



# **ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS**

**YEAR ENDING 31 DECEMBER 2025**

## **ST HILDA'S CHURCH**

Parish of Warley Woods

Diocese of Birmingham

Abbey Road, Smethwick, B67 5NQ

Charity Registration Number 1181258

## Contents

PCC Membership	Page 2
Annual Report	Page 3
Annual Safeguarding Report	Page 7
Annual Accounts	Page 10
Approval of Report and Accounts	Page 22
Independent Examiner's Report	Page 23

### **PCC MEMBERSHIP AND TRUSTEES, 2025**

#### **Ex-officio Members serving the whole of 2025**

Rev Jennifer Ruth Crewes - Incumbent and, ex-officio chair \*  
Mrs Julie Ann Batham - Churchwarden \*  
Mr Ian Francis Dickinson - Churchwarden \*  
Mr Peter John Stokes - Deanery Synod Representative \*  
Dr Manju Mary John - Deanery Synod Representative \*  
Miss Pauline Victoria Galea Gingell - Deanery Synod Representative\*

#### **Ex-officio Member serving from 5 October 2025**

Rev Dr Diane Reeves – Non-stipendiary Curate \*

#### **Elected Members serving on 1 January 2025**

Mrs Elizabeth Joan Farrier [Secretary] \*  
Mr James Atkinson \*  
Mrs Anne Harris \*  
Miss Rhiannon Tonkinson \*  
Mrs Elaine Lydia Carrington [Treasurer – resigned, illness, March 2025]

#### **Elected Members Serving until the APCM, 25 May 2025**

Mr John Matthew Barber  
Mr John Christopher Fitzpatrick  
Dr Terry Daniels [Acting Treasurer from March 2025]

#### **Elected Members Serving from the APCM, 25 May 2025**

Miss Elizabeth Mellor \*  
Mrs Stella Ogilo [resigned July 2025]  
Mrs Jenifer Wilson \*  
Mr Leighton Dominic Witcombe \*

#### **Co-opted Member Serving from 25 May 2025**

Dr Terry Daniels [Acting Treasurer from March 2025] \*

*\* Members serving on 31<sup>st</sup> December 2025*

# **ST HILDA'S CHURCH, WARLEY WOODS**

## **ANNUAL REPORT FOR YEAR ENDING 31 DECEMBER 2025**

### **INTRODUCTION**

The Parochial Church Council of St Hilda's PCC of Abbey Road, Smethwick, B67 5NQ ('the PCC') is a registered charity under charity registration number 1181258. The governing document for the PCC is the Parochial Church Councils (Powers) Measure 1956 and it is constituted in accordance with the Church Representation Rules 2000.

Members of the PCC are the trustees of the charity. Some members of the PCC are members because they hold a particular office (to which they are appointed or elected). Others are elected at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM). In 2025 this was held on Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> May. Details of those who served as PCC members (who are the trustees of the charity) during 2024 are set out on page 2 opposite John Barber and John Fitzpatrick stepped down as PCC members. Our thanks go to both for their faithful service.

The main objective of the PCC is to co-operate with the incumbent in 'promoting within the parish the whole mission of the church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical' (section 2(2) PCC (Powers) Measure 1956). This mission of the PCC is to benefit people generally, and specifically residents of the parish, by celebrating the work of the Spirit and promoting faithfulness to the teaching of Jesus. In fulfilling their duties, the PCC has had regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

### **OVERVIEW**

The year saw some highs and lows of church and community life. We said sad goodbyes to members who moved away, and to those who died, as well as welcoming new members and baptising some of them. The financial situation of the church still gives some concern despite receiving an unusually large amount in legacies in 2025, but with careful thought and sensible planning we continue to monitor our finances closely. Despite these concerns the church has been able to provide for our church family and the wider community throughout the year.

### **BUSINESS OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL (PCC)**

The PCC met on seven occasions during 2025, including immediately following the APCM meeting on 25<sup>th</sup> May. The average attendance was 81% of the PCC members. During 2025, the PCC employed one person: a Hall Cleaner.

The PCC's work in relation to safeguarding children, young people and vulnerable adults is outlined in the separate report from the Parish Safeguarding Co-ordinator (page 7).

Cygnets Hospital, a private mental health hospital for women, opened in our parish in 2024 and throughout 2025 our vicar visited fortnightly to offer spiritual support as their Chaplain.

### **FINANCE**

A full account of the church's financial position follows from page 10 onwards. We have experienced challenges over the year as regular monthly expenditure exceeds our monthly income, consequently we have had to call on our reserves on two occasions. Our net income was boosted by receiving four legacies, some restricted, in 2025, but this is an unpredictable source of income: it masked and compensated our

monthly revenue deficit, and enabled us to increase our reserves somewhat, but is not a long-term solution to the ongoing deficit situation.

We are extremely grateful for the generosity of all who contribute to the life of St Hilda's not only financially, but by volunteering and sharing of their talents.

## **FABRIC OF THE BUILDINGS**

### ***Heating and Energy Supply***

The new heating system has provided us with a warm and welcoming place to meet and worship as well as performing funerals, weddings and baptisms. We changed our electricity supplier to Yu Energy on a tariff utilising solely renewable sources, and continued with Crown Gas and Power for the supply of biogas during 2025.

### ***Other fabric items***

The following fabric items were completed during the year:

- Sandwell MBC awarded a grant to paint the church hall and buy new chairs. Five of the older armchairs were re-upholstered.
- The church roof guttering was cleaned.
- A party of volunteers was established to clean the church quarterly.
- The Vicarage front garden has been tidied and a number of problematic trees cut down and removed. 50% of the cost of this covered by the Diocese.
- The church post box was damaged during the removal of the trees, and has since been replaced by the company.
- The mesh on the openings of the church tower has deteriorated, allowing birds to enter and nest there. Quotes are being sought to clean out and repair the tower.
- The Scout Group has closed, and the future use of the Scout Hut is being considered.

## **ELECTORAL ROLL**

In 2025 the Electoral Roll was completely updated, as required every six years. On 31st December 2025, the electoral roll stood at 53 members, of which 25 were resident in the parish and 28 were non-resident. The numbers were significantly down on the previous roll largely due to the effect of the Covid 19 pandemic, and people not returning to worship after the enforced closure.

## **CHURCH LIFE**

On 5th October we were delighted to welcome Mother Diane Reeves as our new curate, following her ordination as a Deacon in Birmingham Cathedral, and we celebrated this with a 'bring and share' lunch.

The Sunday morning service remains our main act of worship, and has been held throughout the year. These services followed various themes according to the liturgical calendar, including a focus on Creationtide and our care for the environment throughout September, including a pet-blessing service. October's Harvest Festival again provided much needed food items for Smethwick Food Bank.

We continue to be part of an 'Oversight Area' with St Mary the Virgin, Bearwood, Smethwick Old Church and St Matthew with St Chad, Smethwick. Our incumbent, The Rev'd Jenni Crewes, stepped down as the Oversight Minister in July 2025. The Oversight Area's Mission Action Plan previously identified three key areas to work together on: bereavement, children and schools, and encouraging vocations. In September we met at St Mark's church hall for a 'Dying Matters' afternoon as part of the 'Bereavement Project', attended by a number of people and a local funeral director: we hope to repeat a similar event in future.

Thanks go to our volunteer organists, John Barber, Angela Daniels and David Ellis, who add so much to our services of worship by playing the organ and piano, and to Mike Baynham and Ian Dickinson with their guitars.

The church was open on Tuesdays and Wednesdays for private prayer throughout the year. These were supplemented by Wednesday morning Holy Communion services and Morning Prayer Tuesdays.

The Prayer Ministry Team has continued to be open for prayer requests, which are shared via WhatsApp daily. The Team has also been available to pray with members of the congregation on a regular basis during some of the morning services: most months, prayer ministry was offered on the first and third Sunday of the month by a small and committed team of volunteers.

For the second year, we held a vigil on Holy Saturday evening and a dawn service on Easter Sunday, including the lighting of the Paschal Candle from the bonfire and carrying it into church.

Sadly, during the year, three of our members died; Jean McCulloch, Judith Gibbens and Elaine Carrington. On 2nd November 2025, we held our annual service for the commemoration of those who have died.

There were several baptisms of adults and children, including a full emersion baptism performed outdoors. We had three weddings in church in 2025, and our clergy performed thirty-seven funerals in church or at crematoria. We hosted the Diocesan Confirmation Service on 25th November when, amongst others, two of our own congregation were confirmed by Bishop Esther.

Our incumbent took many acts of home communion to folk who are housebound or in hospital, often accompanied by a lay member of the congregation.

We continue to work with other churches in the area by holding joint services, assemblies, and a walk of witness on Good Friday. Our vicar met regularly for prayer with other church leaders.

We welcomed the funeral director firm Roberts and Brain who again held their commemoration service in the church on 10<sup>th</sup> December.

In partnership with The Dialogue Society, we have regularly met for 'scriptural reasoning' sessions with our Muslim neighbours. This includes sharing food together and learning about each other's beliefs.

## **OUTREACH, CHARITABLE AND SOCIAL WORK**

The Church Hall continued to be put to good use by CAMEO (our senior's group), the Youth Group, the Friendship Club, and our Rainbows, Brownies, and Guides. Sadly, the Table Tennis Club has discontinued.

CAMEO (Come And Meet Each Other) continued strongly with over thirty members. It provides a valuable and life-giving opportunity for some of our older church and parish members to meet with friends, and, for some members, this may be the only contact they have with other people during the week.

The Youth Group for children of secondary school age met once a month on Sunday evenings with a typical attendance of seven members.

Friendship Club met monthly to share a meal on a Friday evening, and provides a warm welcome for refugee and asylum seekers enabling them to make friends and local connections.

The church hall is widely used by local community groups and families for parties and events. Regular groups include Zumba, a Mother and Baby Fitness Group, a Baby Sensory meeting, Mini Athletics, Little Parakeets Play Group, and a number of new weekly hires such as Karate, Rugby Tots and Fitness Pilates. Thanks must go to Marian Hills for all her hard work in coordinating and managing the hall bookings.

In July we held the annual Three Shires Festival that is growing in strength and popularity: the wide range of events included classical concerts, a ceilidh, poetry and music, and an art exhibition. We held eighteen free-entry concerts by students at Birmingham Conservatoire in the church, these were generally well attended

by members of the local community as well as church members: the new heating system enabled us to continue throughout the colder months. There were also nine other concerts in the church, which is increasingly being recognised as a good local performance space.

There were a five school visits into the church by Abbey Junior, Bleakhouse Primary, Moat Farm, and Annie Lennard Primary Schools. Additionally, visits were made to a number of schools to help with assemblies and RE classes.

We have again supported our four adopted charities: Christian Aid, The Children's Society, the Mission to Seafarers and the Diocesan Fund for Malawi. There was a Christingle service on 14<sup>th</sup> December where we focussed on The Children's Society. Sea Sunday was celebrated on 13<sup>th</sup> July at which items knitted by congregation members for the Mission to Seafarers were brought to church.

An Eco-Church group was reformed, and were granted the Silver Eco-Church award. We are now working towards the Gold award. The group are helping us to think about making changes to our care for creation. We are exploring the possibility of installing solar panels as a legacy has been left towards this exciting project which should reduce our overall electricity bill as well as making the church 'greener'. Our flower arrangers faithfully continued to decorate the church, and have been working with the Eco-Church team to be as environmentally friendly as possible, for example by changing to a biodegradable 'oasis'.

The church is a member of the Inclusive Church Network.

On 13<sup>th</sup> December we held a Walking Nativity around the church grounds and church hall complete with special guests two Shetland ponies, Eeks and Shelby, who brought many smiles (many thanks to Rachel Clee for bringing them along).

## **SUMMARY**

This year we have seen many encouraging signs of growing community life. We are grateful to the many volunteers in the church family that enable us to worship together, keep our building welcoming and safe, and enable us to proclaim and live our faith.

Elizabeth Farrier, PCC Secretary  
February 2026

## **ST HILDA, WARLEY WOODS**

# **ANNUAL SAFEGUARDING REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31 DECEMBER 2025**

The safeguarding of children, young people and vulnerable adults is an ongoing concern of the PCC.

The purposes of safeguarding in the context of a parish church like St Hilda's are to:

- respond to any safeguarding concerns and ensure that the right action is taken;
- promote awareness of safeguarding;
- help create as safe an environment as possible for everyone who is part of St Hilda's and its activities; and
- regularly review the PCC's legal and diocesan safeguarding requirements and ensure that these are implemented.

Anne Harris, Parish Safeguarding Co-ordinator works on behalf of the PCC to ensure that these purposes are met and reports to each PCC meeting. During 2025, Anne was helped by Revd Jenni Crewes, the PCC, other volunteers and members of St Hilda's Church, the Church of England Birmingham Safeguarding Team and Mike Baynham, who was appointed as a Parish Safeguarding Officer in June 2025.

If anyone else is interested in joining the safeguarding team and helping with some aspects of safeguarding at St Hilda's, please speak to Jenni Crewes or Anne Harris.

### **Definition of the term 'vulnerable adult'**

Section 6 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure (2016) states that the term 'vulnerable adult' refers to a person aged 18 or over whose ability to protect themselves from violence, abuse, neglect or exploitation is significantly impaired, temporarily or indefinitely, through physical or mental disability, illness, old age, emotional fragility, distress or otherwise. Some adults may not consider themselves vulnerable but may be vulnerable to being abused by individuals in positions of leadership and responsibility.

### **Reporting safeguarding issues**

In addition to speaking to Anne, Mike or Jenni, a publicised dedicated safeguarding mobile phone number and email address for leaving messages provide alternative ways of drawing any safeguarding concerns to the St Hilda's safeguarding team.

The safeguarding mobile phone number is 07946 147703.

The former safeguarding email address was administered by the St Hilda's website which has now ceased. In November 2025, a new St Hilda's safeguarding email address was established. This is [sthildasafeguarding@gmail.com](mailto:sthildasafeguarding@gmail.com)

### **Safeguarding records**

Confidential records are written and kept of all safeguarding concerns and actions. These are maintained in line with UK GDPR and Church of England guidance for all parish safeguarding records, their retention and storage.

There are two Church of England online applications:

#### ***1: The Parish Safeguarding Dashboard***

This is an easy to use, online national Church of England tool which helps the PCC and parish safeguarding team to meet their requirements to review safeguarding regularly and to conduct an annual assessment of the PCC's safeguarding arrangements. The Parish Safeguarding Co-ordinator regularly updates the parish safeguarding dashboard and ensures that any necessary actions have been taken. In 2025, a full parish 'Promoting a Safer Church' action plan generated by the safeguarding dashboard, was presented to the PCC on 20th July, and summary 'Promoting a Safer Church' action plans were included in the safeguarding reports to each of the other PCC meetings.

## *2: The Safeguarding Hub*

This second online application is linked to the Parish Dashboard and designed to help a parish church with following the Church of England 'Safer Recruitment and People Management' Guidance. Stage 1 is the 'Role Creator' which lists and describes our 40 current church roles for volunteers and employees. Stage 2 is the 'People Manager' and provides a record of DBS checks and safeguarding training for each of our 42 volunteers. Stage 3 is the 'Recruitment Tracker' which helps us through the first 11 steps required by the national Church of England 'Safer Recruitment and People Management' guidance for recruitment to all roles which have substantial contact with children, young people and vulnerable adults.

### **Role descriptions**

The House of Bishops 'Promoting a Safer Church' safeguarding policy statement (2017) recommends clear role descriptions for all church officers. (A church officer is anyone, ordained or lay, who is appointed or elected by or on behalf of the church to a post or a role). Role descriptions have been given to those volunteers at St Hilda's Church who have substantial contact with children, young people or vulnerable adults. The PCC and Parish Safeguarding Co-ordinator are continuing to work on developing and reviewing role descriptions for all other volunteers.

### **Parish Identity Verifiers**

Liz Farrier, Parish Identity Verifier, assisted by Anne Harris, Deputy Parish Identity Verifier, has continued to process new applications for DBS checks before a volunteer has started in a new role and DBS renewals every 3 years for volunteers in roles involving substantial contact with children, young people and vulnerable adults.

### **Safeguarding Training**

In line with the Church of England House of Bishops 'Framework for Safeguarding Training', the Parish Safeguarding Co-ordinator and PCC have ensured that each church employee and volunteer has completed or renewed safeguarding training within the previous three years, at the required level for their role. New volunteers are informed of their safeguarding training requirements and the relevant training is arranged and completed before a volunteer begins in their new role.

Safeguarding training begins with basic awareness training which is a requirement for all volunteers and paid church officers. All volunteers are seen to be representing the Church and it is important that we all know how to recognise or respond to a potential safeguarding matter and what to do.

Further Church of England safeguarding training 'pathways', relevant for certain roles, include 'Foundations' which follows 'Basic Awareness', 'Responding to Domestic Abuse', 'Leadership' and 'Safer Recruitment and People Management'.

Safeguarding training is usually done online, but in person assistance can be provided at St Hilda's for volunteers who feel unable to do the training online.

### **Annual reviews of safeguarding policies and procedures**

On 13th March 2025, the PCC approved annual reviews of the following St Hilda's safeguarding policies and procedures which were re-grouped as follows:

- (1) Promoting a Safer Church Safeguarding Policy and Procedures
  - (1.1) Promoting a Safer Church Safeguarding Policy
  - (1.2) Responding to Safeguarding Concerns and Allegations Procedure
  - (1.3) Safeguarding Complaints Procedure
- (2) Raising Awareness of Domestic Abuse Policy and Procedures
- (3) The Safe Use of Social Media and Mobile Phones Policy and Procedures
- (4) Recruitment of Ex-Offenders Policy

Up to date copies of these policies can be accessed on noticeboards in the church porch and the entrance to the church hall and also at St Hilda's on 'A Church Near You' website.



## **Amendment to The Safe Use of Social Media and Mobile Phones Policy and Procedures**

On 1st October 2025, the PCC agreed to an amendment to 'The Safe Use of Social Media and Mobile Phones Policy and Procedures' to include a paragraph entitled 'written permission for sharing photos and images on social media platforms' and a child photography consent form.

### **Church activities**

A church activity is an activity organised in the name of the church primarily for children, young people or vulnerable adults OR an activity which includes teaching, training, instructing, caring for, supervising or transporting children, young people or vulnerable adults. It is the PCC's responsibility to decide if an activity is organised in the name of the church. This has implications for the safeguarding arrangements and the activity's recruitment of staff and volunteers, governance, finances and insurance. Currently, there are two St Hilda's church activities which are CAMEO (Come and meet Each Other) and the Youth Group. The Parish Safeguarding Co-ordinator has been available to advise the leaders and helpers of these activities in ensuring that they receive the necessary safeguarding information and training, and comply with diocesan and national safeguarding requirements, including safer recruitment processes, role descriptions and risk assessments.

### **Non-church activities**

On 23rd July, as part of the review of the 'Promoting a Safer Church Action Plan', generated by the Parish Safeguarding Dashboard, the PCC reviewed and approved the list of non-church activities for children, young people and vulnerable adults that are held on St Hilda's Church premises. The PCC is grateful to Marian Hills, who manages the church hall bookings and ensures that the relevant safeguarding clause is signed and understood by the hirers.

### **Safer Recruitment**

The Parish Safeguarding Co-ordinator and PCC have continued to monitor and encourage the development of safer recruitment practices in line with the revised Church of England House of Bishops 'Safer Recruitment and People Management Guidance' (January 2022) for the safe recruitment, supervision and support of every church employee and volunteer who has substantial contact with children, young people or vulnerable adults.

### **Safeguarding Sunday**

Our fourth annual Safeguarding Sunday which took place at St Hilda's on Sunday 16th February 2025 is a national initiative and was an opportunity to highlight and celebrate the safeguarding work in our church within the context of worship.

### **A safeguarding culture at St Hilda's**

At St Hilda's we continue to do all we can to:

- prevent and make it impossible for deliberate or inadvertent abuse of any kind to take place at St Hilda's,
- continually question ourselves, individually and collectively about how we ensure safety in all that we are and do,
- say and write more frequently that 'safeguarding is everyone's responsibility' until children and vulnerable adults are safe from harm',
- even when dealing with relatively small safeguarding issues and requirements, remember that knowing about something and being ineffective in doing something about it could lead to something more serious.

### **Conclusion**

In accordance with Section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Measure 2016, the PCC has therefore complied with its duty to have due regard to the House of Bishops Guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults.

Anne Harris, Parish Safeguarding Co-ordinator  
24<sup>th</sup> January 2026

# ST HILDA'S CHURCH, WARLEY WOODS

## ANNUAL ACCOUNTS FOR YEAR ENDING 31 DECEMBER 2025

### OVERVIEW

**Status:** St Hilda's Church is the parish church for the Parish of Warley Woods in the Diocese of Birmingham. In 2018 the Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Hilda, Warley Woods (PCC) became a registered charity under The Charity Commission of England and Wales, with the Registered Charity Number 1181258.

**Premises:** The church building, church hall, vicarage and grounds are the property of Birmingham Diocese. The PCC owns a scout hut on the site: the tenant scout troop left in May 2025, and is not currently in use, awaiting a survey and renovation. It was valued at £117,700 for insurance purposes in 2014, but is notionally valued at £10,000 in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities. The church hall was redecorated in 2025. Use of the Church and the Hall by community organisations is a major source of income.

**Site Developments:** In 2024, in a major capital project the gas-fired heating system in the church building was replaced with electric radiators using 'green' electricity, and thereby also reduce the carbon footprint of the church. A legacy for £11,381 was received in 2025 with a restriction that it be spent on solar panels to partly offset the cost of running this system. The PCC is currently assessing the feasibility of installing solar panels on the church or hall.

**Clergy:** The incumbent is a vicar, the Rev Jennifer Ruth Crewes. A non-stipendiary curate, Diane Reeves, took up her post on 5<sup>th</sup> October 2025.

**Lay Employees:** The church employed one person, a hall cleaner, and the staff payroll is administered by Birmingham Diocese at no cost to St Hilda's Church. No PCC member has been a church employee. No PCC member receives any honorarium or expenses arising from that position within the Church.

**Charitable Giving:** As usual, the PCC financially supported its adopted charities, Christian Aid, the Mission to Seafarers, and the Children's Society, as well as the Smethwick Food Bank. In 2025 the usual container of items was not sent by Birmingham Diocese to Malawi: the church retains funds should one be sent in 2026.

**Accounting Basis:** These accounts have been prepared on a 'receipts and payments' basis in accordance with the Charities Act 2011.

**Review of Financial Procedures:** A review of current financial practice at St Hilda's Church was carried out in December 2022 using the Charity Commission guidelines and checklist: the report was approved by the PCC in January 2023. The 2022 Report stated that all legal requirements and most 'best practice' recommendations were being met by current procedures. The most significant departure was the use of only one approval, the Treasurer's, for bank transfers, but this has been changed so all debit entries are completed require dual authorisation. The PCC adopted a policy of full review every five years, so next review becomes due in 2027.

**Bank Accounts and Investments:** At the start of 2025, St Hilda's PCC held a current account with the Bank of Scotland (BOS), five deposit accounts with Church of England Central Board of Finance (CBF), and two investment funds, the Porter-York Fund held in CBF property shares, and the CBF UK Equity Fund. The BOS account was changed by the bank from a 'Treasurer's Account' to a 'Charities Account', and now may be liable to bank charges. The UK Equity Fund was discontinued in June, and the church's holding transferred to the CBF Global Equity Fund.

**Agency Operations:** St Hilda's PCC collects some fees and receipts as an 'agent' for another entity, which it then redistributes. Such transactions are handled through the PCC's Bank of Scotland current account, but the fees are not part of the church's income and expenditure, and are therefore excluded from the church's accounts. These include, for example, payments from statutory fees made on behalf of Birmingham Diocese,

money specifically raised for charities (but not church donations to the charities), and refundable damage deposits for hire of buildings.

**Summary of Accounts:** 2025 continued to present financial challenges, and revenue expenditure exceeded revenue income in most months. Total receipts were £102,451 (significantly higher than in 2024) and total payments £85,403 (down on 2024), giving an overall excess of income over expenditure of £17,047 for 2025. However, the income figure includes £36,381 from five legacies, so the regular 'revenue' income is reduced to £65,269, and the balance becomes an excess of expenditure of £19,334. Since the church is owed a net £7,531, the revenue balance is effectively an overspend £11,803 or an average of about £1,000 per month. The church has had to draw on reserves to meet this overspend.

**Income Sources:** The main source of income is the voluntary giving of church attenders. Stewardship was marginally down at £24,876. However, with open plate collections and other voluntary giving, the total income by voluntary giving was £34,612, which was £1,345 higher than in 2024. Gift aid at £1,914 was down for reasons described in note 3, but an unclaimed £7,010 should be received in 2026. We also continue to see higher income as a result of the use of our church and church hall by both community and church groups, but no longer have income from hiring the scout hut since the scout group closed in May. After deducting running costs for the hall, a net income from hiring buildings was £8,109. The church benefitted from five legacies in 2025 totalling £36,381, which covered the overspend and boosted reserves.

**Expenditure:** The main expense to the church (52%) is the Parish Share paid to Birmingham Diocese, which was increased to £44,500. With increased use of our buildings, the running costs are higher, particularly electricity charges for the church, £14,378 (16.8%).

**Investments:** The church has shares in two investment funds managed by CCLA for the Central Board of Finance of the Church of England. The shareholding in the Property Fund (the church's Porter-York fund) was unchanged over the year, and the value increased over the year by £257 to £12,190 on 31 December 2025. The second holding was moved from the UK Equity Fund to the Global Equity Fund on 13 June 2025, when the UK Equity Fund was discontinued: £26,381 was paid into the Global Equity Fund in December from the bequests, raising the total holding to 11,102 shares, valued at £33,706 on 31 December 2025.

**Reserve Policy:** It is the policy of St Hilda's PCC to maintain immediately available unrestricted reserves equivalent to three month's normal expenditure, approximately £21,000 at present. On 31<sup>st</sup> December 2025, an unrestricted balance of £8,014 was held in the BOS current account and £11,821 was held in the 'General Reserve' Deposit Account on one week's notice, thereby fulfilling this policy.

**The Unquantifiable:** These monetary accounts cannot include the significant time and effort freely given by church members in supporting the work of the fellowship in many ways. We are grateful to the people who continue to give under the stewardship scheme, to those who have found new ways of giving, and to the people who give of their time, skills and talents to support the fellowship. On a personal note, as Treasurer I would like to thank those who count and bank the collections and other cash receipts: your help is very much appreciated.

Dr Terry Daniels  
Acting PCC Treasurer from March 2025

Elaine Carrington, who became treasurer in April 2024, was taken seriously ill in March 2025 and had to resign the post. She died in August 2025, and had been a loyal servant to the church in many roles over the years, and latterly taking on the responsibility of PCC treasurer.

# ANNUAL ACCOUNTS FOR YEAR ENDING 31 DECEMBER 2025

## RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS 2025

RECEIPTS						Total 2024
	Note	Restricted	Designated	Unrestricted	Total 2025	
<b>Donations</b>						
Stewardship	1					
Tax-efficient		£0.00	£0.00	£20,783.00	£20,783.00	£20,714.00
Other		£0.00	£0.00	£4,093.00	£4,093.00	£4,388.00
Collections at Services	2	£0.00	£0.00	£4,893.75	£4,893.75	£4,499.60
Gift Aid Recovered	3	£0.00	£0.00	£1,914.25	£1,914.25	£7,320.84
Other Voluntary Giving	4	£140.00	£0.00	£4,702.54	£4,842.54	£3,665.30
Grants	5	£1,035.00	£0.00	£0.00	£1,035.00	£7,062.20
Bequests	5	£16,381.47	£0.00	£20,000.00	£36,381.47	£1,000.00
Other Receipts	5	£0.00	£0.00	£1,132.00	£1,132.00	£1,665.00
<b>Donations Sub-total</b>		<b>£17,556.47</b>	<b>£0.00</b>	<b>£57,518.54</b>	<b>£75,075.01</b>	£50,314.94
<b>Charitable Activities</b>						
Statutory Fees	6	£0.00	£0.00	£7,267.00	£7,267.00	£2,960.00
Trading Income	7	£0.00	£0.00	£16,358.35	£16,358.35	£20,965.18
Fundraising for Church	8	£0.00	£0.00	£1,928.33	£1,928.33	£3,190.43
<b>Charitable Activities Sub-total</b>		<b>£0.00</b>	<b>£0.00</b>	<b>£25,553.68</b>	<b>£25,553.68</b>	£27,115.61
<b>Investment Income</b>						
Investment Accounts (Equity & Property Funds)		£0.00	£0.00	£1,021.73	£1,021.73	£1,329.07
Deposit Accounts		£42.93	£243.45	£513.91	£800.29	£891.28
<b>Investment Income Sub-total</b>		<b>£42.93</b>	<b>£243.45</b>	<b>£1,535.64</b>	<b>£1,822.02</b>	£2,220.35
<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>		<b>£17,599.40</b>	<b>£243.45</b>	<b>£84,607.86</b>	<b>£102,450.71</b>	£79,650.90
<b>PAYMENTS</b>						
<b>Fundraising Costs</b>						
Cost of Fundraising	8	£0.00	£0.00	£1,110.14	£1,110.14	£1,000.12
<b>Charitable Activities</b>						
Diocesan Parish Share	9	£0.00	£0.00	£44,500.00	£44,500.00	£44,004.00
Charitable and other donations	10	£1,055.00	£0.00	£1,255.66	£2,310.66	£2,756.45
Salaries, wages and honoraria	11	£0.00	£0.00	£3,518.40	£3,518.40	£3,894.00
Clergy and staff expenses	12	£0.00	£0.00	£1,114.37	£1,114.37	£705.04
<b>Charitable Activities Sub-total</b>		<b>£1,055.00</b>	<b>£0.00</b>	<b>£50,388.43</b>	<b>£51,443.43</b>	£51,359.49
<b>Site Running Expenses</b>						
Mission and evangelism	13	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
Church running expenses	14	£0.00	£0.00	£10,333.36	£10,333.36	£13,304.36
Church utility costs	14	£0.00	£0.00	£14,377.56	£14,377.56	£7,341.26
Cost of trading	15	£0.00	£0.00	£8,138.87	£8,138.87	£10,902.96
<b>Site Running Expenses Sub-total</b>		<b>£0.00</b>	<b>£0.00</b>	<b>£32,849.79</b>	<b>£32,849.79</b>	£31,548.58
<b>Capital Items</b>						
Major projects	16	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£66,722.11
<b>TOTAL PAYMENTS</b>		<b>£1,055.00</b>	<b>£0.00</b>	<b>£84,348.36</b>	<b>£85,403.36</b>	£150,630.30
<b>EXCESS OF RECEIPTS OVER EXPENDITURE</b>		<b>£16,544.40</b>	<b>£243.45</b>	<b>£259.50</b>	<b>£17,047.35</b>	-£70,979.40
Transfers from Investments to Current accounts		-£11,381.47	£0.00	-£10,000.00	-£21,381.47	£10,000.00
<b>OPENING CURRENT AND DEPOSIT ACCOUNTS 1/1/25</b>						
Current Account		£2,297.75	£4,030.23	£11,355.67	£17,683.65	£87,068.49
Deposit Accounts		£6,927.54	£0.00	£18,268.27	£25,195.81	£16,790.37
<b>CLOSING CURRENT AND DEPOSIT ACCOUNTS</b>		<b>£14,388.22</b>	<b>£4,273.68</b>	<b>£19,883.44</b>	<b>£38,545.34</b>	£42,879.46

# ANNUAL ACCOUNTS FOR YEAR ENDING 31 DECEMBER 2025

## ASSETS AND LIABILITIES 2025

Monetary Assets	Restricted	Designated	Unrestricted	Totals 2025	Totals 2024
<b>Deposit Accounts</b>					
CB3001513 - Church Fabric Reserve	£0.00	£3,954.61	£0.00	£3,954.61	£3,783.39
CB3001523 - Church Music Reserve	£991.47	£0.00	£0.00	£991.47	£948.54
CB3001583 - Church Hall Reserve	£1,349.21	£319.07	£0.00	£1,668.28	£1,596.05
CB3001595 - General Reserve	£0.00	£0.00	£11,820.95	£11,820.95	£11,309.15
CB3001596 - Gifts and Bequests Reserve	£0.00	£0.00	£48.63	£48.63	£46.52
	<b>£2,340.68</b>	<b>£4,273.68</b>	<b>£11,869.58</b>	<b>£18,483.94</b>	<b>£17,683.65</b>
<b>Bank of Scotland Current Account Funds</b>					
General Fund	£5,332.71	£0.00	£4,208.04	£9,540.75	£16,280.92
Baby Group Fund [Closed October 2025]	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	0.00	£217.86
Choir Fund [Closed October 2025]	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	0.00	£104.19
Festival Fund	£1.46	£0.00	£1,038.94	£1,040.40	£586.29
Flower Fund [Closed October 2025]	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	0.00	£30.64
Friendship Fund	£209.19	£0.00	£195.44	£404.63	£871.08
Ministry Support Fund	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	0.00	£5.35
Music and Organ Fund	£0.00	£0.00	£2,086.94	£2,086.94	£1,982.75
Musical Director Fund	£4,500.00	£0.00	£0.00	£4,500.00	£4,500.00
Social Fund [Closed October 2025]	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	0.00	£330.00
Vicarage Fund	£0.00	£0.00	£450.00	£450.00	£450.00
Youth Fund	£2,004.18	£0.00	£34.50	£2,038.68	£73.18
	<b>£12,047.54</b>	<b>£0.00</b>	<b>£8,013.86</b>	<b>£20,061.40</b>	<b>* £25,195.81</b>
<b>CLOSING BALANCE, CURRENT AND DEPOSIT ACCOUNTS</b>	<b>£14,388.22</b>	<b>£4,273.68</b>	<b>£19,883.44</b>	<b>£38,545.34</b>	<b>£42,879.46</b>
<b>Investments</b>					
Porter-York Fund, shares at market value, 31/12/25	£0.00	£0.00	£12,189.94	£12,189.94	£11,933.24
UK Equity Fund, switched to Global Equity Fund, 13/06/25	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£12,552.01
Global Equity Fund, 31/12/25	£11,342.02	£0.00	£22,363.82	£33,705.84	£0.00
<b>Total Investments, 31/12/25</b>	<b>£11,342.02</b>	<b>£0.00</b>	<b>£34,553.76</b>	<b>£45,895.78</b>	<b>£24,485.25</b>
<b>TOTAL MONETARY ASSETS WITH INVESTMENTS, 31/12/25</b>	<b>£25,730.24</b>	<b>£4,273.68</b>	<b>£54,437.20</b>	<b>£84,441.12</b>	<b>£67,364.71</b>
<b>Other Assets and Liabilities</b>					
Uncashed cheque				-£218.68	
Unclaimed Gift-Aid				£7,009.62	
Payment due for two funerals				£740.00	
<b>Total due</b>				<b>£7,530.94</b>	
<b>Buildings</b>					
Scout Hut no longer in use pending survey and redevelopment - nominal insurance value				£10,000.00	£23,540.00

\* On 31/12/25, Bank of Scotland Current Account held **£22,260.89** ;

Church Account (as above)	£20,061.40
Agency Holding (note 17)	£2,199.49
	<b>£22,260.89</b>

## NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS 2025

### 1 Stewardship:

The church runs a stewardship scheme for regular giving either by direct payment into the church account or by gift-aid envelope at services. 83.5% of regular stewardship qualified for gift-aid. The total stewardship received was £226 less than the amount received in 2024, but was still the largest source of regular income.

	Gift-aided	Non-GA	Total
Direct giving:	£20,783.00	£4,093.00	£24,876.00

### 2 Collections at Services:

This figure, £4,893.75, includes all open plate collections at regular and occasional church services, and retiring collections at baptisms, funerals, weddings etc. This is £394.15 higher than the amount received in 2024.

### 3 Gift Aid Recovered:

The gift aid recovered in 2025, within tax years 2024-25 and 2025-26, was reduced for administrative reasons. The Treasurer at the start of 2025 who was authorised by HMRC for making gift aid claims, Mrs E Carrington, was taken ill in March 2025, and died in August. We still await the recognition by HMRC of the current Acting Treasurer as the authorised claimant on behalf of St Hilda's PCC. Therefore, it has been possible to make only the claims for January to March 2025, totalling **£1,914.25**.

Outstanding claims for 2025 total **£7,009.62** as shown below

	Claims made for 2024-5 tax year	Claims due for 2024-5 tax year	Claims due for 2025-6 tax year	Claims Due Total
Gift-aided donations:		£819.00	£4,956.60	
GASDS:		<u>£207.61</u>	<u>£1,026.61</u>	
<b>Total:</b>	<b>£1,914.25</b>	<b>£1,026.61</b>	<b>£5,983.01</b>	<b>£7,009.62</b>

Thus, had it been possible to make all claims due in the year, the total income from gift aid on donations in 2025 should have been £8,923.87, which is £1,603.03 higher than in 2024.

### 4 Other Voluntary Giving:

Apart from regular donations through the stewardship scheme and collections at services, occasional voluntary donations are received in other ways, including one-off donations, donation boxes in church, and gifts specifically for the Friendship Fund. Some of these are itemised below.

Donations at Free concerts and events	£2,978.52
Donation boxes at church (Wall safe, Flower Fund, some Digital)	£750.30
Friendship Fund - Restricted	£140.00
Miscellaneous small donations	<u>£973.72</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>£4,842.54</b>

### 5 Grants, Legacies and other receipts

The church received an unusually high number of **legacies** in 2025:

D L Gallaher	£11,381.47	Restricted for installation of solar panels
J Lines	£2,000.00	Restricted for Youth Work
J D Bryant	£10,000.00	Unrestricted
M E Scrivenor	£10,000.00	Unrestricted
J Gibbens	<u>£3,000.00</u>	Restricted for church heating
<b>Total</b>	<b>£36,381.47</b>	<b>Unrestricted £20,000.00    Restricted £16,381.47</b>

The Gallaher and Bryant bequests totalling £21,381.47 were transferred to the church's Global Equity Investment Fund (page 21), the Lines bequest was transferred to the Youth Fund, and the unrestricted Scrivenor bequest retained in the BOS current account to help offset the revenue deficit for the year and maintain levels of reserves required by the church's reserve policy.

The Chance Trust made two restricted **grants** totalling £1,035.00 to the church's 'Friendship Fund' (note 10) to support two asylum seekers on being granted leave to remain.

In 2024 a restricted grant of £2,562.20 was received to refurbish the Church Hall. £1,452.74 of the grant had been spent in 2024, leaving £1,109.46 for the project in 2025. This was all used, and further £787.76 of general church funds spent to complete the refurbishment. Also in 2024, a restricted grant of £4,500 was received from Keble College Harlow Trust for the appointment of a Musical Director. No appointment has yet been made, pending further financing of the post. This grant is retained in a separate 'Musical Director Fund' awaiting use or, should no appointment be made, repayment to Harlow Trust.

## 6 Fees Retained by PCC:

St Hilda's personnel conducted three weddings (part fees received in earlier years), and thirty-seven funerals, ten of which did not come into the church. The statutory income for the church (net of fees paid as agent to the diocese, organist, and verger) was £4,521.00. A further £2,542.00 was received as 'permitted charges for heating, lighting etc' for funerals and weddings:

Funerals	£3,406.00	
Weddings, inc. banns	£1,002.00	
Banns, other	<u>£220.00</u>	
<b>Statutory Fees:</b>	<b>£4,628.00</b>	£4,628.00
Permitted charges:	<u>£2,639.00</u>	
<b>Total with permitted charges:</b>	<b>£7,267.00</b>	

## 7 Trading Income

**Hire of Buildings:** The church and church hall were in use by the church, community groups and individual hirers for the whole year, and community hire is the major source of 'trading income'. Hourly rent is not charged for use by church groups (such as the CAMEO senior citizens group, Table Tennis Group, Guides etc), but these make *ad hoc* donations to the church. The Scout Troop, who had hired the Scout Hut, closed in May, having paid in advance in 2024 for this period. The building is not in use currently.

Church Hire	£920.00
Church Hall – Community Hire	£14,622.00
Church Hall – Church Groups (Donations)	<u>£536.35</u>
<b>Total:</b>	<b>£16,078.35</b>

**Other Trading Activities:** Minor activities that contributed to trading include the provision of 'remembrance' items, and use of the church's photocopier through charges for external users. Remembrance items are entries in the Book of Memory or chair plaques, and costs incurred are for calligraphy and engraving: these costs are included under the 'cost of trading', (note 15) as 'Remembrance Items'.

External use of Photocopier	£10.00
Remembrance Book and Plaques	<u>£270.00</u>
	<b>£280.00</b>

Thus, **total trading income was £16,358.35**, comprising the £16,078.35 from building hire plus £280.00 from other trading.

## 8 Fundraising for Church and Cost of Fundraising:

St Hilda's PCC is registered with 'easyfundraising' for gifts on internet purchases made by its registered supporters (currently twenty). Free refreshments are served after service on Sundays, and some attendees make donations. The 'Three Shires' Music Festival is an annual event with both free and paid events, and is held within the current account as a separate restricted 'Festival Fund': it is primarily intended as an activity for the local community, rather than as a fundraising venture, but a small profit was made in 2025 of £454.11.

	Receipts	Costs	Net Income
'easyfundraising'	£351.08	£0.00	£351.08
Donations for refreshments	£430.00	£0.00	£430.00
Three Shires Festival - restricted	<u>£1,147.25</u>	<u>£639.14</u>	<u>£454.11</u>
<b>Totals</b>	<b>£1,928.33</b>	<b>£639.14</b>	<b>£1,235.19</b>

## 9 Diocesan Parish Share:

The Parish Share contribution to Birmingham Diocese is the church's largest expenditure: **£45,500** was agreed with the diocese for 2025, an increase of £496. This amount was paid in full.

## 10 Donations to Charities and other Charitable Activities by the Church:

**Church Collections and Donations:** The church supported three charities (The Children's Society, Christian Aid, and the Mission to Seafarers) as part of its on-going mission work. A Sunday collection was made in the relevant charity's own envelopes and administered through the Agency Account (below and note 17): the value of the collection was match-funded from the church's general funds, and this contribution was administered through the Church Account. The collection at the Christingle Service was donated to the Children's Society and similarly match-funded: Christingle services were held in January and December in 2025, the December service being brought forward from January 2026.

The **Friendship Group** of the church supports asylum seekers living locally with occasional payments for items such as medical expenses, travel or telephone cards, and makes a payment of £100 towards furniture etc once they receive leave to remain. In 2025 the fund also received two restricted grants from the Chance Trust totalling £1,035.00 (note 5) to be used for domestic appliances for two persons who were granted the right to remain (excluded from these figures):

Church Donation to Children's Society	£628.66
Church Donation to Christian Aid	£227.00
Church Donation to Mission to Seafarers (cheque not yet cashed £192.34)	
Donation to Inclusive Church Network	£50.00
Friendship Group donations (excluding Chance Trust)	<u>£350.00</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>£1,255.66</b>

In addition to monetary gifts, members of the congregation knitted items such as 75 hats, 11 balaclavas and 14 pairs of gloves for the men at sea, which were sent to the Mission to Seafarers. Food was collected for the Smethwick Food Bank throughout the year

### Money for Charitable Activities excluded from the Church Accounts:

The church, as 'agent', also raises funds specifically for its adopted and other charities: these are not church money, and are administered through the 'Agency Account'.

Children's Society envelopes (two collections)	£409.60
Christian Aid envelopes	£227.00
Mission to Seafarers envelopes	£109.34
Smethwick Food Bank collection box	<u>£129.15</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>£875.09</b>

The church normally collects items for Malawi and pays for space on a container arranged by Birmingham Diocese: no container was sent in 2025, but the Agency Account holds £247.37 for future collections and shipments.

## 11 Salaries, Wages and Honoraria:

The PCC employed one person in 2025, a cleaner at a current annual cost of **£3,518.00** based on Living Wage Foundation rates. The payroll is administered through Moorepay by Birmingham Diocese without charge to the church. No other person is paid by the church, other than for reimbursement of expenses incurred. The church paid £275 for a retreat for a long-serving Reader in the church.

## 12 Clergy and Staff expenses:

The church is responsible for travel, telephone and other expenses incurred by the Vicar, its own employees, and laity in the course of their duties for the church. The vicar's expenses were **£1,114.37** in 2025.

## 13 Mission and Evangelism:

This subject is detailed in the Secretary's Report, and charitable activities are discussed in note 10.



The Friendship Group provides social and material help to local asylum seekers. In 2025, £140 was received by voluntary donations, and £335 spent on supporting local asylum seekers, leaving £404.63 in the Friendship Fund on 31<sup>st</sup> December 2025. Two grants were received, totalling £1,035.00 for specific purchases for individual asylum seekers (notes 5 and 10).

A small Youth Group meets monthly, initially funded by a grant in 2021, of which £38.68 remained in the Youth Fund account on 31<sup>st</sup> December 2025. This fund was boosted by a legacy of £2,000.00 specifically bequeathed for youth work.

#### 14 Church and Site Running Expenses:

This item covers the cost of maintenance and insurance for the church building, maintaining the grounds, regular tuning of the organ and piano, purchase of worship materials, and other incidentals in the day-to-day operation of the church. Running costs for the hall (note 15) and capital items (note 16) are considered separately.

Insurance (excluding church hall)	£2,317.24	
Church maintenance	£164.35	
Site maintenance	£2,127.48	
Telephone, broadband and website	£1,011.99	
Office supplies and photocopying	£1,840.74	
Organ and piano tuning	£510.00	
Church Copyright Licence	£347.86	
Worship materials*	£942.20	
Other small items (individually under £300)**	<u>£1,071.50</u>	
<i>Sub-total Church and Grounds Running Costs:</i>	<i>£10,333.36</i>	<i>£10,333.36</i>
Church Electricity	£14,377.56	
<i>Sub-total Church Utilities:</i>	<i>£14,377.56</i>	<i><u>£14,377.56</u></i>
<b>Total Church and Site Running Expenses</b>		<b>£24,710.92</b>

\* Candles, communion elements, palm crosses, baptism materials etc

\*\* Performing rights, data protection, hygiene, health & safety, etc

Electricity costs are sub-totalled as 'Church Utilities' as in previous years. In 2024 an electric heating system was installed in the church building, and all gas removed. The church hall is still heated by gas. As part of its environmental policy, the PCC decided that, despite their higher cost, the 'greenest' options should be used for both fuels; solar, wind and hydro power for electricity and biomass for gas. Electricity is metered separately for the church and hall. Electricity and gas usage in the hall is charged to 'Cost of Trading', note 15.

#### 15 Cost of Trading and Hall Running Costs:

The main trading activity is the hire of the church hall to community groups and local individuals, and, therefore, most 'Cost of Trading' comprises the running costs and maintenance of the church hall, shown below:

Electricity	£1,128.79	
Gas	<u>£1,728.63</u>	
<i>Sub-total Hall Utilities</i>	<i>£2,857.42</i>	<i>£2,857.42</i>
Water	£322.54	
Insurance	£1,729.54	
Maintenance	£838.81	
Redecoration	£1,897.22	
Small items	<u>£323.34</u>	
<i>Sub-total Hall Running Costs</i>	<i>£5,111.45</i>	<i><u>£5,111.45</u></i>
<b>Total Hall Running Costs</b>		<b>£7,968.87</b>
Remembrance Items	£170.00	<u>£170.00</u>
<b>Total Cost of Trading</b>		<b>£8,138.87</b>

Costs for use of the building by outside hirers and use by church groups is not apportioned, but the larger part of its use is by non-church hirers.

'Remembrance items' covers the cost of chair plaques and entries in the Book of Remembrance.

#### 16 Capital Items:

There was no significant capital purchase in 2025.

#### 17 Agency Holding and Bank of Scotland Current Account Reconciliation:

The 'Agency Holding' is money held by the church in its Bank of Scotland current account as agents for other organisations or persons. This does not form part of the church's assets, and, therefore, is excluded from these church accounts. In 2025 the Agency Holding was used for transactions such as processing Statutory Fees for funerals and weddings (only part of which is due to the church), holding damage deposits for hire of buildings, holding money raised specifically for charities, and holding money collected for leaving gifts.

In 2025, the church also undertook the administration of a £845.00 grant from Birmingham Diocese for a project providing bereavement support across the oversight group of churches of which St Hilda's Church is a member. Again, the church is acting as 'agent' for the group of churches. £229.22 was paid from this in 2025, leaving a holding of £615.78 for the project.

On 31st December 2025 the Agency Holding comprised:

Charity Holding for Charities	£538.71
Statutory Fees	£217.00
Damage Deposits for Church Hall hirers	£828.00
Bereavement Project for Oversight Group of Churches	<u>£615.78</u>
<b>Total Agency Holding</b>	<b>£2,199.49</b>

The total holding in the Bank of Scotland Current Account on 31st December 2025 is reconciled by the inclusion of both the Church Account and the Agency Account totals, thus:

	31 December 25	31 December 24
Church money in BOS Account	£20,061.40	£25,195.81
Agency holdings in BOS Account	<u>£2,199.49</u>	<u>£1,031.04</u>
<b>Closing value, Bank of Scotland Account, 31/12/25</b>	<b>£22,260.89</b>	<b>£26,226.85</b>

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End of notes

## DEPOSIT AND INVESTMENT ACCOUNTS

St Hilda's Church deposit and investment accounts are administered by CCLA for the CBF, the Central Board of Finance for the Church of England. The church had investments in the CCLA UK Equity Fund: this was closed in 2026, and the holding transferred to the CCLA Global Equity Fund on 30<sup>th</sup> June.

### DEPOSIT ACCOUNTS

#### DEPOSIT ACCOUNT CB3001513 - CHURCH FABRIC ACCOUNT

A designated account for the additional maintenance of the Church building and site.

	Credit	Debit	Total
Starting Balance, 1/1/25			£3,783.39
Bank Interest (total over year)	£171.22	-	£171.22
<b>Closing Balance, 31/12/25</b>			<b>£3,954.61</b>

#### DEPOSIT ACCOUNT CB30001523 – CHURCH MUSIC ACCOUNT

A restricted account to cover all aspects of church music, including organ and piano repairs.

	Credit	Debit	Total
Starting Balance, 1/1/25			£948.54
Bank Interest (total over year)	£42.93	-	£42.93
<b>Closing Balance, 31/12/25</b>			<b>£991.47</b>

#### DEPOSIT ACCOUNT CB30001583 – CHURCH HALL ACCOUNT

This account contains both restricted and designated holdings for the same purpose, maintenance of the Church Hall. Interest is applied to the designated holding.

##### CHURCH HALL ACCOUNT [Designated]

	Credit	Debit	Total
Starting Balance, 1/1/25			£246.84
Bank Interest (total over year)	£72.23	-	£72.23
<b>Closing Balance, Designated, 31/12/25</b>			<b>£319.07</b>

##### CHURCH HALL ACCOUNT [Restricted]

	Credit	Debit	Total
Starting Balance, 1/1/25	-	-	£1,349.21
<b>Closing Balance, Restricted, 31/12/25</b>			<b>£1,349.21</b>

**Total closing balance of account (restricted and designated) = £1,668.28**

#### DEPOSIT ACCOUNT CB30001595 – GENERAL RESERVE FUND

An unrestricted account holding reserves that are available on a short withdrawal period.

	Credit	Debit	Total
Starting Balance, 1/1/25			£11,309.15
Bank Interest (total over year)	£511.80	-	£511.80
<b>Closing Balance, 31/12/25</b>			<b>£11,820.95</b>

#### DEPOSIT ACCOUNT CB30001596 - GIFTS AND BEQUESTS ACCOUNT

An unrestricted account to hold legacies and large gifts.

	Credit	Debit	Total
Starting Balance, 1/1/25			£46.52
Bank Interest (total over year)	£2.11	-	£2.11
<b>Closing Balance, 31/12/25</b>			<b>£48.63</b>

**Total interest on Deposit Accounts (re-invested in the accounts) = £800.23**

**Equivalent to 4.33%**

## INVESTMENT ACCOUNTS

### INVESTMENT ACCOUNT – CBF PROPERTY SHARES, CB3001443 (PORTER-YORK FUND)

An unrestricted account invested in CBF Property Shares arising from two large legacies, to be used at the discretion of the Incumbent and Churchwardens. The withdrawal period for CBF Property Shares is ninety days. There were no fund transactions in 2025.

#### Transactions and Share Holding

	Deposit	Withdrawal	Share Holding
Share Holding, 1/1/25			9,686.86
<b>Share Holding, 31/12/25</b>			<b>9,686.86</b>

#### Value of the Investment

	Shareholding	Mid-value (p/share)	Investment value
Opening Investment Value, 01/01/25	9,686.86	123.19	£11,933.24
<b>Closing Investment Value, 31/12/25</b>	<b>9,686.86</b>	<b>125.84</b>	<b>£12,189.94</b>

#### Interest received [paid to BOS Current Account]

	Shareholding	Dividend (p)	Interest
28/02/25, 4 <sup>th</sup> Quarter, 2024	9,686.86	1.63	£157.90
31/05/25, 1 <sup>st</sup> Quarter, 2025	9,686.86	1.77	£171.46
31/08/25, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter, 2025	9,686.86	1.62	£156.93
30/11/25, 3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter, 2025	9,686.86	1.62	<u>£156.93</u>
<b>Total Interest in 2025</b>			<b>£643.22</b>

### INVESTMENT ACCOUNT – UK EQUITY FUND, CB3001430

An unrestricted account established in August 2021 with funds transferred from the Porter-York Fund, to give access to investment funds on a one-month withdrawal period. The fund closed on 13 June 2025, and there was no transaction in this period. The closing value of £12,469.08 was switched to the Global Equity Fund (CB1009384) on 13 June 2025.

#### Transactions and Share Holding

	Deposit	Withdrawal	Share Holding
Share Holding, 1/01/25			6,283.55
<b>Share Holding, 30/06/25</b>			<b>6,283.55</b>

#### Value of the Investment

	Shareholding	Mid-value (p/ share)	Investment value
Opening Investment Value, 01/01/25	6,283.55	199.76	£12,552.01
Closing Investment Value, 13/06/25	6,283.55	198.40	£12,466.61
<b>Transferred to Global Equity Fund</b>			<b>£12,466.61</b>

#### Interest received [paid to BOS Current Account]

	Shareholding	Dividend (p)	Interest
28/02/25, 4 <sup>th</sup> Quarter, 2024	6,283.55	1.73	£108.71
31/05/25 1 <sup>st</sup> Quarter, 2025	6,283.55	1.74	<u>£109.33</u>
<b>Total Interest in 2025</b>			<b>£218.04</b>

#### INVESTMENT ACCOUNT – GLOBAL EQUITY FUND, CB1009384

An account containing restricted and unrestricted funds established 13 June 2025 by the transfer of assets from the CBF UK Equity Fund (above) when the latter was discontinued. The initial transfer was of unrestricted funds, but payment of £21,381.47 on 10 December 2025 comprised £11,381.47 restricted to use for solar panels (D Gallaher bequest) and £10,000.00 unrestricted (D Bryant bequest).

On 31 December 2025,

the *restricted* holding from the D Gallaher Bequest (installation of solar panels) was 3,736.41 shares (33.65%)  
the *unrestricted* holding was 7,366.01 shares (66.35%)  
making the total share holding 11,102.42.

#### Transactions and Share Holding

	Deposit	Purchase	Share Holding
Initial Share Holding, 13/06/25 - switch in	4,083.13		4,083.13
Purchase of shares at 3.0461p, 10/12/25		7,019.29	<u>7,019.29</u>
Share Holding, 31/12//25			<b>11,102.42</b>

#### Value of the Investment

	Shareholding	Mid-value (p/ share)	Investment value
Opening Investment Value, 13/06/25	4,083.13	3.0532	£12,466.61
<b>Closing Investment Value, 31/12/25</b>	<b>11,102.42</b>	<b>3.0359</b>	<b>£33,705.84</b>

#### Interest received [paid to BOS Current Account]

	Shareholding	Dividend (p)	Interest
31/08/25, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter, 2025	4,083.13	1.91	£77.99
30/11/25, 3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter, 2025	4,083.13	2.02	<u>£82.48</u>
<b>Total Interest in 2025</b>			<b>£160.47</b>

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#### Total Investment Income [paid to BOS Current Account]

CBF Property Shares (Porter-York Fund)	£643.22
CBF UK Equity Shares	£218.04
CBF Global Equity Shares	<u>£160.47</u>
<b>Total Investment Income</b>	<b>£1,021.73</b>

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End of Deposit and Investment Funds

## APPROVAL OF REPORT AND ACCOUNTS

The *Annual Report* as set out on pages 3 to 6  
was prepared by the Elizabeth Farrier as PCC Secretary

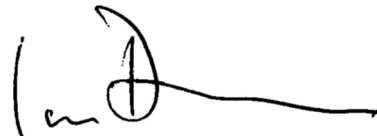
The *Annual Safeguarding Report* as set out on pages 7 to 9  
was prepared by Anne Harris as Safeguarding Officer

The *Annual Accounts* set out on pages 10 to 21  
were prepared  
Dr Terry Daniels as Acting Treasurer from March 2025  
and examined by Mark J W Jennings, ACA, ICAEW

**The above Reports and the Accounts were approved and adopted  
by St Hilda's Parochial Church Council  
on 26<sup>th</sup> March 2026**



Rev Jennifer Ruth Crewes (Chair)



Ian Francis Dickinson (Churchwarden)

END OF 2025 ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS FOR ST HILDA'S PCC, WARLEY WOODS

## INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

Report to trustees of St Hilda's Church, Warley Woods  
Registered Charity No 1181258

On the Annual Accounts for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2025  
as set out on pages 10 to 21

### Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts.

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

It is my responsibility, as Independent Examiner, to:

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

### Basis of independent examiner's statement

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

### Independent examiner's statement

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

- 1: which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the requirements to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; and to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities 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:



Date:

20/03/26

Mark J W Jennings, ACA, ICAEW  
3, Clent Drive, Hagley, Stourbridge, DY9 9LN

Disclosures: