

CATHEDRALS PLUS
REPORT AND ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025

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<http://www.cathedralsplus.org.uk>
Registered Charity No 1039279

Reference and Administration details

Chair	The Very Revd Dr Anthony Cane, Dean of Portsmouth
Vice Chair	The Revd Canon Jane Brooke
Council Members	Laura Arends - Westminster Abbey Yvonne Pearson - Liverpool Jen Stratford - Chester Zoe Willis - Canterbury Owen Towndrow - Hereford Charlie Rowbotham - St Paul's Lisa Power - York The Revd Canon Dr Kevin Walton - St Albans Daniel Parnell - Worcester Phil Stevens - Ely Jane Southward - Walsingham Gillian Bunn - Wakefield Clark Brydon - St Patrick's, Dublin Alex Carton - Peterborough (Co-opted)
Secretary	Jackie Holderness
Co-Secretary/Web Manager	Sarah Page
Honorary Treasurer	Clark Brydon (Appointed March 2025)
Bankers	Lloyds Bank plc Regent Street, London Branch, PO Box BX1 1LT
Independent Examiner	Shirley Smith & Co Limited FCPA 11 Chandlers Way South Woodham Ferrers Chelmsford Essex CM3 5TB
Investment Managers	CCLA Investment Management Ltd C.O.I.F. Charity Funds Senator House 85 Queen Victoria Street London EC4V 4ET

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL for the year ended 31st March 2025

Council present their annual report and the financial statements for the year ended 31st March 2025

Statements of Council's responsibilities

Charity law requires the council as trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which show a true and fair state of the Charity and its financial activities for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- state whether applicable accounting standards are recommended practice have been followed, subject to any 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 operational existence.
- 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. They 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 irregular activities.

Activities

Cathedrals Plus is a registered charity providing information and assistance to cathedrals, abbeys, greater churches and other Christian religious organisations regarding their work with visitors and those coming to worship. Such work includes providing education for all age groups. Membership of the charity is ecumenical. An elected council meet regularly, usually via Zoom. Before the pandemic struck there were over sixty cathedrals, abbeys major churches and similar places of worship as members.

Our members are grouped into hubs, based upon their geographical location. These regional networks, via Zoom meetings and other events, support colleagues to share experiences and enhance their professional development.

The AGM meeting of Council usually takes place at our annual conference. Termly Council meetings take place, via Zoom. The conference in 2025 took place in Peterborough in January.

A planning group meets regularly via Zoom to organise the conference. We continue to seek sponsorship to underwrite the cost of conference speakers.

We offer our members exclusive access to a supportive WhatsApp group and an online Resources Hub for Learning and Visitor engagement.

The charity continues to have a link with the Association of English Cathedrals (AEC) and either the Secretary or a member of council are invited to attend their meetings. Constituent members of Cathedrals Plus continue to have the facility to advertise job vacancies on the Cathedrals Plus website without charge. Members also have free access to a dedicated cloud solution to facilitate the storage of common educational and visiting resources. This is helping promote good practice and allow better dissemination of relevant information among members. We are an invaluable professional development network for all staff in sacred spaces who work with visitor engagement, families, learning and heritage education.

Finances

The charity's financial position has continued to strengthen over the past year. Subscription income rose to £7,655 in 2025, up from £6,300 in 2024. This increase reflects greater activity surrounding the annual conferences and success in attracting a broader range of Sacred Spaces to join the network.

The streamlined fee structure - £175 for each Sacred Space and £40 for individual members has supported this growth. Donations stood at £227 (up from £100), and interest received amounted to £247, compared with £145 the previous year. As a result, the General Fund remains in a healthy position, broadly in line with the level reported at the end of the 2024 financial year.

Appointment of the Independent Examiner

Shirley Smith & Co Accountants and Tax Advisers continue to act as Independent Examiners following the passing of Barry Watkinson FCA in 2021.

By order of the Council

Signed Anthony Care

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Cathedrals Plus

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31st March 2025, which are set out on pages 6 - 8.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees, 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 Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and carrying out my examination, I have followed all 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 which give me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- The accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act;
- The accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- The accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and contents of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirements that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of the 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.



Daniel Baxter FMAAT
Shirley Smith & Co Limited
Accountants and Tax Advisers
11 Chandlers Way
South Woodham Ferrers
Chelmsford
Essex
CM3 5TB

CATHEDRALS PLUS

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES for the year ended 31st March 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds 2025 £	Restricted Funds 2025 £	Total Funds 2025 £	Total Funds 2024 £
INCOMING RESOURCES					
Incoming Resources from generated funds:					
Subscriptions received		7,655			6,300
Donations		227			100
Investment Income - deposit account interest		247			145
Incoming Resources from charitable activities:					
Conferences and activities.		17,361			14,309
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES		<u>25,490</u>			<u>20,854</u>
RESOURCES EXPENDED					
Charitable Activities - conferences etc.	(3)	19,595			17,362
GOVERNANCE COSTS					
Administration charges	(6)	6,160			5,618
TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED		<u>25,755</u>			<u>22,980</u>
NET RESOURCES EXPENDED		<u>-265</u>			<u>-2,126</u>
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds at 1 April 2024		£6,668			8,794
Movement for the year		-265			-2126
Total funds at 31 March 2025		<u>£6,403</u>			<u>£6,668</u>

The statement of accounting policies and the notes on page 8 form an integral part of these accounts.

There were no recognised gains or losses for the two years other than those included in the statement of financial activities.

The results for the two years stated above arise solely from continuing activities.

CATHEDRALS PLUS

BALANCE SHEET as at 31 March 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds 2025 £	Restricted Funds 2025 £	Total Funds 2025 £	Total Funds 2024 £
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	(4)	70			70
Cash at bank and in hand		2,420			2,096
C O I F deposit account		<u>5,100</u>			<u>5,100</u>
		7,590			7,266
CURRENT LIABILITIES					
Creditors falling due within one year	(5)	1187			598
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>£6,403</u>			<u>£6,668</u>

GENERAL FUND

Balance as at 1 April 2023	6,668	8,794
Excess expenditure for the year	-265	-2126
Balance at 31 March 2024	<u>6,403</u>	<u>6,668</u>

The notes on page 8 form part of these accounts.

The financial statements on pages 6 to 8 were approved by Council on 18 September 2025

The Very Revd Dr Anthony Cane
Chair

Anthony Cane

CATHEDRALS PLUS

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year to 31st March 2025

1 STATUS

Cathedrals Plus previously known as The Pilgrims Association is a charity registered in England No. 1039279 and is exempt from Corporation Tax and Income Tax in investment income relating to charitable activities.

2 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The financial statements are prepared on the historical cost basis of accounting in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities Act 2005'. Incoming resources and expenditure are accounted for on the accruals basis.

Emoluments: The members of the Council do not receive emoluments for their services. Contracts of employment do not exist between council members and the association. Basic travel expenses are reimbursed. The secretary and co-secretary are part-time workers and self-employed.

3 RESOURCES EXPENDED

Expenditure on the annual residential conference in a year when such takes place would include an allocation of the Secretary's honorarium.

4 DEBTORS

	2025	2024
Conference expenses in advance		
Prepayments	70	70
	<u>70</u>	<u>70</u>

5 CREDITORS

Conference expenses	203	-
Secretarial remuneration	576	-
Accruals	408	598
	<u>1,187</u>	<u>598</u>

6 EXPENSES Include Independent Examiner's fees	<u>408</u>	<u>390</u>
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7 CASHFLOW STATEMENT

A cashflow statement is not presented due to the size and nature of activities of the Association.

CATHEDRALS PLUS

OPERATING STATEMENT

for the year to 31st March 2025

This page does not form part of the statutory accounts

	Unrestricted Funds 2025 £	Restricted Funds 2025 £	Total Funds 2025 £	Total Funds 2024 £
INCOMING RESOURCES				
Incoming resources from generated funds				
Subscriptions	7,655			6,300
Donations	227			100
Interest received	247			145
Incoming resources from charitable activities				
Conference & Seminar fees	17,361			14,309
Grants received	-			-
Total incoming resources	25,490			20,854
RESOURCES EXPENDED				
Secretarial remuneration	4,352			4,132
Bank Charges	28			43
Council meetings - Travel expenses	-			100
Stationery & telecommunication charges	-			43
Insurance	417			417
Conference and seminar costs	19,595			17,362
Website development & support	559			330
Sundry	396			163
Independent Examiners fee	408			390
TOTAL resources expended	<u>25,755</u>			<u>22,980</u>
NET RESOURCES EXPENDED	<u>-265</u>			<u>-2126</u>