



SHERFORD
COMMUNITY CHURCH

Sherford Church of England Community Church
ANNUAL REPORT & FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
— 2025 —

For the Year Ended:
31st December 2025

Pioneer Ministers:
Revd Jon Oliver
Revd Tammy Oliver

Correspondence Address:
c/o 25 Sycamore Way, Sherford, Plymouth, PL9 8WH

Independent Examiner:
Mags Truman
33 Lanhydrock Road, Plymouth, PL4 9DN

Bank:
Barclays Bank, Leicester, LE87 2BB

Charity Number:
1175545

Sherford Church of England Community Church

ANNUAL REPORT

for the year ended 31st December 2025

1. AIM & PURPOSE

The object of the Sherford Church of England Community Church CIO (charitable incorporated organisation) is *to advance the Christian faith for the benefit of the public in Sherford and the surrounding areas in accordance with the statements of belief appearing in the schedule*. The objective of our Mission Initiative is *the establishment of a Church of England Church to serve the area of the new town of Sherford*.

All Trustees are fully aware of our purpose of nurturing church and enabling public benefit in Sherford.

2. OBJECTIVES & ACTIVITIES

The beginning of the year was spent in prayerful preparation for our new Pioneer Ministers and a new season in the life of the church. The Revds Jon & Tammy Oliver were licensed by Bishop James Grier at a service on Sunday 27th April 2025, and warmly welcomed by members of the local church, the wider ecumenical church, the local community, and representatives from various organisations.

Jon & Tammy began their ministry in Sherford by undertaking a listening exercise/consultation within the church and wider community. During the summer, they led the church in a review which helped us to identify and develop a new church vision, a series of pioneering priorities to guide our community engagement, and a new strategy for our pattern of Sunday services.

Our Vision: *Following in the Way of Jesus, playing our part in seeing Sherford flourish*

Pioneering Priorities: - *Kids & Youth*
- *Community & Families*
- *Nature & Outdoors*

3. ACHIEVEMENTS & PERFORMANCE

Prayer & Worship

Core to our strategy is ensuring that our main Sunday services are accessible for unchurched newcomers as well as longstanding members, and engaging for people of all ages – with a particular emphasis on children and young people. Following our summer review, we developed a new pattern of Sunday services, with one service at 10am, followed by an extended time of fellowship. The services alternate each week between our all-age Altogether Service, and our Reflective Service (with our new Kids Club group in the room next door). When there's a fifth Sunday, and on some other occasions, we meet in Sherford Country Park for Outdoor Church. Attendance has grown to between 30-40 each week (including around 10 under-16s), with over 50 people at major calendar events such as Harvest, Remembrance and Christingles. We plan to review this pattern of services at a 'church forum' in the new year.

Our midweek prayer group continues to meet on Tuesday mornings, and we have developed a new online prayer group early on Wednesday mornings for those who work during the day. We have also started a new home group, bringing our total to three.

Community Engagement

Sherford Toddlers is our weekly group for babies, toddlers and their parents or carers. This is an incredibly popular group, with around 20 families each week, often filling the limited space of the community hub. This group has a really friendly and welcoming atmosphere, and is an incredible support for many families; not only providing a fun place for children to play, but also creating space for friendships to grow between parents/carers, and with our volunteer team.

Oasis Café is our new community lunch project – offering space for friendship and a free lunch in the community hub on Thursday lunchtimes. We launched Oasis Café towards the end of the year, and it is already enjoyed by around 10-20 people each time.

Community Events. Thanks to a wonderful sense of local community and the work of the Land Trust Community Panel, Sherford enjoys various local community events each year. Many church members are already involved in the organisation of these events through the Community Panel, and have been keen to have a more visible church presence. This year we have had a church stall at several events, inviting people to explore deep questions, alongside activities such as face-painting, craft activities, a children's clothes swap, and more – plus we had our 'Pop-up Nativity' with the Community Choir at the Sherford Christmas Celebration. These events have been great fun, and have enabled us to engage with hundreds of members of our community who we wouldn't normally meet.

Youth Work. During the summer, we partnered with Sherford Community Land Trust to undertake a Youth Consultation, chatting with around 100 young people from the local area about what they would like to see in Sherford. Responses were many and varied, but with existing provision so limited, almost everyone agreed that we need to do something, anything! The church has offered to take the lead on developing this project on behalf of the community, and we have started to recruit volunteers from the church and local community, with plans to launch a detached youth work team in the new year.

Sherford Vale Primary School. The church enjoys a good relationship with the local school – with church members volunteering in the school, with Jon & Tammy leading assemblies, and with discussions underway for the church to deliver a lunch club or after school club in the new year.

Other Activities

Crisis Response. In September, there was a big fire in a block of flats in Sherford, leaving the residents, including several young families, homeless and without access to their clothes or possessions. The local community rallied round to provide food and clothing, and members of the church took the lead in coordinating the local response and caring for our neighbours.

Members of the church also lead various other local groups, including:

- Sherford Over-50s
- Friends of Sherford Country Park
- Sherford Open Gardens
- Sherford Food Hub (responding to local food insecurity and food waste)

VOLUNTEERS

This year we recruited ten new volunteers, doubling our numbers of volunteers. The Trustees would like to thank all our volunteers who give so generously of themselves and help our church become such a wonderful community. Special thanks to Andrew Williams, who is stepping down as Treasurer in the new year, and who continues to serve our church so tirelessly.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

In 2025, incoming funds totalled £21,008, and outgoings totalled £15,403, giving a surplus of £5,605.

The majority of our income comes from regular giving by church members – which increased by over 50% to £13,310 this year. Total income from donations (including cash donations and Gift Aid) totalled £17,035. The remainder of our income came from the toddler group, bank interest, and a £500 grant towards our new youth work project.

We are confident that our financial position will support our current activities.

SAFEGUARDING

The Board of Trustees have complied with our duty under Section 5 of the *Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016* to comply with the House of Bishops’ guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE & MANAGEMENT

Sherford Church of England Community Church is a charity constituted as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation. The Board of Trustees meets at least quarterly, are responsible for all matters of governance and finance, and are committed to the ongoing development and maintenance of effective Safeguarding, Equality, Health & Safety, Financial and other appropriate policies. The method of appointment of our Board of Trustees is set out in our CIO (Foundation Model) Constitution, including:

- Not less than one *ex officio* trustee (by virtue of holding a licence to Sherford Church of England Community Church from the Bishop of Exeter);
- Two nominated trustees (nominated by the Bishop of Exeter);
- Not more than nine appointed trustees (appointed by the trustees).

Sherford Church of England Community Church operates under the umbrella of the Church of England, within the Diocese of Exeter. We receive oversight and support through the diocese, including training for volunteers and trustees, safeguarding advice through the Diocesan Safeguarding Team, and other support as needed. As part of the Diocese of Exeter, we are entitled to representation on Deanery Synod. Our primary contact within the Diocese is our Bishop’s Visitor, the Ven Jane Bakker, Archdeacon of Plymouth.

Trustees who have served during 2025 include:

Ex officio	Revd Jonathan Oliver (Jon)	<i>Pioneer Minister, Chair – from 27/04/25</i>
	Revd Tamara Oliver (Tammy)	<i>Pioneer Minister, Co-Chair – from 27/04/25</i>
	Revd Greg Bakker	<i>Interim Minister – until 27/04/25</i>
	Andrew Williams	<i>Lay Minister</i>
	Beverley Johnson	<i>Lay Minister – from 27/07/25</i>
Nominated	Revd Jeremy Putnam	
	Revd Joanne Parker	
Appointed	Rosalind Wells	
	Carol Evans	

Approved by the Board of Trustees at a meeting held on 5/5/2026 and signed on its behalf by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Jon Oliver', written over a horizontal dotted line.

Revd Jon Oliver (Chair)

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Tammy Oliver', written over a horizontal dotted line.

Revd Tammy Oliver (Co-Chair)

Sherford Church of England Community Church
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 31st December 2025



CHARITY NO. 1175545

UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

TO

31 DECEMBER 2025

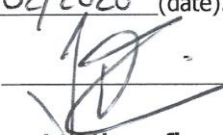
CONTENTS

	Page (s)
Statement of financial activities	1
Balance sheet	2
Notes to the financial statements	3 - 4
Treasurer's statement	5
Independent examiner's report	5

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2025

	Note	Unrestricted Funds General £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL 2025 £	TOTAL 2024 £
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	2	1,453	0	1,453	3,733
		1,453	0	1,453	3,733
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	3	725	0	725	1,576
Bank and cash balances		54,476	0	54,476	45,739
		55,201	0	55,201	47,315
CURRENT LIABILITIES					
Creditors payable within one year	4	0	0	0	0
NET CURRENT ASSETS		0	0	0	47,315
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		56,654	0	56,654	51,048
Creditors payable after one year	5	0	0	0	0
TOTAL NET ASSETS / (LIABILITIES)		56,654	0	56,654	51,048
THE FUNDS OF THE CHURCH					
Unrestricted income funds: General					50,848
Designated	6			0	0
Total					50,848
Restricted income funds:	7			200	200
				56,654	51,048

Approved by the Trustees' Meeting held on 10/02/2026 (date).

and signed on its behalf by Rev J Oliver (Chairman)  (signature).

The notes on pages 3 to 4 form part of these financial statements

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

1a Basis of Accounting

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, as modified by the revaluation of certain fixed assets and investments measured at market value.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the financial reporting standard for smaller entities (effective January 2015), and the requirements of accounting and reporting by charities: statement of recommended practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the financial reporting standard for smaller entities (effective January 2015) (SORP 2015).

The accruals basis of accounting has been adopted, and the principal accounting policies set out below are applied consistently.

1b Fund Accounting

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the church in furtherance of its charitable objectives.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the trustees for particular purposes.

Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions on their expenditure imposed by the donor, or contained in the terms of a grant.

1c Tangible Fixed Assets

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates calculated to write off assets over their estimated useful lives:

Fixtures & fittings	15% reducing balance
IT equipment	20% straight line

1d Incoming Resources

All voluntary giving is included in the financial statements for the period in which it is received.

Donations under gift aid plus the associated tax recovery are recognised as income when the donation is received.

Legacies are accounted for when their receipt is certain and can be properly quantified.
All other income is generally recognised when it is receivable.

1e Resources Expended

Resources expended are recognised in the period to which they are incurred and include attributable VAT which cannot be recovered. They are allocated to the particular activity to which they relate.

Governance costs represent direct expenditure on the governance of the church, including the production and independent scrutiny of these financial statements.

As most of the management and activity of the church is carried out by volunteers, this intangible cost is not included in the financial statements as this voluntary contribution to the life of the church is incalculable.

1f Taxation

The church is an excepted charity within the meaning of the taxes acts.

Accordingly, it is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income and capital gains received to the extent that such income or gains are applied to exclusively charitable purposes. No provision for taxation has been made in these financial statements.

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
 FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025**
2 TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Fixtures & Fittings	IT Equipment	TOTAL 2025	TOTAL 2024
	£	£	£	£
Brought forward 1 January 2025	1,710	2,023	3,733	5,540
Additions in year	0	0	0	939
Depreciation for year	(257)	(2,023)	(2,280)	(2,746)
Carried forward 31 December 2025	1,453	0	1,453	3,733

	General Fund	Restricted Funds	TOTAL 2025	TOTAL 2024
	£	£	£	£
3 DEBTORS				
Gift aid tax recoverable	0	0	0	0
Accrued income	0	0	0	844
Other debtors and prepayments	725	0	725	732
	725	0	725	1,576

4 CURRENT LIABILITIES

Creditors payable within one year:

Sundry creditors and accruals	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0

5 DEFERRED LIABILITIES

Creditors payable after more than one year:

	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0

6 DESIGNATED FUNDS

N/A

7 RESTRICTED FUNDS

The Sherford Mutual Aid group is an organisation of individuals within the town of Sherford who seek to provide provided food to residents in financial difficulty.

The trustees of Sherford Community Church have agreed that the church bank account can be used to hold the funds and to pay invoices (up to the group's balance) pertaining to the group's activity.

8 PAYMENTS TO TRUSTEES AND THEIR SPOUSES

In 2025 the following trustees received payments from the church:

Mr J Oliver	£1,490.37	Reimbursement of expenses
Mrs R Wells	£387.50	Reimbursement of expenses
Mr A Williams	£45.34	Reimbursement of expenses

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025**TREASURER'S STATEMENT**

I have prepared the financial statements on pages 1 to 4 for the year ended 31 December 2025.

Signed



Dr AG Williams (Treasurer) Dated 5.02.26

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

I report on the unaudited financial statements of Sherford Community Church for the year ended 31 December 2025, which are set out on pages 1 to 4.

Respective responsibilities

The charity is responsible for the preparation of the financial statements, and considers that the audit requirement of section 144(2) of the charities act 2011 (the Act) does not apply. It is my responsibility to state, on the basis of procedures specified in the general directions given by the charity commissioners under Section 145 (5)(b) of the Act, whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

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

Independent examiner's statement

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

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
to keep accounting records in accordance with s.130 of the 2011; and
to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act, have not been met; or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed by the independent examiner:



Dated

5th February 2026

Name and address of the independent examiner:

MAGS TRUMAN
33 LANHYAROCK RD
PLYMOUTH
PL4 9DN

**APPENDIX 1 TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
 FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025**

	Unrestricted Funds General £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL 2025 £	TOTAL 2024 £
VOLUNTARY INCOME				
Bank donations by D/D's & S/O's	13,310	0	13,310	8,425
Cash and donations	360	0	360	1,028
Income tax refunds under gift aid	3,365	0	3,365	1,665
	17,035	0	17,035	11,118
INVESTMENT INCOME				
Interest	1,263	0	1,263	844
	1,263	0	1,263	844
INCOMING RESOURCES FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITY				
Toddler group	1,969	0	1,969	1,992
Events tickets	0	0	0	730
Reimbursement for resources	241	0	241	0
Mission Giving donations	0	0	0	77
Tea & coffee contributions	0	0	0	0
Baptism Fees	0	0	0	0
	2,210	0	2,210	2,799
OTHER INCOMING RESOURCES				
Grants (Exeter Diocesan)	0	0	0	238
Grants (South Hams District Council)	500	0	500	0
	500	0	500	238

**APPENDIX 2 TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025**

	Unrestricted Funds General £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL 2025 £	TOTAL 2024 £
COSTS OF GENERATING FUNDS				
Cost of fund raising	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0
COSTS OF CHURCH ACTIVITIES				
Church costs:				
Gift for use of Sherford Vale school hall	0	0	0	0
Services: Sherford Community Hub hire	0	0	0	40
Printing, postage and stationery	315	0	315	51
Tea/coffee equipment	0	0	0	142
CCLI Licence	196	0	196	162
Insurance	580	0	580	563
Gifts	171	0	171	327
Toddler group	1,559	0	1,559	1,871
Ministry Trainee	0	0	0	0
Youth Worker	0	0	0	0
Youth Group	0	0	0	0
Toddler Group Leader	2,072	0	2,072	1,100
Administrator	1,350	0	1,350	500
Events	155	0	155	1,254
Bookkeeping	265	0	265	883
Other administration costs	2,252	0	2,252	1,243
Other service costs	1,384	0	1,384	150
	10,299	0	10,299	8,286
Teaching costs:				
Resources	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0
Clergy:				
Clergy expenses	148	0	148	0
Clergy recruitment costs	95	0	95	1,171
Clergy mobile and telephone costs	332	0	332	255
Clergy ministry training	0	0	0	0
	575	0	575	1,426
Sherford Mutual Aid Group:				
Expenditure	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0
Fixtures & Fittings and IT equipment				
Depreciation of fixtures & fittings and IT equipment	2,280	0	2,280	2,746
	2,280	0	2,280	2,746
TOTAL COSTS OF CHURCH ACTIVITIES	13,154	0	13,154	12,458
CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES				
Mission giving	2,249	0	2,249	2,091
	2,249	0	2,249	2,091
GOVERNANCE COSTS				
Independent examiner	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0