

PARISH OF ST JOHN THE BAPTIST, GREAT MEOLS

Annual report of the Parochial Church Council (PCC) for the year ending

31st December 2025

The principal function of the PCC is “to promote, in the parish, the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social, and ecumenical.” The PCC members are also Trustees, and, therefore, stewards both of the mission and the resources of the Church, ensuring that it is solvent, well-run and delivering its charitable outcomes. In addition, the PCC is responsible for the operation and maintenance of the Church Centre.

PCC members were:

Vicar	Gillian Rossiter (Until 31 January 2025)
Readers	David Moss Lesley Young
Churchwardens	Steve Symes (Assistant Treasurer) Martin Hodson (Until May 2025) Tim Smith (From May 2025)
Representatives on Deanery Synod	Lesley Young Claire Barnard Daniel Branch Eunice Moss
Pastoral Worker	Chris Branch Andy Liston Alex Calvert
Elected members	Steve Austin (Treasurer) Clive Burgess Julie Burgess (Until September 2025) Rowan Connell Sue Dutton (Secretary) Steve Gee Martin Hodson (From May 2025 until August 2025) Clare O’Connell Adele Sedgwick

Both the PCC and Standing Committee met on six occasions each in 2025.

Safeguarding is a constant agenda item, and a Safeguarding team led by Chris Branch aided by Clive and Julie Burgess have continued to ensure that not only our Safeguarding policies are up to date and comply with the Safeguarding Dashboard Level 3 but that the ministry team and all members of the PCC have completed the safeguarding training required by their role.

There is no denying that we were devastated to learn of Rev Gillian's forthcoming retirement at the end of January 2025. Throughout January, Gillian worked with the ministry team and church wardens to ensure that church life would continue in her absence until a new incumbent was appointed. When asked about the future of our Parish and if we would have a new full-time vicar the answer was always "Yes". St John's has faithfully paid its Parish share and has been a beacon and example of good work." The archdeacon agreed St John's was a great example of a church working for its community and very outward looking so all will be well!

Rev Gillian's final service on 26th January 2025 came round all too quickly. The responsibility for the many and varied activities of the church was shared out so that we could continue our ministry and community activities as normal. We are lucky to have so much support, not only from our parishioners but also our local community.

Steve Symes and Tim Smith were appointed by the PCC to represent them in the Vacancy process, which involved consultation with the PCC and the Archdeacon. Throughout February and March producing our Parish Fact File and Parish Profile dominated the work of the PCC. Thanks to everyone who has contributed to these, and those who also responded to the questionnaire that was circulated. Your responses were analysed and continuing our outreach work and growing our congregation, particularly with youngsters, featured high on the topics mentioned.

The Archdeacon, Mike Gilbertson, and Rural Dean, David Vestergaard, joined us at the PCC meeting in March to give us useful feedback on the first draft of our Profile. They emphasised the need to take our time writing the profile in order to get it 'right' and to give St John's time to reflect on what we are looking for in our next vicar.

Once the necessary documentation for the vacancy process ie our Fact File and Parish Profile, were complete the advert was published on the Chester Diocese website with interviews planned for early July.

In the meantime, activities continued much as before, and we kept finding all the things that happened behind the scenes, that Gillian just did! It was lovely to welcome Bishop Julie to our Easter Day service and to witness Jonny O'Connell being confirmed.

Notice was given to the residents of the vicarage, and we were pleased to hear that as it has been rented out by the Diocese for the past 13 years, the Diocese would undertake any refurbishments that were needed, St John's did not become financially responsible for it until these were completed.

At the Annual Parochial Church Meeting in May we welcomed Tim Smith back as a Church Warden together with Steve Symes. Martin Hodson was thanked for his contribution to church life as a warden over the past two years and we wish him well as both he and Natalie continue with the next stage of their Ministry course. Martin will remain as a member of the PCC.

Jean Hodgson, Gill Childs and Hazel Moon were also thanked for their contributions and support to the PCC as they stepped down, and were replaced by Steve Gee, Julie Burgess and Martin Hodson.

The process to find a new vicar for St John's continued as, following interviews in July, it was decided not to appoint, and a new advert was published. Steve and Tim met with the Archdeacon to discuss the next steps to take. Meanwhile, the wardens, David, Lesley and the PCC continued to organise and monitor the everyday services and activities of the church, and we are ever grateful to the visiting retirees who have led our services, and continue to do so.

Our September PCC meeting opened with a presentation on the diocesan 'Parish Giving Scheme' which would run alongside our present 'Planned Giving' but would greatly reduce the administration work done by David and the finance team with regards Gift Aid claims. The PCC agreed to register for the scheme and a number of the PCC agreed to trial this before opening up to the rest of the parish. All contributions and Gift Aid claimed will still come to St Johns. We hope to roll this out to the parish in the new year 2026.

Throughout the year, Steve continued to monitor the church building, including roof repairs and blocked drainpipes! We were pleased to hear that the church heaters had been repaired thanks to a generous donation, and the perseverance of Steve, so we should be warm this winter, You may still get wet if you sit under the continuing leak in the lady chapel, although this has been considerably lessened but still needs attention. Steve has also done battle with sorting new accounts with energy suppliers, water rates and council tax for the church and vicarage. Thanks go to Steve for all the time and work he gives to these matters on top of all the other roles he has at St John's.

The PCC reviewed annual donations that are made by St Johns and agreed that they would remain the same in 2026 ie Tanzanian Church £600, Sat-7 £600 and the Bible Society £500. All other donations made are raised by fund raising events such as the Christingles - £650 to Children Society; Carols on the Green - £250 to MIND; Jig Saw Sale - £760 to Kids Connect. The Meols Community Choir and Great Meols Primary School Concert in October raised £1000 in aid of the RNLI.

Our relationship with Great Meols Primary school continues to flourish and they visit for educational activities and, Harvest and Christmas services while the school 'Ambassadors' have helped with our 'Soup at Home' packing and deliveries, and the school choir sang at our community Christmas lunch.

Other outreach activities include a Place of Welcome Café, Swap Shop with our partner church, St Chads, providing support for struggling families, The Big Shed Project provides furniture for emergency accommodation and baby equipment particularly in liaison with Heart4Refugees.

All these church activities and the additional children's events including Messy Church, Pancake Fun, Light Party etc would not happen without the support of all those (too many to list) who volunteer to help. Thank you to you all.

As the Parish vacancy continues into 2026, we must not take our situation to heart. This is not a reflection on our parish of St John's, but a national problem and we are not alone in our search. We must just pray that we will soon find a new incumbent to lead us forward, and in the meantime continue with the good works of the parish.

**PARISH OF ST JOHN THE BAPTIST , GREAT MEOLS
TREASURER'S REPORT FOR YEAR END ACCOUNTS TO 31 DECEMBER 2025
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNTS**

Please find my report as follows :

1 The Receipts and Payments Accounts comprising pages one to four provide the details. These are ---

Receipts and Payments summary
Receipts and Payments analysis
Balance sheet

2 Main highlights --

- a Overall there was a negative movement of all funds of £3,056.37 comprising ---
- | | |
|-----------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Excess payments over receipts | 1,047.55 |
| Decrease in the valuation of investment | 2,008.82 |
| Per summary page | <u>3,056.37</u> |

It is important to note the above deficit includes one off donations and legacy of approx £25,000 .
Without these the deficit would have been approx. £28,000.

We cannot assume these large donations will recur which emphasizes the need for addition income to cover our costs.

To repeat last years report, the basic source of income of collections, planned giving and Gift Aid does not cover our Parish Share .For this reason we continue to encourage Parishioners to join the planned giving scheme and contribute as much as they can. I also need to remind everyone of the Parish Giving Scheme which is now available, with some of us having already enrolled .The Scheme is working well but needs more members signing up.

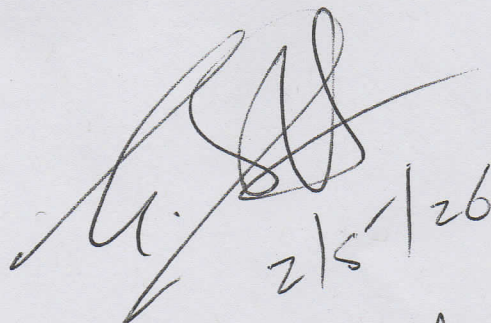
2025 comments and main highlights

b Receipts

- 1 All purpose donations include one off donations of £20,000 as mentioned above .
- 2 Planned Giving standing orders were down on 2024 by approx £2,000 .
- 3 One off heaters fund donations of £4,500 are within a designated fund with PCC discretion for usage.
- 4 Tax recoverable on Gift Aid is up on 2024 due to the one off donations above.
- 5 Hall lettings were up due some items redesignated from donations plus increased rates and activity. .
- 6 Investment income increased slightly due to the level on deposit during the year and interest rates changes.
- 7 Income from weddings and funerals were similar compared to 2024.
- 8 Grants and insurance claim of £9,984 were received for repairs as below.

d Payments

- 1 Parish Share increased in the year by 3% to £94,788
- 2 Total running costs were similar at £12,605 (2024 £13,161)
Running costs include gas, electric , insurance , water and telephone.
Gas costs were less in 2025 .
- 3 Major repairs consist of :-
Roof repairs £8,650 part covered by insurance claim receipt £8,250.
Replacement lighting £1,895 part covered by grant receipt £1,510.


2/5/26

Accepted at APCM on 26/4/26.
Signed on behalf of the PCC.

**PARISH OF ST JOHN THE BAPTIST , GREAT MEOLS
TREASURER'S REPORT FOR YEAR END ACCOUNTS TO 31 DECEMBER 2025
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNTS**

Page 2

e **Balance sheet**

1 Investment -- COIF Legacy Reserve

Current market value 2025 £101,025 , a decrease compared to 2024 by £2,008.

2 Bank , deposits and cash --- 2025 £71,146 a represents a decrease on 2024 of £947

3 Fund transfers

Net transfers into St John's deposit account from Barclays Bank amounted to £2,000.
This was for general cash flow purposes.

Net transfers into Keightley Trust deposit account from Barclays amounted to £1,280.28 ,
being net KT payments over receipts..

4 The Keightley Trust investment valuation at 31/12/2025 stood at £152,702.11 .

St Johns is only entitled to quarterly income as included in receipts .

5 Budget 2026 -- draft at the time of writing this report

This overall shows payments exceeding receipts by approximately £35,000 .

It assumes no large one off donations as in 2025 and that generally usual receipts and payments
will be at a similar level with a few exceptions.

This reinforces my comments above regarding the need for additional income.

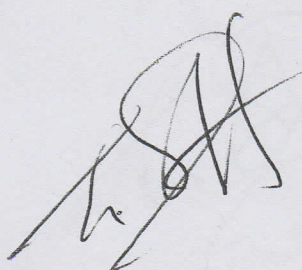
Accounts approval and thanks

I wish to offer the accounts for 2025 to the meeting for their approval.

I also wish to thank Robert Smith FCA and everyone involved in the PCC who have helped me during the year.

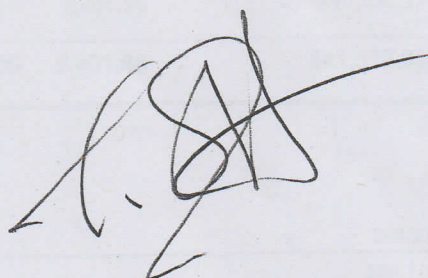
In particular Steve Symes in addition to his duties as Warden.

S Austin



Saint John the Baptist
Receipts and Payments Account
For the period from 01 January 2025 to 31 December 2025

	Unrestricted funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Prior year total funds
Receipts						
Donations and legacies	98,385.94	4,500.00	-	-	102,885.94	129,053.28
Income from charitable activities	20,304.90	-	-	-	20,304.90	18,334.79
Investments	1,252.84	-	-	-	1,252.84	352.17
Other income	11,669.36	-	5,401.96	-	17,071.32	18,617.68
Other trading activities	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Receipts	131,613.04	4,500.00	5,401.96	-	141,515.00	166,357.92
Payments						
Raising funds	268.20	-	-	-	268.20	207.32
Expenditure on charitable activities	131,422.16	1,621.20	5,841.69	-	138,885.05	139,065.11
Other expenditure	3,409.30	-	-	-	3,409.30	9,229.89
Total Payments	135,099.66	1,621.20	5,841.69	-	142,562.55	148,502.32
Excess of receipts over payments before transfer	(3,486.62)	2,878.80	(439.73)	-	(1,047.55)	17,855.60
Transfers:						
Gross transfers between funds - in	-	-	-	-	-	-
Gross transfers between funds - out	-	-	-	-	-	-
Excess of receipts over payments before other gains	(3,486.62)	2,878.80	(439.73)	-	(1,047.55)	17,855.60
Net movement in funds	(5,495.44)	2,878.80	(439.73)	-	(3,056.37)	22,843.71
Reconciliation of funds						
Excess of receipts over payments at beginning of the year	152,589.15	-	21,861.58	-	174,450.73	151,607.02
Excess of receipts over payments for the year	147,093.71	2,878.80	21,421.85	-	171,394.36	174,450.73

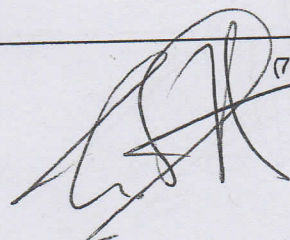


Saint John the Baptist

Analysis of Receipts and Payments Selected period: 01 January 2025 to 31 December 2025

	General	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	This year	Total Last year
Receipts						
Donations and legacies						
0101 - Planned giving standing orders	45,584.50	-	-	-	45,584.50	47,494.50
0110 - Gift Aid - Envelopes	1,395.00	-	-	-	1,395.00	1,037.00
0301 - Loose plate collections	2,385.42	-	-	-	2,385.42	3,653.44
0501 - One-off Gift Aid gifts	984.00	-	-	-	984.00	2,055.00
0502 - All purpose donations	25,142.53	-	-	-	25,142.53	10,440.95
0550 - Donations appeals etc	3,937.33	-	-	-	3,937.33	7,970.89
0601 - Taxrecoverable on Gift Aid	17,347.66	-	-	-	17,347.66	11,838.75
0701 - Legacies	250.00	-	-	-	250.00	42,500.00
0901 - Other funds generated	-	-	-	-	-	50.00
0902 - Sumup contactless donations	1,359.50	-	-	-	1,359.50	2,012.75
0903 - Heaters fund donations	-	4,500.00	-	-	4,500.00	-
Donations and legacies Totals	98,385.94	4,500.00	-	-	102,885.94	129,053.28
Income from charitable activities						
1101 - Fees for weddings and funerals	2,681.00	-	-	-	2,681.00	2,868.00
1221 - Cafe ,coffee and lunches	6,670.00	-	-	-	6,670.00	8,519.79
1230 - Church hall lettings - objectives	10,323.90	-	-	-	10,323.90	6,397.00
1261 - Refugee furniture grant received	630.00	-	-	-	630.00	550.00
Income from charitable activities Totals	20,304.90	-	-	-	20,304.90	18,334.79
Investments						
1020 - Bank and building society interest	1,252.84	-	-	-	1,252.84	352.17
Investments Totals	1,252.84	-	-	-	1,252.84	352.17
Other income						
0802 - Grants received	1,734.36	-	-	-	1,734.36	7,980.00
0810 - Insurance claim	8,250.00	-	-	-	8,250.00	-
1021 - Barclays loyalty reward	-	-	-	-	-	93.94
1262 - Church holiday receipts	-	-	-	-	-	5,304.00
1263 - KT interest received	-	-	5,401.96	-	5,401.96	5,159.74
1505 - Gillian Rossiter collections	1,685.00	-	-	-	1,685.00	80.00
Other Income Totals	11,669.36	-	5,401.96	-	17,071.32	18,617.68
Receipts Grand Totals	131,613.04	4,500.00	5,401.96	-	141,515.00	166,357.92
Payments						
Raising funds						
1730 - Costs of fetes & other events	268.20	-	-	-	268.20	207.32
Raising funds Totals	268.20	-	-	-	268.20	207.32
Expenditure on charitable activities						

	General	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	Total	
					This year	Last year
1801 - Giving to missionary societies	1,200.00	-	-	-	1,200.00	1,170.59
1830 - Giving - relief and development agencies	13.28	-	-	-	13.28	-
1850 - Home mission	35.00	-	-	-	35.00	30.00
1870 - Secular charities	93.09	-	-	-	93.09	40.53
1910 - Ministry parish share etc	94,788.72	-	-	-	94,788.72	92,027.88
2170 - Education	36.00	-	-	-	36.00	320.00
2201 - Parish training and mission	-	-	-	-	-	70.00
2301 - Church running - insurance	4,413.67	-	-	-	4,413.67	3,940.47
2310 - Church office - telephone	1,403.35	-	-	-	1,403.35	1,020.57
2320 - Organ / piano tuning	170.00	-	-	-	170.00	200.00
2321 - Organist fees	1,380.00	-	-	-	1,380.00	1,875.00
2330 - Church maintenance	3,550.45	1,621.20	-	-	5,171.65	3,217.98
2331 - Cleaning	485.86	-	-	-	485.86	653.30
2340 - Upkeep of services	404.55	-	-	-	404.55	305.69
2345 - Funeral catering expenses	201.85	-	-	-	201.85	399.41
2360 - Administration	1,072.18	-	-	-	1,072.18	969.02
2370 - Visiting speakers / locums	1,673.22	-	-	-	1,673.22	-
2375 - First Aid Training	576.00	-	-	-	576.00	-
2401 - Church running - electric	609.26	-	-	-	609.26	700.34
2402 - Vicarage electric and gas	274.95	-	-	-	274.95	-
2403 - Vicarage maintenance	15.46	-	-	-	15.46	-
2410 - Church running - gas	5,596.82	-	-	-	5,596.82	7,013.39
2420 - Church running - water	582.21	-	-	-	582.21	487.53
2501 - Magazine and printing expenses	848.25	-	-	-	848.25	615.47
2511 - Sumup contactless donations charges	23.56	-	-	-	23.56	36.39
2513 - Kitchen expenses	-	-	-	-	-	2,774.63
2514 - Soup and sandwich, Parish lunches expenses	35.88	-	-	-	35.88	-
2801 - Hall + major repairs - structure	8,650.00	-	-	-	8,650.00	723.93
2820 - Hall + major repairs - installation	2,484.99	-	-	-	2,484.99	9,974.78
2840 - Other PCC property upkeep	224.36	-	-	-	224.36	5,680.00
2841 - Refugee furniture payment from grant	579.20	-	-	-	579.20	549.00
2843 - KT expenses	-	-	5,841.69	-	5,841.69	4,269.21
Expenditure on charitable activities Totals	131,422.16	1,621.20	5,841.69	-	138,885.05	139,065.11
Other expenditure						
1835 - Gifts and dedications	58.41	-	-	-	58.41	252.94
2361 - Travel expenses	-	-	-	-	-	52.31
2362 - CCLI copyright licences and WEB costs	1,069.68	-	-	-	1,069.68	970.77
2365 - Gillian Rossiter Leaving presents	1,990.00	-	-	-	1,990.00	-
2512 - Bank charges	291.21	-	-	-	291.21	621.87
2842 - Church holiday payments	-	-	-	-	-	7,332.00
Other expenditure Totals	3,409.30	-	-	-	3,409.30	9,229.89
Payments Grand Totals	135,099.66	1,621.20	5,841.69	-	142,562.55	148,502.32



 (7 February 2026 7:25 pm) Page 2 of 2

Saint John the Baptist

Balance Sheet detailed

	As at 31/12/2025	As at 31/12/2024
Fixed assets		
6640: CCLA Legacy Reserve investment	101,025.56	103,034.38
Total Fixed assets	101,025.56	103,034.38
Current assets		
6501: Bank current account Barclays	8,866.71	11,767.73
6510: CCLA (CBF) deposit account St Johns	39,512.11	37,512.11
6511: CCLA (CBF) deposit account Keightley Trust	21,928.14	22,226.21
6590: Cash in hand	838.77	587.21
6595: Debtors	-	-
Total Current assets	71,145.73	72,093.26
Liabilities		
6699: Agency collections	776.93	676.91
Z04: Accounts Payable	-	-
Total Liabilities	776.93	676.91
Net Asset surplus (deficit)	171,394.36	174,450.73
Reserves		
Excess/(deficit) to date	(1,047.55)	17,855.60
Z01: Starting balances	174,450.73	151,607.02
Z02: Gains/(losses) on investment assets	(2,008.82)	4,988.11
Total Reserves	171,394.36	174,450.73

Represented by Funds

General (Unrestricted)	147,093.71	152,589.15
Designated	2,878.80	-
Restricted	21,421.85	21,861.58
Total	171,394.36	174,450.73



CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

**Report to the
trustees/members of**

Charity Name

Parish of Saint John The Baptist , Great Meols

**On accounts for the year
ended**

31 December 2025

**Charity no
(if any)**

1131062

Set out on pages

One to four

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/12/2025

**Responsibilities and
basis of report**

As the charity trustees of the Trust, 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 in carrying out my examination, I have followed 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 which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

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

Signed:

Robert Smith

Date:

10th May 2026

Name:

Robert Smith

**Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):**

FCA

Address:

C/O St John The Baptist Great Meols

Forest Road

Meols , Wirral