguarding Training by the second PCC meeting in September.

Rev. Ray asked if there were any questions; there were none. Who proposed? Peter Darcy seconded, and it was unanimously agreed.

6. Financial Statement for the year ending 31 December 2024

Amelia provided a high-level summary from the report, confirming that it had been approved by the PCC at the meeting on 14 April 2025.

The Parish finances are in good standing, but this is not to be taken for granted as the financial landscape changes in 2026 with the completion of the SDF funding.

Income 2024 £380k

Expenditure £348k

Balance £32k which is a net gain.

This reflects the continued improving trend in net gain from that of £27k in 2023.

The increase in income reflects both the increase in giving across all churches and the increase in grants but as has been stated we cannot be complacent.

Amelia highlighted that the increase in staffing costs which reflect an increase in posts is funded by the SDF grant which ends in 2026.

Regarding the Parish Share we have met the agreed payment of £30k in 2024 (an increase from £15k in 2023) and as previously agreed it is proposed to increase the payment by a small amount in 2025.

Amelia then expressed her thanks for the hard work and support of Karlie Palmer.

Rev. Ray then asked for questions:

- Ann Wood asked that the meeting acknowledge the assistance from the Church Commissioners with funding.

Rev. Ray then thanked Amelia for her commitment and hard work over the past year.

The Finance Report was then proposed by Pat Hewitt, seconded by Louise Taylor and passed unanimously.

7. Election of Independent Examiners:

Amelia confirmed that Knight Goodhead had acted as Independent Examiners to the Parish reviewing the accounts which had been completed in house to save money.

In accordance with the instructions from the last APCM a tender process had been undertaken for the Independents Examiner position. 3 firms had been identified through research by Karlie Palmer and tender received from all 3. These Tenders were evaluated by Amelia who presented the outcome of the review to the PCC. The outcome of the process is Knight Goodhead have been retained as Independent Examiners as they offered value for money and added value advice to the PCC.

There being no questions from the floor the proposal to approve Knight Goodhead was tabled.

Proposed by Tim Glennie, seconded by Esther Kemp. It was unanimously agreed.

Fabric Report

Ray thanked the wardens and asked if there were any questions, there being none the report was passed unanimously.

AOB

i. Election of Deanery Synod Representative

Rev. Ray informed the meeting that 4 of the 5 Deanery Synod reps had stepped down in term and therefore 4 new representatives for the next 1 year are required. He also stood down Jenny Darcy as an Election Counter from this election as she is standing with Adam Kemp standing in her place as counter.

Nominations: 1. Jenny Darcy – 42 votes - elected.
2. Kyle Gray – 39 votes - elected.
3. Brian Cossins – 38 votes - elected.
4. Wendy Hunt – 34 votes - elected.

Anne Hamilton – 31 votes - not elected.

ii. Alternative methods of Voting for vulnerable people – Jo Reed

Rev. Ray introduced Jo and asked her to give her presentation. There follows a summary of her speech, full text can be provided to anyone who makes a request.

For the last 3 years I have been asking the question of giving an alternative method of voting for those members of our Church Family who are vulnerable and on the electoral roll but are unable to attend the APCM in person.

Last year it was again stated that something would be put in place for the following year but as far as I am aware nothing has happened and there remains no provision for postal or proxy voting. I am also unaware if, as promised last year, the matter has been escalated to the Deanery Synod.

We should not shy away from this question just because we are unsure of how to implement proxy or postal voting and how this would work with nominations from the floor.

Disempowerment and disenfranchisement are wrong. Exclusion whether because of oversight or lack of awareness is deeply saddening and frustrating. I am aware that it has been stated that the requirement for an alternative method is relatively low, perhaps as low as 2%, but if this is reflected across the Deanery and the wider Diocese it would represent a stronger case.

Our Lord never excluded anyone, and I believe that we need to be brave enough, loving enough and willing enough as followers of Christ to bite the bullet and find a solution to this issue. Holy Trinity and Christ Church have a record of being physically and spiritually accessible, let us try to ensure that now and in the future all who are eligible to vote are fully enfranchised.

My question is, has work been undertaken as promised last year to explore this or discover any examples of good practice?

Rev. Ray thanked Jo Reid for her presentation saying that he honoured and valued Jo as a member of the Church at Christ Church and Holy Trinity. He went on to explain that it had been previously investigated and found postal voting to be a costly and onerous process which would delay election results from being promulgated by up to 14 days. This was confirmed by Chrissie O'Neill who had previously looked into this subject and the then PCC decided based on cost and the possibility of skewing the voting not to take the item forward.

On checking Church Representation Rules proxy voting was identified as not being an option.

Rev. Ray opened for questions from the floor:

Tony Sudworth – Disenfranchisement is not acceptable for any church member able to vote it should be possible for anyone needing to register for a postal vote which would ensure that only those who requested it would have a postal vote.

Adam Kemp – There have been a few ideas given by the meeting perhaps this should be taken forward by the PCC looking at limited postal voting.

Sue Elgie – There are also a lot of young families whose attendance is limited by the availability of childcare.

Tessa Bloodworth – Is there a possibility of Internet voting?

Adam Kendry – can the PCC be empowered to investigate the matter?

Rev. Ray called the Churchwardens to the table for a brief discussion which resulted in the agreement that a proposal would be put to the meetings: The PCC will be empowered to work up and present a solution for a limited alternative voting procedure either on line or postal for those electoral roll members unable to attend APCM meetings, the PCC will also take this forward for discussion with the Deanery Synod and possible escalation to the Diocesan Synod.

Proposal for Alternative Method of Voting at APCM.

The PCC will have completed the work to enable an alternative form of voting in accordance with Church Representation Rules for those unable to attend APCM meetings before the APCM in 2026.

Proposed by Jonathan Cousins- Booth
Seconded by Shelagh Perch
1 against
1 abstention
Carried by majority vote.

iii. <u>Thank You</u>

Rev. Ray then gave thanks to Glynis Wright for all her years of service as Churchwarden as she steps down from the role. Her generosity, patience and diligence and ministry has impacted everyone and whilst she will be missed in that role, she will no doubt continue to serve the church in many ways.

Fr Godfrey then gave thanks to Jo Snape as she too steps down from her role as Churchwarden at Holy Trinity to take up a different form of service to the church.

There being no further business to discuss, Rev. Ray opened the floor for any final questions.

<u>Closing Prayer</u> – Rev. Ray concluded the meeting with a prayer, and the meeting was adjourned.