Charity registration number: 203336

St Laurence Ecclesiastical Charities

Annual Report and Financial Statements

for the Year Ended 31 December 2025

St Laurence Ecclesiastical Charities

Contents (continued)

Trustees' Report	1 to 4
Independent Examiner's Report	5
Statement of Financial Activities	6
Balance Sheet	7
Notes to the Financial Statements	8 to 14

St Laurence Ecclesiastical Charities

Trustees' Report

The trustees present the annual report together with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2025.

Objectives and activities

Objects and aims

The primary objective of the charity is to distribute annual income after management expenses to support the vicar, sexton and clerk of St. Laurence Church, Reading. The secondary objective is to distribute residual annual income to the Parochial Church Council of St. Laurence, Reading for the purpose of maintaining and servicing the fabric, bells, furniture and equipment of St. Laurence Church, Reading.

Public benefit

The trustees confirm that they have complied with the requirements of section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission for England and Wales.

Achievements and performance

During the year the charity made grants and distributions of £105,576 (2024 - £93,968) in total to beneficiaries in accordance with the charitable objectives.

The endowment fund fixed assets comprise a modest portfolio of listed investments. The return on listed investments was in line with expectation for the investment strategy and risk profile of the charity.

Financial review

Policy on reserves

The trustees maintain unrestricted cash reserves at a level sufficient to meet anticipated expenditure for the maintenance and service of the Church of St. Laurence, Reading.

Principal funding sources

The principal funding source is from related charity, Church Lands and John Johnson's Estate Charities (charity no. 272566). Annual income may vary depending on the investment performance of the related charity's endowment fund.

Investment policy and objectives

There are no restrictions on the trustees' power to invest the assets the charity. Listed investments are low risk and held in managed investment funds with a bias towards providing income.

St Laurence Ecclesiastical Charities

Trustees' Report (continued)

Reference and Administrative Details

Charity Registration Number:	203336
Principal Office:	Victoria House 26 Queen Victoria Street Reading Berkshire RG1 1TG
Independent Examiner:	Graeme Hobbs FCCA Hobbs Granger Roitt LLP 11 Eastheath Avenue Wokingham Berkshire RG41 2PP
Solicitors:	Blandy & Blandy 1 Friar Street Reading Berkshire RG1 1DA
Bankers:	The Royal Bank of Scotland plc Liverpool CSC Stephenson Way Wavertree Liverpool L13 1HE
Investment Managers:	Redmayne-Bentley LLP Market Place House 43 Market Place Henley-on-Thames RG9 2AA
Chartered Surveyors:	Hicks Baker Limited 10-14 Duke Street Reading RG1 4RU

Trustees and officers

The trustees and officers serving during the year and since the year end were as follows:

Trustees:	Mr N C Burrows
	Mrs R E Pearse
	Rev C R Jones
	Mr L R Smith
Chairman:	Rev C R Jones

Structure, governance and management

Nature of governing document

The St. Laurence Ecclesiastical Charities is an unincorporated charity governed by a deed of trust dated 1 January 1942.

The body of the trustees comprise three ex-officio trustees and two representative trustees. The vicar and churchwardens for the time being of St. Laurence Church, Reading are the ex-officio trustees. The representative trustees are appointed by the Parochial Church Council of St Laurence, Reading.

Recruitment and appointment of trustees

Trustees are carefully selected for their knowledge and experience of charitable organisations. New trustees are elected at the Annual General Meeting. Newly appointed trustees are inducted to the work of the charity by the chairman and provided with all information required to fulfil their role as trustees in accordance with the deed of trust and the Charities Act 2011. A trustee may retire voluntarily and representative trustees may serve for a period of four years.

Organisational structure

The Chairman, Rev C R Jones, has overall responsibility for the charity and is assisted in this role by the Clerk. The Treasurer is responsible for the financial management of the charity. The charity engages a firm of chartered surveyors to manage property investments, stockbrokers to manage listed investments and lawyers to advise on legal matters.

Trustee Meetings

Trustee meetings are held twice a year, one of which is the Annual General Meeting.

Risk management

The trustees acknowledge their responsibility to identify and review the risks to which the charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error.

Trustees' Report (continued)

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The trustees are responsible for preparing the trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with the United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) and applicable law and regulations.

The law applicable to charities 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 and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- 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 business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008, and the provisions of the constitution. 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.

The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charitable company's website. Legislation governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

The annual report was approved by the trustees of the charity on 30/10/2026 and signed on its behalf by:



Rev C R Jones
Chairman and trustee

St Laurence Ecclesiastical Charities

Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees of St Laurence Ecclesiastical Charities

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of St Laurence Ecclesiastical Charities for the year ended 31 December 2025.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of St Laurence Ecclesiastical Charities you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the St Laurence Ecclesiastical Charities'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 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of St Laurence Ecclesiastical Charities as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting 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.

Graeme Hobbs
Graeme Hobbs (Oct 30, 2026 14:02:06 GMT)

Graeme Hobbs FCCA
Hobbs Granger Roitt LLP

11 Eastheath Avenue
Wokingham
Berkshire
RG41 2PP

30/10/2026
Date:.....

St Laurence Ecclesiastical Charities

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 December 2025

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Endowment funds £	Total 2025 £
Income and Endowments from:				
Donations and legacies		70,070	-	70,070
Investment income	3	5,248	-	5,248
Total income		75,318	-	75,318
Expenditure on:				
Raising funds	4	(258)	-	(258)
Charitable activities	5	(109,484)	-	(109,484)
Total expenditure		(109,742)	-	(109,742)
Gains/losses on investment assets		-	1,221	1,221
Net (expenditure)/income		(34,424)	1,221	(33,203)
Net movement in funds		(34,424)	1,221	(33,203)
Reconciliation of funds				
Total funds brought forward		176,568	10,762	187,330
Total funds carried forward	13	142,144	11,983	154,127

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Endowment funds £	Total 2024 £
Income and Endowments from:				
Donations and legacies		71,064	-	71,064
Investment income	3	6,386	-	6,386
Total income		77,450	-	77,450
Expenditure on:				
Raising funds	4	(243)	-	(243)
Charitable activities	5	(97,239)	-	(97,239)
Total expenditure		(97,482)	-	(97,482)
Gains/losses on investment assets		-	263	263
Net (expenditure)/income		(20,032)	263	(19,769)
Net movement in funds		(20,032)	263	(19,769)
Reconciliation of funds				
Total funds brought forward		196,600	10,499	207,099
Total funds carried forward	13	176,568	10,762	187,330

All of the charity's activities derive from continuing operations during the above two periods.

The funds breakdown for 2024 is shown in note 13.

St Laurence Ecclesiastical Charities

(Registration number: 203336)
Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2025

	Note	31 December 2025 £	31 December 2024 £
Fixed assets			
Investments	10	11,930	10,709
Current assets			
Debtors	11	65,023	54,946
Cash at bank and in hand		113,695	159,514
		178,718	214,460
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	12	(36,521)	(37,839)
Net current assets		142,197	176,621
Net assets		154,127	187,330
Funds of the charity:			
Endowment funds		11,983	10,762
Unrestricted income funds			
Unrestricted funds		142,144	176,568
Total funds	13	154,127	187,330

The financial statements on pages 6 to 14 were approved by the trustees, and authorised for issue on 30/10/2026 and signed on their behalf by:

Rev C R Jones
Chairman and trustee

1 Accounting policies

Statement of compliance
The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the second edition of the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice issued in October 2019, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.

Basis of preparation
St Laurence Ecclesiastical Charities meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. The accounts (financial statements) have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant note(s) to these accounts.

Going concern
The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

Income and endowments
Voluntary income including donations, gifts, legacies and grants that provide core funding or are of a general nature is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Grants receivable

Grants are recognised when the charity has an entitlement to the funds and any conditions linked to the grants have been met. Where performance conditions are attached to the grant and are yet to be met, the income is recognised as a liability and included on the balance sheet as deferred income to be released.

Investment income

Dividends are recognised once the dividend has been declared and notification has been received of the dividend due.

Expenditure
All expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to that expenditure, it is probable settlement is required and the amount can be measured reliably. All costs are allocated to the applicable expenditure heading that aggregate similar costs to that category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated on a basis consistent with the use of resources, with central staff costs allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges allocated on the portion of the asset's use. Other support costs are allocated based on the spread of staff costs.

Raising funds

These are costs incurred in attracting voluntary income, the management of investments and those incurred in trading activities that raise funds.

1 Accounting policies (continued)

Charitable activities

Charitable expenditure comprises 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.

Grant provisions

Provisions for grants are made when the intention to make a grant has been communicated to the recipient but there is uncertainty about either the timing of the grant or the amount of grant payable.

Support costs

Support costs include central functions and have been allocated to activity cost categories on a basis consistent with the use of resources, for example, allocating property costs by floor areas, or per capita, staff costs by the time spent and other costs by their usage.

Taxation

The charity is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the charity is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Chapter 3 Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

Fixed asset investments

Fixed asset investments, other than programme related investments, are included at market value at the balance sheet date. Realised gains and losses on investments are calculated as the difference between sales proceeds and their market value at the start of the year, or their subsequent cost, and are charged or credited to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period of disposal.

Unrealised gains and losses represent the movement in market values during the year and are credited or charged to the Statement of Financial Activities based on the market value at the year end.

Fund structure

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

Endowment funds represent those assets which must be held permanently by the charity, principally investments. Income arising on the endowment funds can be used in accordance with the objects of the charity and is included as unrestricted income. Any capital gains or losses arising on the investments are retained by the endowment fund.

2 Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Grants, including capital grants;			
Grants from other charities	70,070	70,070	71,064
	70,070	70,070	71,064

3 Investment income

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Interest receivable and similar income;			
Interest receivable on bank deposits	4,665	4,665	5,680
Other income from fixed asset investments	583	583	706
	5,248	5,248	6,386

4 Expenditure on raising funds

a) Investment management costs

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Other investment management costs;			
Other portfolio management costs	-	-	25
Maintenance charges	258	258	218
	258	258	243

5 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Grant funding of activities	105,576	105,576	93,968
Allocated support costs	3,908	3,908	3,271
	109,484	109,484	97,239

6 Analysis of support costs

Charitable activities expenditure

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Clerk's fees	846	846	846
Treasurer's fees	2,051	2,051	1,383
Independent Examiner's fees	998	998	1,032
Bank charges	13	13	10
	3,908	3,908	3,271

7 Grant-making

Analysis of grants

	Grants to institutions 31 December 2025 £	31 December 2024 £
Analysis		
Reading Deanery Synod	32,342	33,607
Parochial Church Council for maintenance	70,000	57,000
Parochial Church Council for the Parish Clerk	3,234	3,361
	105,576	93,968

The support costs associated with grant-making are £3,908 (31 December 2024 - £3,271).

8 Trustees remuneration and expenses

No trustees, nor any persons connected with them, have received any remuneration from the charity during the year.

No trustees have received any reimbursed expenses from the charity during the year.

9 Taxation

The charity is a registered charity and is therefore exempt from taxation.

10 Fixed asset investments

	31 December 2025 £	31 December 2024 £
Other investments	11,930	10,709

Other investments

	Listed investments £	Total £
Cost or Valuation		
At 1 January 2025	10,709	10,709
Revaluation	1,221	1,221
At 31 December 2025	11,930	11,930
Net book value		
At 31 December 2025	11,930	11,930
At 31 December 2024	10,709	10,709

The listed investments comprise UK investment trust and unit trust funds.

The historical cosf of listed investments is £4,256 (2024- £4,256)

11 Debtors

	31 December 2025 £	31 December 2024 £
Accrued income	176	168
Other debtors	64,847	54,778
	65,023	54,946

12 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	31 December 2025 £	31 December 2024 £
Other creditors	35,551	36,943
Accruals	970	896
	36,521	37,839

13 Funds

	Balance at 1 January 2025 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Other recognised gains/(losses) £	Balance at 31 December 2025 £
Unrestricted funds					
General	176,568	75,318	(109,742)	-	142,144
Endowment funds					
Permanent	10,762	-	-	1,221	11,983
Total funds	187,330	75,318	(109,742)	1,221	154,127

	Balance at 1 January 2024 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Other recognised gains/(losses) £	Balance at 31 December 2024 £
Unrestricted funds					
General	196,600	77,450	(97,482)	-	176,568
Endowment funds					
Permanent	10,499	-	-	263	10,762
Total funds	207,099	77,450	(97,482)	263	187,330

14 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds General £	Endowment funds Permanent £	Total funds at 31 December 2025 £
Fixed asset investments	(53)	11,983	11,930
Current assets	178,718	-	178,718
Current liabilities	(36,521)	-	(36,521)
Total net assets	142,144	11,983	154,127

	Unrestricted funds General £	Endowment funds Permanent £	Total funds at 31 December 2024 £
Fixed asset investments	(53)	10,762	10,709
Current assets	214,460	-	214,460
Current liabilities	(37,839)	-	(37,839)
Total net assets	176,568	10,762	187,330

15 Related party transactions

During the year the charity made the following related party transactions:

Church Lands and John Johnson's Estate Charities
The charity is under the common trusteeship and a beneficiary of annual income from Church Lands and John Johnson's Estate Charities. During the year the charity received an annual income distribution of £70,070 (2024: £71,064).

At the balance sheet date the amount due from Church Lands and John Johnson's Estate Charities was £64,847 (2024 - £54,778).

Vale & West
The treasurer, Mr Pyke is a partner with Vale & West Chartered Accountants. During the year the charity paid Vale & West £2,051 (2024: £1,383) for accountancy services.

At the balance sheet date the amount due to/from Vale & West was £Nil (2024 - £Nil).