



2024 Reports for the 2025 APCM of the East Dartford Benefice

*'We strive in our worship and our service to bear witness to the
radical and inclusive love of Jesus Christ'*

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Structure and Policy of our PCC in 2024

During 2024 our staffing was as follows:

Rev Mandy Young, Vicar; Canon Mandy Brown, PTO; Rev Esther Rose, Curate (SSM, part-time); Andrew Carr, Reader; Deborah Westerby, Parish Administrator and St Edmund's centre coordinator and two part time caretakes.

PCC Membership of the East Dartford Benefice in 2024

Rev Mandy Young (Vicar)
Rev Esther Rose (Curate)
Canon Mandy Brown (PTO)
Andrew Carr (Reader/Deanery Synod)
Robert Etheridge (secretary)
Debbie Westerby (Treasurer/Deanery Synod)
Segun Abraham (CW)
Roy Brown (CW)
Lorraine Bathgate (CW/Safeguarding lead)
Alan Jobling (CW)
Ayo Abraham
Adam Boucher
June Dance
Ryan Doyle
Sharon Earl
Cecilia Yardley

The EDB also has various sub-committees and groups that take on specific areas of responsibilities including fund-raising and building groups. Each one reports directly to the PCC which remains responsible for all decisions relating to policy and mission.

Our Policy

Our PCC has the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent in promoting the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. It also has the responsibility of co-operating with the Diocesan Office and its committees as well as its partners (Temple Hill Surgery and KCC Sure Start Children's Centre) for the maintenance of

the St. Edmund's Church Living Well building. The PCC met 5 times during 2024, with one extraordinary meeting. The Standing Committee met when needed.

The Parochial Church Council seeks to promote within the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. All regular church attendees are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC.

The Standing Committee meets when required and has the authorisation to transact business on behalf of the PCC between its meetings subject to any direction given by the PCC.

Vicar's Report

The APCM and its annual reports always relate to the calendar year that is now finished, so what has happened since January 2025 will be covered next year! Writing about what has gone before can be hard so it's a helpful thing to keep your church desk diary and have a study before putting pen to paper or finger to keyboard. Sometimes it's a real surprise and a delight to remember what we did and when we did it, and without the diary we might just forget!

As I write we are now a third of the way through the third year of being a single benefice. In January 2026, we will enter the fourth year. In lots of ways, it's still early days and in other ways it feels like we've travelled a long way together already. However you experience it, we can agree there's still much to learn and discover about the way forward with worship patterns, community engagement and governance. But the task here is to speak about the past and what has gone.

Last year began with something quite special but also quite sad. One of our local councillors, Laura Edie, organised a peace vigil at St Alban's Church. It was a beautiful time for reflection on and care for those who carry the burden of war. It was sad because we needed to hold it, in the light of war in Ukraine and Gaza, and it remains sad because, in April 2025, it feels nothing has changed. Yet perhaps something changed in the hearts and minds of those who were part of that vigil. And therein lies

its value. Before we can change anything in our world, we must be willing to let God challenge and change us.

We continued to build those community relationships that bring hope, stability and a sense of togetherness and being for each other. Councillors like Laura continue to be welcomed into our churches as we support them with their own difficult tasks. Laura has been heavily involved with Porchlight this last year, helping to collect backpacks for rough sleepers. We stored the backpacks in the vicarage garage until later in the year when Porchlight joined us in St Edmund's, and in partnership with DBC, we developed the health outcomes initiative for rough sleepers – offering medical care, a chance to shower and eat well, wash their clothes, as well as hairdressing facilities and a dental service. It's been a wonderful thing to see it and Porchlight clients thrive and get to know us.

That was a wonderful thing for us too, helping with our financial stability. Further progress was made towards that stability with news on the future of the mezzanine floor – no doubt more will be said about that at the APCM!

Local councillors held regular surgeries at both St Alban's and St Edmund's during the year, and our local MP also visited both churches, indeed he opened our (first ever) summer fayre at St Albans in July! Our links with schools also continued – not as often as we might like – but roots are being put down. Rivermill choir came along to St Edmund's, and we also hosted a year one visit for RE. Dartford Primary Academy held their Christmas service in St Alban's and, back at St Edmund's, the Sea Scouts came along to get their faith badge. Brownies and Rainbows continue to meet at St Alban's. I was lucky enough to go with them to the houses of parliament in the summer.

For young and old alike, Esther organised a trip to Margate last summer and we also took our young people bowling in Bexleyheath, and to the newly refurbished gym on the square where the local youth club meet. It was amazing.

Further engagement with children and families came through Messy Church which became a firmly established in 2024, as well as growing numbers at our two toddler groups. After a slow start, the group at St Edmund's is now flourishing and I'm grateful to those who are stepping in and will be taking both groups forward. Never under-estimate the place of toddler groups in mission and outreach!

For the grown-ups, the men's breakfast is now a regular part of the calendar, and last summer we had a sing-a-long which did us the world of good. Andrew's quizzes occurred three times during the year, and raised funds for the church and for charities, including our partner parish, Kikore, in Tanzania. We were delighted when Sue Chalkey visited us to share news about Kikore last September, while, just the week before, we also had a speaker from Christians Against Poverty. More speakers would be lovely but, meanwhile, we have a good variety of preachers which is absolutely great.

Back in the summer, Mandy was licensed as an Anna Chaplaincy at Bishops court, which has enabled us to reflect on our mission to older people and, with June's support, regular visits to our care homes have now been established.

In worship we carried on with the pattern of services put into place at the formation of the new benefice and we continued to see new faces in our churches. We had a wedding blessing at St Alban's and one at St Edmund's and, across the two churches, we conducted 15 baptisms and 20 funerals. Robert began an in-person house group and Scripture Through Art, a house group on zoom, continued.

The PCC reaffirmed their commitment to full inclusion and passed a resolution that we would, as a church, be pleased to welcome gay couples who wished to have their relationship blessed as part of a main service. We look forward to when full inclusion means what it says - and that any faithful gay Christian can make their wedding vows in church.

None of what has been covered in this report – and it really is only the highlights – would be possible without our committed volunteers, including ministers. We held a thank you lunch in the summer and one at Christmas – but that barely touches the sides of the thank you's we owe. Think only of the café – about a year ago, it was stagnant and hardly open at all; now thanks to Debbie, Theresa and other volunteers it is really thriving. That is just one of many things to be grateful for. And we are grateful.

Mandy Young
April 2025

Safeguarding Report

Safeguarding wise, this has been a difficult year. Concerns with members of the communities we live in have impacted the church family as well. We are very lucky that our buildings are well used by our communities, but it does bring situations and worries that are unfortunately not able to be sorted as easily or quickly as we would like. This is beyond the control of us or the Diocese of Rochester, we have to accept that we have to leave it to other authorities to solve.

I am grateful to the Safeguarding Team, Andrew and Debbie for their continued support. I would ask that you continue to keep us in prayer as this work is often not easy. I would especially like to thank Debbie who is the real front line, emersed in all the activities happening especially at St Edmunds. You wouldn't believe the situations that crop up weekly, leaving Debbie to juggle very sensitive situations which she handles so well.

We have processed a number of DBS' over the last year, especially those who are working with our young people. It has been very heartening seeing those willing to step forward to continue the work Rev Mandy Y started, thank you!

We will continue to push congregation members to undertake online Safeguarding courses through the National Church and Diocese. These are open to everyone, congregation members, volunteers and those with specific roles within our parish. We are all responsible for Safeguarding and it is our duty to pass on any concerns that you may have about people or situations. I would ask you to pray about this, should you go through this training, are you doing all that you can to ensure everyone's safety and security? We want our churches to be places of worship, warmth, welcoming but we all need to ensure that safety is paramount.

Thank you.

Lorraine Bathgate
PSO and Lead Recruiter

Deanery Synod Report

There were three Dartford Deanery Synod meetings in 2024-25. I am presently the Secretary and have been for some eleven years.

The first in June 2024 was at St John's Sutton-at-Hone. The Dean at his first meeting in this role challenged the Deanery as to what do we need to do things better within and beyond its boundaries. He encouraged the member churches to offer what they have and be open to receive from and build relationships with other churches inside and outside of the Deanery.

The second in October 2024 was at St Peter's Hextable. The meeting focused on environmental issues and steps taken by each church in adopting eco-friendly practices and initiatives bearing in mind the CofE's stated aim to be Net Zero Carbon by 2030.

The most recent was in February at St John's Meopham. This was a joint Deanery event (Dartford and Cobham) led by Bishop Jonathon. As this replaced the scheduled Deanery meeting at the Bishop's request, formal minutes were not required. The Bishop spoke to a lengthy powerpoint detailing financial and resource matters within the Diocese of Rochester as well as briefly addressing issues in the wider church notably the appointment process for the next Archbishop of Canterbury. Both Pixie and Olly attended and paid attention!

What are Deanery Synods?

They are small geographical divisions of the Diocese concerned (there are 42 Church of England Dioceses – ours is Rochester), within which parishes are grouped under the care of an Area Dean (in Dartford's case Father Dale Batley-Gladden, St Mary's Swanley – the large church opposite ASDA). There are 12 parishes – five of which are subsumed into two Benefices – represented in Dartford Deanery Synod.

What does the Deanery Synod do?

It serves the witness and mission of the wider Church and so needs to be able to take strategic decisions to advance mission and ministry in Dartford Deanery and the Diocese of Rochester. Such decisions can be forwarded to Diocesan Synod for further consideration. We have discussions on a range of issues, welcome guest speakers on particular topics and seek to promote forthcoming spiritual and secular events at the

parishes represented. It is concerned with seeking God's will for the mission of the Church in the Deanery so are Christ-centred, prayerful and open to the Spirit speaking through all and broadly reflects the diversity of all the congregations within the Deanery – in gender, ethnic origin, age, experience etc.

The Benefice representatives on Dartford Deanery Synod are Mandy Brown, Esther Rose, Debbie Westerby, and me.

Dartford Deanery Synods in 2025

Wednesday 18 June – St Michaels Church, Church Hill, Wilmington DA2 7EH

Wednesday 8 October – All Souls Church, Eynsford Road, Crockenhill BR8 8JS (TBC)

Both meetings from 7.30pm for 7.45pm.

Andrew Carr
Reader and Deanery Synod secretary

The Electoral Roll Report

As of May 2025, the Electoral Roll for the East Dartford Benefice — covering both **St Edmund's** and **St Alban's** — stands at **59 members**. This figure reflects those who have completed and returned their forms during the past year.

This represents a **net decrease of 11** compared to last year's total of 70. While it's always a little saddening to see numbers fall, we acknowledge that changes occur for many reasons — people move, situations change, and life takes its turns. Every name on the roll, however, represents someone who belongs — someone connected to the life, worship, and witness of our churches.

As the Apostle Paul reminds us in 1 Corinthians 12:27, *"Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it."* The Electoral Roll is not just a formality — it is a living picture of our fellowship, our shared identity in Christ, and our desire to be part of what God is doing among us.

Looking ahead, we anticipate one further form to be submitted in **September 2025**, which will bring the total to **60**. This ongoing movement is a healthy sign of life within the church and an opportunity to give thanks for new and continued commitments.

We warmly invite any regular worshippers who have not yet joined the Electoral Roll to consider doing so in the coming year. Being on the roll not only affirms your place in the church family but also enables participation in the decisions that help shape our shared journey of faith.

A heartfelt thank you to everyone who helped with the roll update this year, and to all who faithfully continue to walk together as part of Christ's body in this place.

Robert Etheridge
Electoral Roll Officer

2024 Financial Report

Firstly I apologise that I am not presenting year end accounts, we are still working on these in the coming weeks. I am still learning the accounts systems and processes to ensure that there is transparency in all matters of finance. This is not always easy – three entities, nine bank accounts, two different banks, six sub accounts, dozens of nominal codes, accounting intricacies and day to day interruptions. It is very complicated and very stressful at times! I would like to thank Mandy Young, Lorraine and the PCC for all their support and help over the year.

Our churches rely on two main streams of income, commercial letting of our premises and congregational giving. In 2024 St Edmund's welcomed Porchlight who have exclusive use of the two 'quiet rooms' which is now a Porchlight hub. Excluding start-up costs we received rental for this amounting to £10,000 over a 12-month period (to June 2025). At St Alban's Little Gems left, but we already have new hirers on two days and more flexibility and availability for hiring and church use. Additionally, our churches hold regular fund-raising events, such as Quiz Nights, Indoor Boot Fairs, Christmas and Summer Fairs. We also apply for grants when appropriate, the new AV equipment at St Alban's was funded by a grant.

Although our main accounts are held separately, we have a joint account held at Metro Bank in which income received from Occasional Offices (Funerals and Weddings) are paid into the East Dartford Benefice account, giving and any joint grants. This is the account that joint income/payments are made. Currently we pay curate expenses, office expenses, subscriptions for EDB, accounts software, Zoom business, marketing expenses, vicarage and mission expenses.

Both churches now make donations using digital giving by using CollecTin machines, or the QR codes which have been generated. In 2024 CollecTin took just over £2,700 (both churches) covering a combination of Sunday giving, café, raffles, quiz nights, boot fairs, Christmas and Summer fairs and also giving via the QR code.

Fundraising in 2024 amounted to over £2,000 for the church and supported charities and events, Toilet Twinning, Kondoa, Spirit's Rest, Christingle, World Aids Day to mention a few.

Bank position end 2024

2024 – St Edmund	December
Community Account – Current	£9,118.99
Instant Access Account – Reserve	*£38,517.39

*This figure includes unpaid service charges due to Savills

2024 – St Alban	December
Community Direct Plus – Current	£13,601.16
Business Select – Reserve	£4,629.18
Business Reserve – Restricted	£109,895.48
Outreach Fund (Fleet Coffee Mornings)	£830.00
Music/Organ Fund - Restricted	£4,584.54
Church Repair Fund (Diocese)	£7,761.57
Teesdale Road Repair Fund (Diocese)	£7,370.24
General Fund (at Diocese)	£416.50
11 Teesdale Road (property estimated value)	£430,000.00

2024 – East Dartford Benefice	December
Community Account – Current	£7,322.82

We have met all our financial commitments during 2024 (*excepting for service charge payments to Savills for the end of 2024/2025 which are being held by us as instructed by the PCC). St Alban's paid Parish Offer of £15,000 to the Diocese. St Edmund's does not pay parish offer due to service charge commitments.

Key income in 2024

St Edmund's

Café: £7,500

Porchlight: £13,654

Hiring/Lettings: £19,119

Legacy/Bequest: £8,000

St Alban's

Hiring/Lettings: £11,089

Teesdale Road: £11,377

EDB

Giving (contactless donations/standing order donations/planned giving /collections at services and sundry donations) in excess of £23,000 (combined).

Financial Reserves Policy – East Dartford Benefice

The PCC recognise that each church should always maintain sufficient 'unrestricted' funds, which are the free reserves of the charity, at a level which equates to approximately three months unrestricted expenditure. This provides sufficient funds to cover management, administration and support costs and to respond to emergency applications for grants which arise from time to time.

Debbie Westerby
Treasurer

St Alban's Church Warden/ Fabric Report

Works carried out in the period since last AGM.

After faculty/archdeacons' letter was approved the installation of the screen and new sound system took place. We built on the original specification and installed a second screen making it a more pleasing experience for worship as it became clear the columns within the worship space restricted some peoples view.

We were also able to instal a speaker with volume control in the back room for the benefit of parents with young children who may wish to use the space. With grateful thanks to the person who made this possible with a donation. A new Laptop was also purchased to store the services and music on enhancing our worship experience.

The small toilet by the vestry has been redecorated – Thank you Arthur and June.

The quinquennial was finally carried out in January of 2025. At this current time the report has not been received. There have been attempts to contact the architect to ascertain how much longer we may have to wait for his written report.

However, during the walk around between the Architect and myself certain items came up for discussion. Within the garden it was noted that the wall was being severely damaged by the trees, and it was strongly recommended urgent action was taken to remove them. This has now been carried out.

With the removal of the trees, it became clear something needed to be done about the boundary. Investigation of this matter showed previous incumbents

and PCCs had discussed fencing. After debate the current PCC agreed action needed to take place and our neighbours should benefit from fencing. I have met and discussed this action with neighbour who is pleased. Plan to get on with the job this coming Summer Holiday when children will not be using the church or the garden.

The valley guttering needs to be cleared. Some of the flashing on the east of the building not readily visible had not been upgraded when the other visible flashing was replaced. This will need to be rectified at some point.

Within the building the current state of the internal decoration was discussed with the Architect, and it was agreed that at a convenient time without the need for a faculty and if colours were to be the same, redecoration could take place. This project would only be possible during a school holiday. I have not acted on this matter as I await the actual report which should give us guidance on the treatment required on the wall in the Chapel.

Our building continues to be used by a diverse group of people including, Rainbows and Brownies, support groups, SEES and of ourselves. We had great fun at our first social evening since COVID sharing silly songs and poetry.

Thanks must go to Arthur and Maragret for the upkeep of our gardens. June and Rosemary for their continued help with tea and coffee, the flowers and the outreach work on the Fleet Estate. Thank you to Phylis for taking over the running of the Toddler Group. To John for his continued support with taxi driving and shuttling people back and forth. Everyone else who helps to keep the church ticking over in the various roles we need. Many thanks to Olga who contuse to order the church supplies. Grateful thanks to Debbie for all she does for the church with such love and care.

I would like to offer my thanks to Revd Mandy Young for her support during the year (even though I was not allowed to get rid of the tatty sofa) I hope she is enjoying her retirement. Before she departed, she gifted a new altar cloth to our church which was used for the first time on Easter Sunday.

Roy Brown
Church Warden St Alban's

St Edmund's Church Warden/ Fabric Report

Our congregation members have continued to worship together and to support all the different services and activities that go on in our church spaces. Thank you.

Please continue to pray, for yourselves, fellow congregation members, for our communities, for all the events that go on within our church spaces. We give thanks for Esther, Mandy B and Andrew as they continue to lead us in worship.

The Community Café has grown quite substantially over the last year, and I thank all those volunteers who work so hard to keep it going. Especial thanks to Theresa Earl for setting up the kitchen, along with the practices and paperwork, to ensure we pass the Environmental Health inspections with flying colours. We are always looking for more volunteers, so if you can help, or know someone who could, do speak to us. This is a very important part of our mission, the face-to-face encounters and connections made, are really important. We have linked up with Porchlight charity, providing washing and drying facilities along with food in the café. For those recently housed, food parcels are provided. Donations of food is always welcome along with baby items that seem to be so needed at this time. We have been collecting baby food, clothes, nappies etc to hand out to those in desperate need.

Since our last building Quinquennial Inspection, the Diocese have been involved in looking for solutions to roof leakages within the building. These appear to link back to design faults so are difficult to solve. This is taking some time, but we trust that this will be remedied soon. The Diocese is also closely involved in the difficulties we have encountered with our building partners, the uncertainty of their tenure and how they use the space. The Standing Committee have been regularly meeting Geof Marsh from the Diocese each month via Zoom, he appears to be moving things along so please do keep Geoff and the rest of the Diocese in prayer.

Lorraine Bathgate
Church Warden St Edmund's

Anna Chaplaincy (Ministry for Older People)

I am pleased to report that this year our team has grown. Canon Mandy Brown continues in the lead role as Anna Chaplain supported by June Dance our new Anna Friend. We have both undergone training and have been Commissioned into the network across the country that supports this particular specialist ministry.

Together we offer spiritual care to the housebound and also ministry to two residential homes within our Benefice. Priory Mews Nursing and Dementia Care and The Bridge Residential Care homes.

Within the two care homes our short service (approx. 30 minutes) covers a relevant bible passage and interactive reflection. Prayers and familiar hymns sung in a lower key and slower pace that have been developed specifically for the people we are visiting. We are pleased to report that our time is well received by both staff and residents. Our names are now known by staff who take time to prepare for our visits sometimes inviting us to take the service in the gardens, bringing us closer to Gods Creation. On occasion Canon Mandy is called to a bedside to offer individual spiritual care. Whilst June chats to the folk who have come along to the service.

As previously stated Anna Chaplaincy is part of a network, and we have had the first of three meetings with other Anna Chaplaincy colleagues from around the diocese. These meetings allow us to explore what others are doing, hear about national best practise, pray for the work of all Chaplaincy teams around the diocese.

I would like to offer my personal thanks to June, she works very hard at building relationships, supporting our visits to the care homes and being an attentive ear. Thank you.

As always if anyone feels they are called to the ministry of Anna Friend please speak to Canon Mandy. she will be happy to talk you through the process.

Blessings

Canon Mandy and June

Thank
you so
much

Priest: Canon Mandy Brown mandykbrown26@gmail.com

Priest: Rev Esther Rose curateindartford@gmail.com

Reader: Andrew Carr admin@transformingministry.co.uk

PA: Debbie Westerby albanandedmundonline@virginmedia.com

Church Wardens: Lorraine Bathgate (lorraine.bathgate@hotmail.co.uk)

Roy Brown (roydfc@icloud.com)

Alan Jobling (alan.jobling1987@gmail.com)

Segun Abraham (segunabraham@mail.com)

Facebook: www.facebook.com/eastdartfordbenefice/

Website: www.2dartfordchurches.org

PCC ACCOUNTS

Year Ending 31 December 2024

East Dartford Benefice

Receipts & Payments Accounts

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE EAST DARTFORD BENEFICE

RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS ACCOUNT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL FUNDS 2024 £	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL FUNDS 2023 £
Receipts									
Voluntary income	2a	64,090	0	920	65,010	27,886	0	0	27,886
Activities for generating funds	2b	2,666	0	0	2,666	3,242	88	0	3,331
Investment income	2c	2,552	571	0	3,123	1,893	460	69	2,422
Church activities	2d	46,208	6,563	0	52,771	42,407	169	980	43,556
Other incoming resources	2e	13,920	0	6,221	20,141	13,809	0	6,025	19,834
		129,436	7,134	7,141	143,711	89,238	718	7,074	97,029
Payments									
Church activities	3a	109,118	6,586	265	115,969	97,712	0	737	98,450
Raising Funds	3b	667	0	0	667	2,208	0	0	2,208
Other Expenditure	3c	12,330	0	6,044	18,374	1,276	0	4,189	5,465
Total resources expended		122,115	6,586	6,309	135,010	101,196	0	4,926	106,122
Excess of Receipts over Payments									
		7,320	549	832	8,700	(11,959)	718	2,148	(9,094)
Transfers between funds - transfers in		3,000	1,248	0	4,248	0	1,248	0	1,248
Transfers between funds - transfers out		(1,248)	(3,000)		(4,248)	(1,248)	0		(1,248)
			0		0		0		0
		9,072	(1,203)	832	8,700	(13,207)	1,966	2,148	(9,094)
Bank current and deposit accounts at 1 January 2024		143,965	18,451	32,633	195,049	157,171	16,486	30,485	204,142
Bank current and deposit accounts at 31 December 2024	4	153,037	17,248	33,465	203,749	143,965	18,451	32,633	195,049

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE EAST DARTFORD BENEFICE

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

	Notes	General Fund £	Designated Fund £	Restricted Funds £	2024 Total £	General Fund £	Designated Fund £	Restricted Funds £	2023 Total £
<u>Cash and bank deposits</u>									
Current accounts		44,438	2,013	33,465	79,916	12,470	1,627	32,633	46,730
Deposit accounts		109,851	-	-	109,851	131,494	-	-	131,494
Church repair funds		-	15,131	-	15,131	-	16,719	-	16,719
Cash		16	106	-	122	-	106	-	106
Agency balances		- 1,270	-	-	1,270	-	-	-	-
	4	153,036	17,249	33,465	203,750	143,964	18,452	32,633	195,048
<u>Other monetary assets</u>									
Freehold house Teesdale Rd		400,000	-	-	400,000	325,000	-	-	325,000
Gift Aid Tax claims outstanding		4,398	-	-	4,398	4,627	-	-	4,627
Other receipts due		-	-	-	-	1,172	-	-	1,172
Expenses not paid		-	-	-	-	94	-	-	94
		4,398	-	-	4,398	5,893	-	-	5,893
<u>Liabilities</u>									
Outstanding Invoices - IE fee		(500)	-	-	(500)	(500)	0	0	(500)
DBF element of fees		0	-	-	0	(1,197)	0	0	(1,197)
Other Creditors		(6,367)	-	-	(6,367)	0	0	0	0
		(6,867)	0	0	(6,867)	(1,697)	0	0	(1,697)

Notes

The house in Teesdale Road has been revalued by McConnells in 2025 at £400,000 to reflect the current market value.

The Gift Aid Tax claims outstanding of £4,398 relate to the year 2024. There is the possibility the actual amount reclaimable may be greater than this as a Gift Aid claim hasn't been submitted for a few years.

The Other Creditors figure of £6,367 relates to the service charge due to Savills for St Edmund which has been withheld at the request of the PCC. This remains as a liability until such time as Savills agree to write it off, or it is paid in full by another organisation.

Treasurer

Vicar

The accompanying notes form a part of these financial statements.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE EAST DARTFORD BENEFICE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

1 Accounting Policies

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 using the Receipts & Payments basis. Receipts and payments include income as received and expenditure when irrevocably paid.

The accounts include monetary transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible in law. They do not include the accounts of church groups which owe their main affiliation to another body, nor those that are informal gatherings of church members.

Funds

Unrestricted funds are general funds which can be used for PCC ordinary purposes. These include designated funds which can be redesignated.

Restricted funds represent (a) donations or grants received for a specific object or invited by the PCC for a specific object, and (b) income from trusts and endowments which may be expended only on those restricted objects provided in the terms of the trust of bequest. The funds may only be expended on the specific object for which they were given. Any balance remaining unspent at the end of the year must be carried forward as a balance on that fund.

Endowment funds are funds, the capital of which must be maintained; only income arising from investment of the endowment may be used either as restricted or unrestricted funds depending upon the purpose for which the endowment was established.

The following assets are recognised but not necessarily valued in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities: Movable church furnishings held by the Churchwardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal; Land and buildings held on behalf of the PCC.

The following assets are recognised and a monetary value given as part of the description in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities: Bank and deposit accounts; Amounts owing from HMRC where a formal claim has been made; Investment assets.

Liabilities are recognised and a monetary value given in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities where the supply had been received by 31 December.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE EAST DARTFORD BENEFICE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

2 Receipts

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL FUNDS 2024 £	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	TOTAL FUNDS 2023 £
a Voluntary income				0					
Planned giving by standing order/Envel	18,174	0	0	18,174	13,752	0	0		13,752
Occasional Envelopes	0	0	0	0	5	0	0		5
Collections at all services	3,405	0	0	3,405	916	0	0		916
Sundry donations and appeals	2,861	0	920	3,781	2,216	0	0		2,216
Income tax recoverable	0	0	0	0	1,946	0	0		1,946
Grants	31,650	0	0	31,650	8,751	0	0		8,751
Legacies	8,000	0	0	8,000	300	0	0		300
	64,090	0	920	65,010	27,886	0	0	0	27,886
b Activities for generating funds									
Fetes and other fundraising events	2,666	0	0	2,666	3,195	88	0		3,283
Candles	0	0	0	0	48	0	0		48
	2,666	0	0	2,666	3,242	88	0	0	3,331
c Investment income									
Dividends and interest	2,552	571	0	3,123	1,893	460	69		2,422
	2,552	571	0	3,123	1,893	460	69	0	2,422
d Income from Church Activities									
Parish Centre Lettings	20,225	0	0	20,225	22,457	0	0		22,457
Community Café	265	6,563	0	6,828	1,685	0	0		1,685
Porchlight	12,300	0	0	12,300					
Fees from weddings, funerals, etc	3,426	0	0	3,426	2,031	0	0		2,031
Teesdale lettings	8,378	0	0	8,378	10,650	0	0		10,650
Other	1,615	0	0	1,615	5,584	169	980		6,733
	46,208	6,563	0	52,771	42,407	169	980	0	43,556
e Other incoming resources									
Insurance receipt	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		0
Payroll Admin	13,920	0	0	13,920	13,809	0	0		13,809
Ovr 60s Club	0	0	6,221	6,221	0	0	6,025		6,025
	13,920		6,221	20,141	13,809		6,025	0	19,834
Total receipts	129,436	7,134	7,141	143,711	89,238	718	7,074	0	97,029

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE EAST DARTFORD BENEFICE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

3 Payments

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL FUNDS 2024 £	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL FUNDS 2023 £
a Church Activities								
Missionary and charitable giving:	10,150	0	265	10,415	332	0	617	949
Ministry costs:	0	0	0		0	0	0	
Diocesan parish share	15,000	0	0	15,000	11,000	0	0	11,000
Diocesan Offer	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Vicars Expenses	0	0	0	0	611	0	0	611
Vicarage costs	3,981	0	0	3,981	2,764	0	0	2,764
Other ministry (Locums)	1,295	0	0	1,295	1,574	0	0	1,574
Church running expenses	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Service Charge	31,852	0	0	31,852	19,100	0	0	19,100
Heat Light Water	5,208	0	0	5,208	8,357	0	0	8,357
Insurance	2,323	0	0	2,323	2,382	0	0	2,382
Building Upkeep	4,442	0	0	4,442	8,086	0	0	8,086
Upkeep of services	2,576	0	0	2,576	1,361	0	0	1,361
Childrens Work	37	0	0	37	186	0	0	186
Remembrance book	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Telephone	1,460	0	0	1,460	5,244	0	0	5,244
Property @ 11 Teesdale Rd	3,705	0	0	3,705	1,600	0	0	1,600
Repairs @ Teesdale Rd	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Administration	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Administrator	18,691	0	0	18,691	10,778	0	0	10,778
Office Supplies	1,115	0	0	1,115	4,026	0	0	4,026
Photocopying & IT Consumables	5,514	0	0	5,514	1,337	0	0	1,337
Training	0	0	0	0	90	0	0	90
Subscriptions	75	0	0	75	173	0	0	173
Bookkeeping	0	0	0	0	2,190	0	0	2,190
IE fee	0	0	0	0	510	0	0	510
Community Café	397	6,586	0	6,983	1,228	0	0	1,228
Other	1,298	0	0	1,298	14,785	0	120	14,905
	109,118	6,586	265	115,969	97,712	0	737	98,450
b Raising funds				0				0
Stewardship costs	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fundraising costs - Fairs & Sales	667	0	0	667	113	0	0	113
Fundraising costs - General	0	0	0	0	2,095	0	0	2,095
	667	0	0	667	2,208	0	0	2,208
c Other expenditure								
Over 60s	0	0	4,615	4,615	0	0	4,189	4,189
AV System	7,954	0	1,429	9,383	0	0	0	0
Porchlight	3,754	0	0	3,754				
Other expenditure	622	0	0	622	1,276	0	0	1,276
	12,330	0	6,044	18,374	1,276	0	4,189	5,465
Total resources expended	122,115	6,586	6,309	135,010	101,196	0	4,926	106,122

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE EAST DARTFORD BENEFICE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

4 Statement of funds

		Bal b/fwd 1 Jan 2024	Receipts	Payments	Transfers between funds	Bal c/fwd 31 Dec 2024
		£	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted Fund						
General fund		143,965	129,436	(122,115)	1,752	153,037
		0	0	0	0	0
		143,965	129,436	(122,115)	1,752	153,037
Designated Fund						
St E café		0	6,563	(6,586)	0	(22)
Breakfast club		106	0	0	0	106
Grub Institute		39	0	0	0	39
Hymn book fund		305	0	0	0	305
Kids club		8	0	0	0	8
Fees		377	0	0	0	377
Fleet		900	5	0	0	905
Church general reserve fund		400	0	0	0	400
Church S/A	a	6,273	240	0	1,248	7,761
Teesdale current quinquennial		10,044	325	0	(3,000)	7,369
		18,452	7,134	(6,586)	(1,752)	17,248
Restricted Fund						
Mission	b	(137)	0	0	0	(137)
Youth Project	c	873	0	0	0	873
Kondoa	d	170	0	0	0	170
Hardship	e	785	0	(265)	0	520
Urban		10,767	0	0	0	10,767
Charitable Giving		179	0	0	0	179
Food Bank	f	1,010	920	0	0	1,930
Over 60s	g	7,419	6,221	(4,615)	0	9,025
Memory Café	h	1,059	0	0	0	1,059
Building fund	i	1,367	0	0	0	1,367
Chair fund	j	1,454	0	0	0	1,454
Garden fund	k	1,368	0	0	0	1,368
Mothers & toddlers	l	401	0	0	0	401
Organ repair fund	m	5,917	0	(1,429)	0	4,488
		32,633	7,141	(6,309)	0	33,465
Total funds						
		195,050	143,711	(135,010)	0	203,749

a The **Church Repair Fund** is for monies ring-fenced by the PCC for Church repairs.

b The **Mission Fund** is for monies raised or donated for the PCCs Mission Projects.

c The **Youth Project Fund** is more monies raised or donated for PCC Youth activities.

d The **Kondoa Fund** is for monies raised or donated for the Diocese of Kondoa in Tanzania. Money is transferred to Kondoa via the Rochester Diocesan Board of Finance.

e The **Hardship Fund** is for monies raised or donated for local Hardship support issued at the discretion of the Vicar.

f The **Food Bank Fund** is for monies raised or donated for the PCC Food Bank.

g The **Over 60s Fund** is for monies held on behalf of the parishes Over 60s Club.

h The **Memory Cafe Fund** is for monies raised or donated for the running of the Memory Cafe.

i The **Building Fund** is for monies raised or donated for the maintenance and preservation of the fabric of the building.

j The **Chair Fund** is for monies raised or donated for the replacement of chairs in the event of their deterioration.

k The **Garden Fund** is for monies raised or donated for the upkeep of the garden.

l The **Mothers and Toddlers Fund** is for donations for toys and refreshments for the toddler group.

m The **Organ Repair Fund** is for monies raised or donated for the upkeep of the organ, music resources and subscriptions and organists for occasional offices.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE EAST DARTFORD BENEFICE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

5 Staff costs

	2024 £	2023 £
a <i>Wages and salaries</i>	18,691	23,950

The PCC employs a Parish Administrator and caretakers. The cost of the administrator is covered by a Grant from the RDBF.

b *Payments to PCC members*

No payments, apart from reimbursement of expenses, were made to PCC members.

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Supporting Charitable Organisations

20 October 2025

Independent Examiner's report to the Member/Trustees of East Dartford Benefice - St Edmund and St Alban PCC

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2024 which are set out on the pages following.

Respective responsibilities of the Trustees and Independent Examiner

The church's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The church's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to

- Examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- Follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- State whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiner's Statement

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

Independent Examiner's 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 130 of the 2011 Act; or
 - to prepare accounts which accord with these accounting records have not been met; or
- (2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Yours sincerely



Martyn Burt

B.Sc.(Hons), ACMA, CGMA

adventus accounting solutions

Ashby Acres

Chapel Lane

Ashby-cum-Fenby

Grimsby

DN37 0QT

e-mail: martyn.burt@btinternet.com
adventusaccounting@btinternet.com

or

Telephone: 07523 6229679