



St Cuthbert North Meols

A member of the North Meols Team since 1st December 2003.

Registered Charity No. 1133850

A Parish situated in Churchtown, Southport, Merseyside
and a member of the Diocese of Liverpool.

Annual Report of the proceedings of the Parochial Church Council Balance Sheet and Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31st December 2025

Team Rector

Reverend Rebecca Clarke, The Rectory, 20 Moss Lane, Southport PR9 7QR

Accountants

Mayfair Associates, 21a Hoghton Street, Southport PR9 0NS

Independent Examiner

Mr Robert Corbett, 40 New Lane, Southport PR9 8LH

Gift Aid Secretary

Mr Stephen Hopwood

Bankers

Natwest, 130 Lord Street, Southport PR9 0AE

Quinquennial Architect

Mr Ian Volland, NJSR Chartered Architects LLP, 59 Hoghton Street, Southport PR9 0PG

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Parochial Church Council of St Cuthbert North Meols
Annual Report for the year ended 31st December 2025
Administrative information

St Cuthbert's Church is situated in Botanic Road, Churchtown, Southport. It is part of the Diocese of Liverpool within the Church of England. Since 2003, St Cuthbert's has been part of the North Meols Team Ministry comprising the three parishes of St Cuthbert in North Meols, St Stephen in Banks, and St John in Crossens. The correspondence address is :

Parish Hall Office, Botanic Road, Churchtown, Southport PR9 7NA.

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is a charity. The registration is listed as 'The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Cuthbert, North Meols.' and the registered number 1133850.

The following members have served during the year :

Chairman, Rector*	Reverend Rebecca Clarke **
Vice-Chairman*	Mr S Hopwood
Team Rector	Reverend Rebecca Clarke
Reader (ex-officio)	Mrs B Jagger
Wardens*	Mr H. Midgley
	Mr P Bate
	Mr S Hopwood
Secretary* (appointed, not elected)	Mrs D Judge
Parish Clerk (appointed, not elected)	Mrs D Judge
Treasurer – link with Diocese	
Link with Accountant	
Gift Aid Secretary	Mr S Hopwood
Diocesan Synod Representative	
Deanery Synod Representatives	Mrs B Jagger
	Mr R Abrams *
	Mrs Dorothy Lee-Ogden
and	
Mrs Frances Weavers	Mr Michael Clarke
Mrs Catherine Howard	Mrs Ruth Evans
Mr George Wilson	Mrs Susan Greer
Mr John Mee	

** Denotes Standing Committee member*

*** Also a trustee of St Cuthbert's Pre-school*

Structure, governance and management

The members of the PCC are either ex-officio or, in accordance with the Church Representation Rules, elected at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting. In 2025 it was held on 11th May.

For the purposes of all financial, accounting, legal and administrative purposes and transactions, the PCC is legally deemed to be, and acts as, a corporate body.

'The Parochial Church Council (PCC) operates under the Parochial Church Councils (Powers) Measure 1956 and the Church Representation Rules and The PCC is a body corporate (PCC Powers Measure 1956, Church Representation Rules 2006) and a charity currently excepted from registration with the Charity Commission'. 'The general functions of the PCC are stated within section 2 of the Parochial Church Councils (Powers) Measure 1956. When planning our objectives for the year, the PCC gave consideration to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and, in particular, the specific guidance to charities concerned with the advancement of religion'.

The PCC is the main governing body of the Church and operates with the assistance of a Standing Committee. There are no other official sub-committees of the PCC. Working parties are established to plan for a specific project such as Worship Committee. Other groups/committees work on a more continuous basis, for example, Protection for All, Rose Queen and Summer Fair and the Hall (maintenance and management) Committees. These may include members of the Church who are not on the PCC. The PCC sets the policies under which these groups and committees work. The recommendations of the Standing Committee and the working committees and groups are put before the PCC for approval and ratification. The PCC requires reports from each of the groups which are included in the Report on Activities, Groups and Organisations presented at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting.

Objectives and activities

It is the principal objective of the PCC to co-operate with the clergy of the North Meols Team Ministry in promoting, in the Parish of North Meols, the whole pastoral, evangelical, social and ecumenical mission of the Church. There is 1 clergy member in the North Meols Team: the Team Rector, Rev'd Rebecca Clarke.

Achievements and performance

On the 31st December 2025, there were 80 persons on the electoral roll.

The average attendances (16+) at the Church services on a Sunday over the last nine years are:

	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021*	2020*	2019	2018	2017
8.30am	0	0	0	0	0	16	16	16	16
10.30am	78	76	65	61	57	52	72	69	59
6.30pm	0	0	0	0	0	15	25	29	22
Total	78	76	65	61	57	83	113	136	122

*2020 & 2021 were the years of the covid pandemic and Church was closed due to lockdowns.

There is also a service of Holy Communion at 10.30am every Wednesday morning.

Baptisms

The figures given above do not include the families and friends who were welcomed at the monthly Services of Baptism, during which 17 baptisms took place in 2025 (9 in 2024). All the families demonstrated a connection with St Cuthbert's and baptism was, therefore, agreed for pastoral reasons.

Confirmations

There were 0 confirmations in 2025 (0 in 2024).

Weddings

4 weddings took place during 2025 (8 in 2024). All the couples demonstrated a qualifying connection with St Cuthbert's.

Funerals

9 (17) funerals or memorial services were held in Church. There were 2 (4) burials in the Churchyard and 24 (35) interments of cremated remains. (The equivalent figures for 2024 are in brackets). In addition, 6 (5) funeral services were held in their entirety at the Crematorium.

Review of the year

The PCC met on 6 occasions in 2025 (two of these meetings were extraordinary meetings). The Standing Committee met between PCC meetings.

The Churchyard

George Wilson was appointed Gardener in May 2014. He has looked after the graveyard during 2025 with the grass being cut on a regular basis. For part of the year (summer growing season) George had help from Steve Judge who worked approx. 6 hours a week.

Policies

Policies, such as Health and Safety, and particularly Protection for All, are kept under regular review.

Safeguarding

The Church of England its archbishops, bishops, clergy and leaders are committed to safeguarding as an integral part of the life and ministry of the Church. Safeguarding means the action the Church takes to promote a safer culture.

The Church of England safeguarding policy statement is based on five foundations and offers six overarching policy commitments:

- Promoting a safer environment and culture
- Safely recruiting and supporting all those with any responsibility related to children, young people and vulnerable adults within the Church
- Responding promptly to every safeguarding concern or allegation
- Caring pastorally for victims/survivors of abuse and other affected persons
- Caring pastorally for those who are the subject of concerns or allegations of abuse and other affected persons
- Responding to those that may pose a present risk to others

This policy applies to all Church bodies and Church officers which includes members of the PCC and paid or unpaid staff.

St Cuthbert's Church adhere to all current policies with regard to safeguarding. St Cuthbert's Church have started to use safeguarding to the Church of England's traffic light system, which has recently become available to Liverpool Diocese.

Reports

Reports were received from the Deanery Synod, and the Deanery Pastoral Committee

More information can be found in the report on Church Activities and Groups, published separately.

Financial review

In 2025 a large proportion of our income was received through tax efficient giving schemes; thus, collections of £40,861, an increase of £1,281 on 2024 were enhanced by £9,043 Gift Aid from HM Revenue & Customs.

We also raised £9,196 from fundraising events, £24,237 from hall letting fees and received £31,716 in legacies.

Overall, in 2025 our total funds reduced by £21,284. We have continued operational deficits where our running costs exceed our income and this is mainly due to our inability to meet the high parish share allocation. Parish office renovations of £10,429 were also carried out during the year.

Therefore, we have to be mindful that we are relying heavily on our reserves and endeavour to make cost savings where possible.

Reserves Policy

The PCC aims to maintain general reserves at such a level that working capital is maintained at a level equivalent to approximately at least two months general fund expenditure.

This financial report was received by the members of the PCC on Thursday 19th March 2026 and duly accepted.

The intention of the Rector and the PCC with regards to our financial, mission and ministry of St Cuthbert's Church is

- To fundraise for the for mission of St Cuthbert's Church
- To encourage donations for St Cuthbert's Church
- To build stronger links with Preschool
- To continue and increase joint services between the North Meols Team
- Continue to strengthen links between St Cuthbert's Church and Churchtown Village Committee events for the local community

St Cuthbert North Meols

Independent Examiner's Report to the PCC

I have conducted an independent examination of the financial statements of the Parochial Church Council of St Cuthbert, North Meols for the year ended 31st December 2025.

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

As members of the PCC, you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements. The PCC members 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 issue this report on those financial statements in accordance with the terms of the Regulations.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of the Independent Examiner's Report

My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the PCC 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 PCC 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 material matters have come to my attention which give me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records have not been kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act 2011;
- the accounts do not accord with such records;
- the accounts did 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 or are not consistent with the Charities SORP (FRS102)
- any matter which the examiner believes should be drawn to the attention of the reader to gain a proper understanding of the accounts.

Mr R Corbett
40 New Lane
Southport
PR9 8LH

Signed:



Dated:

24th March 2026

St Cuthbert North Meols
Balance Sheet as at 31st December 2025

	2025	2024
Fixed assets		
Church Hall	200,000	200,000
Depreciation	(199,999)	(199,999)
Total Fixed assets	1	1
Current assets		
Stock of resaleable items	101	320
Churchyard bank account	948	808
Unilever plc shares	84,167	78,771
Bank current account	4,287	11,481
Bank capital reserve account	94,336	215,218
Bank liquidity manager 35 day account	95,579	—
Cash in hand	166	131
Associated groups	677	397
Accounts Receivable	7,315	1,549
Total Current assets	287,575	308,676
Liabilities		
Accounts Payable	10,531	10,348
Total Liabilities	10,531	10,348
Net Asset surplus (deficit)	277,045	298,329
Reserves		
Excess / (deficit) to date	(26,679)	230,188
Starting balances	298,329	55,185
Other gains / (losses)	5,395	12,955
Total Reserves	277,045	298,329

Represented by Funds		
Unrestricted	271,265	289,102
Designated	1,195	865
Restricted	4,585	8,362
Total	277,045	298,329

Approved by the PCC at its
meeting on **19 March 2026**

There may be minor discrepancies in the totals if the pence are not being shown.

St Cuthbert North Meols
Statement of Financial Activities
for the period from 1st January 2025 to 31st December 2025

	Unrestricted funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Prior year total funds
Income and endowments from:						
Donations and legacies	86,192	—	—	—	86,192	330,900
Income from charitable activities	35,611	24,520	294	—	60,426	79,701
Investments	5,191	—	—	—	5,191	2,842
Other income	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total income	126,995	24,520	294	—	151,809	413,443
Expenditure on:						
Raising funds	31,999	13,551	—	—	45,550	56,588
Expenditure on charitable activities	85,011	2,707	294	—	88,011	87,378
Other expenditure	19,130	22,021	3,776	—	44,927	39,289
Total expenditure	136,139	38,278	4,070	—	178,488	183,254
Gains / losses on investment assets	5,395	—	—	—	5,395	12,955
Net income/(expenditure) resources before transfer	(3,749)	(13,758)	(3,776)	—	(21,284)	243,144
Transfers						
Gross transfers between funds - in	—	14,088	—	—	14,088	1,335
Gross transfers between funds - out	(14,088)	—	—	—	(14,088)	(1,335)
Net movement in funds	(17,837)	330	(3,776)	—	(21,284)	243,144
Reconciliation of funds						
Total funds brought forward	289,102	865	8,362	—	298,329	55,185
Total funds carried forward	271,265	1,195	4,585	—	277,045	298,329

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■ Accounting Policies

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) effective 1 January 2015, SORP(FRS102), as amended by Update Bulletin 1, effective 1 January 2016, and the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland, FRS 102, published September 2015.

The financial statements have been prepared under the Charities Act 2011 and the 2008 accounting and reporting regulations made thereunder, based on the current version of the Charities SORP (SORP(FRS102)), as disclosed above.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention except for the valuation of investment assets, which are shown at market value.

■ Volunteers Policy

Donated professional services and donated facilities are recognised as income when the charity has control over the item, any conditions associated with the donated item have been met, the receipt of economic benefit from the use by the charity of the item is probable and that economic benefit can be measured reliably. In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102), general volunteer time is not recognised.

On receipt, donated professional services and donated facilities are recognised on the basis of the value of the gift to the charity which is the amount the charity would have been willing to pay to obtain services or facilities of equivalent economic benefit on the open market; a corresponding amount is then recognised in expenditure in the period of receipt.

■ Incoming Resources

Voluntary income and capital sources

Collections are recognised when received by or on behalf of the PCC. Planned giving receivable under gift aid is recognised only when received. Income tax recoverable on gift aid donations is recognised when the income is recognised. Grants and legacies to the PCC are accounted for as soon as the PCC is notified of its legal entitlement and the amount due is quantifiable and its ultimate receipt by the PCC is probable. Funds raised by the Christmas fair, Rose Queen and similar events are accounted for gross. Sales of books and magazines from the church bookstall are accounted for gross.

Other income

Rental income from the letting of church premises is recognised when the rental is due.

Income from investments

Dividends are accounted for when due and payable and interest entitlements are accounted for as they accrue. Tax recoverable on such income is recognised in the same accounting year.

Gains and losses on investments

Realised gains or losses are recognised when investments are sold. Unrealised gains or losses are accounted for on revaluation of investments at 31 December.

■ Resources Expended

Grants

Grants and donations are accounted for when paid over, or when awarded, if that award creates a binding obligation on the PCC.

Activities directly relating to the work of the Church

The diocesan parish share is accounted for when paid. Any parish share unpaid at 31 December is provided for in these accounts as an operational (though not a legal) liability and is shown as a creditor in the Balance Sheet.

■ Fixed assets

Consecrated property and movable church furnishings

Consecrated and beneficed property of any kind is excluded from the accounts by s.10(2)(a) 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 accounted for as inalienable property unless consecrated. They are listed in the Church's inventory which can be inspected (at any reasonable time). For inalienable property acquired prior to 2002) there is insufficient cost information available and therefore such assets are not valued in the accounts. Items acquired since 1 January 2003 have been capitalised and depreciated in the accounts over their currently anticipated useful economic life (initially over 4 years) on a straight-line basis.

All expenditure incurred in the year on consecrated or beneficed buildings, individual items under £1,000 or on the repair of moveable church furnishings acquired before 1 January 2003 is written off.

Other fixtures, fittings and office equipment

Equipment used within the church premises is depreciated on a straight line basis over 4 years. Individual items of equipment with a purchase price of £1,000 or less are written off when the asset is acquired.

■ Investments

Investments are valued at market value at 31 December.

■ Current assets

Stocks

Stock of resalable items is valued at sale price less 33.33%.

Debtors

Amounts owing to the PCC at 31 December in respect of fees, rents or other income are shown as debtors less provision for amounts that may prove irrecoverable.

■ Funds

General funds represent the funds of the PCC that are not subject to any restrictions regarding their use and are available for application on the general purposes of the PCC. Funds designated for a particular purpose by the PCC are also unrestricted.

The accounts 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 nor those that are informal gatherings of Church members.

St Cuthbert North Meols
Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)
Year ended 31st December 2025

	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	Total This year	Total Last year
Income and endowments						
Donations and legacies						
001 - Collections	40,861	—	—	—	40,861	39,580
002 - Income tax refund Gift Aid	9,043	—	—	—	9,043	11,129
003 - Donations	4,572	—	—	—	4,572	10,908
019 - Legacies	31,716	—	—	—	31,716	269,283
Donations and legacies Totals	86,192	—	—	—	86,192	330,900
Income from charitable activities						
004 - Fundraising events	9,196	—	—	—	9,196	11,192
006 - Hall income	24,237	—	—	—	24,237	27,779
008 - Sundry income	—	—	—	—	—	—
011 - Kitchen income	1,180	—	—	—	1,180	1,382
012 - Parish office income	718	—	—	—	718	1,052
013 - Churchyard income - fees	—	21,484	—	—	21,484	34,633
014 - Charitable collections & gifts	—	—	294	—	294	308
015 - Souvenir sales	280	—	—	—	280	436
017 - Flower income	—	1,265	—	—	1,265	1,043
020 - Associated groups - income	—	1,772	—	—	1,772	1,877
Income from charitable activities Totals	35,611	24,520	294	—	60,426	79,701
Investments						
005 - Income on investments	5,191	—	—	—	5,191	2,842
Investments Totals	5,191	—	—	—	5,191	2,842
Other income						
016 - Grant income	-	-	-	-	-	-
021 - Insurance claims	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other income Totals	-	-	-	-	-	-
Income and endowments Grand Totals	126,995	24,520	294	—	151,809	413,443

There may be minor discrepancies in the totals if the pence are not being shown.

St Cuthbert North Meols
Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)
Year ended 31st December 2025

	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	Total This year	Total Last year
Expenditure						
Raising funds						
107 - Upkeep of services	2,169	—	—	—	2,169	2,234
108 - Organist & choir	6,957	—	—	—	6,957	6,511
116 - Hall expenses	21,147	—	—	—	21,147	25,948
119 - Churchyard payments	—	13,551	—	—	13,551	19,946
127 - Fundraising costs	1,726	—	—	—	1,726	1,950
Raising funds Totals	31,999	13,551	—	—	45,550	56,588
Expenditure on charitable activities						
101 - Parish Share	60,960	—	—	—	60,960	70,749
117 - Kitchen expenses	46	—	—	—	46	253
118 - Parish office expenses	24,005	—	—	—	24,005	13,332
121 - Gifts paid to charities	—	—	294	—	294	308
122 - Associated groups - expenses	—	1,491	—	—	1,491	1,702
128 - Flower expenses	—	1,215	—	—	1,215	1,024
129 - Garden expenses	—	—	—	—	—	10
Expenditure on charitable activities Total	85,011	2,707	294	—	88,011	87,378
Other expenditure						
102 - Rector's expenses	515	—	—	—	515	135
103 - Rectory costs	2,147	—	—	—	2,147	2,240
109 - Organ & piano	—	—	—	—	—	876
110 - Church repairs & maintenance	—	—	3,776	—	3,776	1,638
111 - Insurance	6,636	—	—	—	6,636	6,433
112 - Gas, electricity & water	7,118	—	—	—	7,118	9,196
120 - Repairs in churchyard	—	22,021	—	—	22,021	16,022
124 - Sundries	—	—	—	—	—	—
125 - Legal & professional	2,713	—	—	—	2,713	2,749
Other expenditure Totals	19,130	22,021	3,776	—	44,927	39,289
Expenditure Grand Totals	136,139	38,278	4,070	—	178,488	183,254

There may be minor discrepancies in the totals if the pence are not being shown.

St Cuthbert North Meols
Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)
Year ended 31st December 2025

	2025	2024
	£	£
Collections		
Planned Giving:		
Standing Orders	7,012	7,108
Parish Giving Scheme	18,027	17,746
Envelope Scheme	-	7,359
Loose Collections (incl Weddings, Baptisms etc)	15,822	7,367
	40,861	39,580
Staff costs		
Wages and salaries	31,348	31,065
Social security costs	0.00	0.00
Pension costs	0.00	0.00
	31,348	31,065

The average number of employees during the year was 3 (2024 - 3) with all employee time involved in providing either support to the governance of the charity or support services to the charitable activities.

Trustee payment disclosures

No trustees received any payment, other than clergy. All reimbursements to trustees were for out-of-pocket expenses.

Analysis of net assets by fund	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total
	£	£	£
Fixed assets	1	-	1
Current assets	282,990	4,585	287,575
Current liabilities	(10,531)	-	(10,531)
Fund balance	272,460	4,585	277,045

Summary statement of funds	B/fwd	Incoming Resources	Outgoing Resources	Transfers	Gains & Losses	Fund Bal C/fwd
Unrestricted - General fund	289,102	126,995	136,139	(14,088)	5,395	271,265
Designated - Churchyard fund*	-	21,484	35,572	14,088	-	-
Designated - Funds of Associated Groups	397	1,772	1,491	-	-	677
Designated - Flower fund	468	1,265	1,215	-	-	517
Restricted - Charities fund	-	294	294	-	-	-
Restricted - Building fund	8,362	-	3,776	-	-	4,585
Totals	298,329	151,809	178,488	-	5,395	277,045

***Note:** 'Designated - Churchyard fund' includes a transfer from 'Unrestricted - General fund' of £14,088 to bring the fund out of deficit.

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