



# Christ Church Willaston PCC

Registered Charity Number  
1210733

Financial Statements

Year ending 31<sup>st</sup> December 2025

## **Financial review**

In compliance with Church of England rules, the annual report and accounts are for the financial year 1<sup>st</sup> January to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2025 and have been prepared using Receipts and Payments accounting as recommended by the Church of England a Parish of our size. This section of the report provides an overview of issues primarily relating to finance and should be read in conjunction with the 2025 Annual Report.

**Reordering:** The long-anticipated project to update the church finally was completed in June 2025. Up to practical completion £383,723 was expended. A sum to cover the retention payment due for payment in June 2026 has been retained. Thanks to further generous donations during 2025 the reordering fund including the Retention sum stood at £57,595. Reports to major funders Benefact Trust, Garfield Weston from the Lord Leverhulme Trust will be made during 2026. In our 2024 report we thanked all our donors for their confidence and trust which enabled us to deliver this vital project. Now our thanks also goes out to those more recent donors who since the opening of the Community Hub have continued to see the value of the new facilities and whose generosity has allowed us to make minor but significant improvements to this legacy for Christ Church and the Community.

### **Receipts and donations:**

During October 2025 we installed an electronic Tap and Go donation point which has proved popular offering members of the Church family and casual visitors to use a cashless way to give. Despite the building being closed during Reordering Open Plate donations were at an encouraging level of £9346. Receipts from Planned Giving were down from £46,467 in 2024 to £40,369

The legacy of £5,000 from 2023 intended for use on the churchyard has yet to be spent and the PCC is still considering how to put that to best use this. This will be addressed over the remainder of 2026. Gift aid recovered from HMRC derived from General Fund donations amounted to £12,336 and £7,553 derived from Reordering donations.

Sundry donations were up in 2025 reflecting a £3000 donation from the DBF put towards LED lighting replacement and an anonymous donation of £5000 which was used to set up the Community Hub account.

The digital piano fund has been fully expended, and we now enjoy a wider variety of music styles.

In a similar vein, planned givers are encouraged to consider increasing their monthly or annual contribution to account for the significant effects of inflation.

### **Expenditure**

Commencement of Reordering Work in 2024 and which carried on until June 2025 meant that energy costs continued but at a level commensurate with a building site. On recommencement of use by the Parish gaining familiarity with the new heating, lighting and AV systems has in the absence of any benchmark figures, called for a new awareness of these costs. Regular monitoring has been instituted, and quarterly reports will be delivered to the PCC.

**Planned maintenance:** The Fund remains at £20,000 and is held as a designated sum within the BMM account.

### Parish magazine

Printing costs of the Parish Magazine amounted to £5,740 in 2025. The magazine received £3,300 from subscribers and £80 in advertising revenues. This poor value for money and continuing loss of £2,360 has been considered by the PCC against the limited distribution of the magazine to a fraction of the households in the Parish.

Consequently, publication will be switched to a web-based publication within the Parish website. This will be supplemented by a free-of-charge newsletter posted through all letter boxes in the parish at key times during the year.

### Vicarage

The vicarage was vacated at the end of August 2024. Council tax is not levied on an unoccupied clergy house, and it had been agreed with Cheshire West & Chester Council that payments were suspended from the date the vicarage was vacated. The exemption to Council Tax expired 31<sup>st</sup> March 2026 and an extension is being sought.

After negotiation a refund of £448 was received from OVO Energy for overpayment of energy charges during this period of vacancy.

Parish Share paid in 2025 was £46,193. We continue to pay 50% Parish Share calculated on the basis of 40% Stipend since Revd Gordon MacLeod left.

Income from Investments (fixed assets): The dividend payments from the CBF Investment Fund share account amounted to £1,138, and the latest valuation at the end of December 2025 showed a decrease in value to £35,889 from £37,374 in 2024.

Total Bank Interest was substantially down at £3360 (2024 £6336) reflecting the major expenditure on Reordering during the year. The balance of the Virgin Money Bond was entirely committed to the Reordering Project during 2025.

### Cash at bank and cash in hand:

Cash required for general expenditure is held in two HSBC bank accounts. Firstly, the Community (Wardens) account is used for all day-to-day transactions including paying in cheques and cash from Open Plate collections. The Treasurer has been advised by our bank to reduce the number of paying in events thereby saving bank charges on each cash amount paid in. Procedure has been introduced to check and countersign each cash collection and recorded in the Services Register, before its being amalgamated into a single paying-in slip. A former Churchwarden banks the money, and the Treasurer will check what has been banked against the Register when processing on the Finance System.

Secondly, The Business Money Manager (BMM) receives all Planned Giving donations made via Standing Orders. Payments cannot be made directly from this account, so money has to be transferred into the Community (Warden's) account and payments made accordingly. The Designated Organ Fund, and the Designated Planned Maintenance Fund (PMF) reside within this bank account.

The BMM account (general funds) is used to top up the Community account on a regular basis, in particular to allow for monthly Parish Share payments. Although interest from the BMM account is modest, no bank charges are applied.

## **Reserves Policy**

The way in which reserves are held will be under review during 2026 as increases in day-to-day energy usage, Vicarage Council Tax resumption and energy are anticipated, the need to provide capital for replacement of our aging boiler, and to complete external stonework repairs means reserves will be put under pressure. Work is in hand to raise additional revenue from events and to tighten cashflow protocols day to day.

## **Finance Statement**

### **The Accounts**

This financial report is produced under the Church of England guidance for PCCs (Church Accounting Regulations 2006) adopting the **Receipts and Payments** method provided for by the Church and The Charities Act (2011). It has been prepared with reference to the guidelines to parish, diocesan and charitable finances, issued by Church House Publishing entitled PCC Accountability - The Charities Act 2011 and the PCC, 5<sup>th</sup> edition which is also available online: [www.parishresources.org.uk](http://www.parishresources.org.uk).

The finance section of this report comprises pages 6 to 12; other sections do not form a part of the formal report.

The report shows all the PCC's open bank accounts.

No payments were made to PCC members for their role as a member of the PCC other than as minor reimbursements for items purchased for the church.

Donations were received for the Audio-Visual System that were to be spent on specific items (i.e. Restricted funds) and required be spent by 31<sup>st</sup> December 2025 hence none shown in Statement of Assets and Liabilities.

## Receipts and Payments Accounts

### Year ended 31 December 2025

Columns for Restricted and Endowment figures have been omitted as there are no entries.

	Unrestricted funds	Designated funds	Total 2025	Total 2024
<b>RECEIPTS</b>				
<b>Incoming resources from generated funds</b>				
Planned giving, open plate, Gift Aid legacies, sundry donations, PCC fees and organ fund	78168	400	78568	79762
Reordering donations and grants (see note 1)		59714	59714	155516
<b>Receipts from Events and Activities</b>				
Fund raising, magalza sales and advertising	5026		5026	3818
<b>Other Receipts</b>				
Bank deposit accounts and Virgin Money interest	982	2377	3360	6335
Other income inc Reordering Gift Aid	223	7553	7775	198
<b>Dividends</b>				
Dividends from Investments	1138		1138	1014
<b>Total receipts</b>	<b>85537</b>	<b>70044</b>	<b>155581</b>	<b>246643</b>
<b>PAYMENTS</b>				
<b>Cost of generating funds</b>				
DBF share of PCC fees (see note 2)	251		251	2414
<b>Fund raising trading costs of goods sold and other costs</b>				
Fund-raising costs			0	384
Donations to charities	2056		2056	325
<b>Directly relating to the work of the church</b>				
Parish share, visiting clergy, vicarag and church running costs, heating, electricity, water, insurance, maintenance, reordering, churchyard, PCC expenses, organ maintenance and other costs.	78984	383723	462707	186725
Note: Reordering costs included as Designated.				
<b>Total payments</b>	<b>81291</b>	<b>383723</b>	<b>465014</b>	<b>189848</b>
<b>Excess of receipts over payments</b>				
Transfers:	4247	-313679	-309433	56796
Gross transfers between funds - In	587	89	676	17859
Gross transfers between funds - Out	-89	-587	-676	-17859
Gains/losses on investments	-1493		-1493	1429
<b>Net movement in funds</b>	<b>3252</b>	<b>-314178</b>	<b>-310926</b>	<b>58225</b>
Cash at bank and in hand 31st December 2024	72391	397694	470084	411860
<b>Cash at bank and in hand 31st December 2025</b>	<b>75642</b>	<b>83516</b>	<b>159158</b>	<b>470085</b>

## Statements of Assets and Liabilities

as at 31 December 2025

Columns for Restricted and Endowment figures have been omitted as there are no entries.

	Unrestricted funds	Designated funds	Total 2025	Total 2024
	£	£	£	£
<b>Shares and Deposit Accounts</b>				
CBF Investment Fund Share Account (see note 3)	35881		35881	37374
CBF Investment Deposit Account	3536		3536	3536
Virgin Money Charity Account			0	240594
<b>Totals</b>	<b>39417</b>		<b>39417</b>	<b>281504</b>
<b>Current Assets</b>				
HSBC Community Account (see note 4 and 5)	9555		9555	4089
HSBC Business Money Manager (see note 6)	20462	30879	51341	54012
PCC Re-ordering Account		52595	52595	130480
Community Hub	6249		6249	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>36267</b>	<b>83475</b>	<b>119741</b>	<b>188581</b>
<b>Totals</b>	<b>75683</b>	<b>83475</b>	<b>159158</b>	<b>470085</b>
<b>Represented by</b>				
Unrestricted - General	75683		75683	72391
Designated - Reordering (see note 6)		57595	57595	371057
Designated - Organ Fund		5879	5879	5815
Designated - Digita Piano Fund			0	822
Designated - Prop Maintenance Fund (see note 7)		20000	20000	20000
<b>Totals</b>	<b>75683</b>	<b>83475</b>	<b>159158</b>	<b>470085</b>

## Receipts and Payments Analysis

### Analysis of Receipts and Payments 2025

The following tables provide more detailed information on income and expenditure.

#### Receipts

Description	2025 Total	2024 Total
Planned Giving	£40,369	£46,467
Gift Aid Repayment	£12,336	£13,324
Church Collections open plate	£9,346	£6,811
Legacies	£5,000	-
Sundry Donations (£100 for Digital Piano excl.)	£8,700	£2,913
Fees received by PCC	£4,768	£9,859
Fund Raising Events for Digital Piano	£0	£100
Fund Raising Events	£346	-
Community Hub Lettings	£1,300	-
Parish Magazine Sales	£3,300	£3,819
Parish Magazine Advertising	£80	-
Other Income inc Reordering Gift Aid	£7,775	£194
Dividends from Investments	£1,138	£1,014
Bank deposit accounts interest	£3,360	£6,336
Organ Fund	£1,049	£288
Reordering Donations	£56,714	£155,516
<b>Totals</b>	<b>£155,581</b>	<b>£246,641</b>

#### Payments

Description	2025 Total	2024 Total
Home Mission Societies	£2,025	£325
Secular Charities	£31	-
Parish Share	£46,193	£48,436
Visiting clergy	£293	-
Vicarage Expenses	£1,054	£3,188
Church Running Expenses	£8,069	£5,603
Church Heating	£3,425	£3,369
Church Electricity	£1,696	£1,504
Water	£438	£286
Cleaning	£55	-
Insurance	£3,460	£2,762
Minor Repairs & Maintenance	£435	-
Reordering	£383,723	£111,669
Magazine Printing	£5,740	£5,702
Churchyard	£7,452	£2,833
Other Costs	£112	-
Costs of Fund-Raising	£0	£384
DBF Fees	£251	£2,414
PCC Expenses	£227	£1,371
Organ Repairs and Maintenance	£335	-
<b>Totals</b>	<b>£465,014</b>	<b>£189,846</b>

## Notes to the accounts:

- 1 Gift Aid for 2024 was received in 2025 and is identified in the Analysis of Receipts and Payments report. (Page 9)
- 2 DBF fees are levied by the Diocesan Board of Finance as a proportion of PCC fees which are generated by income from weddings, funerals etc. The number of weddings was negatively impacted during the Reordering works.
- 3 Dividends from The CBF General Church of England Investment account (Page 8 Statement of Assets and Liabilities). During 2024 and into 2025 the value of shares in this account fell to £35,880.
- 4 The interest received from the CBF Deposit Account is paid into the HSBC Community account.
- 5 The correction noted in 2024's statement was actioned during 2025.
- 6 The BMM account contains £5,000 of Reordering donations received in error from December 2025 which will be transferred out in 2026.
- 7 The Property and Maintenance Fund is a sum of money set aside in case extra funds are required for maintenance and can be regarded as a reserve for exceptional maintenance costs. (Page8)
- 8 During preparation of these Accounts, we identified 3 items of donations amounting to £649 paid into the Community Account (General Fund) that will be transferred across to The BMM account (Organ Fund) in 2026.

### **Report of the Independent Examiner to the PCC of Christ Church, Willaston.**

I report on the accounts and notes to the accounts of the church for the year ended 31 December 2025, which are set out on pages 7 to 10.

#### **Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner**

The accounts have been prepared under the Church of England guidance for PCCs (Church Accounting Standards 2006) adopting the Receipts and Payments method provided by the Church and the Charities Act (2011).

I report in respect of my examination of the PCC's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act. In carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charities Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act and the Directions and Guidance for Examiners (CC32).

#### **Basis of independent examiner's report**

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the church and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items for disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a "true and fair view" and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

#### **Independent examiner's qualified statement**

This church, in common with many others of similar size and organisation, derives a substantial proportion of its income from voluntary donations which cannot be fully controlled until they are entered into the accounting records, and are therefore not susceptible to independent verification. Readers of the accounts will notice what appear to be addition errors. This has arisen due to pence being included in the compilation of the accounts and rounding errors occurring. Due to GDPR restrictions I have not been able to check the accuracy of the Gift Aid amounts received. A separate column has not been shown for Restricted Funds which are referred to on page 6. The amount spent on the audio-visual system was £31,783.

In connection with my examination, no other matter, except that referred to in the above paragraph, has come to my attention:

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements
  - to keep accounting record in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
  - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act have not been met; or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached

John A Simpson

*J A Simpson*

Date

13/4/26

Chartered Accountant

48 Bredbury Green, Romiley, Stockport, SK6 3DN

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on Monday April 13<sup>th</sup> 2026 and signed on its behalf:

Dr. Martin Woodhead

Handwritten signature of Dr. Martin Woodhead in black ink.

Chair

Chris Brown-Bolton

Handwritten signature of Chris Brown-Bolton in blue ink.

Treasurer