

The Abbey Church of St. Peter and St. Paul  
Dorchester-on-Thames



## Annual Report and Financial Statements of the Parochial Church Council

For the year ended 31 December 2025

### **Rector:**

Reverend Jane Willis, MA  
The Rectory  
Dorchester-on-Thames  
Wallingford  
Oxon  
OX10 7HZ

### **Bankers:**

Barclays Bank plc  
Leicester  
LE87 2BB

Santander plc

Bootle  
Merseyside  
L30 4GB

### **Independent Examiner:**

Mr J Preston ACA, BFP, CTA  
Villars Hayward LLP  
Chartered Accountants  
Chartered Tax Advisers and  
Statutory Auditors  
Boston House  
Henley on Thames  
RG9 1DY

# Dorchester Abbey Parochial Church Council

## Annual Report and Financial Statements of the Parochial Church Council

### Index

Trustees Report.....	2
Reference and Administrative Information .....	2
Structure, Governance and Management.....	3
Committees.....	3
The Standing Committee .....	3
Church Attendance .....	4
Aim and Purposes.....	4
Objectives and Activities.....	4
Achieving Our Objectives .....	4
Leading the Church Community: Structure, Governance, and Management .....	4
Leading the Church Community: Vision and Mission .....	5
Risk Assessment & Safeguarding.....	7
Care and Use of Buildings.....	7
Financial Review .....	8
Report of the Independent Examiner to the Members of the Parochial Church Council of Dorchester Abbey .....	9
Statement of Financial Activities.....	10
Balance Sheet .....	11
Notes to the Financial Statements.....	12

## Dorchester Abbey Parochial Church Council

### Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2025

#### Trustees Report

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) presents its Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2025,

#### Reference and Administrative Information

The PCC is registered with the Charity Commission, registered number 1133787.

The trustees, members of the PCC, at the time of this report, were as follows:

Name	Basis of appointment:	Resigned during the period:
Reverend Jane Willis, MA (Rector)	Ex-officio	
Sally Bell	Elected	
Jane Brooks	Elected – April 2025	
Tim Cook	Elected – April 2025	
Nick Forman (Treasurer)	Elected	
Steph Forman	Elected	
Sandie Griffith	Deanery Synod Representative	
Malcolm Lucas (Churchwarden)	Elected	
Susan Lucas	Elected	
Catherine Paul	Elected	
Melinda Powell	Elected – April 2025	
Jan Rimmer	Elected	
Gail Thomas	Elected	
Jane Tudor (Churchwarden)	Elected	
Richard Tudor	Elected	
Richard Winslet	Deanery Synod Representative	

## **Dorchester Abbey Parochial Church Council**

### **Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2025 (Continued)**

#### **Structure, Governance and Management**

The PCC has been formed under the Parochial Church Council (Powers) Measure 1956.

PCC members are recruited in a number of ways. The clergy, churchwardens and the treasurer are members by virtue of their office. Deanery Synod representatives are elected by the annual parochial church meeting (APCM) and hold office for three years. Other members of the PCC are elected annually at the APCM.

The PCC makes all decisions corporately except that the Standing Committee has delegated powers to make decisions between PCC meetings subject to keeping the PCC informed as fully as necessary.

The members of the PCC are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the PCC and which enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the financial statements and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their financial statements in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) Update Bulletin 1 (effective 1 January 2016), and the applicable Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the PCC and taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities. The members of the PCC are also required to ensure that the financial statements are examined by an independent examiner or auditor prior to presentation to the Annual Parochial Church Meeting.

In preparing the financial statements, the PCC are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- Follow applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will remain in operation.

#### **Committees**

The PCC operates through a number of Committees and informal working groups.

#### **The Standing Committee**

Rector, Churchwardens, Treasurer, Mission Coordinator, Worship Coordinator, Secretary, Elected PCC Member.

The Standing Committee meets approximately every three months, shortly before PCC meetings. It is empowered to conduct the business of the PCC between its meetings, subject to any directions given by the Council.



## **Dorchester Abbey Parochial Church Council**

### **Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2025 (Continued)**

#### **Church Attendance**

There are 110 parishioners on the electoral roll, 25 of whom are not resident within the parish. Average attendance at regular services on Sundays across the year was 75.

#### **Aim and Purposes**

The PCC of Dorchester Abbey and the Incumbent together have the responsibility to promote the mission of the Church in the Ecclesiastical parish by strengthening relationships within the Church and reaching out to the wider community. The PCC is responsible for the maintenance and management of adjacent buildings that house the Abbey Guest House, Tea Room and Museum and for using them for the best advantage to all.

#### **Objectives and Activities**

The PCC of Dorchester Abbey seeks to lead a Church community in Christian Mission by being welcoming, engaging and inclusive in its worship, teaching and the use of all its resources. Dorchester Abbey is a significant historical building, and the PCC is also responsible for ensuring that all visitors are welcomed, appropriately cared for and through their visits learn about its architectural and Christian history. As leaders of a significant church in the Diocese of Oxford the PCC takes seriously the responsibility for offering a welcoming venue for services and events for the county of Oxfordshire.

Regular activities include worship and welcome to organisations and individuals seeking to pray and to worship here and performances by Abbey sponsored groups and by those who come to use the space here. Raising funds to maintain the building and the ministry that goes on within represents an important objective and activity in order to meet our purpose. As a church we also look outwards both to the wider community and through, our mission partners, overseas. The Abbey is part of the Dorchester Team, and the incumbent holds the benefices of Dorchester and Warborough in plurality.

#### **Achieving Our Objectives**

##### **Leading the Church Community: Structure, Governance, and Management**

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. At the Abbey, the PCC consists of the incumbent (Rector), Churchwardens, Licensed Clergy and those elected by the church membership (everyone on the Church Electoral Roll). The PCC is responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern including on how the funds of the PCC are spent. A Standing Committee takes responsibility for decision making between meetings of the PCC.

Malcolm Lucas served as Churchwarden throughout 2025, Catherine Paul served until the 2025 Annual Meeting of Parishioners when she stood down, and Jane Tudor was elected. Sandie Griffith has continued to support the work of the Wardens as Worship Co-ordinator. Nick Forman continues to serve as Treasurer. Richard Winslet served as PCC Secretary until the PCC's July meeting; his successor is yet to be identified. Jan Rimmer has continued to serve as Parish

## Dorchester Abbey Parochial Church Council

### Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2025 (Continued)

Safeguarding Officer, and Richard Tudor as Fabric Co-ordinator. We are deeply grateful for all they have brought and continue to bring to the life of the Abbey, each with their different gifts and skills.

#### Leading the Church Community: Vision and Mission

Through the year Dorchester PCC have worked on forming formed renewed vision for the Abbey for the present season. The 'River of Life' vision process has been facilitated by the Revd Canon Rachel Carnegie, working closely with Team Rector Revd Jane Willis, in consultation with the Abbey PCC, regular congregations and our wider village community. This rigorous process first involved us considering afresh our identity: what it means in scripture to be the people of God, through the three historical phases of our own local story (the Abbey's beginnings as Birinus brought the gospel, the Abbey's season as an Augustinian Abbey and then as a parish church), through our individual journeys of faith – and through key elements of our heritage, including the Lord's Prayer and the Anglican Five Marks of Mission. Through all of this we distilled the 'treasure' in the life of the Abbey – identifying five 'Streams of Life': Welcome, Worship, Compassion, Creativity and Environment – the whole being our participation in the Mission of God and held in prayer and dependence on God. The PCC honed a new Vision Statement:

*Sharing in the life of Jesus:  
Loving and serving God, one another, our local community and our world.*

A key priority identified through the River of Life vision process has been the development of our ministry with children and families. This ministry has continued to develop – Forest Church started in January 2025 and has grown quickly and our Family Service continues to grow. We have also welcomed new children into our Junior Choir. Abbey Tots continues to welcome little ones and their carers and we offer regular Collective Worship at Dorchester St Birinus Primary School, who visit the Abbey for their end of term services. We were also delighted to welcome Clifton Hampden CofE Primary School and Dorchester St Birinus Primary School for Prayer Spaces in the Abbey. Building on all that is already happening, the PCC is now working towards the recruitment of a Children and Families Minister.

The Revd Canon Rachel Carnegie has continued to contribute valuably to the life of the Abbey as far as her role as Chaplain to All Souls College has allowed. We have been delighted also to welcome the Revd Professor Mark Harris, the Revd Andrew Bond and the Revd Mark Bodeker, who have each been granted Permission to Officiate. Mark Harris and Andrew Bond have begun active ministry at the Abbey; Mark Bodeker is enjoying a sabbatical season following his recent retirement from full time stipendiary ministry.

Dorchester Abbey continues to be part of the Dorchester Team Ministry and 2025 was again a year of change within Team as we welcomed new ministries. We are privileged to be a training parish: in June the Revd Claire Wren joined the Ministry Team as Assistant Curate (full-time, stipendiary), having been ordained Deacon in Christ Church Cathedral, and Revd Emma Firth, Assistant Curate (half time, self-supporting), was ordained Priest in Dorchester Abbey. In October we welcomed the Revd Vicky Burton to serve as Team Vicar, living in Berinsfield and caring for the churches in the BBD cluster. We have had more difficulty in appointing to the Team Vicar post for the Eastern Cluster and in the latter part of 2025 went through several rounds of advertising and one round of interview, though are yet to make an appointment. In December the Revd Jo Allen, Team Vicar for the Bridge Group submitted her resignation.



## Dorchester Abbey Parochial Church Council

### Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2025 (Continued)

Another matter to which the PCC has given very careful consideration has been the future of the present Rectory. Prompted by Archdeacon David and the Diocesan Property Team's question to us, the PCC has been considering whether the present building, comprising numbers 8 and 10 Manor Farm Road, should remain as housing for the Incumbent and their family or whether a new house should be identified. An additional factor has been that the Abbey's offices have been housed in No 8.

Our Administration Team have served faithfully through the year: Sam Turner managing the office and leading our ever challenging and demanding events administration, Francesca Keogh's events marketing has brought in some valuable new business. Sandie Griffiths continues to serve, focussing especially on weddings and baptisms, and Jen Anderson has focussed on team administration alongside her hours as Team Rector's PA.

Under the leadership of Jeremy Boughton, our choir and musicians continue to enhance our worship, for regular and occasional services – our heartfelt thanks go to them. The Abbey's Service of Nine Lessons and Carols was a particular highlight, welcoming almost 400 people, with an augmented choir including two BBC Junior Choristers of the Year: Belinda Gifford-Guy (junior title, 2023) and Al Mucklow (senior title, 2025).

Our Abbey bell ringers have also continued to serve faithfully, ringing out for regular services and for special occasions. Our grateful thanks go to our Tower Captain, Nick Forman, and to all the band.

The Abbey has continued to host a large number of significant services and events for the wider area, including the Ordination of Priests for the Dorchester Area, Choral Evensongs for the Fellowship of St Birinus and for the Beauforest Society, along with the Bishop of Dorchester's annual Mayors and Chairs dinner. For our local community we have offered special services of particular pastoral value including All Souls and Remembrance Sunday. During December we hosted a large number of Christmas concerts and carol services for charities and schools. Our own Christmas services saw an overall increase in congregation numbers as we welcomed many from our local community and beyond.

The Museum has had a successful year – most notably in achieving accreditation. The Museum is served by a dedicated group of volunteers who, along with welcoming a stream of visitors, offers an educational resource for the whole community and local schools. Our curator Margot brings remarkable knowledge, experience, energy and commitment to the role.

The Abbey has continued to serve as a centre for the Arts, with regular concerts by the Orchestra of St John's and Benson Choral Society. The visual arts have continued to feature, with two remarkable installations by Adrian Brooks and Tim Cook. 2025 has not been a Dorchester Festival year but plans are well in place for 2026, under the able leadership of Steph Forman. Our partner charity in 2026 is Be Free Young Carers, an independent Oxfordshire charity leading the way in championing and supporting young carers.

The Abbey coffee morning has been another area of growth as it continues to provide a valuable gathering for our local community, offering hospitality each Tuesday morning.

The Abbey Tea Room, with its ministry of cake, had a thoroughly successful year. Under the leadership of Steph Forman, and with a wonderful team of volunteers the Tea Room has welcomed thousands of visitors and raised a remarkable total of £26,706, to be shared between the Abbey and outward mission giving.

## Dorchester Abbey Parochial Church Council

### Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2025 (Continued)

Our Christmas Market was again a great success, making a profit of £9,217 – grateful thanks are due to all who helped and especially to Steph Forman for her remarkable organisation which was much appreciated by stallholders and all who came.

We are delighted within the life of the Abbey to have two Life Groups – small groups meeting in homes for worship, study and prayer. The Monday Group is led by Malcolm Lucas and the Wednesday Group 'Village People' is led by Richard Tudor. Towards the end of the year plans were well in place for the running of an Alpha Course in the New Year, for all who would like to explore faith, whether for the first time or simply to go deeper.

The whole life of the Abbey is encapsulated in our prayer for our River of Life Vision journey, now set to music by Dr Tim Cook and sung by our choir:

*God of Love, who alone brings life to your Church,  
We thank you for our heritage in this holy place of prayer.  
By your Holy Spirit help us to grow as an open and welcoming worshipping community,  
a gathering of ordinary people  
seeking to deepen their relationship with God, each other and the wider world.  
We ask this in the name of Jesus, your Son, our Lord.  
Amen.*

### Risk Assessment & Safeguarding

Risk assessments are carried out for all activities where the PCC has responsibility, and they are required from hirers of the Abbey. Jan Rimmer is serving very ably as Parish Safeguarding Officer. DBS checks and safeguarding training is up to date for paid employees and key volunteers.

### Care and Use of Buildings

The maintenance of the Abbey estate, including the Guest House and Cloister Garden along with the Abbey itself, continues to be a significant responsibility. This year we have undertaken major works in the Abbey and Guest House. This includes repairs to the tower roof and parapets, the removal, repair and reinstallation of one of the windows in the Shrine Chapel, repairs to a significant leak in the heating system, the replacement of the door to the Museum/Tea Room in the Guest House, and replacement of the West Door curtain.

We are hugely grateful to Fabric Coordinator Richard Tudor for his oversight of these works, along with Nick Forman and Malcolm Lucas. Our thanks go also to Tim Cook for the many small maintenance projects that he undertakes. We are grateful too to the Green DOTS for their care of the Abbey grounds. The Quinquennial Inspection was undertaken in the autumn of 2025, and the report is expected in early 2026. This will direct our work on the care of buildings over the next few years.

We continue to be immensely grateful for the faithful support of the Friends of Dorchester Abbey and to the Beauforest Society. This year they contributed £48,464 towards a number of projects in the Abbey and Guest House and £2,618 towards the garden fund.



## Dorchester Abbey Parochial Church Council

### Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2025 (Continued)

#### Financial Review

The financial statements show a surplus for the year of £11,401 (2024: surplus of £15,039) before unrealised gains (£9,661 including unrealised losses). There was a surplus of £5,194 (2024 surplus of £13,110) on unrestricted funds. Designated funds have a surplus of £5,205 before unrealised gains (2024: surplus of £3,923) in the year. There was a surplus on restricted funds of £1,002 (2024: deficit of £1,994).

The Trustees have considered the PCC's financial circumstances when preparing the financial statements and have assessed that the PCC continues to be a going concern.

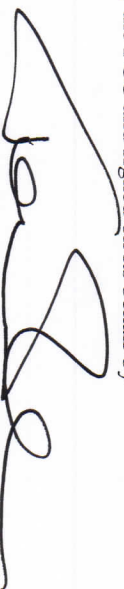
Fabric Reserves are £82,435. The PCC considers that Fabric Reserves should be approximately £80,000 to enable it to meet emergency expenditure needs for Fabric related items.

The PCC reviewed its reserves policy and still considers that the parish should ideally hold general reserves equivalent to at least six months expenditure. The current level of unrestricted reserves (excluding the approx. £1m legacy) is £53,342 (2024: £121,886), which is approximately three months' expenditure. In the short term the legacy can be used to cover ongoing expenditure, but for the longer term a Stewardship campaign is being planned to increase regular giving.

The Abbey received and recorded a significant bequest during 2023 estimated at the time to be £1,020,000, which was recognised in full in the 2023 financial statements. In early 2025 the executors of the estate advised the PCC that the expected value of the bequest was lower than their original estimate and so there was an adjustment of £28,000 in the 2024 accounts. In early 2026 the executors circulated draft estate accounts showing a further reduction in their estimate resulting in an adjustment in the 2025 accounts of £6,219.

There were no related party transactions requiring disclosure during the financial year ending 31 December 2025 (2024: £Nil). No trustees or other connected persons received remuneration or expenses, nor did they have any personal interest in transactions with the charity.

Approved by the PCC and signed on its behalf by



Reverend Jane Willis, MA  
Chair

9 March 2026

## **Report of the Independent Examiner to the Members of the Parochial Church Council of Dorchester Abbey For the year ended 31 December 2025**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the financial statements of the Parochial Church Council of Dorchester Abbey for the year ended 31 December 2025 which are set out on pages 10 to 18.

### **Responsibilities and basis of report**

As the charity trustees of the Trust you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under s. 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under s. 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

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

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- (1) accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act;
- (2) the accounts do not accord with those records; or
- (3) the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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

Mr J Preston BFP, ACA, CTA  
Villars Hayward LLP  
Chartered Accountants  
Chartered Tax Advisers and Statutory Auditors  
Boston House  
Henley-on-Thames  
RG9 1DY



Date: 18 MARCH..... 2026

Dorchester Abbey Parochial Church Council

Financial statements for the period ended 31 December 2025

Statement Of Financial Activities

2024										2025									
Unrestricted funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	Total £		Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	Total £								
<b>Income and endowments from:</b>																			
66,352	28,965	5,148	-	100,465	Donations and legacies	3	64,262	74,344	721	-	139,327								
112,968	7,223	-	-	120,191	Other Trading Activities	3	130,173	6,352	-	-	136,525								
51,379	4,613	1,134	-	57,126	Investments	3	46,887	4,390	1,002	-	52,279								
230,699	40,801	6,282	-	277,782	<b>Total</b>		241,322	85,086	1,723	-	328,131								
<b>Expenditure on:</b>																			
3,829	4,009	-	-	7,838	Raising Funds	4	4,718	3,253	-	-	7,971								
181,260	65,369	8,276	-	254,905	Charitable activities	4	231,410	76,628	721	-	308,759								
185,089	69,378	8,276	-	262,743	<b>Total</b>		236,128	79,881	721	-	316,730								
45,610	(28,577)	(1,994)	-	15,039	<b>Net Income/(Expenditure)</b>		5,194	5,205	1,002	-	11,401								
(32,500)	32,500	-	-	-	<b>Gross Transfers between funds</b>		-	-	-	-	-								
13,110	3,923	(1,994)	-	15,039			5,194	5,205	1,002	-	11,401								
-	701	-	274	975	Gains/(losses) on investment assets	12/13	-	(1,252)	-	(488)	(1,740)								
13,110	4,624	(1,994)	274	16,014	<b>Net movement in funds</b>		5,194	3,953	1,002	(488)	9,661								
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>																			
1,100,776	136,632	66,055	11,932	1,315,395	<b>Total funds brought forward</b>		1,113,886	141,256	64,061	12,206	1,331,409								
1,113,886	141,256	64,061	12,206	1,331,409	<b>Total funds carried forward</b>		1,119,080	145,209	65,063	11,718	1,341,070								



# Dorchester Abbey Parochial Church Council

## Financial statements for the period ended 31 December 2025

### Balance sheet as at 31 December 2025

Unrestricted funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	2024		Notes	Unrestricted funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total	
£	£	£	£	£			£	£	£	£	£	
-	29,322	41,018	-	70,340	Fixed assets	8	-	27,033	41,018	-	68,051	
-	31,305	-	12,206	43,511		9	-	30,053	-	11,718	41,771	
-	60,627	41,018	12,206	113,851			-	57,086	41,018	11,718	109,822	
							Total fixed assets					
Current assets												
Stocks												
-	5,413	-	-	5,413	10	-	4,991	-	-	-	4,991	
41,289	1,034	270	-	42,593		53,330	1,717	241	-	-	55,288	
19,947	4,435	2	-	24,384		16,927	6,557	-	-	-	23,484	
1,081,483	72,285	22,771	-	1,176,539		1,094,848	75,979	23,804	-	-	1,194,631	
1,142,719	83,167	23,043	-	1,248,929	Deposit with CBF		1,165,105	89,244	24,045	-	1,278,394	
					Total current assets							
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year												
28,833	-	-	-	28,833	11	46,025	888	-	-	-	46,913	
Net current assets												
1,113,886	83,167	23,043	-	1,220,096		1,119,080	88,356	24,045	-	-	1,231,481	
Creditors: amounts falling due after one year												
-	2,538	-	-	2,538		-	233	-	-	-	233	
Net assets												
1,113,886	141,256	64,061	12,206	1,331,409		1,119,080	145,209	65,063	11,718	-	1,341,070	
Funds of the church												
Unrestricted funds												
1,113,886	-	-	-	1,113,886	13	1,119,080	-	-	-	-	1,119,080	
-	141,256	-	-	141,256		-	145,209	-	-	-	145,209	
1,113,886	141,256	-	-	1,255,142		1,119,080	145,209	-	-	-	1,264,289	
Restricted funds												
-	-	64,061	-	64,061	12	-	-	65,063	-	-	65,063	
Endowment funds												
-	-	-	12,206	12,206	12	-	-	-	-	11,718	11,718	
1,113,886	141,256	64,061	12,206	1,331,409		1,119,080	145,209	65,063	11,718	-	1,341,070	
Total funds of the church												



## 1 Basis of preparation

accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) update bulletin 1 (effective January 2016), the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 and the Charities Act 2011, which the PCC is responsible in law. These accounts do not include the accounts of church groups that owe their main affiliation to another body nor those that are informal gatherings of church members.

The PCC meets the definition of a Public Benefit Entity under FRS102 and the PCC consider that there are no material uncertainties about the church's ability to continue as a going concern.

## 2 Accounting policies

### Funds

Unrestricted funds are general funds available for the general objectives of the church.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the PCC for particular purposes.

Restricted funds can only be used for the purposes for which they have been given, within the objectives of the church. The cost of raising and administering such funds are charged against those specific funds. The aim and use of each fund is explained later in the Notes.

Endowment funds are restricted funds which must be held permanently and the capital maintained while the income is restricted.

### Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included in the SOFA when the church becomes legally entitled to the income and when the amount can be quantified with reasonable certainty.

Collections are recognised when received by or on behalf of the PCC. Planned giving is recognised only when received. Grants and legacies are recognised as soon as the PCC becomes aware of its legal entitlement and the amount due is quantifiable with reasonable certainty.

Income tax recoverable on gift aid donations is accounted for when the gift is received, not when the tax refund is received.

When incoming resources have related expenditure (as with fundraising income) the incoming resources and the related resources expended are accounted for gross in the SOFA. resources when receivable.

Rental income from letting the Guest House is accounted for when it falls due.

Dividends and interest are accounted for when receivable and includes any recoverable tax.

Realised gains are accounted for on assets held for the church's own use and are taken into account at the time of sale.

A legacy is recognised when it is probable that it will be received.

### Resources expended

Expenditure is included on an accruals basis and is recognised when there is a legal or constructive obligation to pay for goods or services.

All costs have been directly attributed to the various categories within the SOFA.

Any general support costs have been allocated across activity cost categories on a basis consistent with the use of resources based on an allocation of actual costs.

As the church is not registered for VAT, all expenditure is shown inclusive of VAT.

Governance costs include the cost of the preparation of the annual accounts, the cost of PCC meetings and the legal cost of advice on governance or constitutional matters.

Grants and charitable giving are accounted for when paid over or when awarded, if the award creates a binding obligation on the PCC, provided that there are no conditions to be met relating to the grant which remain in the control of the church.

### Fixed assets

All capital expenditure in excess of £500, for a single item or a group of similar items, is capitalised.

Depreciation is provided on all tangible fixed assets, at rates calculated to write off the cost evenly over the expected useful economic life of assets as follows: Furniture, fittings and equipment 3 - 5 years. The Yamaha piano is being written off over a period of 20 years.

## 2 Accounting policies (Continued)

### Investments

Investments are shown on 31 December at market value.

Both realised and unrealised gains are shown under 'other recognised gains/(losses)' section of the SoFA.

### Stock

Stock is valued at the lower of cost or net realisable value.

### Pensions

Dorchester Abbey PCC participates in the Pension Builder Scheme section of Church Workers Pension Fund (CWPF) for lay staff. The Scheme is administered by the Church of England Pensions Board, which holds the CWPF assets separately from those of the Employer and the other participating employers.

CWPF has two sections:

1. the Defined Benefits Scheme
2. the Pension Builder Scheme, which has two subsections:
  - a. a deferred annuity section known as Pension Builder Classic, and,
  - b. a cash balance section known as Pension Builder 2014.

### Pension Builder Scheme

Both sections of the Pension Builder Scheme are classed as defined benefit schemes.

*Pension Builder Classic* provides a pension, accumulated from contributions paid and converted into a deferred annuity during employment based on terms set and reviewed by the Church of England Pensions Board from time to time. Discretionary increases may also be added, depending on investment returns and other factors.

*Pension Builder 2014* is a cash balance scheme that provides a lump sum which members use to provide benefits at retirement. Pension contributions are recorded in an account for each member. Discretionary bonuses may be added before retirement depending on investment experience and other factors. The account, plus any bonuses declared, is payable, unreduced from age 65.

There is no sub-division of assets between employers in each section of the Pension Builder Scheme.

The scheme is considered a multi-employer scheme as described in Section 28 of FRS 102. This is because it is not possible to attribute the Pension Builder Scheme's assets and liabilities to specific employers and means that contributions are accounted for as if the Scheme were a defined contribution scheme. The pensions costs charged to the SoFA in the year are contributions payable (2025: £1,729, 2024: £1,068).

A valuation of the Pension Builder Scheme is carried out once every three years. The most recent scheme valuation completed was carried out as at 31 December 2022.

For the Pension Builder Classic section, the valuation revealed a surplus of £34.8m on the ongoing assumptions used. At the most recent annual review effective 1 January 2026, the Board chose to grant a discretionary bonus of 10% to both pensions not yet in payment and pensions in payment in respect of service prior to April 1997, and a bonus on pensions in payment in respect of post April 2006 service so that the pension increase was also 10% (where usually it would be calculated based on inflation up to an annual cap of 5% for pensions in payment in respect of service prior to April 2006 and 2.5% for pensions in payment in respect of service post April 2006). This followed improvements in the funding position over 2025. There is no requirement for deficit payments at the current time.

The next valuation is being carried out as at 31 December 2025.

For the Pension Builder 2014 section, the valuation revealed a surplus of £8.5m on the ongoing assumptions used. There is no requirement for deficit payments at the current time.

The legal structure of the scheme is such that if another employer fails, Dorchester Abbey PCC could become responsible for paying a share of that employer's pension liabilities.

Dorchester Abbey Parochial Church Council

Financial statements for the period ended 31 December 2025

Notes to the Financial Statements

	2024					2025				
	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	Total funds	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	Total funds
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
<b>3. Analysis of incoming resources</b>										
<b>Income and endowments from</b>										
<b>Donations and Legacies</b>										
<b>Recurring income:</b>										
Gift Aid planned giving (excl. tax)	36,007	-	-	-	36,007	33,995	-	-	-	33,995
Gift Aid collections (excl. tax)	1,358	-	-	-	1,358	1,675	-	-	-	1,675
Non-Gift Aid Planned giving (excl. tax)	5,993	-	-	-	5,993	5,701	-	-	-	5,701
Non-Gift Aid collections (excl. tax)	3,794	-	-	-	3,794	4,375	-	-	-	4,375
Tax recovered	12,170	176	-	-	12,346	12,682	1,032	-	-	13,714
Donations - Museum	-	625	-	-	625	-	423	-	-	423
	59,322	801	-	-	60,123	58,428	1,455	-	-	59,883
<b>Non-recurring income:</b>										
Friends of Dorchester Abbey	-	10,000	-	-	10,000	-	48,464	-	-	48,464
Grants - Museum	-	731	-	-	731	-	2,845	-	-	2,845
Grants and donations - Clock Fund	-	-	3,000	-	3,000	-	-	-	-	-
Grants and donations	1,751	5	-	-	1,756	2,846	3,000	-	-	5,846
Garden Donations	-	2,618	-	-	2,618	-	2,618	-	-	2,618
Flower donations	170	-	-	-	170	100	-	-	-	100
Gift Box	-	14,810	-	-	14,810	-	15,962	-	-	15,962
Listed Places of Worship VAT repayments	-	-	-	-	-	5,542	-	-	-	5,542
Rector's Discretionary Fund donations	410	-	-	-	410	-	-	-	-	-
Dorchester Festival	26,793	-	-	-	26,793	-	-	-	-	-
Legacies	500	-	-	-	500	-	-	-	-	-
Legacies - Adjustment	(28,000)	-	-	-	(28,000)	(6,219)	-	-	-	(6,219)
Donations for Mission Giving	5,406	-	-	-	5,406	3,565	-	-	-	3,565
Special collections	-	-	2,148	-	2,148	-	-	721	-	721
	66,352	28,965	5,148	-	100,465	64,262	74,344	721	-	139,327

The adjustment to legacies reflects the reduction in the legacy of £1,020,000 recorded in 2023. The legacy was originally recorded based on an estimated value of the estate provided by the executors of the estate. Reductions were notified by the executors of the estate to Dorchester Abbey PCC in early 2025 and in early January 2026.

The special collections were collections for specific charities at services and events on behalf of others. Donations for Mission Giving are collections at regular Abbey services where the collection is for a third party

**Other Trading Activities**

Tea room	26,039	-	-	-	26,039	24,179	-	-	-	24,179
Concerts and recordings	41,968	-	-	-	41,968	46,825	-	-	-	46,825
Tours	1,511	-	-	-	1,511	1,944	-	-	-	1,944
Fees - weddings, funerals etc	4,247	-	-	-	4,247	10,104	-	-	-	10,104
Feed in Tariff from solar panels	4,005	-	-	-	4,005	5,081	-	-	-	5,081
Organ income	1,335	-	-	-	1,335	2,925	-	-	-	2,925
Choir income	1,395	-	-	-	1,395	2,940	-	-	-	2,940
Bellringers income	1,146	-	-	-	1,146	2,116	-	-	-	2,116
Dorchester News Magazine	6,910	-	-	-	6,910	6,612	-	-	-	6,612
Cottage Garden Rent	1,295	-	-	-	1,295	1,333	-	-	-	1,333
School Visits	1,225	-	-	-	1,225	729	-	-	-	729
Special Events	2,667	-	-	-	2,667	1,152	-	-	-	1,152
Fundraising events	12,962	-	-	-	12,962	18,084	-	-	-	18,084
Tea Room Cookery Book sales	1,005	-	-	-	1,005	728	-	-	-	728
Christmas cards	1,594	-	-	-	1,594	1,538	-	-	-	1,538
Guest House revenue	2,068	-	-	-	2,068	2,182	-	-	-	2,182
Museum Sales	-	7,223	-	-	7,223	-	6,352	-	-	6,352
Sundry Income	1,596	-	-	-	1,596	1,701	-	-	-	1,701
	112,968	7,223	-	-	120,191	130,173	6,352	-	-	136,525
<b>Investments</b>										
Dividends and Interest	51,379	4,223	1,134	-	56,736	46,887	4,047	1,002	-	51,936
Interest - Museum	-	390	-	-	390	-	343	-	-	343
	51,379	4,613	1,134	-	57,126	46,887	4,390	1,002	-	52,279



Dorchester Abbey Parochial Church Council

Financial statements for the period ended 31 December 2025

Notes to the Financial Statements

2024						2025					
Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	Total funds		Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	Total funds	
£	£	£	£	£		£	£	£	£	£	
<b>4 Expenditure on:</b>											
<b>Raising Funds</b>											
67	-	-	-	67	Cost of leaflets/cards for resale	67	-	-	-	67	
798	-	-	-	798	Publicity	836	-	-	-	836	
-	4,009	-	-	4,009	Museum - cost of goods for resale	-	3,253	-	-	3,253	
2,289	-	-	-	2,289	Fundraising Events	3,257	-	-	-	3,257	
573	-	-	-	573	Christmas Cards	484	-	-	-	484	
102	-	-	-	102	Tea Room Cookery Book	74	-	-	-	74	
3,829	4,009	-	-	7,838		4,718	3,253	-	-	7,971	
<b>Charitable activities</b>											
54,445	-	-	-	54,445	Parish Share	57,224	-	-	-	57,224	
26,724	15,864	-	-	42,588	Church Running Costs	26,753	16,222	-	-	42,975	
-	-	-	-	-	Clergy expenses	3,311	-	-	-	3,311	
360	-	-	-	360	Verger	1,215	-	-	-	1,215	
1,068	-	-	-	1,068	Pension Costs	1,729	-	-	-	1,729	
4,586	41,770	6,128	-	52,484	Church Maintenance	22,649	52,323	-	-	74,972	
17,181	-	-	-	17,181	Charitable Donations	14,075	-	-	-	14,075	
-	2,148	2,148	-	2,148	Special Collections	-	-	721	-	721	
7,734	-	-	-	7,734	Dorchester News Magazine	7,656	-	-	-	7,656	
3,513	1,657	-	-	5,170	Guest House	9,492	993	-	-	10,485	
537	-	-	-	537	Tea Room	945	-	-	-	945	
8,373	-	-	-	8,373	Organ and Organist	10,570	-	-	-	10,570	
2,397	-	-	-	2,397	Concerts & Recordings Costs	4,010	-	-	-	4,010	
600	-	-	-	600	Choir	1,350	-	-	-	1,350	
1,101	-	-	-	1,101	Education Officer	662	-	-	-	662	
-	-	-	-	-	Forest Church	1,498	-	-	-	1,498	
1,043	-	-	-	1,043	Bellringers	1,145	-	-	-	1,145	
135	-	-	-	135	Flowers	-	-	-	-	-	
-	2,899	-	-	2,899	Garden Costs	-	2,001	-	-	2,001	
220	-	-	-	220	Special Events	480	-	-	-	480	
37,249	228	-	-	37,477	Support Costs	46,947	228	-	-	47,175	
531	-	-	-	531	Legal Fees	-	-	-	-	-	
700	-	-	-	700	Independent Examiner's Fee	2,872	-	-	-	2,872	
-	2,951	-	-	2,951	Museum Sundry Expenses	-	4,861	-	-	4,861	
6,854	-	-	-	6,854	Cleaning	6,142	-	-	-	6,142	
5,909	-	-	-	5,909	Sundry Expenses	10,685	-	-	-	10,685	
181,260	65,369	8,276	-	254,905		231,410	76,628	721	-	308,759	



Dorchester Abbey Parochial Church Council

Financial statements for the period ended 31 December 2025

Notes to the Financial Statements

5 Support costs

Activity:	2024				2025			
	Fundraising £	Charitable £	Governance £	Total £	Fundraising £	Charitable £	Governance £	Total £
Computer maintenance & equipment not capitalised	-	3,761	-	3,761	-	2,812	-	2,812
Secretarial and office charges	-	27,780	-	27,780	-	37,010	-	37,010
Telephone & Internet	-	2,285	-	2,285	-	2,079	-	2,079
Depreciation	-	3,651	-	3,651	-	5,274	-	5,274
	-	37,477	-	37,477	-	47,175	-	47,175

6 Staff Costs, Trustee remuneration and expenses

The average number of staff employed by the PCC as administrators during the year was 4, up from 3.3 in 2024. There were four staff employed at the year end. The full time equivalent number of staff at the year end was 1.49 the same as in 2024

Staff costs are allocated to the Church Activity as in previous years. No employee received remuneration of more than £60,000 this year or last year. In the opinion of the PCC "key management personnel" comprise the incumbent who is remunerated by the diocese.

Staff costs included in the accounts comprise:

Salaries & Honoraria £38,178 (2024: £28,572)

Social Security Costs £0 (2024: £0)

Pension Costs £1,729 (2024: £1,068)

No members of the PCC received any remuneration for their work on the PCC. The clergy who are ex officio members, do receive a stipend but are not remunerated for their service on the PCC. No PCC members claimed expenses although they would be entitled to claim travel costs for attending meetings. The incumbent claimed £3,311 expenses during the year (2024: £0).

7 Grants made

Grants were made to the following institutions:

Various charities

	£ 2024	£ 2025
	17,181	14,075

No grants were made to individuals.

8 Tangible fixed assets

	£ 2024	£ 2025
	17,181	14,075

Cost or valuation

At 1 January 2025

Additions

Revaluations

Disposals

At 31 December 2025

Depreciation

At 1 January 2025

Charge for year

Disposals

At 31 December 2025

Net book value

At 1 January 2025

At 31 December 2025

	Property £	Fixtures fittings & equipment £	Total £
	41,018	172,167	213,185
	-	2,984	2,984
	-	-	-
	-	(9,147)	(9,147)
	41,018	166,004	207,022
	-	142,844	142,844
	-	5,274	5,274
	-	(9,147)	(9,147)
	-	138,971	138,971
	41,018	29,323	70,341
	41,018	27,033	68,051

# Dorchester Abbey Parochial Church Council

## Financial statements for the period ended 31 December 2025

### Notes to the Financial Statements

#### 9 Investment assets

**Fixed asset investments**  
 Carrying (market) value on 1 January 2025  
 Add additions at cost/value  
 Less disposals at carrying value  
 Net gain/(loss) on revaluation

#### Analysis of investments

	Market value at 31 December 2025	Income from investments in 2025
<b>Material investment holdings</b>		
Memorial Funds		
457.29 CBF Church of England Investment Fund Income Shares	10,151	-
Garden Fund		
896.57 CBF Church of England Investment Fund Income Shares	19,902	839
Endowment Funds at current value	11,718	339
	41,771	1,178

#### 10 Debtors and prepayments

	Amounts falling due within one year
Accrued income - tax refund due	5,420
Prepayments & deposits	6,618
Dorchester Abbey Trading	12,323
Other Debtors	13,047
Accrued Legacy Income	5,781
Accrued income - CCLA Interest	12,099
	13,779
	55,288
	42,593

No amounts were due in more than one year.

#### 11 Creditors and accruals

	Amounts falling due after one year	Amounts falling due within one year
	2025	2025
Rector's Discretionary Fund	£	£
Creditors for goods and services	-	2,134
Accruals	-	8,248
Prepaid income not earned	-	13,106
Deferred Grant Income - Museum	233	-
Other Creditors	-	888
	233	28,833
	2,538	46,913
	233	28,833

Dorchester Abbey Parochial Church Council

Financial statements for the period ended 31 December 2025

Notes to the Financial Statements

12 Endowment and restricted funds

Endowment funds	Fund balances brought forward	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Gains and losses	Fund balances carried forward
	£	£	£	£	£
The Exon Trust	12,206	-	-	(488)	11,718

The capital of this trust is of a perpetual nature and may not be spent. This is for the bells and clock of Dorchester Abbey, or to further the interests of bell ringers connected with the Abbey. The income is paid to the PCC's Bell Fund. In the year to 31 December 2025 £339 was received.

Restricted funds

	Fund balances brought forward	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfers	Fund balances carried forward
	£	£	£	£	£
Clock Fund	-	-	-	-	-
West End Project Fund	17,114	744	-	-	17,858
Curate's House Fund	46,947	258	-	-	47,205
Special collections	-	721	(721)	-	-
	64,061	1,723	(721)	-	65,063

Curate's House Fund is represented by £6,124 in a CBF account and the Dorchester PCC share of the property of £41,018

13 Designated funds

	Fund balances brought forward	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfers	Gains and losses	Fund balances carried forward
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Fabric Fund	80,931	71,042	(69,538)	-	-	82,435
Museum Fund	16,260	9,963	(8,342)	-	-	17,881
Memorial Fund	10,574	-	-	-	(423)	10,151
Garden Fund	27,074	3,457	(2,001)	-	(829)	27,701
Bell Fund	6,417	624	-	-	-	7,041
	141,256	85,086	(79,881)	-	(1,252)	145,209