

**PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL  
of  
ST MICHAEL and ST PAUL  
ALNWICK**

**Annual Report and  
Financial Statements**

**for the year ended  
31<sup>st</sup> December 2025**

**Incumbent  
Revd Christian Mitchell**

**St Michael's Vicarage  
Howling Lane  
Alnwick, NE66 1DH**

**Bank  
Barclays Bank plc  
Alnwick**

**Independent Examiner  
Mr George Clark FCPFA**

**Registered Charity Number 1131297**

## Annual Report of the Parish of St Michael and St Paul, Alnwick 2025

### Parochial Church Council 2025

The PCC is the governing body of the parish of St Michael and St Paul Alnwick. The PCC is a team made up of members of clergy and lay members of the church. Together they are responsible for the overall wellbeing, practical as well as spiritual, of their church, the church members, and the church buildings. The PCC also has a duty to promote the mission of the church within the wider community.

The PCC is also responsible for the internal maintenance and running of the Parish Hall. The Hall is leased from the Northumberland Estate which is responsible for the external fabric.

#### Ex officio members:

Chair: Revd Christian Mitchell  
Curate: Revd Fran Bell

Churchwardens: Dr Patty Everitt  
Ms Sal Howard

Deanery Synod Members: (elected in 2023 for 3 years)  
Mrs Annette Playle Mrs Jean Darby  
Ms Sal Howard

#### Elected Members:

Mrs Rosie Buxton (re-elected in 2025 for 3 years)  
Mr John Cooke (re-elected in 2024 for 3 years)  
Mr Richard Dale (re-elected in 2023 for 3 years)  
Mrs Pat Tweed (elected in 2025 for 3 years)  
Mrs Judy Jobson (elected in 2025 for 3 years)  
Mrs Susan O'Neill (re-elected in 2023 for 3 years)  
Mr Henry Playle (re-elected in 2023 for 3 years)  
Mrs Susan Trafford (elected in 2023 for 3 years)

#### PCC Officers:

Vice Chair: Mrs Jean Darby  
PCC Secretary: Mrs Rosie Buxton  
PCC Treasurer: Mr Richard Dale

#### Assistant Church Wardens:

Mrs Pat Tweed  
One vacancy

#### PCC Committees and other groups:

The Standing Committee is the only committee required by law. It has the power to transact the business of the PCC between meetings (subject to any directions given by the Council). Its members are Revd Christian Mitchell, Dr Patty Everitt, Ms Sal Howard, Mrs Jean Darby, Mr Richard Dale and Mr Henry Playle.

#### Clergy with permission to Officiate:

Revd Canon Sue Allen, Revd Canon Philip Bourne.

#### Readers:

Mrs Annette Playle, Ms Sal Howard, Mrs Anne Wager-Bradley

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**Safeguarding Officer**

Dr Patty Everitt

**Church attendance:**

Statistics as reported to the Diocese for 2025 (2024 figures in brackets)

Baptisms	6 (11)
Confirmation	0 (1)
Weddings	8 (2)
Funerals	16 (14) in Church, and 8 (9) at the crematorium or cemetery only.

**Average attendance:** 81 adults and 2 children (99 adults and 20 children)

**Christmas:** 142 communicants, 450 attendees (131 communicants, 437 attendees)

**Easter:** 101 communicants, 153 attendees (91 communicants, 131 attendees)

People in our "worshipping community" at the end of 2025:

Total	Children (Age 0-15)	Adults (Age 16+)
181	22	159

## **Review of the Year 2025**

### **THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL**

**Volunteers:**

We would like to thank all the volunteers who work so tirelessly to make our church the lively, welcoming and vibrant community that it is. There are many committees carrying out work in a variety of areas and many parishioners are members of more than one group. Without everybody's contribution we would not be able to keep the church running.

**Church and School Links:**

The links between the Church and NCEA Harry Hotspur C of E Primary School remain strong. The Vicar is an ex-officio governor of the school.

**Communication:**

The Church website is now live and information regarding details of our events and services can be found at [www.stmichaelsalnwick.org.uk](http://www.stmichaelsalnwick.org.uk). The parish magazine, 'Gateway', is normally published every month. In addition St Michael's now has an Operations Manager, Helen Budd, who supports the day to day running of the church.

**DEANERY SYNOD – *Hugh Williams, Alnwick Deanery Lay Chair***

We continue to work within the Diocesan ethos of "Seeking, Sharing, Sending" and Deanery Synod continues to be the principal link between parishes, the Diocese and the Central Church. Parishes are encouraged to elect Deanery Synod reps at their annual APCMs and participate as fully as possible in Deanery discussions and events to maximise the free flow

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of information and opinion throughout the church hierarchy. The Deanery Development Group (DDG), an elected subcommittee, organises Synod meetings and discusses matters relating to Deanery resources, sharing ideas and good practice, interparish cooperation, staffing etc with our Archdeacon as do the other Deaneries in our Diocese. The Area Dean and I would like to see every Parish represented on the DDG and contributing to its decisions. Sharing ideas and good practice has been a feature of Deanery Synod in recent years and this has been helped by the friendly cooperation of the Parish Representatives who attend our meetings.

During 2025 Alnwick Deanery Synod met 3 times. On 25<sup>th</sup> January at Lesbury village hall we had an update on our deanery development plan: we are seeing closer working relationships between our parishes, schools work remains a priority and we are exploring ways to build on the foundations we have; a governance group is looking to streamline processes. Sal Howard from Alnwick parish was elected as a Lay Diocesan Synod member for us. We received a report on 2024's Parish Share contributions. Thanks were given to all parishes who managed to meet their offered amounts. Alnwick Deanery paid 99% of what had been pledged. This Synod took place in the wake of the Makin report on Safeguarding. We await action from General Synod. In Alnwick Deanery we have a great team of PSOs and we noted that the Diocesan team was undergoing major change consequently we were awaiting the new appointments to deal with existing issues including outstanding training sessions.

On 16<sup>th</sup> September Synod convened at St Mary's Longframlington. We welcomed Roger Styring Chair of the Diocesan Advisory Committee (DAC). Roger spoke about the work of the DAC and how it can work with parishes to look at work on church buildings and helping with advice and guidance on the faculty process. He strongly encouraged parishes to talk to the DAC Secretary as early as possible, even before any architect is approached. DAC advice is free. Enjoy the value of the free advice available before any money is spent. Our deanery is committed to sustaining our buildings and there is more and more information and advice becoming available from the Diocese and the wider church. This includes information about the availability of and access to grants. Involvement in Deanery events will help to keep you informed and updated and offers obvious opportunities to benefit from the experiences of other churches in our Deanery.

On 8<sup>th</sup> November Synod met again at St Mary's Longframlington. We discussed "Seeking, Sharing, Sending" and as the year of Sharing is beginning we talked especially about new worshipping communities and nurturing new disciples. We also shared information and ideas about initiatives in our various parishes (some newer than others), including Amble Café Church now in its 10<sup>th</sup> year, Third Thursday in Chevington and Toddly Play in Felton.

*Deanery services*

In addition to Synod meetings we have continued with our monthly Deanery Evensong services which have moved around the Deanery. Generally these services have been quite well attended. Hospitality was offered at most venues and our thanks to those choirs who performed for us. These services will continue in 2026.

*Deanery Environment Group*

It is good to report that this group, convened by rev Gilly Maude continues to promote environmental awareness from global to local level. Meeting largely on Zoom, the group works to encourage initiatives in churches and churchyards, sharing good ideas and good practice, including aspiring to the A Rocha Awards. The group led a Deanery Service which was very well attended, and helps us all keep our minds focussed on the climate crisis, raising awareness and encouraging parishes to do what we can to make local improvements, incorporated into our life together as churches as well as individually.

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*Deanery Development Group (DDG)*

The Deanery Development Group (DDG) which consists of the deanery clergy and lay representatives from across the deanery met regularly to plan for Synod meetings and to discuss the deanery development plan. Archdeacon Catherine Sourbut - Groves and the Diocesan Mission Adviser attended a meeting at mid-year..

The Diocese also organises a number of DDG catch-up days, meeting twice in Morpeth early and late in the year with a celebration Eucharist at the Cathedral in July. DDG members from every Deanery in the Diocese, our Archdeacons and other members of the Bishop's senior team meet to discuss wider issues covering deanery matters. In 2025 we had meetings looking at youth work and new worshipping communities. It is inspiring and encouraging to have contributions from parishes sharing good news or new developments in mission.

*Welcomes and Goodbyes*

In July 2025 Amble and Chevington parishes welcomed Rev Rachael Dines as priest in charge. For Amble this came after 18 months of vacancy, Chevington's vacancy was a "little" (considerably) longer, but both parishes are happy to have Rachael with them and are working together even more closely. We also welcomed Rev Fran Bell who is serving her curacy in Alnwick parish.

At the end of 2025 we had to say farewell to Rev Nathanael Hayler as he completed his curacy in the Coastland parishes and moved on to become Rector of parishes in the Diocese of Chichester. We wish him well and pray that he will be blessed in this new phase of his ministry.

We also thanked Jo Chillingworth for her time as our Deanery Finance Officer.

The Upper Coquetdale Parish remains vacant still. Advertisements continue with an improved parish profile.

We are yet to appoint a new Deanery Finance Officer. This is a small but important job. It is largely a liaison role ensuring the transfer of financial information between parishes, deanery and staff at Church House. If you are interested or know of someone who might be suitable for the role please contact me or the Area Dean for an informal chat.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to thank everybody who has helped to make Deanery events a success this year. It seems harder each year to find people who are prepared and able to take on roles of function and responsibility at parish level and the levels above. Many volunteers are now wearing several hats and consequently have various functions to perform and meetings to attend. Incidentally, if you can't attend a meeting ask someone to attend on your behalf. It's the sensible way to keep the information flowing. Your church and the Church generally cannot function or do the good that it does without you. Your contribution is valued.

**SAFEGUARDING – Patty Everitt, Parish Safeguarding Officer (PSO)**

**Introduction**

This year we have averaged over 90% compliance on the Parish Dashboard. This excellent result has been due to the responsiveness of both volunteers and the PCC for activities such as updating safeguarding training, reviewing policies and procedures, and reviewing risk assessments for our outreach groups.

Over the May Bank Holiday 2025, there was a breach of data from the DBS Administration Service used by Newcastle Diocese for processing DBS applications. The breach was the illegal access and copying of personal data of people applying for a DBS certificate. People were affected in all the Dioceses that used that Service company. Within the Newcastle Diocese this included people at St Michael's and others in our Deanery. This has been

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deeply distressing for all affected. The national church has paid for a credit monitoring service to cover those affected by the breach.

**The House of Bishops' Safeguarding Policy**

The PCC continues to support our commitment to the House of Bishops' Safeguarding Policy and Practice Guidance. You will find a copy of the Policy on the Safeguarding Notice Board at the back of the church.

**The Parish Dashboard**

As a Parish, we continue to keep up-to-date in our compliance to written safeguarding standards with the help and guidance of the Parish Safeguarding Dashboard. Each year the PCC reviews existing policies and procedures to make sure that these are as effective as possible. I am using the Safeguarding Hub (introduced in 2024). This notifies me when safeguarding training or DBS certificates need to be renewed and therefore helps to keep St Michael's compliant with the standards set by the Church of England.

**Safeguarding Training**

The safeguarding training requirements for different roles within a church are regularly reviewed by the Church of England. Over 2026 I will be updating volunteers if additional training has been identified for their role.

Safeguarding training is always available online through the Church of England Safeguarding Training Portal. Courses are available to anyone who is interested and on completion of the course, a personal certificate is issued. I have included the link to the Portal at the end of this report.

Training is often a richer and more fun experience when taken as part of a group and I offer this option for those who would prefer it. The Training Officer of the Diocesan Safeguarding Team, John Hulse, is also keen to deliver safeguarding training at churches across the Diocese, because this gives him the opportunity to get to know what's happening with volunteers, Parish Safeguarding Officers, and members of PCCs, amongst others.

**Safeguarding Handbooks, Guidance, Policies and Procedures**

The Church of England has withdrawn the printed version of the Parish Safeguarding Handbook and replaced it with an electronic version (e-version). The e-version can be accessed by anyone who is interested, from the Church of England Website. Copies of our safeguarding policies and procedures are in the blue folder near the pigeon-holes at the back of the church. I have removed the printed version of the Parish Safeguarding Handbook from the blue folder.

**My Thanks**

Again, I thank all our volunteers for their steadfast commitment to safeguarding in all they do on our behalf

**Questions?**

If you have any questions or concerns about what safeguarding is or how to access training or what volunteering in any capacity would mean, please talk to me. I would be delighted to have a chat.

If you would like to find out more about any of the Church Officer roles or about being a Church Officer, again please talk to me.

***Any questions you may have do not commit you to taking up a role!***

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**CHURCH WARDENS REPORT INCLUDING FABRIC – *Sal Howard and Patty Everitt***

**Safeguarding Training**

Both Sal and Patty are up-to-date with the required safeguarding training and both have attended the Churchwarden training sessions held at St Aidan's in Morpeth.

**Altar Frontal Chest**

A new Altar Frontal Chest, fashioned in light oak, has been installed in the South Aisle near to the Duke's Door.

The beautiful Chest has been donated by Val Hawker in memory of her husband, William Hedley Callaghan, Reader and long-standing member of this congregation.

**General continuing maintenance of Church and Parish Hall buildings**

Regular maintenance and testing carried out in 2025:

- Electrical Testing - Church
- Emergency Lighting Testing - Parish Hall
- Fire Extinguisher Testing - Church
- Gas Safe Boiler Testing - Church
- Lightning Conductor Testing – Church
- PAT Testing – Church

Additional surveys and reports completed in 2025:

- Asbestos Survey in the Church and Parish Hall
- Fire Risk Assessments – work is going on to prioritise and then complete remedial work.

Some remedial work to the most uneven parts of the church paths was carried out.

**Operations Manager appointment**

In November 2025 we appointed Helen Budd as our new Operations Manager in time for the Christmas Tree Festival.

Helen manages our regular maintenance contracts and prioritises and appoints suitable contractors to complete the remedial work identified in the Fire Risk Assessment and Quinquennial Reports. In addition, she is identifying and responding to problems with the fabric of the building as they are discovered.

**Parish Hall**

"Change of Use" to remove the residential status of the flat in the Parish Hall is being progressed.

**Terrier and Log Book**

Work on the Terrier and Log Book for the Church has been started, but is not yet complete. The Terrier is a record, including photographs, of church fabric, furnishings, monuments, church plate and vestments, windows and more.

The Log Book is a record of work carried out on the church including regular maintenance and the completion of remedial work identified in Quinquennial Reports.

An audit of the Terrier and Log Book was carried out by the Area Dean in November. It was noted that we are working to complete these documents.

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**TOWER – Jim Crowther**

**BELFRY and RINGING ROOM**

Once again, very little to report on this front because there has been no change or deterioration to the internal belfry or ringing room fabric.

The belfry louvres are deliberately sound insulated to facilitate frequent bellringing and tuition with minimal noise impact on the local neighbourhood. The louvres are opened for service ringing and special occasions,

However, a fortunate by-product of the sound control system is that it prevents the ingress of birds, autumn leaves and bad weather, and this, in turn, ensures that the bells, their fittings and the steel framework will remain in good order without the need for any heavy maintenance costs for decades. The bells and their fittings are regularly inspected by the bellringers.

The steps of the spiral staircase leading up the tower, being medieval, are very badly worn and will need to be repaired in the near future.

**RINGING FOR SERVICES**

Will always be a natural priority. During 2025 bells on Sunday morning and ringing for ad hoc occasions and services has been fully maintained by the local ringers. 2025 has additionally seen an increase in requests for the bells for weddings.

**LOCAL RINGERS**

The current local band comprises members of the congregation who have been taught how to ring along with a number of "recycled ringers" (ringers who learnt to ring at other towers in the past who have since moved to Alnwick and returned to bellringing).

The band is now a substantial social group of adults supported by a number of experienced ringers who regularly travel Northumberland to support Alnwick ringing.

Equally, many Alnwick ringers regularly support other local towers, namely Rothbury and Bamburgh.

In Victorian times, bells were badly hung on plain bearings and they were hard physical work, consequently bellringing was male dominated. Bells are now much easier to ring and the Alnwick band now comprises more females than males, the youngest now aged 12 and the oldest 86.

There are some 23 churches with a Peal of bells in the Newcastle Diocese. St. Michael's now has the largest band of bellringers within the Diocese.

Our thanks are due to Patty Everitt, who, along with John Hulse has helped with safeguarding / bellringing protocol during 2025.

**TUTORS**

Good tutors/tuition is key to maintaining high bellringing standards at Alnwick.

We have been very fortunate at St. Michael's and acquired another 2 experienced bellringers who have tutoring skills and moved into Alnwick during 2025. Most towers have 1 or 2 experienced tutors; Alnwick is now blessed with 6.

**RINGING TIMES**

Unchanged. Ringing after Sunday Morning Service, general practice on Wednesday afternoon and evening, plus Saturday afternoons and other ad hoc times. Members of the congregation, their family/children and friends are particularly encouraged to visit the belfry and see bellringing in action, why not have a look? Just ask Jean Darby.

**THE FUTURE**

The installation of the 10 bells in 2021 and the subsequent development of a very successful band of local ringers and visitors has not gone unnoticed in other churches in the Diocese. The Alnwick installation has become a Northumbrian Flagship and is now being used to create the same elsewhere, currently at All Saints, Rothbury and St. Gabriel's Heaton.



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A video of the Alnwick project using Alnwick bells/ringers has recently been made for St. Gabriel's and has since been loaded onto their website. It has already attracted 10 bell donors within 2 months of launching.....have a look!

**SOUTH AISLE EXHIBITION – Jean Darby, Project coordinator**

The final designs for the interpretation of the graffiti were completed and a faculty was approved. Titled 'Leaving Their Mark' the exhibition contains several components sympathetically designed to complement the existing cabinet and the church logo. At Michaelmas an event marking the opening of the exhibition was well received by members of the community and the following day by many visitors on Heritage Open Day. The exhibition has proved popular with visitors, especially the synthetic tiles on the A frame 'roof'. We are grateful to Jo Scott for her guidance regarding the interpretation of the graffiti and to Marcus Byron for his graphic design.

**PASTORAL CARE TEAM – Jean Sawyer**

The members of the Pastoral Care Team meet regularly (approx quarterly) to discuss the most appropriate ways of enabling members of our church community who are, for a variety of reasons, unable to attend services in person, to receive communion and/or feel that their spiritual needs are fulfilled.

The general pattern of the agenda reflects the nature of the support delivered by team members. This includes -

- An update on those individuals being visited at home or in residential settings and how we might meet the needs of any new referrals.
- Feedback from communion services being offered in care homes or independent/assisted living. We currently visit Hillcrest, Summerhill, Abbeyfield, Percy Court, Castle View and Beechtree House. Numbers attending vary in each establishment but can be between 5 and 20. Not all communicants are connected to St Michael's Church, or indeed Anglican but the policy is "All are welcome".
- A monthly worship service is led at Abbeyfield by the team put together and led by Rev Sue Allen.
- Safeguarding and related issues are always items on the agenda to allow for any concerns to be raised.
- We have established links with those who have similar roles from other denominations in Alnwick so that there is good communication and cooperation with dates etc. In addition to the sharing and development of good practice there is recognition of the work in which we are all engaged.

We are currently stretched with regards to being able to offer this service to more members of our congregation. Should anyone feel this is something in which they feel a calling to be involved please speak with Sue Allen or Jean Sawyer.

**MISSION ACTION PLANNING (MAP) WORKING GROUP – Christian Mitchell**

Following the establishment of a Mission Action Plan Working Group in 2024, the group met at regular intervals throughout 2025 to develop a vision for the future mission of St Michael's Church. Over the year, the group gradually expanded to include additional members and support from the Diocese. In particular, the involvement of the Diocesan Mission Accompanier, Alice Ward, helped provide structure and focus to the process.

A key stage in this work was the Parish Vision Workshop held on 4<sup>th</sup> October 2025, led by the Bishop of Berwick. Around 35 members of the church family attended, representing a wide range of ages, backgrounds, and lengths of involvement in the church.

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At the workshop, participants reflected together on three simple questions:

1. How are we already witnessing to God's love?
2. What makes St Michael's distinctive?
3. What might God be calling St Michael's to become?

People shared ideas, hopes, and experiences in small groups. All responses were gathered and carefully reviewed by the Working Party. From this, a number of strong and recurring themes emerged. These were grouped into three key areas as shown in the attached Venn diagram:

- All are welcome
- Reinvigorated worship
- Community – in and out

These three themes were prayerfully explored and developed into a single, coherent vision for the parish:

Rooted in Christ, we seek to be a church where:  
**Radical Welcome** means all can belong and be accepted just as we are;  
**Inspiring Worship** enables our faith to grow and be nurtured with joy;  
and **Intentional Service** shapes how we share the hope and love of God within the wider community.

This vision expresses both who we believe we are now and who we sense God is calling us to become.

Each of the three strands was then developed in more detail to form a draft Mission Action Plan, intended to provide a clear and shared sense of direction for the life of the church; a tool for PCC decision-making, helping to prioritise what matters most; and a living document, which will be reviewed and adapted over time. It is not intended to be a fixed or final plan. Rather, it is something we will continue to test, refine, and grow into as we seek to follow God's leading together.

#### **MESSY CHURCH – Jane Brown**

Messy Church continues to be well attended with many families choosing to prioritise Messy Church each month. We meet every third Saturday from 11 till 12.30 except for July and August when the team have a break. We have 17 children coming on average (since September 2025) and approximately 13 parents/carers and have a team of 10 who help on the day and 2 volunteers who provide food. We are grateful for the support and help of our volunteers who make our Messy Church an enjoyable session each month.

#### **MINI MICHAEL'S – Pat Tweed**

We continue to meet in term time, although because of weather ( snow ) and temperature (church heating) we had to cancel some of our sessions . This has now been resolved and we are back on track.

Our numbers remain steady and we have over the past few weeks had quite a few new babies which is very exciting for us.

The group is a lovely part of our week and to watch our Minis joining in with songs and activities brings us all great joy. Please continue to pray for the children and the helpers who come along each week to this very special group.

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**THE MOTHERS' UNION – Anne Cooke**

We are now a group of 14 ladies together with our vicar Mitch. This year we have been trying to make MU more visible at St. Michael's. We have taken an active part in some of the Wednesday morning services and hope to continue this after Easter. At Christmas we had a tree in the Christmas tree festival with decorations made by some of our members. In July we enjoyed a tea party kindly hosted by Sue Wiltshire in her beautiful garden. At this event we donated a lovely collection of items for Baby Basics. This year sees the 150th anniversary of Mothers' Union and we are hoping to attend a celebratory service at the cathedral in July.

**ECO CHURCH – Elizabeth Bland**

St Michael's Eco Church Group met six times during 2025. We have continued to gather information for the Silver Eco Church award, which has proved to be complex and time-consuming. Many Anglican churches are engaged in the same process, partly because of the commitment by the national Church of England to achieve Net Zero by 2030; but also out of a sense that Christ came to redeem the whole of God's creation, not just human beings; and that God desires the healing of all creation. Sue Wiltshire regularly contributes articles to the Parish Magazine and the pew sheet, giving advice, information and suggestions for how people can reduce their carbon footprint and live more sustainably. St Michael's has continued to be represented on the Alnwick Deanery Environmental Group and was involved in planning and leading the Deanery Evening Service at St Mary's Low Newton in September. All three members of the Eco Church Group attended the Carbon Literacy training course which was led by Revd Tim Mayfield, the Diocesan Environmental Advisor. We were delighted by the support from the congregation for the "alternative Christmas card" initiative, whereby members of the congregation chose to make a donation to Oxfam rather than giving individual Christmas cards to other members of the congregation. Approximately twenty households took part about £160 was raised for Oxfam. The Oxfam gift cards made a striking and colourful Christmas display. We were very pleased to receive backing from the PCC to explore the possibility of installing solar panels on the flat roof above the South Aisle. We hope to make significant progress with this during 2026, alongside continuing to work towards the Silver Eco Church Award.

**CHRISTIANS TOGETHER IN ALNWICK (CTiA) – Sue Wiltshire**

Chair Person	Sue Smith (Alnwick Baptist Church)
Vice Chair	Gill Lyons (Alnwick Baptist Church)
Secretary	Jean Barr (St James's Church)
Treasurer	John Knight (St Paul's)

**Growth!**

**Ignite**

Under the inspired and enthusiastic hand of Rachel Adkins, the work of Ignite has continued to flourish. ALL the schools who feed into the Duchess's High School are now being visited; workshops, prayer spaces and Bible stories are taking place. In addition, Rachel has created an exhibition to mark the 500<sup>th</sup> year anniversary of the first complete printing of William Tyndale's New Testament. This has been enthusiastically received by schools. Pupils in their final year of primary level education are supported by an Ignite program as they transition to the High School. The youth group 'Rooted' is also growing in numbers. They meet to learn about God, have fun together and establish relationships with both adults and peers. These real, one to one friendships are so very important at this time of social media causing harm for many young people. Prayers have been answered for both a new

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treasurer and new trustees but a youth leader for the older children is still a current, urgent need.

**Working Together**

The churches in Alnwick have come together, as in previous years, to organise the 'Good Friday Act of Witness' in the Market Place, Christian Aid Week in May and the 'Service of Remembrance' in November. At Christmas, many businesses in the town were glad to receive a crib scene for their window and the streets were once again blessed with angels and bells, all crafted by folks from our community of worshippers.

St Paul's church held a fund raising event to support St James's church in Shilbottle who have been experiencing problems with their heating system. A joint 'Alpha Course', (St Michael's and ABC), saw a growing faith in those who attended while the 'Week of Christian Unity' and Lent Lunches have provided the opportunity once again to be with friends from other denominations.

The twice monthly coffee mornings at St James's Centre continue to be a popular meeting place for many people, both for folks who routinely go to church and many others who enjoy the company and a 'Thought for the day.'

People of the town and surrounding district find welcome and support through the work of the Food Bank where volunteers from several churches offer their time to help. This same longing to give aid where it is needed is also found in the Ukraine Support Group who continue to meet regularly to provide solutions to difficulties which the Ukrainian people may be encountering. Thankfully most of them are now well settled, have jobs and their children are happy in local schools.

Bob and Mary Bain, working for the charity 'Welcome Network' in Shilbottle, hold events and worship opportunities to bring their local community together.

Ill health resulted in our friends from the Salvation Army, Jim and Alison Anderson leaving the area and taking early retirement; sadly their place has not been filled. The care, teaching and hospitality they offered their congregation, and others, is a huge loss. May God bless and keep them through the years ahead.

It continues to be both a delight and encouragement to meet with Christian friends at various activities and services through the year. Perhaps it is easy to underestimate, or even to be hardly aware of, how affirming and encouraging these connections are. As leaders from all churches are reporting an increase in numbers it does seem likely that this will continue for the foreseeable future.

**ST MICHAEL'S SINGERS – *Linden Innes-Hopkins***

The end of 2025 saw our 'in-house' group of singers augmented on two significant occasions by friends from the wider community. Ties between the St Michael's and the town can be strengthened through choral music in that singers who do not attend the church regularly for worship are welcomed here to sing God's praises.

In September, to mark the retirement from his role as a Reader, there was a Choral Evensong at which John Cooke was thanked for his many years of service. On this occasion the choir numbers were swelled by singers from as far away as Stanington and Corbridge as well as several from the Alnwick and District Choral Society. The format of the event was a two hour 'workshop' rehearsal at 2.00pm led by Linden Innes-Hopkins followed by a tea break with tea and cakes wonderfully provided by Pat Taylor and her team. Thank you to them. The service music included the Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in B flat by Stanford and the anthem was Verleih uns Frieden by Mendelssohn which everyone managed splendidly in the original German! The feedback was that the whole occasion had been enjoyed by the singers and I might tentatively suggest that, at some point, a similar thing might be arranged.

**Parochial Church Council of St Michael and St Paul, Alnwick**  
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The biggest service of the year for choirs everywhere, from our great cathedrals to the tiniest village churches, is the Carol Service (Carols by Candlelight). Practices for this at St Michael's were spread over several weeks from mid-November with singers attending as many as they were able to within their individual restrictions: being out of the country, visiting family, pantomime rehearsals, and so on. With a judicious mix of the already-known and new choir carols, the group of 19 singers (again, with much appreciated additions from townsfolk) delivered a marvellous service on 21 December. The repertoire included pieces by R R Terry (born in Ellington, just down the road) and Malcolm Archer. The Junior Choir also took part, joining in with several of the traditional carols as well as singing Star Carol by John Rutter on their own.

I am given to understand that one of the reasons for naming the group 'St Michael's Singers' rather than 'the choir' is, first, that it does not practice regularly, but only gets together for particular services and, furthermore – as referenced above – often includes among its ranks singers from beyond the church community. Enabling a somewhat disparate group to develop and retain some kind of cohesive identity is important.

With much sadness, Colette Boushell decided early in 2026 to step down from her role as Junior Choir Leader due to family pressures. We thank her for the service she offered and thank the children for their participation. It is hoped that, at some point in the future, it will be possible to find a way of involving young singers regularly in our worship at St Michael's, offering them a 'free at the point of delivery' musical education within a professionally led framework.

January also saw the pipe organ develop a significant fault which rendered it unusable. The decision was taken, after considerable discussion of the options, to hire a digital organ for a limited period only, giving the PCC time to explore more fully possible ways forward for securing a viable instrument for the long-term future. Thanks are due to Rev Philip Bourne for helping us to acquire a suitable interim instrument through his connections with Allen Organs. For the moment, the digital organ is being used for Sunday morning services. We continue to be grateful to the team of musicians who, with their skill and dedication, enhance the worship at St Michael's. Philip Bourne, Colin Perkins, Linden Innes-Hopkins and – new to the team and very welcome – Michael Danes. During Lent this year, it has been possible to have an anthem during the distribution of communion on a number of Sundays. It is the singers' willingness to attend practices and to undertake some home-learning that makes this addition to the music possible, and we thank them.

**SOCIAL EVENTS – Susan O'Neill**

A small group of individuals has been continuing to try to facilitate social gatherings for St Michael's family, at intervals throughout the past year. The primary intention is to have fun together as church family, and cover the costs, but not as a fundraiser for church. This has led to a small current profit providing a kitty, held by our church treasurer, to contribute to funding further events.

The organised events includes some Sunday family walks together.

A family treasure hunt around Alnwick was created in May, where each family or team was given a list of instructions and clues to follow to seek the specific item or information and find each "piece of treasure" about our town. Shared lunch was provided and enjoyed by all participants and a box full of treasures (edible) for the team that solved the most clues in the quickest time was donated.

In the autumn another quiz night to exercise our memories and challenge our brains, for fun, with shared supper to satisfy our appetites, was enjoyed.

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To celebrate Burns night a supper and Ceilidh was organised in January. Complete with real Scottish haggis piped in to the gathered St Michael's clan and celebrated with a reading and interpretation of Burns own poem, Ode to the Haggis. This was then shared among the clan with neeps and tatties (and a wee nip o' whisky for those who wished) followed by a choice of cranachan, the traditional dessert, and other sweet offerings. Music was provided by a local group of musicians including Northumbrian pipers, and a caller encouraged those with energy to spare to take to the floor and try their feet at various traditional Scottish dances.

A lot of time and effort has been given to provide these social gatherings by a very small group who would warmly encourage and welcome others to join in, with help and ideas, to continue to be able to enjoy more events in the future.

**FINANCIAL REVIEW** - *Richard Dale, PCC Treasurer*

The 2025 financial position was less eventful than 2024 when we saw some very large legacies come to the church. Our balance sheet is strong as we set plans for the future but day to day finances have been and remain challenging.

The General Fund recorded a deficit of £3,265 in 2025 reducing the balance from £6,923 to £3,658. We had expected a deficit due to additional costs following the very welcome arrival of our Curate and losses in operating the Parish Hall (£2,655) as we started to clear the backlog of maintenance. The result was actually better than we had feared reflecting some strong income growth.

Regular giving increased by 5% in the year which is the first year we have seen an increase for some time following the Week of Renewal in 2024. Collections at services increased by 24% due mainly to increased numbers of weddings. The higher number of funerals and weddings also impacted the fees charged for those services which were up 59% on the previous year.

Fundraising income increased from £10,066 in 2024 to £14,770 in 2025, thanks to the enormously successful Christmas Tree Festival. There was an increase in the associated costs, but the events produced a significant surplus which helped us to address the loss of income in other areas of our activity. Parish Hall income was down 18% on the previous year with a 16% growth in usage more than offset by loss of rental income for the caretaker's flat.

Our Parish Share in 2025 was £81,000, 8% higher than the previous year as the Diocese started to make good the very significant deficits it had experienced in recent years.

General Fund Church running expenses increased by 11% in the year due to increased costs following the arrival of our Curate and higher electricity usage during the year. The impact on the increase in electricity usage will be offset in 2026 by lower prices following our most recent contract renewal. Total Church running expenses also increased significantly due to a number of projects and Fabric Fund financed repairs during the year.

Charitable giving was resumed in 2025 with two specific donations from PCC funds. We donated £3,000 to Hospicecare North Northumberland as a share of the proceeds from the Christmas Tree Festival and £420 to the Children's Society after our Christingle service. There were also some specific collections for adopted charities which are not recorded in these accounts. The previous practice of donating 10% of our regular giving remains suspended in light of the challenges we face on General Fund finances. Our reserves policy allows for us to reinstate this giving if we record surpluses in future years.

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Our balance sheet is strong, following the significant legacies received in 2024. Most of these legacies were added to our development fund for the future (which may in time include a pump priming donation to a potential Friends of St Michael's) although some were retained for shorter term projects. Important though these large legacies are, we need to treat them as one-off income for future development rather than being used to prop up the General Fund, where our day to day giving and fundraising needs to be sufficient to meet our day-to-day operating expenses.

Looking ahead, the financial position remains challenging. Although we have reasonable legacy and restricted funds to allow the church to develop, the general fund position is difficult and we know that substantial expenditure on our organ will be needed sooner rather than later. Our Parish Share offer for 2026 was £81,000, unchanged from 2025 and significantly less than the Diocese would have wished us to offer. The Parish Operations Manager, which has proved to be a critically important appointment, is currently funded from interest on legacy funds but this will start to decline with interest rate reductions and as the legacy funds are used for major developments. We believe that this post can become, at least in part, self-funded as we exploit the opportunity presented by the Parish Hall.

In August 2024, the PCC set a reserves policy for its General Fund to aim for a target reserve of at least:

- Three months budgeted fixed cost liability (excluding the Parish Share which is a "debt of honour") plus
- One month's budgeted variable expenditure

On current trends, this sets a target General Reserve level of £7,700 so, with a year-end balance of £3,658, we are currently £4,042 short of our target position.

As ever, I am grateful to my Standing Committee colleagues and, more recently the Parish Operations Manager, for their support to me through the year. I also want to thank our small band of counters who turn up every Monday morning to count the week's cash and George Clark for his careful examination of the accounts. We are grateful to the many individuals and organisations who have continued to support us through this period. This will be my final year as PCC Treasurer, and I wish all the best to my successor.

## **Independent Examiner's Report**

**To the Parochial Church Council (PCC) of St Michael and St Paul, Alnwick**

This report on the attached financial statements of the PCC of St Michael and St Paul for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2025 is in respect of an examination carried out in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 (the Regulations) and section 43 of the Charities Act 1993 (the Act).

### **Respective Responsibilities of the PCC and the Examiner**

As members of the PCC, you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements: you consider that the audit requirement under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 does not apply and that an independent examination is needed.

### **Basis of this report**

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 43(7) of the Act and to be found in the Church guidance, 2006 edition. That examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the PCC and a comparison of the accounts with those records. It also includes considering any unusual items or disclosures in the financial statements and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

### **Independent Examiners Statement**

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention: -


1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
  - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 41 of the Act, and
  - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Act.

have not been met;

2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

**George Clark FCPFA**  
Independent Examiner

February 2026

  
27/2/26



**Parochial Church Council of St Michael and St Paul, Alnwick**  
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**Statement of Financial Activities**  
**For the period 1st January to 31st December 2025**

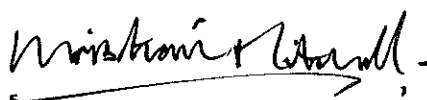
	Note	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total Funds	2024
<b>Incoming Resources</b>						
<b>Incoming resources from generated funds</b>						
Voluntary income	2	108,325	10,634	0	118,959	656,105
Fundraising	3	33,081	0	0	33,081	30,840
Income from investments		22,349	3,869	0	26,218	23,414
<b>Incoming resources from charitable activities</b>						
Church activities	4	8,055	0	0	8,055	5,055
Other incoming resources		790	0	0	790	239
<b>Total Incoming Resources</b>		<b>172,600</b>	<b>14,503</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>187,103</b>	<b>714,653</b>
<b>Resources used</b>						
<b>Cost of generating funds</b>						
Cost of generating voluntary income	5	5,049	115	0	5,164	2,948
Fundraising costs	6	18,007	1,244	0	19,251	16,120
<b>Church activities</b>						
Parish Share		81,000	0	0	81,000	75,000
Church running expenses	7	51,831	28,555	0	80,383	55,454
Charitable giving	8	3,420	0	0	3,420	0
Governance costs	9	780	0	0	780	917
<b>Total Resources Used</b>		<b>160,087</b>	<b>29,914</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>190,001</b>	<b>150,439</b>
<b>Transfers between funds</b>		<b>(8,284)</b>	<b>8,284</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Net Incoming/Outgoing Resources</b>		<b>4,229</b>	<b>(7,127)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>(2,898)</b>	<b>565,214</b>
<b>Balances Brought Forward</b>		<b>519,579</b>	<b>183,506</b>	<b>51,350</b>	<b>754,435</b>	<b>189,221</b>
<b>Balances Carried Forward</b>						
General Funds		3,658	0		3,658	6,923
Designated Funds		520,150	0		520,150	512,656
Restricted Funds		0	176,379	51,350	227,729	234,856
<b>Total</b>		<b>523,808</b>	<b>176,379</b>	<b>51,350</b>	<b>751,537</b>	<b>754,435</b>

**Parochial Church Council of St Michael and St Paul, Alnwick**  
**Annual Report and Financial Statements for year ended 31st December 2025**

**Balance Sheet as at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2025**

	Note	2025 £	2024 £
<b>Fixed Assets</b>			
Tangible assets	10	145,981	150,263
Forster Bequest Capital		40,640	40,640
		<b>186,621</b>	<b>190,903</b>
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Barclays Community Account		2,682	1,729
Barclays Business Premium Account		36,233	50,532
Cash in hand		114	0
CBF Fabric Capital account		10,710	10,710
CBF Fabric Income account		543,818	518,201
Accounts receivable (Debtors)	11	11,722	4,288
		<b>605,279</b>	<b>585,460</b>
Accounts payable (Creditors)	12	40,363	21,928
<b>Total assets</b>		<b>751,537</b>	<b>754,435</b>
<b>Represented by</b>			
Balance at 1st January 2025		754,435	189,221
Surplus/(Deficit) for year		(2,898)	565,214
Balance at 31st December 2025		<b>751,537</b>	<b>754,435</b>
<b>Distribution of total equity by funds</b>			
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
General Fund	3,658		6,923
Designated Funds	<b>520,150</b>		<b>512,656</b>
		<b>523,808</b>	
<b>Restricted funds</b>			
Fabric Fund	32,269		35,114
Parish Hall Fund	4,348		5,592
Church Tower Fund	139,762		142,800
		<b>176,379</b>	<b>183,506</b>
<b>Endowment funds</b>			
Forster Bequest	40,640		40,640
D E Reavell Fund	10,000		10,000
A Hogg Fund	710		710
		<b>51,350</b>	<b>51,350</b>
		<b>751,537</b>	<b>754,435</b>

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 24 March 2026 and signed on its behalf by:



**Revd Christian Mitchell**  
Chair



**Richard Dale**  
PCC Treasurer

## Notes to the financial statements For the year ended 31st December 2025

### 1 Accounting policies

#### 1.1 General

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting regulations 2006 together with applicable accounting standards and the Statement of Recommended Practice Accounting and Reporting by Charities (SORP) 2005.

The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention. The financial statements include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible in law. They do not include the accounts of church groups that owe their main affiliation to another body (e.g. the Mothers' Union), nor those that are informal gatherings of church members.

#### 1.2 Funds

**Endowment funds** are funds, the capital of which must be retained either permanently or at the PCC's discretion; the income derived from the endowment is to be used either as restricted or unrestricted funds depending on the purpose for which the endowment was established in the first place.

The parish's endowment funds consist of:

- The Forster Bequest. The capital for this fund is held by The Newcastle Diocesan Society and is invested in The Investment Fund of the Central Board of Finance of the Church of England. The book cost is as shown on the Balance Sheet (£40,640) and its market value at 31st December 2025 was £92,994 (2024: £90,914).
- The Fabric Capital Fund (CBF 625063004D). This consists of the D E Reavell Fund (£10,000) and the Alan Hogg Fund (£710).

The income from all these funds is paid into The Fabric Income Account (CBF 625063003D) which is a **Restricted fund** (see below) and is only available towards the maintenance and repair of the fabric of St Michael's Church, Alnwick as the Vicar and churchwardens in their absolute discretion think fit. This was laid down by those who gave the endowments.

**Restricted funds** represent (a) income from trusts or endowments which may be expended only on those restricted purposes intended by the donor, and (b) revenue donations or grants for a specific PCC activity intended by the donor. Where these funds have unspent balances, interest on their pooled investment is apportioned to the individual funds on an average balance basis.

**Unrestricted funds** are income funds which are to be spent on the PCC's general purposes.

**Designated Funds** are **unrestricted** funds set aside by the PCC for a specific purpose. They may be "undesignated" by the PCC at any time.

**Parochial Church Council of St Michael and St Paul, Alnwick**  
**Annual Report and Financial Statements for year ended 31st December 2025**

**1.3 Receipts**

Planned giving, collections and donations are recognised when received. Tax refunds are recognised when the incoming resource to which they relate is received. Grants and legacies are accounted for when the PCC is entitled to the use of the resource, their ultimate receipt is considered reasonably certain and the amounts due are reliably quantifiable.

Dividends are accounted for when declared receivable, and interest as and when accrued by the payer. All incoming resources are accounted for Gross.

**1.4 Payments**

Grants and donations are accounted for when paid over, or when awarded if that award creates a binding or constructive obligation on the PCC. The diocesan parish share is accounted for as and when (and if) it is paid. All other expenditure is generally recognised when it is incurred and is accounted for gross.

**1.5 Fixed assets**

Consecrated and benefice property is not included in the accounts in accordance with sections 10(2)(a) and (c) of the Charities Act 2011.

Moveable church furnishings held by the vicar and churchwardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal are inalienable property listed in the church's inventory which can be inspected at any reasonable time.

Office equipment and similar items used within the church premises are written off when the asset is acquired.

Capitalised assets are stated at cost and depreciated over their expected useful life as follows:

Parish Hall boiler	10 years
Church bells	50 years

Investments are valued at historical cost with a note of the value at 31st December if available.

**1.6 Current assets and liabilities**

Amounts owed to the PCC on 31st December are shown as "Accounts Receivable" commonly referred to as Debtors. Amounts owed by the PCC on 31st December are shown as "Accounts Payable" and are commonly known as Creditors.

Short term deposits are held either at Barclays or with the Central Board of Finance of the Church of England.

**1.7 Staff costs**

During the year the PCC employed an Operations Manager and paid fees and expenses to two organists. None of these persons are members of the PCC.

Fees were also paid to organists and vergers in respect of Occasional Offices (funerals, weddings etc) but these amounts do not form part of these financial statements.

**Parochial Church Council of St Michael and St Paul, Alnwick**  
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**2 Voluntary income**

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds	2024
Regular giving				
Gift Aid	34,212	0	34,212	41,970
Non Gift Aid	400	0	400	1,955
Parish Giving Scheme	32,488	0	32,488	19,808
Income tax recovered	21,343	0	21,343	20,106
Sub-total	<b>88,443</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>88,443</b>	<b>83,839</b>
Collections				
Regular services	3,440	0	3,440	3,425
Occasional services	2,413	0	2,413	1,306
Sub-total	<b>5,853</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5,853</b>	<b>4,731</b>
Legacies	0	0	0	560,000
Donations and grants	14,029	10,634	24,663	7,535
<b>Total</b>	<b>108,325</b>	<b>10,634</b>	<b>118,959</b>	<b>656,105</b>

**3 Fundraising**

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds	2024
Fundraising activities				
Christmas Tree Festival	12,574	0	12,574	7,527
Winter Market	658	0	658	1,083
Organ recital	0	0	0	661
Ceilidh	0	0	0	287
Other events	1,538	0	1,538	508
Sub-total	<b>14,770</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>14,770</b>	<b>10,066</b>
Parish Hall	14,850	0	14,850	18,119
Magazine	860	0	860	1,052
Catering income	366	0	366	272
Other	2,035	0	2,035	1,331
<b>Total</b>	<b>33,081</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>33,081</b>	<b>30,840</b>

**4 Church activities**

This income relates to PCC fees relating to weddings and funerals. During 2025, we collected £3,270 for weddings (2024: £913) and £4,785 (2024: £4,142) for funerals. Fees for clergy, vergers, streaming operators and organists and third-party collections at funerals are handled by the PCC on an agency basis and are excluded from these accounts.

**Parochial Church Council of St Michael and St Paul, Alnwick**  
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**5 Cost of generating voluntary income**

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds	2024
Fundraising expenses	4,921	115	5,036	3,172
Planned giving expenses	128	0	128	130
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,049</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>5,164</b>	<b>3,302</b>

**6 Fundraising costs**

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds	2024
Parish Hall				
Gas, electricity and water	6,648	0	6,648	7,750
Maintenance	3,205	0	3,205	879
Staff costs	1,215	0	1,215	3,500
Depreciation	0	1,244	1,244	1,244
Other expenses	6,437	0	6,437	1,941
Sub-total	<b>17,505</b>	<b>1,244</b>	<b>18,749</b>	<b>15,314</b>
Other	502	0	502	806
<b>Total</b>	<b>18,007</b>	<b>1,244</b>	<b>19,251</b>	<b>16,120</b>

**7 Church running expenses**

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds	2024
Church				
Gas, electricity and water	12,265	0	12,265	11,774
Insurance	7,685	0	7,685	7,516
Repairs and maintenance	5,618	3,587	9,205	5,174
Refurbishment	851	21,920	22,771	7,586
Wine, wafers and candles	1,092	0	1,092	788
Organists	2,895	0	2,895	3,080
Organ maintenance	2,160	0	2,160	1,943
Worship	3,932	0	3,932	2,082
Depreciation	0	3,035	3,035	3,038
Other costs	627	0	627	276
Sub-total	<b>37,125</b>	<b>28,542</b>	<b>65,667</b>	<b>43,257</b>
Clergy				
Council Tax	5,518	0	5,518	4,105
Expenses and other costs	2,661	0	2,661	2,323
Sub-total	<b>8,179</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>8,179</b>	<b>6,428</b>
Administration				
Photocopier	3,141	0	3,141	2,996
Office supplies etc	2,451	10	2,461	1,815
Telephone and internet	935	0	935	958
Sub-total	<b>6,527</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>6,537</b>	<b>5,769</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>51,831</b>	<b>28,552</b>	<b>80,383</b>	<b>55,454</b>

**Parochial Church Council of St Michael and St Paul, Alnwick**  
**Annual Report and Financial Statements for year ended 31st December 2025**

**8 Charitable giving**

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Giving	2024 from PCC Funds
Hospicecare	3,000	0	3,000	0
Children's Society	420	0	420	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,420</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3,420</b>	<b>0</b>

Special collections, donations and fundraising events which are specifically on behalf of another charity are not included in the accounts.

**9 Governance costs**

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds	2024
Bank charges	415	0	415	505
Independent examination	200	0	200	200
PCC officer expenses	165	0	165	212
<b>Total</b>	<b>780</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>780</b>	<b>917</b>

**10 Tangible fixed assets**

	Church Bells	Parish Hall Boiler	Total Assets
<b>Cost</b>			
Balance at 1 <sup>st</sup> January 2025	151,915	12,438	164,353
Additions	0	0	0
Balance at 31 <sup>st</sup> December 2025	151,915	12,438	164,353
<b>Depreciation</b>			
Balance at 1 <sup>st</sup> January 2025	9,115	4,975	14,090
Charge for year	3,035	1,244	4,279
Balance at 31 <sup>st</sup> December 2025	12,150	6,219	18,369
<b>Net Book Value at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2025</b>	<b>139,765</b>	<b>6,219</b>	<b>145,984</b>

**11 Accounts receivable**

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds	2024
Income tax recoverable	651	0	651	2,788
Electricity refund	443	0	443	550
Parish Hall rental income	1,712	0	1,712	396
Alnwick Educational Charity	7,364	0	7,364	7,364
Other	1,552	0	1,562	554
<b>Total</b>	<b>11,722</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>11,722</b>	<b>4,288</b>

**Parochial Church Council of St Michael and St Paul, Alnwick**  
**Annual Report and Financial Statements for year ended 31st December 2025**

**12 Accounts payable**

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds	2024
Parish share	21,000	0	21,000	0
Utilities	1,413	0	1,413	1,447
Charitable giving	0	17,950	17,950	17,950
Other	0	0	0	2,531
<b>Total</b>	<b>22,413</b>	<b>17,950</b>	<b>40,363</b>	<b>21,928</b>