



**The PARISH and BENEFICE of BRIDPORT**

**ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED**

**31 DECEMBER 2025**

Annual Report	Pages 1 - 12
Independent Examiner's Report	Page 13
Financial Statements	Pages 14 - 28

Charity Commission Registration number: 1133974  
**[www.parishofbridport.org](http://www.parishofbridport.org)**

## The PARISH and BENEFICE of BRIDPORT

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

<b>Team Rector until 31.07.2025</b> The Revd Canon Deborah Smith The Rectory 84 South Street Bridport, Dorset DT6 3NW	<b>Parish Administrator:</b> Ms Dianne Sinclair C/o The Rectory
<b>Hon Secretary:</b> Mrs Bridget Trump 18 Maple Gardens Bridport, Dorset DT6 4DR	<b>Hon Treasurer:</b> Mrs Janet Shaw, 5, Douglas Avenue, Harold Wood, Romford, Essex RM3 OUT
<b>Lead Bankers:</b> National Westminster Bank plc TSB plc CCLA	<b>Independent Examiner:</b> Scott Vevers Ltd 65 East Street, Bridport, Dorset DT6 3LB

#### Reference and Administrative Details

The Bridport Team Ministry in the Benefice of Bridport was established in July 1979 in the union of four benefices in and around the town of Bridport. The five parish churches remain as parish churches of the new benefice. It is part of the Diocese of Salisbury within the Church of England.

The correspondence address is The Rectory, 84 South Street, Bridport. DT6 3NW

Following the many consultation sessions in 2022 it was felt that going forward we would use the term 'The Parish of Bridport'. We are one parish, worshipping in six buildings, connected to each other as the body of Christ in this place.

Details of the Independent Examiner and main Bankers are contained above. Additional advice is sought from the Diocese or, where appropriate, other advisors are consulted.

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

Bridport Parochial Church Council (PCC) is a charity registered with the Charity Commission; registration number 1133974. The PCC members are its Trustees, and so are responsible for delivering public benefit by serving the wider community.

## The PARISH and BENEFICE of BRIDPORT

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

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules 2025. All church attendees are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC. A new Electoral Roll was prepared in 2025, reflecting an accurate picture of church members in the parish. The Parishioners Meeting and Annual Parochial Church Meeting were both held on 18 May 2025, in line with the requirements. Newly appointed PCC members are provided with an induction to the Charity through a written handbook and mentoring by established members.

PCC members who have served from 1 January 2025 until the date this report was approved are:

<i>Team Rector: Chairman</i>	The Revd Canon Deborah Smith	Until 31 July 2025
<i>Pioneer Team Vicar</i>	The Revd Caroline Burch	
<i>Associate Priest</i>	The Revd Lorna Johnson	
<i>Associate Priest</i>	The Revd John Rees	
<i>Hospital Chaplain:</i>	The Revd Philip Ringer	Ex-officio; Clergy rep on Deanery Synod
<i>Churchwardens:</i>	Mrs Michele Craddock Mrs Madeleine Sturrock Mr John Adams	Until APCM 18 May 2025
<i>Vice chair</i>	Mr Paul Groom	From 18 May 2025
<i>Representatives on the Deanery Synod. (2023 – 2025)</i>	Mr Graham Purse Mr Philip Sturrock	Until 10 April 2025
<i>Elected members:</i>	Mr. Peter Carnell	
	Mrs Caroline Cooke	Until APCM 18 May 2025, and from 9 Dec 2025
	Mr James Craddock	Until APCM 18 May 2025
	Mrs Rosemary Harvey	From 9 December 2025
	Mrs Lesley Hill	
	Mrs Sharon Morgan	From APCM 18 May 2025
	Mrs. Sue Pollock	
	Mrs Heather Purse	
	Mrs Janet Shaw	PCC Treasurer (co-opted)
	Mrs Madeleine Sturrock	From APCM 18 May 2025
	Mrs Wendy Thorogood	PSO (co-opted)
	Mrs Bridget Trump	PCC Secretary
	Mrs Julia Whiting	

### Objectives and Activities

Bridport PCC has the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent, the Revd Canon Deborah Smith (until her retirement in the summer), in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. The Revd Cally Burch was appointed Interim Team Rector to lead the parish through the interregnum.

## **The PARISH and BENEFICE of BRIDPORT**

### **Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2025**

The PCC also has maintenance responsibilities for the curtilage and glebe land of the six sites of St Mary's Bridport, St John's West Bay, St Swithun's Allington, Holy Trinity Bradpole, St Mary's Walditch and Holy Trinity Bothenhampton, together with the maintenance responsibility for the churchyard of the Old Church in Bothenhampton.

During 2025 the PCC has discussed and developed an action plan to apply aspects of the Diocesan vision of 'Making Jesus Known'. The four key areas that have been identified are Eco Church and Sustainability, Engagement with Families and Young People, Discipleship and Growing in Faith, and Outreach to Tourists. In April 2025 our new PCC was elected, and following a day of prayer, induction and planning, we felt that it was right to expand our vision. We added 'Music' and 'Outreach to New residents' to the wheel diagram and recognising our need to underpin all our actions with prayer, we added a strong prayer band encircling the action plan. Each of the local churches in the Parish have discussed ways to advance the work at a local level, and more shared Parish initiatives are also being planned for 2026 and the following years.

#### **Public Benefit**

The Trustees have paid due regard to guidance issued by The Charity Commission on public benefit. Further details of the activities identified in the Financial Statements are contained in the Review of the Year.

#### **Volunteers**

Volunteers have a major role in the PCC and its activities, without which it may cease to function or its ability to be effective would be seriously curtailed. We are very grateful to the many people who help and assist in so many ways across the parish. We thank those who generously donate their time, ideas, expertise or resources towards fund-raising initiatives, as well as those who continue to oversee the governance or look after the finances.

#### **Achievements and Performance**

##### **Church attendance**

- Following the revision of the Electoral Roll in May 2025, by the end of 2025 there were 196 parishioners on the Church Electoral Roll. Attendance at church services has slightly improved this year with the average Sunday attendance of 141 adults plus 6 children and young people. A lower age profile reflects the increase in the number of regular families who worship with us.
- On Easter Day we had 272 attendees.
- We continue to gather in a different church for a Parish Service of Holy Communion on the first Sunday morning of the month, for one joint service.
- Carol Services and Christingle Services during Advent were held across the parish for the local community, civic contingency and for the schools. A total of over 1700 people attended.
- Attendance numbers across the parish for Christmas Eve and Christmas Day were 497.
- In 2025 we held 10 Baptisms, 3 Weddings, 66 Funeral services.



## The PARISH and BENEFICE of BRIDPORT

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

#### PCC Review of the year

During the year the full PCC held ten meetings with the Standing Committee convening on three occasions during the same period. In addition, we had an Away-Day (January), a new PCC Induction Day (June) and a Vision Day (November), all involving the PCC and others to explore potential ideas for the future development of church activities, the setting of priorities for the parish, and to identify the aspirations of the parish for new leadership through the appointment of a new rector. At the Induction Day in June the new PCC identified 5 priority areas on which to focus: prayer, music, Bridport's new housing development, communications and discipleship.

Other significant events or initiatives were undertaken during 2025:

- The Ministry Team continues to evolve as new lay ministers are trained alongside the retired clergy team, to enhance and share some commitments. This resulted in Bishop Karen licensing a group of seven Lay Pastoral Assistants in July. In addition, one of the Lay Worship Leaders has begun working with Care Dorset at the day care centre in Bridport delivering a faith-based activity session to include bible story, hymn singing and prayers.
- After a short five-years as rector the health of the Revd Canon Deb Smith had declined through the year and she retired at the end of July. Deb led an uplifting service of thanksgiving and we celebrated her 22 years of ministry in this area, with gratitude and grateful thanks for who she is.
- The Revd Cally Burch was appointed Interim Team Rector for the vacancy as we draft the parish profile and begin the process of recruiting a new rector. The Revd John Rees has assumed the lead for our ministry with children and young people.
- The ongoing general maintenance of the church buildings continued as required, although St John's electrical circuitry was replaced, the evidence of water ingress through the lead flashing is causing major problems in the vestry. The Task Group have diligently researched a variety of heating options for the building but have not yet gained the required permission to begin an installation. This does restrict how much we can use the church.
- A generic Booking Form was agreed by the PCC to cover hiring of our churches to outside organisations to ensure that insurance cover is adequate alongside the risk assessment for the activity. The form has been rolled out to two churches; the others still need to follow.  
Two particularly rewarding festivals were held during the year:  
**Bridport Bright and Beautiful**, a Quilt and Flower Festival in St Mary's over a weekend in June.  
**Allington Arts Weekend** offered a variety of art events, an exhibition, workshops, plays and talks in September. Both were successful community events and raised some funds for church expenses.
- The Parish Action Plan 2024 – 2027 is a living document and is developed and populated as it evolves. A traffic-light analysis table (red, amber, green) helps us identify how we are progressing and what changes might be needed to reflect our ministry.

## The PARISH and BENEFICE of BRIDPORT

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

- Despite making several claims in 2025 for historical Gift Aid that is due, the claims were not all paid and further work is now in hand to address the situation. Extending the registration with the Parish Giving Scheme has been identified as important, together with the need to identify 'mission' as an expense in our budgets. The intention was to include a parish stewardship campaign during the year but although this was delayed, two churches did discuss their financial commitments.
- Information gleaned following the use of the Diocesan Cornerstone resources to review generosity, will help to guide how a campaign is rolled out in June 2026. This should then become an annual review of our finances and resources. In addition, we expect to make more use of contactless machines at our events, following the example of those installed in St John's and St Swithun's. These capture the opportunity for visitors to easily support our church buildings and outreach work.

#### **Local Church Sub-Committees:**

During 2021 the new governance structure was implemented across the parish and each local church has a sub-committee with the four core-members being appointed by the PCC to oversee the day-to-day activities of the local church and congregation. Reviewed annually, but four areas of responsibility are temporarily delegated by the PCC to each:

- *Day to day care of the church building and churchyard*
- *Facilitation and practical preparation for services and occasional offices*
- *Organization and management of welcome groups and pastoral care at a local level*
- *Maintaining and developing the social aspect of the life of the church*

In addition, the PCC has appointed **Parish Sub-Committees** for the various branches of church work. These sub-committees include persons who are not members of the PCC and work across the parish.

#### **The work of the Parish Sub-Committees:**

**CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE:** This new sub-committee first met in January 2025. The group reviewed and affirmed the breadth of this ministry, including much appreciated toddler groups at St Mary's and Holy Trinity Bradpole and the teaching and support given through Sunday School at St Mary's Church.

Wild and Messy Church has grown from being a new initiative involving a gathering of strangers to become a flourishing worshipping community, enabling children, young people and adults to grow in faith while having fun together through worship and sharing in crafts and food.

All Age Worship services at St Marys have been established, with families involved in choosing hymns and songs, leading prayers, and leading often interactive Bible readings. Different parts of the Communion service have been explained in services which are visual, using slides and a screen. We have celebrated positive feedback and hopefully learnt from things that needed to be improved.

We are now a Diocesan base for Flourish, a national Church of England initiative aimed at strengthening supportive relationships between schools, churches and their families. In local Primary Schools we led after school events and collective worship, supported governance and provided pastoral support, covering both a change of head and a sad bereavement at St Mary's School. We also began to consider how we might work ecumenically to extend our support to secondary aged children.

## **The PARISH and BENEFICE of BRIDPORT**

### **Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2025**

**COMMUNICATIONS:** We sought advice from a media professional about our communications early in the year and an open meeting was held with her to help us all to think about how we could improve the way our information is published, as efficient communication is an ongoing struggle.

The need to print the weekly sheet for each congregation is being monitored and paperwork for the new Electoral Roll in May 2025 included a consent form to develop our email correspondence as an alternative. The Bridge magazine provides a medium for regular outreach to the community. Our contract with Wix includes some time of a technical expert who has helped us adapt and develop the new website. We have volunteers who update it at least twice a week.

All documents for the PCC and sub-committees are now stored on the Google Drive which cuts out the need for printing prior to meetings yet gives the PCC access and oversight of everything across the parish. Each leader of a sub-committee is responsible for ensuring their information is uploaded.

**ECO CHURCH:** Eco Church is now embedded in all six churches in the Parish. We have four bronze and one silver award which reflect commitment to the five principles of A Rocha's Eco Church programme. The newly updated survey rolled out by A Rocha is a useful audit for us as we continue this journey, challenging us in our behaviour as a church community and as individuals. The Energy Footprint Tool (EFT) was introduced in 2025 and each church asked to complete it using the online portal. A Deanery Eco Day was held in the parish in May and our visiting local churches encouraged to make use of the opportunity to learn about the EFT and complete it with assistance, if needed.

The young people from Wild & Messy Church began the successful Parish Green Day in September ('Together We Can Make a Difference') with an interactive presentation, followed by input from local green groups learning about and from each other. West Dorset Wilding helped us to understand about the different land management practices to reduce flooding and biodiversity. Lunch of simple locally sourced food was shared. This has now become an annual event allowing the spotlight to shine on a particular aspect of the environment, and an opportunity to continue to grow and develop our partnerships with local groups.

**FABRIC:** The Fabric Sub-Committee has continued its work of being the focal point for dealing with the maintenance of the six church buildings throughout the year. Quinquennial inspections (QIs) were undertaken at St Swithun's and Bothenhampton during 2025.

The 5-year cost forecast and overview of maintenance across the entire parish based upon the QI reports for each of the six constituent churches, has been completed. Although, disappointingly, the PCC did not choose to formally adopt the forecast for planning future expenditures, it is proving to be a useful tool for the Fabric committee to provide advice to the PCC and local church sub-committees.

During the year Virginia Bowley was added to the list of persons authorised by the PCC / Diocese to make official Petitions for Faculties to carry out building work.

## **The PARISH and BENEFICE of BRIDPORT**

### **Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2025**

Turning to casework, the Committee oversaw several minor projects, including the applications for a replacement stained-glass window and the installation of a water butt, both at Bradpole. The project to improve the environment within St John's, West Bay and rectify the problem of water ingress and dampness has continued, with the replacement of part of the ceiling that collapsed due to the storm damage and the examination of options for a new heating system. Proposals were developed for work to be undertaken to the vestry roof, flashings and parapets to the external walls and render to the south wall, to reduce water ingress and dampness. We were beaten by the winter weather and the work is scheduled to be carried out in Spring 2026.

The repair and renewal project at St Swithun's has reached the significant milestone of completion of replacing the render to the external walls and improving the flashings and guttering at the junctions between the roof and the parapet walls. The lighting of the Cupola and re-guilding of the weathervane were also undertaken at the same time as the work to the east, south and west walls, to avoid incurring additional scaffolding costs. Attention is now focusing on preparing for the re-plastering of the internal face of the external walls and considering the replacement of the heating system.

There is serious work to be carried out at Bradpole on the southern boundary wall of the churchyard, as movement to the ground is evident by the cracks which have appeared in the wall.

**FINANCE:** The Sub-Committee includes the Chair, the PCC Treasurer, the Rector and/or the Pioneer Vicar, together with representatives from each local church. There have been five in-person meetings during 2025, and between those meetings other issues have been discussed and agreed via email.

The agendas cover various aspects of finance including income collection, recording or authorisation of different types of expenditure, and reviews of various processes for the whole Parish and in the local churches. The members review their figures regularly and help to monitor the annual budget to manage income and expenditure across the six churches and for the shared activities of the PCC. A report on this is presented to the PCC each quarter.

**GOVERNANCE:** The Churchwardens Team was reduced to two at the APCM in May, severely limiting the leadership or outreach role to which they could practically aspire.

The Electoral Roll was renewed in time for the APCM in May, and everyone invited to reapply, thus bringing our contact information up to date. Parish Policy documents are identified and discussed and a rolling timetable of review expected to be put in place. Terms of Reference for all the sub-committees are regularly reviewed and amended following discussion between the sub-committee and the Governance group, who recommend the changes to the PCC.

As the maintenance project at St Swithun's grew in complexity a new authorisation procedure was devised and implemented for six-months while the exterior work was completed. During that time the level of authorisation of a new task group was debated and remained unresolved at the end of the year as a new lead and members of the task group for the project have yet to be identified.

## **The PARISH and BENEFICE of BRIDPORT**

### **Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2025**

**MISSION & FAITH:** We continue to work on the challenges presented by the Diocesan Vision to 'Make Jesus Known' and during 2025 we expanded our key areas of focus to include 'Music' and 'Outreach to New Residents'. We also gave renewed focus to the place of prayer in our parish life and action plan. Weekly Parish prayer times have been taking place during the period of the interregnum.

We have continued to select Parish reading material for the seasons of Lent and Advent and this has been supported by several study and discussion groups, all of which were well received. An off-site Quiet Day was organised in April led by Revd Canon John Wood and a Discipleship Course ran for twelve weeks prior to the Advent season; this aimed at those who are who were seeking to develop their understanding of being an everyday Christian disciple. A small faith related book club has been meeting as well as a post Alpha course gathering.

During 2025, we have worked to strengthen our links with the Bridport community, both with those of other denominations and with groups outside church. The Parish of Bridport has taken an active part in the work of the local Churches Together group, hosting and leading several ecumenical events.

Our 'Come and Sea' missional outreach initiative, based at St John's West Bay, has continued with both an 'Easter Experience' day and a summer weekend event based on the theme of 'Ocean Treasures'. These events are popular with both tourists and local families and enable us to take advantage of the superb harbour location of this church.

**PASTORAL CARE:** Pastoral care is offered in the form of home visits to those who have been unable to attend church, the housebound and the lonely. There is also an afternoon monthly communion service (HTBRA and SMBRI), with the offer of lifts for those who find it difficult to get to church. These are followed by tea and cakes and a time of fellowship together. A monthly communion service is held in all the care homes in the parish. LPAs can offer home communion to any who request it.

During May and June, a 10-week pastoral skills course from the Diocese was run to train new LPAs to support pastoral care work. On 17 July there was a commissioning service led by the Bishop Karen where 4 new LPAs were commissioned and 3LPAs recommissioned.

A new form has been developed for recording pastoral care visits undertaken by LPAs and clergy so that the parish has a record of these. There are plans for LPAs to help clergy with both bereavement and baptism visits and for them to follow up the families involved. There is a monthly bereavement support group (Lifeline) which meets at the hospital once a month. The LPAs meet for mutual help and support every 6 weeks

#### **LYME BAY DEANERY SYNOD:**

The parish only has one lay parish representative on Deanery Synod, a situation reflected by other parishes as they are still seeking a lay chair and secretary for the synod. A group staffed the church tent at the Melplash Show in August, with a display of photos of local church events.

New Diocesan Churchyard Regulations have been adopted and displayed. All clergy were encouraged to speak with bereaved families to make them aware of restrictions for permanent memorials.

## **The PARISH and BENEFICE of BRIDPORT**

### **Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2025**

#### **CHURCHES TOGETHER IN BRIDPORT AND DISTRICT:**

The regular combined services continued throughout this year with the addition of Pray Bridport, hosted monthly by different churches. A new offering of Tea and Chat on a Saturday afternoon was also introduced. Lent Lunches were reintroduced in 2025, held on Fridays in different churches in aid of Christian Aid.

Ongoing discussions about the CTiBD Youth Project have not yet developed into a clear pathway for outreach work with young people. However, publicity about the church-based activities for primary school age children (e.g. Messy Church, After School Club, Wild & Messy Church) is circulated around the churches to encourage all families to participate.

#### **Safeguarding:**

The topic of safeguarding is a permanent feature on all PCC meeting agendas. At the beginning of the year a Safeguarding Assistant was recruited with a role description to focus on groups working with children and young people. She has been helping the group leaders with recruitment of volunteers and ensuring that everyone is up to date with DBS clearance and training. The dashboard for recording training and DBS records is live and working towards full compliance. All records are securely stored in the Parish Office and overseen by the PSO.

The Parish Safeguarding Officer (PSO) held several open Tea and Chat sessions for informal, in person training. *Why Safeguarding is everyone's business, Hope and Resilience, Why Christmas isn't easy for everyone*, and similarly entitled sessions were opportunities for open discussion.

#### **Risk Management**

The managing trustees have considered the major risks to which the Parish is exposed and have established policies and procedures to manage those risks. The trustees consider that the risks of an accident on church premises or loss of reputation through the abuse of a vulnerable person on the premises, or during a related activity, are the major areas of concern, together with financial fraud.

The church has implemented Health and Safety and Safeguarding policies and procedures to safeguard against these. The policies are regularly reviewed in the light of changing government policy and issues of safeguarding and the recruitment of volunteers to work with children and young people, or vulnerable adults are under continued review.

The Finance Sub-Committee discuss and review all financial processes and share knowledge and experience with each other, to maintain consistency and accountability between the local churches and parish wherever possible. The PCC Treasurer regularly reviews the data from the local church representatives and meets with them as required, to clarify any queries and maintain the standardised systems. At the end of 2025 a small group was set up to review some of the parish processes, including the authorisation of expenditure for large items or projects.



## **The PARISH and BENEFICE of BRIDPORT**

### **Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2025**

#### **Financial Review**

Table 2a shows the total of £220,872 received in various forms of voluntary giving during 2025. Of this, the total of regular giving with collections at services and other donations or legacies was £127,225, a little more than the same items in 2024 (totalling £123,187). Gift Aid of over £11,000 was received during the year, with other claims of similar value still in progress. Some collections were intended for specific charities (table 2e) and raised a further £4,604 to be passed on to them.

Although much less than in 2024 (£119,997), a significant total of £73,085 was received in various grants. Bridport Town Council have supported the work involved in maintaining the churchyards, and generous individuals and local companies have donated to major restoration projects. Most of the total above comes from nearly £58k of VAT that could be reclaimed under the Listed Places of Worship Scheme, before it was due to be closed early in 2026. A new government scheme is in preparation, but its impact is unclear at present. The parish is very grateful to all the donors who make it possible to maintain the church activities and look after the fabric of six listed buildings.

The other sources of income include grants received on behalf of the St. Mary's bellringers for their major restoration project, and various fundraising or trading activities (tables 2b and 2c) spread across the six churches. Compared to 2024, there were variations in the sums received for each of these, but the overall total was higher at £86,660 than in 2024 (£79,691), due in particular to the success of the Bridport Bright and Beautiful Quilt and Flowers festival and the Allington Arts Weekend.

Smaller events have also contributed greatly to the totals received and the community benefits generated. It is noticeable that income from funerals or weddings has decreased since 2024 by £4267, perhaps due to an increase in memorial events or ceremonies that are not held in church. Interest rates on investments have reduced during 2025 but still generated a significant sum of £30,928.

Table 3a shows that despite a further increase to the Diocesan Parish Share request since 2024, the six churches and PCC have paid a total of £127,674, reduced from £131,176 by a discount arrangement with the Diocese. This major regular expense is set to go up to a total of £140,877 in 2026, and this is now factored into very challenging budget targets for the current year.

The Parish has paid for a small increase in the salary and pension contributions of the part-time PCC Administrator, but total remuneration for church administration, vergers and organists has slightly decreased, so that the overall total in this group is similar to 2024.

During 2025, the upkeep of church buildings and churchyards (table 3b) cost £27,730, (less than the £34,371 in 2024), but major works projects totalled £282,007, (an increase of over £60k on 2024), mostly for continuation of the repair and renewal project at St. Swithun's. The church was grateful to receive a generous grant from the Dorset Historic Churches Trust to add to funds given in previous years in readiness for the works to take place.

## **The PARISH and BENEFICE of BRIDPORT**

### **Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2025**

Insurance costs were similar to 2024, but utilities were slightly less at £19,592 compared to £21,537 in 2024, and the overall clergy, staff and parish expenses total £12,066 that is also less than for 2024. Office supplies and equipment have reduced, but communications went up a little to cover extra work on the website, that was funded by specific donations.

The printing costs of the Bridge Magazine are included in table 3c under costs of trading. In 2025, the magazine still had an overall deficit of just over £2,500, but this has improved since 2024 and there has recently been considerable discussion to find creative ways to increase the revenue from local advertising and partner contributions for 2026.

The summary table on page 14 shows that in 2025 there was a total loss of £225,632 before the gains in investment values of £45,581 that helped to partly offset the loss. (In 2024 there had been a loss of £109,328 before investment changes.) The operating budget for 2025 had predicted a small loss of around £15k, so the actual expenses over income deficit £180k could be a concern. There have been changes in both income and expenses in recent years in line with the general economic climate, but generally the regular levels of income have been maintained, and costs have slightly increased for only some of the usual running expenses. The apparent deficit reflects the costs of major works that were paid for out of separate investments that had been set up previously for that specific purpose.

The result of all the 2025 activity is that the total funds carried forward on 31 December 2025 were £1,091,421 (2024: £1,271,472), including restricted funds of £270,862 (2024: £379,365) and endowment funds of £12,410 (2024: £12,969).

#### **Reserves Policy**

The reserves are regularly reviewed to ensure that sufficient funds are held to meet anticipated expenditure, especially having regard for the age and condition of the church properties. The overall total has decreased again during 2025 but are still at an acceptable level.

The PCC started to plan for a stewardship campaign to take place in 2025 as further cost increases for church and central PCC operations were expected. This process was delayed due to other priorities, but is now expected to continue in Summer 2026, alongside continued investigation of new methods of giving and other sources of funding for major projects.

#### **Investments**

Material investments continue to be monitored to ensure performance against objectives. Most of the invested funds are with CCLA Church of England Deposit Fund, CCLA Church of England Investment Fund or with major UK based banks. The performance of our financial investments in the year gave rise to a revaluation gain of nearly £9.5k and a realised gain on disposal of £36k, (2024 – revaluation gain of £8.5k) in line with market conditions, with a total market value on 31<sup>st</sup> December 2025 of £667,654.



## **The PARISH and BENEFICE of BRIDPORT**

### **Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2025**

#### **Related Trusts or Charities**

Details of related trusts and charities are included in the financial statements. Additionally, St Mary's, Bridport and Holy Trinity, Bradpole both have a 'Friends of' charity that are separate legal entities, set up to support the work of these two churches by raising funds and providing financial assistance to help with the costs of the upkeep and preservation of the church buildings.

#### **Statement of Trustees' responsibilities**

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that year. In preparing these financial statements the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Charity will continue in operation.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charity Act 2011 and the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

**Approved by the PCC on 20<sup>th</sup> April 2026 and signed on their behalf by:**

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading 'Cally Burch', with a horizontal line underneath.

**Revd Cally Burch (Interim Team Rector and PCC Chair)**

## **The PARISH and BENEFICE of BRIDPORT**

### **Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of The Parish and Benefice of Bridport**

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of The Parish and Benefice of Bridport (the Charity) for the year ended 31 December 2025 which are set out on pages 14 to 28.

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

As the trustees of the Charity, 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 Charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

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

Since the charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales, which is one of the listed bodies.

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 Charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
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. M. J. Cridland B.A. (Hons) F.C.A.  
Scott Vevers Ltd  
Chartered Accountants and Registered Auditors  
65 East Street  
Bridport  
Dorset DT6 3LB

Date: 28/04/26 .....

## The PARISH and BENEFICE of BRIDPORT

### Statement of Financial Activities (including Income and Expenditure Account) For the year ended 31 December 2025

	Note	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2025
		£	£	£	£
<b>Income and Endowments:</b>					
Voluntary giving	2a	146,195	97,369	-	243,564
Income generated from events	2b	25,117	300	-	25,417
Income from church activities	2c	39,203	22,040	-	61,243
Income from investments	2d	19,319	10,979	-	30,298
Other incoming resources	2e	4,500	4,604	-	9,104
<b>Total income</b>		<b>234,334</b>	<b>135,292</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>369,626</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>					
Church ministry and activities	3a	157,867	33,216	-	191,083
Church running expenses	3b	97,688	279,441	-	377,129
Raising funds	3c	7,102	19,944	-	27,046
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<b>262,657</b>	<b>332,601</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>595,258</b>
<b>Net income / (expenditure)</b>		<b>(28,323)</b>	<b>(197,309)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(225,632)</b>
<b>Net gain / (loss) on investments:</b>					
Realised	6b	35,452	645	-	36,097
Unrealised	6b	15,884	(5,841)	(559)	9,484
<b>Net income</b>		<b>23,013</b>	<b>(202,505)</b>	<b>(559)</b>	<b>(180,051)</b>
Transfer between funds	10	(94,002)	94,002	-	-
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b>(70,989)</b>	<b>(108,503)</b>	<b>(559)</b>	<b>(180,051)</b>
<b>Total funds brought forward</b>		<b>879,138</b>	<b>379,365</b>	<b>12,969</b>	<b>1,271,472</b>
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>808,149</b>	<b>270,862</b>	<b>12,410</b>	<b>1,091,421</b>

	Note	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2024
		£	£	£	£
<b>Income and Endowments:</b>					
Voluntary giving	2a	140,338	123,878	-	264,216
Income generated from events	2b	15,089	-	-	15,089
Income from church activities	2c	44,261	20,341	-	64,602
Income from investments	2d	21,875	15,486	-	37,361
Other incoming resources	2e	849	23,044	-	23,893
<b>Total income</b>		<b>222,412</b>	<b>182,749</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>405,161</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>					
Church ministry and activities	3a	152,547	11,993	-	164,540
Church running expenses	3b	98,680	229,937	-	328,617
Raising funds	3c	1,307	20,025	-	21,332
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<b>252,534</b>	<b>261,955</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>514,489</b>
<b>Net income / (expenditure)</b>		<b>(30,122)</b>	<b>(79,206)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(109,328)</b>
<b>Net gains on investments</b>					
Realised	6b	-	3,004	-	3,004
Unrealised	6b	5,390	2,780	288	8,458
<b>Net income</b>		<b>(24,732)</b>	<b>(73,422)</b>	<b>288</b>	<b>(97,866)</b>
Transfer between funds		(5,557)	5,557	-	-
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b>(30,289)</b>	<b>(67,865)</b>	<b>288</b>	<b>(97,866)</b>
<b>Total funds brought forward</b>		<b>909,427</b>	<b>447,230</b>	<b>12,681</b>	<b>1,369,338</b>
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>879,138</b>	<b>379,365</b>	<b>12,969</b>	<b>1,271,472</b>

All of the charity's activities derive from continuing operations during the above two periods.

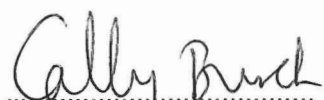
The notes on pages 16 to 28 form part of these financial statements

# The PARISH and BENEFICE of BRIDPORT

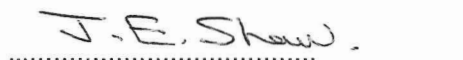
## Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2025

	Note	2025 £	2024 £
<b>Fixed assets</b>			
Tangible assets	6a	-	-
Investments	6b	667,654	702,653
		<u>667,654</u>	<u>702,653</u>
<b>Current assets</b>			
Debtors and prepayments	7	39,535	59,000
Short term deposits		266,832	366,287
Cash at bank and in hand		125,965	152,580
		<u>432,332</u>	<u>577,867</u>
<b>Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year</b>	8	<u>(8,565)</u>	<u>(9,048)</u>
<b>Net current assets</b>		<u>423,767</u>	<u>568,819</u>
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>		1,091,421	1,271,472
<b>Net assets</b>		<u>1,091,421</u>	<u>1,271,472</u>
<b>Funds of the charity:</b>			
Parish Funds	11		
Unrestricted funds		808,149	879,138
Restricted funds		270,862	379,365
Endowment		12,410	12,969
<b>Total Funds</b>		<u>1,091,421</u>	<u>1,271,472</u>

The financial statements were approved by the trustees and authorised for issue on 20/04/2026  
and signed on their behalf by:



Revd Cally Burch  
(Interim Team Rector and PCC Chair)



Mrs Janet Shaw

The notes on pages 16 to 28 form part of these financial statements

# The PARISH and BENEFICE of BRIDPORT

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2025

### 1a General information

The Parish and Benefice of Bridport is a charity, established on 2 February 2010 and registered under the name: The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Bridport. The address of the registered office is provided in reference and administrative details. Details of the charity's operations are provided in the Annual Report of the Trustees.

### 1b Accounting policies

#### Statement of compliance

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 issued in October 2019, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Charities Act 2011 and UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

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

#### Basis of preparation

The Parish and Benefice of Bridport meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes.

#### Accounting convention

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

#### Income and endowments

Voluntary income including donations, gifts, legacies and grants that provide core funding or are of a general nature is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured with sufficient reliability.

All incoming resources are accounted for gross except that there may be minor amounts of income received net of expenditure.

#### *Donations and legacies*

Donations and legacies are recognised on a receivable basis when receipt is probable and the amount can be reliably measured.

Tax refunds are recognised when the incoming resource to which they relate is received.

#### *Grants receivable*

Grants are recognised when the charity has an entitlement to the funds and any conditions linked to the grants have been met. Where performance conditions are attached to the grant and are yet to be met, the income is recognised as a liability and included on the balance sheet as deferred income to be released.

#### *Investment income*

Investment income is earned through holding assets for investment purposes such as shares and property. It includes dividends, interest and rent. Where it is not practicable to identify investment management costs incurred within a scheme with reasonable accuracy the investment income is reported net of these costs. It is included when the amount can be measured reliably. Interest income is recognised using the effective interest method and dividend and rent income is recognised as the charity's right to receive payment is established.

# The PARISH and BENEFICE of BRIDPORT

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2025

### 1b Accounting policies (continued)

#### **Expenditure**

All expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to that expenditure, it is probable settlement is required and the amount can be measured reliably. All costs are allocated to the applicable expenditure heading that aggregate similar costs to that category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated on a basis consistent with the use of resources, with central staff costs allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges allocated on the portion of the asset's use. Other support costs are allocated based on the spread of staff costs.

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

The Diocesan Fairer Share is accounted for when due. Any share unpaid at 31st December is provided for as an operational (though not a legal) liability and would be shown as a creditor in the Balance Sheet.

Amounts received specifically for mission are dealt with as restricted funds.

#### **Support costs**

Support costs include central functions and have been allocated to activity cost categories on a basis consistent with the use of resources, for example, allocating property costs by floor areas, or per capita, staff costs by the time spent and other costs by their usage.

#### **Governance costs**

These include the costs attributable to the charity's compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements, including audit, strategic management and trustees' meetings and reimbursed expenses.

#### **Taxation**

The charity is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the charity is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Chapter 3 Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

#### **Pensions**

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme which is a pension plan under which fixed contributions are paid into a pension fund and the charity has no legal or constructive obligation to pay further contributions even if the fund does not hold sufficient assets to pay all employees the benefits relating to employee service in the current and prior periods.

Contributions are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities as they become payable in accordance with the rules of the scheme.

# The PARISH and BENEFICE of BRIDPORT

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2025

### 1b Accounting policies (continued)

#### **Tangible fixed assets**

Individual fixed assets costing £2,500 or more are initially recorded at cost, less any subsequent accumulated depreciation and subsequent accumulated impairment losses.

Gifts-in-kind are valued at a reasonable estimate of their open market value on receipt.

#### **Depreciation and amortisation**

Depreciation is provided on tangible fixed assets so as to write off the cost or valuation, less any estimated residual value, over their expected useful economic life as follows:

<b>Asset class</b>	<b>Depreciation method and rate</b>
Computers and printers	3 years straight line

An impairment review is carried out at each year end and any resultant loss identified included in expenditure for that year.

#### *Consecrated and benefice property*

In so far as Consecrated and Benefice property of any kind is excluded from the statutory definition of 'charity' by Section 10 (2)(a) and (c) of the Charities Act 2011 such assets are not capitalised in the financial statements.

#### *Movable church furnishings*

These are not capitalised. They are included in the Church's inventory. Insufficient cost information is available.

All expenditure incurred during the year on Consecrated or Benefice buildings and movable church furnishings, whether maintenance or improvement, is written off as expenditure in the SOFA and separately disclosed.

#### **Investments**

Investment properties are externally revalued every 5 years. All interim revaluations are carried out by the Trustees at the reporting date.

Investments are recognised initially at fair value which is normally the transaction price excluding transaction costs. Subsequently, they are measured at fair value with changes recognised in 'net gains / (losses) on investments' in the SOFA if the shares are publicly traded or their fair value can otherwise be measured reliably. Other investments are measured at cost less impairment.

Current asset investments are short term highly liquid investments and are held at fair value. These include cash on deposit and cash equivalents with a maturity of less than one year.

#### **Cash and cash equivalents**

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand and all deposits, and other short-term highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to a known amount of cash and are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.



# The PARISH and BENEFICE of BRIDPORT

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2025

### 1b Accounting policies (continued)

#### **Fund structure**

##### *Unrestricted funds*

Unrestricted income funds are general funds that are available for use at the trustees' discretion in furtherance of the objectives of the charity.

These represent the remaining income funds of the PCC and its churches that are available for spending on the general purposes of the PCC and its churches.

##### *Restricted funds*

Restricted income funds are those donated for use in a particular area or for specific purposes, the use of which is restricted to that area or purpose.

Restricted funds are detailed in the notes to the accounts.

##### *Endowment Funds*

These are restricted funds that must be retained as trust capital either permanently or subject to a discretionary power to spend capital as income and where use of any income or other benefit derived from the capital may be restricted or unrestricted. Full details of these restrictions are shown in the notes to the accounts.

#### **Financial instruments**

##### *Classification*

Financial assets and financial liabilities are recognised when the charity becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial liabilities and equity instruments are classified according to the substance of the contractual arrangement entered into. An equity instrument is any contract that evidences a residual interest in the assets of the charity after deducting all of its liabilities.

##### *Recognition and measurement*

All financial assets and liabilities are initially measured at transaction price (including transaction costs), except for those financial assets classified as at fair value through profit or loss, which are initially measured at fair value (which is normally the transaction price excluding transaction costs), unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transactions. If an arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, the financial asset or financial liability is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest for similar debt instruments.

Financial assets and liabilities are only offset in the statement of financial position when, and only when there exists a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and the charity intends either to settle on a net basis, or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Financial assets are derecognised when and only when a) the contractual rights to the cash flows from the financial asset expire or are settled, b) the charity transfers to another party substantially all of the risks and rewards of ownership of the financial asset, or c) the charity, despite having retained some, but not all, significant risks and rewards of ownership, has transferred control of the asset to another

Financial liabilities are derecognised only when the obligation specified in the contract is discharged, cancelled or expires.



## The PARISH and BENEFICE of BRIDPORT

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2025

2 Income and endowments	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
<b>2a Voluntary giving:</b>					
Regular or planned giving	93,311	-	-	93,311	94,914
Collections at services	8,957	-	-	8,957	10,411
All other giving or donations	15,106	2,851	-	17,957	14,352
Legacies received	1,000	6,000	-	7,000	3,510
Grants including LPOW (Listed Places of Worship) VAT reclaims	7,509	65,576	-	73,085	119,997
Gift aid recovered	20,312	250	-	20,562	21,032
	146,195	74,677	-	220,872	264,216
For St Mary's bell ringers	-	22,692	-	22,692	-
	146,195	97,369	-	243,564	264,216
<b>2b Income generated from events:</b>					
Fundraising events or activities	25,117	300	-	25,417	15,089
	25,117	300	-	25,417	15,089
<b>2c Income from church activities:</b>					
Hall or church lettings	22,017	-	-	22,017	22,770
Fund-raising trading activities	-	1,768	-	1,768	2,838
The Bridge Community Magazine	-	20,165	-	20,165	17,541
	22,017	21,933	-	43,950	43,149
Fees for wedding and funerals	17,186	-	-	17,186	21,453
Parochial fees receipts	-	107	-	107	-
	39,203	22,040	-	61,243	64,602
<b>2d Income from investments:</b>					
Dividends	4,424	5,993	-	10,417	14,304
Bank and other interest	7,445	4,986	-	12,431	15,767
Rent from property/investments	7,450	-	-	7,450	7,290
	19,319	10,979	-	30,298	37,361
<b>2e Other incoming resources:</b>					
Insurance claims	1,196	-	-	1,196	-
VAT refunds	-	-	-	-	454
Friends organisations	-	-	-	-	12,623
Other	3,304	-	-	3,304	7,198
	4,500	-	-	4,500	20,275
External charity collections	-	4,604	-	4,604	3,618
	4,500	4,604	-	9,104	23,893
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>234,334</b>	<b>135,292</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>369,626</b>	<b>405,161</b>

## The PARISH and BENEFICE of BRIDPORT

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2025

3 Expenditure	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
<b>3a Church Ministry and Activities:</b>					
<u>Missionary and charitable giving:</u>					
International missions/relief agencies	1,682	609	-	2,291	1,839
Local or national missions/relief	1,199	100	-	1,299	1,928
Funds passed on to external charities etc	-	4,604	-	4,604	5,440
	2,881	5,313	-	8,194	9,207
Transfers - St Mary's bells/ food bank	-	22,692	-	22,692	706
	2,881	28,005	-	30,886	9,913
<u>Outreach and Community:</u>					
Community Mission and Evangelism	553	1,711	-	2,264	1,679
	553	1,711	-	2,264	1,679
<u>Salaries, remuneration and HR:</u>					
Administrators and other HR costs	12,628	3,500	-	16,128	14,094
Payment to vergers, choirs, bellringers	3,750	-	-	3,750	4,068
Payment to organists	10,381	-	-	10,381	11,261
	26,759	3,500	-	30,259	29,423
Diocesan Parish Share	127,674	-	-	127,674	123,525
	154,433	3,500	-	157,933	152,948
<b>Total Church Ministry and Activities</b>	<b>157,867</b>	<b>33,216</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>191,083</b>	<b>164,540</b>
<b>3b Church Running Expenses:</b>					
<u>Services and fabric:</u>					
Supplies for services	1,388	14	-	1,402	1,286
Health & safety, cleaning supplies	4,536	-	-	4,536	3,508
Hall and rental property costs	2,097	236	-	2,333	4,742
Churchyard maintenance	4,839	3,982	-	8,821	10,705
General repairs and maintenance	14,683	4,226	-	18,909	23,666
	27,543	8,458	-	36,001	43,907
<u>Major works and repairs:</u>					
Major repairs	14,372	267,635	-	282,007	221,709
	14,372	267,635	-	282,007	221,709
<u>Church expenses (external):</u>					
Music related	3,090	-	-	3,090	3,896
Governance and professional fees	4,182	-	-	4,182	3,876
Bank charges	189	37	-	226	244
Insurance	19,839	126	-	19,965	19,620
Utilities	17,692	1,900	-	19,592	21,537
	44,992	2,063	-	47,055	49,173

## The PARISH and BENEFICE of BRIDPORT

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2025

3 Expenditure	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
<b>3b Church Running Expenses (continued):</b>					
<u>Clergy, staff and parish expenses:</u>					
Office supplies, stationery etc	1,358	-	-	1,358	2,129
Photocopier and office equipment	2,158	-	-	2,158	2,601
Communications	2,967	955	-	3,922	3,477
Books, magazines and publications	631	-	-	631	535
Other clergy resources	395	-	-	395	1,172
Sundries, including gifts	247	-	-	247	125
Garden	325	-	-	325	480
Hospitality	397	-	-	397	884
Travel and parking	980	170	-	1,150	344
Training and development	376	90	-	466	585
Retreats	607	-	-	607	580
Any other expenditure	340	70	-	410	61
	10,781	1,285	-	12,066	12,973
Parochial fees account	-	-	-	-	855
	10,781	1,285	-	12,066	13,828
<b>Total Church Running Expenses</b>	<b>97,688</b>	<b>279,441</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>377,129</b>	<b>328,617</b>
<b>3c Raising Funds:</b>					
Cost of fund-raising events	6,102	43	-	6,145	1,307
Cost of trading	1,000	19,901	-	20,901	20,025
<b>Total Raising Funds</b>	7,102	19,944	-	27,046	21,332
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>262,657</b>	<b>332,601</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>595,258</b>	<b>514,489</b>

#### 4 Analysis of Expenditure including Allocation of Support Costs

	Direct Costs £	Support Costs £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Church running and maintenance	52,214	6,252	58,466	64,823
			<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
			£	£
Accountancy Fee			1,550	1,482
Independent Examination			2,290	2,178
<b>4a Charitable Payments</b>			<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
			£	£
Charitable items to families and individuals			1,752	1,799

# The PARISH and BENEFICE of BRIDPORT

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2025

<b>5 Staff Costs</b>	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Wages and salaries	11,850	9,960
Pension costs	168	74
	<u>12,018</u>	<u>10,034</u>
Average number of employees -full-time equivalents	0.5	0.5

There were no employee benefits to key management personnel in the current or previous year.

### Trustees remuneration and expenses

No remuneration was paid out of the funds of the charity in the year to any trustee for their services as a trustee.

Trustees expenses are detailed in Note 5a.

### Pension commitments

The charity operates a defined contribution scheme. The pension cost charge for the year represents contributions payable by the charity to the scheme and amounted to £168 (2024: £74).

## 5a Related Parties

Clergy, PCC members and related parties have been reimbursed for expenses properly incurred in the performance of their duties.

3 clergy were paid in aggregate £3,329 in respect of travel, resources and other expenses during the year. (2024: 4 clergy £2,926).

11 trustees or related parties were paid in aggregate £1,361 in respect of travel, events, supplies and stationery. (2024: 3 trustees £425).

Other than the foregoing no travel and subsistence have been paid.

Donations in the normal course of giving have been received from related parties (PCC members).

## 6 Fixed Assets

### 6a Tangible Fixed Assets

	<b>Copier</b>	<b>Total</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>Cost</b>		
At 1st January 2025	3,420	3,420
At 31st December 2025	<u>3,240</u>	<u>3,240</u>
<b>Depreciation</b>		
At 1st January 2025	3,420	3,420
At 31st December 2025	<u>3,420</u>	<u>3,420</u>
<b>Net Book Value</b>		
At 31st December 2025	-	-
At 31st December 2024	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

The use of Walditch Church Hall was donated to the village on a 35 year lease in 1997 at an annual peppercorn rent. No value has been included.

## The PARISH and BENEFICE of BRIDPORT

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2025

#### 6b Investments

	2025 £	2024 £
Market value at 1st January 2025	702,653	884,302
Additions	-	4,171
Disposals	(80,580)	(197,282)
Realised gains/(losses) on disposals	36,097	3,004
Revaluation gains/(losses)	9,484	8,458
Market value at 31st December 2025	<u>667,654</u>	<u>702,653</u>

The investments are:

	Qty	Year of Purchase	2025 Original Cost £	2024 Original Cost £	2025 Valuation £	2024 Valuation £
<u>St Swithun's, Allington</u>						
Legacy Investment:CBF Investment Shares	7300	Various	81,070	115,618	162,059	240,745
Nadia Muton Fund:CBF Investment Shares	5997	Various	27,067	27,067	133,136	138,680
FCT Gift Shares	0	2023	-	5,867	-	6,001
	<u>0</u>	2024	-	4,171	-	4,231
	0				-	10,232
Total CBF Investment Shares					<u>295,195</u>	<u>389,657</u>
<u>Cox Charity: COIF Income Shares</u>						
		Bequest				
	N/a	1870	100	100	5,062	5,316
Total					<u>300,257</u>	<u>394,973</u>
<u>Holy Trinity Bradpole</u>						
Lloyds Bank Shares	50	1998	Nil	Nil	49	27
Total					<u>49</u>	<u>27</u>
<u>St Mary's Bridport</u>						
Cox's Trust, CBF Investment Shares	331	N/a	300	300	7,348	7,653
Total					<u>7,348</u>	<u>7,653</u>
<u>St Mary's, Walditch</u>						
School House		N/a	N/a	N/a	360,000	300,000
Total					<u>360,000</u>	<u>300,000</u>
					<u>667,654</u>	<u>702,653</u>

# The PARISH and BENEFICE of BRIDPORT

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2025

<b>7 Debtors and Prepayments</b>		<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
		<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Gift Aid recoverable		34,693	25,412
Other debtors		4,842	33,588
		<u>39,535</u>	<u>59,000</u>
<b>8 Liabilities</b>		<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
		<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Amounts falling due within one year:			
Accruals		3,984	3,804
Other creditors		4,581	5,244
		<u>8,565</u>	<u>9,048</u>
<b>9 Funds:</b>		<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
		<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b><u>Restricted Funds:</u></b>			
<i>St Swithun's, Allington</i>	Nadia Muton Fund - restriction St Swithun's	135,082	140,582
	Repairs fund	-	5,472
	FCT Gift	-	125,217
	Cox's Charity fund	796	797
	Development fund	23,027	-
	Various minor funds	144	188
		<u>159,049</u>	<u>272,256</u>
<i>Holy Trinity, Bothenhampton</i>	Church Building Fabric Fund	81,360	77,837
		<u>81,360</u>	<u>77,837</u>
<i>Holy Trinity, Bradpole</i>	Various minor funds	7,186	2,256
		<u>7,186</u>	<u>2,256</u>
<i>St Mary's, Bridport</i>	Stonework	5,655	5,655
	Fabric	222	792
	Altar Linen	3,270	3,270
	Hampers	3,704	3,704
	General	3,202	4,560
	Discretionary R/CW	396	396
	Flowers	-	14
	CCLA endowment interest	213	-
		<u>16,662</u>	<u>18,391</u>
<i>St Mary's, Walditch</i>	Collection for British Legion	-	70
<i>St John's, West Bay</i>	None	-	-
<i>PCC, Fees Account and The Bridge</i>	Purchase and resale of books	337	292
	Mission expenses	346	-
	Website development	180	-
	The Bridge bank account	5,742	8,263
		<u>6,605</u>	<u>8,555</u>
<b>Total Restricted Funds</b>		<u><u>270,862</u></u>	<u><u>379,365</u></u>

## BRIDPORT PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2025

<b>Endowment Funds:</b>		<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
		<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<u>St Swithun's, Allington</u>	Cox's Charity 262 COIF Income Shares ex £100 bequest in 1870	5,062	5,316
The use of this Trust is restricted to the poor of Parish of Allington - charity's objectives. The support is usually of monetary assistance at the discretion of the charity.			
<u>St Mary's, Bridport</u>	Altar: Cox Legacy - 331 CBF Investment Shares	7,348	7,653
		<u>12,410</u>	<u>12,969</u>

#### Related Charities

These charities are both separate legal entities with objectives to support specific churches in the Parish. This is usually in the form of monetary assistance that is given at the discretion of the charity to help with the costs of upkeep and preservation of the church buildings.

#### Friends of St Mary's, Bridport

The charity has funds available of £12,463 as at 31 December 2025 (£12,297 at 31 December 2024).

#### Friends of Holy Trinity Church, Bradpole

The charity has funds available of £238,145 as at 31 December 2025 (£170,567 at 31 December 2024).

#### Other Trusts

Additionally there are the following Trusts (etc) which may be under the control of the Diocese, churchwardens or incumbents rather than the PCC and have been excluded from these accounts.

	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<u>St Swithun's, Allington</u> McCarthy Trust	7,525	7,839

### **10 Summary of Fund Movements**

	<b>Unrestricted</b>	<b>Restricted</b>	<b>Endowment</b>	<b>Total</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Balance at 1st January 2025	879,138	379,365	12,969	1,271,472
Income and endowments	234,334	135,292	-	369,626
Expenditure	(262,657)	(332,601)	-	(595,258)
Investment gains/(losses)	51,336	(5,196)	(559)	45,581
Transfer between funds	(94,002)	94,002	-	-
Balance at 31st December 2025	<u>808,149</u>	<u>270,862</u>	<u>12,410</u>	<u>1,091,421</u>

# The PARISH and BENEFICE of BRIDPORT

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2025

11 Summary of Assets by Fund	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Endowment £	Total £
<b>11a By Type</b>				
Investment fixed assets	522,108	133,136	12,410	667,654
Current assets	294,531	137,801	-	432,332
Liabilities falling due within one year	(8,490)	(75)	-	(8,565)
	<u>808,149</u>	<u>270,862</u>	<u>12,410</u>	<u>1,091,421</u>
<b>11b By Fundholder</b>				
<u>Holy Trinity, Bothenhampton</u>				
Current assets	18,434	81,360	-	99,794
	<u>18,434</u>	<u>81,360</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>99,794</u>
<u>Holy Trinity, Bradpole</u>				
Investment fixed assets	49	-	-	49
Current assets	96,874	7,186	-	104,060
	<u>96,923</u>	<u>7,186</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>104,109</u>
<u>St John's, West Bay</u>				
Current assets	62,634	-	-	62,634
	<u>62,634</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>62,634</u>
<u>St Mary's, Bridport</u>				
Investment fixed assets	-	-	7,348	7,348
Current assets	37,491	16,713	-	54,204
Liabilities falling due within one year	-	(51)	-	(51)
	<u>37,491</u>	<u>16,662</u>	<u>7,348</u>	<u>61,501</u>
<u>St Mary's Walditch</u>				
Investment fixed assets	360,000	-	-	360,000
Current assets	26,059	-	-	26,059
Liabilities falling due within one year	(643)	-	-	(643)
	<u>385,416</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>385,416</u>
<u>St Swithun's, Allington</u>				
Investment fixed assets	162,059	133,136	5,062	300,257
Current assets	37,251	25,937	-	63,188
Liabilities falling due within one year	(1,633)	(24)	-	(1,657)
	<u>197,677</u>	<u>159,049</u>	<u>5,062</u>	<u>361,788</u>
<u>PCC, Fees Account and The Bridge</u>				
Current assets	15,788	6,605	-	22,393
Liabilities falling due within one year	(6,214)	-	-	(6,214)
	<u>9,574</u>	<u>6,605</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>16,179</u>
<b>Total Funds</b>	<u>808,149</u>	<u>270,862</u>	<u>12,410</u>	<u>1,091,421</u>



## The PARISH and BENEFICE of BRIDPORT

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2025

#### 12 Potential costs

Quinquennial inspection dates are given for guidance

The following estimates are foreseeable

#### Potential cost of minor works and repairs:

	Date of last quinquennial inspection	Urgent in first 6 months of 2026 £	Other costs before end 2026 £	Further costs during 2027 £	Estimated costs during 2028 - 2030 £
Holy Trinity, Bothenhampton	January 2025	-	2,500	2,000	2,000
Holy Trinity, Bradpole	November 2022	1,500	1,500	500	4,500
St John's, West Bay	December 2021	-	5,000	1,000	-
St Mary's, Bridport	October 2020	-	2,500	2,000	5,000
St Mary's, Walditch	November 2022	-	150	1,000	-
St Swithun's, Allington	September 2025	-	4,000	3,000	3,000

#### Potential cost of major projects and works:

		Urgent in first 6 months of 2026 £	Other costs before end 2026 £	Further costs during 2027 £	Estimated costs during 2028 - 2030 £
Holy Trinity, Bothenhampton	January 2025	-	12,000	20,000	30,000
Holy Trinity, Bradpole	November 2022	-	26,000	34,000	6,000
St John's, West Bay	December 2021	5,000	7,000	24,000	35,000
St Mary's, Bridport	October 2020	-	8,000	20,000	35,000
St Mary's, Walditch	November 2022	-	-	9,000	13,000
St Swithun's, Allington	September 2025	-	200,000	150,000	100,000

#### 13 Financial instruments

The carrying amounts of the charity's financial instruments measured at fair value through net income / expenditure are as follows:

	2025 £	2024 £
Financial assets		
Measured at fair value through net income / expenditure:		
- Fixed asset investments	667,654	702,653
Measured at amortised cost		
- Debt instruments	432,332	577,867
	<u>1,099,986</u>	<u>1,280,520</u>
Financial liabilities		
Measured at amortised cost	<u>8,565</u>	<u>9,048</u>

The income, expenses, net gains and net losses attributable the charity's financial instruments are summarised as follows:

Income and expense		
Financial assets measured at fair value through net income / expenditure	10,417	14,304
Financial assets, that are debt instruments, measured at amortised cost	12,431	15,767
Net gains and losses		
Financial assets measured at fair value through net income / expenditure	45,581	11,462