

## **St Peter and St Paul's Church, River**

### **Annual Report of the Parochial Church Council**

#### **For the Year Ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2025**

##### **Administrative Information**

St Peter and St Paul's Church is situated in Minnis Lane, River, within the Dover Deanery. It is part of the Diocese of Canterbury within the Church of England. The church address is St Peter and St Paul's Church, Minnis Lane, River CT17 0RG. The Vicarage address is 'The Vicarage, 23 Lewisham Road, River, CT17 0QG.' The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is a charity registered with the Charity Commission – Charity number 1182752.

Members of the PCC who have served from January 1<sup>st</sup> 2025 until the date this report was approved are:

Ex-officio:

Incumbent: Rev. Dr Andy Bawtree (Chair)

Assistant Curate: Rev. Margaret Bowers (From July 2025)

Churchwardens: Gill Rowland (Vice-chair)

Tim Moseling

Readers: Margaret Bowers (To June 2025)

Lynne Watson

Steve Saunderson (Deanery and Diocesan Synod)

Deanery Synod: Graham Goldfinch 2023 (2026)

Henry Dalton 2024 (2027)

Elected members:

Mr Adrian Fellows Elected 2025 (2028)

Mr Maurice Smith Elected 2024 (2027)

Mr Nigel Curtis Elected 2025 (2028)

Mrs Sarah Love Elected 2023 (2026)

Mr Al Polden Elected 2024 (2027)

Mr Alex Brannon Elected 2023 (2026)

Mrs Jan Copley Elected 2023 (2026)

Mrs Beryl Reed Elected 2024 (2027)

Mr Peter Whibley Elected 2024 (2027)

Co-opted members:

Mrs Karen Moseling PSO/PDO

## Aims and Purposes

The Parochial Church Council (the PCC) has the responsibility of working with the Incumbent, the Reverend Doctor Andrew Bawtree, in promoting, in the ecclesiastical parish, the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. As well as the Church itself, which is a Grade II Listed Building, the PCC is also responsible for maintaining the Christian Centre, which adjoins the church building.

## Objectives and Activities

The PCC is committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship at our Church, and to become part of our Church family. Our services and worship put faith into practice through prayer and scripture, music and sacrament. We try to enable ordinary people to live out their faith as part of our Church family, through:

1. Worship and prayer: learning about the Gospel, and developing their knowledge and trust in Jesus;
2. Provision of pastoral care for people living in the parish;
3. Mission and outreach work.

In order to reach our objectives we offer a range of services and activities. We use services both from the Book of Common Prayer and from Common Worship and our Café Church offers more informal worship alongside refreshments and opportunities to socialize.

Our Lunch Club is open to all in the wider community.

Our Vicar regularly takes assemblies for our village primary school, both at the school and in the church, and other schools in the town, together with the pre-school that meets in our Christian Centre, and the village Scout Group worship with us over the Christmas period. We also host an annual service of Remembrance at the war memorial in our churchyard, attended by many from the village and beyond, and once a year the Pilgrims' Hospice holds a service in our church to celebrate the lives of those who have died.

Our Vicar has a strong presence in the community and can be found supporting local events such as the Village Fete and the Beer Festivals at the Corn Mill.

Our church is available to host charitable concerts and our Christian Centre may be hired for children's parties and other celebrations.

Our Pastoral Partners support the pastoral ministry of our Church and our House Groups help our community to learn more about faith and to grow together as a community.

The PCC has a commitment to tithing, i.e. donating at least 10% of our disposable income, once bills have been paid. Potential recipients are discussed and agreed each year: we check that recipients meet our values as Christians and that, as far

as possible, our donations will be well spent. We also hold specific collections, for example to respond to natural disasters and to support the work of the Church in Madagascar, with which we have a strong link via Archbishop Gilbert.

We are blessed in having a dedicated and faithful PCC and give thanks for all they do.

### Structure, Governance and Management

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. The Council comprises the Incumbent, the Assistant Curate, the Churchwardens, our Lay Readers, those elected to the Deanery Synod, members who are elected at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting, by those on the Electoral Roll which currently stands at 117 and those who have been co-opted. Members of the congregation are always encouraged to join the Electoral Roll, and to consider standing for election to the PCC. Members of the PCC are responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance in the parish, and for all financial matters. The average level of attendance at PCC meetings was 79%.

### Achievements and Performance

The five main Sunday services in October 2025 brought an average attendance of 95 people with an additional average attendance of 46 at other weekday services. Church attendance during the Christmas period also found River church again at the heart of the Village community with an overall attendance of over 1300 people from various organizations as well as the worshipping church family itself.

### Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals

During the year January-December 2025, there were 18 Holy Baptisms, 2 weddings and 6 funerals in church, with 12 conducted elsewhere. Of these we note particularly the passing into glory of Jean Staveley and Mavis Donald and also, this year, Tony Hursey and Gaynor Hurling. We remember them all with great thanks and affection as they enter their eternal rest.

### Principles, Decisions and Activities of the PCC over the Last Year.

The PCC has met on six occasions for formal meetings over the last year giving a percentage attendance rate of 79%. The Standing Committee, comprising Andy Bawtree, Tim Moseling, Gill Rowland, Adrian Fellows, Margaret Bowers, Lynne Watson and Alex Brannon has met prior to each PCC meeting to plan the Agenda and to discuss current pressing issues.

The PCC holds dearly to the premise that just as the Lord gives to us as a church in and of faith, so we should likewise be generous to others. It is part of our calling, our witness and our service to the living, resurrected Christ that we are above all

things, servants of Christ and of others. This is at the critical centre of our Christian faith.

Our charitable giving for the year amounted to £5,255 to various causes including, amongst others, Archbishop Gilbert in Madagascar, the Way of Hope foundation and Dover Food Bank.

Our income is derived from giving, both regular and occasional, and some fund raising activities such as our Christmas Fayre and Quiz Night and from the Abbey Pre-School.

With rising costs affecting both our own expenditure (especially around utilities) and the disposable income of our givers, the PCC took the decision again this year not to meet the total amount asked of us for the Parish Share – the contribution asked for by the diocese towards the cost of the mission and ministry of the Church in the diocese – paying £66,825 against the £94,924.98 requested. Without this decision we would have been unable to pay our vicar's expenses, utilities and ongoing maintenance and repairs. We are grateful to all the volunteers who keep our costs down by attending to day-to-day maintenance of our church and Christian Centre or by donating towards resources.

We keep approximately three months expenditure in reserve as suggested by the Charity Commissioners.

Monthly “Prayers for Church Growth” at the Vicarage and “Let’s pray” are continuing and our Lent House Groups explored ways we might raise confidence in talking about God with one another and all those we encounter. We have been pleased to welcome new members of our Church which we believe to be in answer to our prayers.

We always attend to health and safety and have reviewed both our Lone Worker policy and our Health and Safety policy.

Our Church Website is an important way by which we communicate with the wider community and is currently in the process of a complete re-design, which we hope will make it more informative and user-friendly and a vibrant asset to the ministry of our church in this place. Our thanks go especially to Alex Brannon, our Tech Co-ordinator and his small band.

### Safeguarding - Child and Adult Protection

Safeguarding is everyone’s responsibility, but specifically that of the PCC. Our Parish Safeguarding Officer (PSO), appointed by the PCC, is Karen Moseling, but she is standing down so we will be appointing a replacement. Karen has worked conscientiously to ensure all PCC members, and anyone else who needs it, to have undertaken the correct training and have a DBS where necessary. She has been effective in raising awareness of safeguarding by reporting to each PCC meeting and by regularly submitting items and updates to our weekly newsletter.

The PCC has complied with the duty under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016 to have regard to the House of Bishops' guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults.

### Our life together

Our main focus on worship quite naturally revolves around Sunday services with Holy Communion offered each week at 0800 and Holy Communion, Morning Worship or Cafe church at 1000. Holy Communion, Evening Prayer or Compline take place at 1830. Cafe church takes place each Tuesday morning from 1000-1200 and Holy Communion at 1000 on Wednesday morning.

Our main Sunday service is still streamed live together with a regular Thursday evening night prayer. We are extremely grateful to our "Tech team" of Alex, Thomas, Ai Chan and Nigel who ensure everything continues to run smoothly.

New forms of ministry are always being talked about and explored so we can expect some changes in the future but for now we consider ourselves very fortunate to have such a faithful and hard-working parish priest in Andy and we ask God to continue to bless him in all he does for his flock here in River and beyond. We are aware he is not alone in this ministry and we offer thanks for the support he receives from Vicki and the family. We are mindful also that we need to nurture him in his calling and when necessary, to carry some of the weight for him. We are further blessed with the ordination to the diaconate of Rev Margaret Bowers who is now licensed as an Assistant Curate and she is due to be ordained priest in June. Andy is further supported by two Lay Readers, Lynne and Steve, and the Pastoral Partners. His continuing role of Area Dean of Dover is a welcome recognition of his talents, but also a reminder of the massive call on his time in the wider Christian Community, many parishes of which have suffered in their inability to fill or retain priestly posts - he is increasingly in demand well beyond this little patch of Dover Deanery.

Children's work is continuing and growing. Jan Jones has taken on responsibility for the youth group 'Blast'. Finding ways of encouraging young people into church is essential for the future and we continue to pray that seeds sown now will spread and grow. We are most grateful for all the work put in by the group leaders.

### Our Giving

As has been said frequently, River Church is a giving church. We are fortunate in having a giving congregation. We even have a card machine to make our giving easier! Once again this year, we have shown the strength of our giving in being able to support a range of Christian causes and initiatives locally, nationally and internationally.

Our students currently at university or college have each received a token to help them in their studies; nationally and internationally we support the Rotary Club; the Way of Hope; World Vision and Archbishop Gilbert in Madagascar. We have also filled and sent away Christmas boxes for disadvantaged children across the world.

Our witness and service are carried out through faith in action: trying to live the faith which we proclaim in the communities in which we live and work.

### Our Talents

As a church we are blessed with so many talented folk who are always willing to give of their time and skills. Mention has already been made of those who carry out maintenance and repairs and we are also indebted to those who provide music for our worship, those who help keep our buildings clean, our technology team, Sacristans and Vergers, those who serve refreshments, those who read lessons or lead intercessions, the members of the Sanctuary Guild who provide and arrange flowers for the church and all who offer their time and talents for our Church.

### Principal Risks and Uncertainties

Overall the PCC considers we remain in a strong position to continue our ministry in this parish. However we are mindful of rising costs, particularly of our utilities and insurance, and are constantly looking to be good stewards of the monies we receive. As always with old buildings maintenance can be expensive and we are mindful that our last Quinquennial Inspection identified that a complete re-covering of the nave roof will probably be needed within the next 10 years or so.

Uncertainty seems to be a way of life nowadays especially with some proposed changes to the way the Deanery is currently organised but as a church we remain firm in our commitment to serve God and further the work of his Kingdom in this place.

### **Churchwardens' Report on the "Fabric, Plate and Ornaments" of the Church.**

Among the responsibilities of Churchwardens is that of monitoring the "Fabric, Plate and Ornaments" of the church and associated buildings and to ensure they are well maintained: the purpose of the first part of this report is, therefore, to outline issues that have arisen since the last APCM and the steps that have been taken to resolve them, as well as to highlight ongoing developments

There is a legal requirement for us to maintain and check annually an inventory of items belonging to the church and this was duly carried out – all is in order!

### **The Church**

Access to the bell tower is currently very difficult and our last Quinquennial Inspection highlighted the need for safer means of access to be investigated and installed. Nigel Curtis and Henry Dalton have explored this and identified what is needed. Before we can carry out the work we are required to apply to the Diocesan Advisory Committee for a Faculty, which would give us permission to go ahead. At the time of writing we are still awaiting the outcome of our application.

Peter Love has managed to check the condition of the bell rope which needed replacing and this has been done.

At times of heavy rain, and when the wind is in a certain direction, water penetrates the north wall where it adjoins the ceiling by the entrance door and the evidence of this is getting worse, as seen in the discolouration of the ceiling and some flaking of the plaster. Keeping the gutters clear is part of the solution, but we will continue to monitor the situation and take any appropriate action.

It should be recorded that before many more years pass the roof of the church will need replacing and this will be a major and expensive undertaking.

### **Churchyard**

Our churchyard is closed – which means there can be no new burials – and maintenance and grass cutting are therefore the responsibility of the district council. However, regular checks and tidying are carried out and bulbs planted to add to those nature has put there, so that our churchyard is an attractive place both for us and for those who return to visit the memorial garden or a grave. We are grateful to those who care for our churchyard.

### **The Christian Centre**

After more than thirty years parts of the Christian Centre are getting tired and we have continued with planned refurbishment as funds allow. The tiles in the cubicles in the ladies' toilets, some of which had fallen off, have been replaced by an attractive and easy-to-clean wall covering, and grab rails and coat hooks added.

Much of the door furniture has been replaced.

There is water penetration at the single window in the large storage area and at the time of writing we are seeking quotations for repair/replacement.

The water temperature in the hot water tank has to be kept at around 60 degrees in order to prevent legionella bacteria developing. However this temperature is too high for the washbasins in the toilets and there had been growing concern that someone might be hurt. We have now, therefore, had Thermostatic Mixing Valves (TMVs) installed to add cold water to the hot before it reaches the taps.

### **General**

One of the doors into the church/Christian Centre had dropped and needed repair

The heating plant loft had been accessed by pigeons and there was a large build-up of guano, which is a health hazard. It was professionally removed.

There are a number of things that must be attended to annually, such as checks on fire extinguishers, drains and the heating system, the cleaning of the oven and the maintenance of the Christian Centre floor. All of these have been undertaken.

Similarly, there is a rolling programme of general maintenance such as gutter clearance, portable appliance tests, and day-to-day repairs. We are indebted to our team of volunteers who attend to these things.

We were invited to apply for an energy grant of £3000 and identified a number of things we would like to do to improve our energy usage. We have been successful in having our application approved, but some of the work requires a faculty and we are waiting to see if this will be granted.

We would like to acknowledge and give thanks for all the people who volunteer their time and skills to serve in our Church and especially the maintenance team, those who come each week to clean the church and Christian Centre, the new team of brass and silver cleaners, those who decorate the church so beautifully with floral arrangements and those who care for the churchyard – all to the glory of God in this place.

There are, of course, many other volunteers and you will read about some of the activities they are involved with elsewhere in the reports. We do, always, need additional help with a range of things – please consider giving of your time and talents.

We would also like to place on record our thanks to Andy for his dedication to his ministry here: his leadership and example are exceptional. We are also grateful to Vicki and the family for their ministry among us, not least the support they give to Andy. We are blessed to have them all and hold them in our prayers.

**Gill Rowland and Tim Moseling**  
**Churchwardens**

### **Deanery Synod report.**

Deanery Synod has met twice in the last year. The first meeting was at St Andrew's church, Shepherdswell and Rev Sean Sheffield introduced some friends who spoke about being part of the Franciscan Order.

Rev Dr Andy Bawtree had submitted a motion to Diocesan Synod allowing clergy to celebrate Holy Matrimony in places other than church buildings as wedding licences could now be acquired without the need for an Archbishop's special licence. The motion has now gone forward to General Synod.

Synod then met at St Peter + St Paul's church, River where Rev Dr Andy Bawtree spoke on the Dover and Elizabeth Pathways which allowed the ordination of more mature candidates.

It was further reported that there are currently vacancies at St Margaret's, Westcliffe and East and West Langdon; Alkham, Hougham and Capel following the retirement of Rev Brian Williams; and in the near future Bewsborough when Rev Sean Sheffield moves to St George's, Deal and Rev Seb Lunberg to the Dover Town Ministry group.



Graham Goldfinch

### **Reports from other organisations.**

#### **Café Church.**

Café Church has, again, had a very exciting and encouraging year. We have been blessed by welcoming several guest speakers who have enthralled us with tales of their faith journeys and life experiences. Our regular reflections from our church family have also been well received both in person as well as in the weekly Snippets.

And due to our increasing numbers, the singing has improved, both in volume and enthusiasm.

It is always a joy to welcome our regular attendees on a Tuesday morning, as well as those who are new to us, as we gather to worship and share together in this expression of our love for the Lord and our care for our church family.

Lynne Watson

#### **Joining the Dots 2025 – Lent and Beyond - “Let’s Talk About Christianity”**

Our 2025 Lent Course focused on how we talk about our faith, about being Christians. During Lent we looked at talking faith among ourselves as a Church family and then after Easter we began to look at how we talk about our faith to those outside the Church community.

Our starting point was that talking about our beliefs and values as Christians can be tricky, especially in a world where so many people have little knowledge or experience of the Christian faith. Our aim was to support each other in becoming more comfortable about sharing our faith as we follow the command of Jesus to:- “go and make disciples of all nations.” (Matthew 28:19)

The Course was well attended with some of the House Groups continuing to meet, after the Course where one Group focused on “The Chosen” and another explored “A Study of Ephesians”.

Rev Margaret Bowers

#### **Pastoral Partners**

We continue to work as a Team with Andy and as Pastoral Partners have met regularly during the past year with the continued aim of focusing on any pastoral needs that may have arisen and any requests from the Church Family for practical support. For example, there is now a Wheelchair Rota of Volunteers who arrange for Nina to come to Church on Sunday and on Tuesday to Café Church. We have also been joined by three Associate Partners, who we are able to call on when the need arises and we are most grateful to Maureen Smith, Henry Dalton and Graham

Goldfinch for accepting these posts. The contact details of the Pastoral Partners are regularly published in Snippets should anyone in the Church Family need to contact any one of us.

Rev Margaret Bowers

### **Jam (Jesus and Me) and Blast (Believe Learn and Seek Truth) 2026**

As in previous years the numbers fluctuate, but we can now have as many as ten children with varying ages from five to fourteen. We now meet the second and fourth Sunday each month with Stella Foreman and Nadia Hoare helping on alternate Sundays, which has been great.

We have made models of the Jewish Sukkot linked with our Harvest festival, Joseph, Esther, models of Mary, Joseph and Jesus in the stable, a combination of Shrove-tide and looking at Lent, and finally Jonah. Look at the Christian Centre board to see some of their comments. We will move forward looking at re-birth of nature, the Resurrection and Jesus is Alive.

Jan Jones

### **Dover Street Pastors Dover - 2026**

We continue to grow at an alarming rate with street pastors, prayer pastors, home prayer pastors, school pastors, bike patrols, event volunteers, and rail pastors. To manage this we have more Coordinators, Stuart Walker for Street Pastors, Lynn Harris for School Pastors, Anwar Bourazza as Rail Coordinator and myself remaining as Prayer Coordinator. I still provide monthly prayers for all, which are pinned on our Prayer board in the church and published in Snippets. Fifteen years ago we started with about 25 members, we now stand at over 50 holding a variety of the roles. Our forthcoming events are pinned up in the Christian Centre to continue to raise funds and enable us to purchase what is necessary. More recently we were invited to the Lord Sheriff Awards 2026 and awarded £500 pounds for providing invaluable support to the Dover community. A photograph of those attending is in the Christian Centre of Carol Boxall (Dover Baptist church) and myself as we have both nearly completed fifteen years of service.

Jan Jones

### **Cottager's Allotments Trust (Charity Number 239003).**

2025 Report and Financial Statements.

Trustees.

Three trustees administer the Trust. The first trustees in the Scheme Document sealed on the 21st October 1997 were the Vicar and two Churchwardens. Any trustee may resign by giving notice to the other trustees and the trustees may appoint new trustees as required. The current trustees are

Rev'd Dr. Andy Bawtree (Chairman), Adrian Fellows (Secretary/Treasurer), and Nigel Curtis (Trustee).

#### Assets.

Land (vested in the official custodian for Charities and held in trust for the Cottager's Allotment's Trust) consists of 2 roods and 38 perches at River Minnis. Since November 2014, the land has been let to Rachel Smith at £45 per month.

An investment is held in the Charities Official Investment Fund (COIF) of 1,638.63 units valued at £31,661.44 on 31st December 2025 (£33,253.21 on 31st December 2024). Bank balances held at Co-Operative Bank on 31st December 2025 were £7,880.31 (£7,310.72 on 31st December 2024).

#### Purpose.

The funds are to be used at the discretion of the trustees for relieving persons resident in River Parish who are in conditions of need, hardship or distress. Exceptionally, they may be made to residents outside but immediately adjacent to River Parish if the Trustees feel they should be treated as residents.

#### Accounts.

Annual Returns are submitted to the Charity Commissioners independently of the Church accounts. They have traditionally been submitted for information to the APCM.

#### ACCOUNTS FOR 2025:

##### Income:

Balance b/f 1st January 2025: £7,310.72

Dividends: £ 929.59

Rent: £ 540.00

Sub-total: £1,469.59

Total: £8,780.31

##### Outgoings:

Disbursements (900.00)

Balance to carry forward to 1st January 2026: £7,880.31

#### Notes.

The Trustees agreed to two requests for financial support amounting to £900 during 2025.

Accounts prepared by Adrian Fellows, Hon. Treasurer and checked by Sarah Love on 9th April 2026

### **Sanctuary Guild**

Another year passes and the ladies from the Sanctuary Guild continue to provide flowers to decorate our church week by week plus the Festivals when a special effort is made to celebrate them with extra flower arrangements around the church. We owe a lot to the small group of ladies who devotedly decorate our church so beautifully and I am very grateful for their support and friendship.

Members of the congregation see the finished product of our efforts but a lot goes on behind the scenes. Watering to keep flowers going as long as possible. Putting the tables up to help with preparation. Tidying the cupboard and shelves and sorting and discarding items that are no longer needed or of no use. Ordering flowers in bulk and preparation for the Festivals, hoping there will be sufficient funds to cover the cost. Here I must thank everyone for their generosity with their regular donations and gifts towards the cost of the flowers. It is very much appreciated.

This year has been a sad one for us as we said 'Farewell' to a loved member of our Guild team - Gaynor Hurling - we shall miss her cheerful smile, her artistic skills, helpful hints and her stories. May she rest in peace.

The family have sorted through her store of floral accessories and donated them to us for which we thank them. There are now boxes for us to sort through in the coming months.

We've recently had a new volunteer join us and it would be good to have more younger volunteers (male or female)

Finally thank you from the members of the Sanctuary Guild who arrange flowers for the sheer joy and love of giving service to God in their own particular way.

Elizabeth Weaver

### **Tuesday Lunch Club**

To all our volunteer helpers who come on Tuesdays to prepare and cook those special meals for our guests, thank you for your valuable help. Thank you to our guests for supporting the lunch club over the past years, we all enjoy a time of fellowship and "putting the world to rights". We can always cater for more guests and you do not need to come every week, just ring or text me to let me know. The cost is £6 per person for two courses and tea or coffee and all food is prepared and cooked in the hall kitchen. Also, if you would like to come and join us in the kitchen, you would be most welcome.

Email: [sarahplove@btinternet.com](mailto:sarahplove@btinternet.com)

Mobile: 078513 053322

Sarah Love – Co-Ordinator

### **Gift Aid**

A big “thank you” to our congregation for your generous financial contributions to the work, mission and upkeep of St Peter and St Paul’s Church, River, during 2025, in weekly envelopes, monthly standing orders, donations or collections in the baskets. All donations are gratefully received and Gift Aided ones (for those who pay tax and are able to donate with Gift Aid) help with an additional 25%. The amount of Gift Aid tax that was reclaimed for the year was £12,081. If you pay Income Tax and are not currently donating with Gift Aid, please ask me about the scheme, which costs you nothing, but is of great benefit to our Church. We can claim back 25p for every £1 donated – every £4 gives another £1 – and no amount given is too small on which to claim.

Email: [sarahplove@btinternet.com](mailto:sarahplove@btinternet.com)

Mobile: 07513 053322

Sarah Love – Gift Aid Secretary

### **Tech Report and new website.**

Please see the separate report attached from Alex Brannon regarding engagement with both our Sunday streaming and our YouTube channel; upgrades to, and proposed work on, our AV equipment and details of the current progress on the new website which he and the team are currently developing.



**ST PETER AND ST PAUL'S RIVER, DOVER**

**ACCOUNTS**

**and**

**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**of the**

**PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL**

**of St Peter and St Paul's Church, River, Dover**

**for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2025**

**Independent Examiner**

**Julian J Hills B.Sc., FCCA**

9, Holly Lane

Margate

CT9 3NA

**Independent Examiner's report to the members of the Parochial Church Council of St Peter and St Paul's River**

I report to the members of the Parochial Church Council ('PCC') on my examination of the accounts of St Peter and St Paul's River for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> December 2025.

**Responsibilities and basis of report**

As the charity trustees of the PCC 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 2011 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.

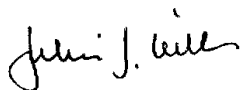
**Independent Examiner's statement**

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.

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.

Signed:



**Julian Hills B.Sc., FCCA**  
9, Holly Lane  
Margate  
Kent CT9 3NA

6 March 2026



PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST. PETER AND ST. PAUL'S, RIVER, DOVER  
Charity Number: 1182752

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER 2025

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNTS

RECEIPTS	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL 2025 £	TOTAL 2024 £
<b>Voluntary Receipts</b>				
Planned Giving	41,508		41,508	39,678
Other Giving	20,655		20,655	20,496
Collections	7,395		7,395	6,184
Gift Aid Tax Recovered	12,081		12,081	12,713
Legacies	-		-	1,000
Miscellaneous Appeals and Donations	559	300	859	1,191
VAT Refund Grant	179		179	318
	<b>82,377</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>82,677</b>	<b>81,580</b>
<b>Fund Raising</b>				
Christmas/Autumn Fayre	1,028		1,028	1,234
Other	1,033		1,033	1,238
	<b>2,061</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,061</b>	<b>2,472</b>
<b>Investment Income</b>				
Interest	1,025	-	1,025	1,098
<b>Church Activities</b>				
Parochial Fees	3,506		3,506	3,779
Christian Centre Rent	14,637		14,637	14,317
Lunch Club	1,600		1,600	1,650
Grants - Projector	500		500	
Other	300		300	214
	<b>20,543</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>20,543</b>	<b>19,960</b>
<b>Total Receipts</b>	<b>106,006</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>106,306</b>	<b>105,110</b>
<b>PAYMENTS</b>				
<b>Church Activities</b>				
Parish Share & Deanery Subs	66,000		66,000	63,653
Vicars Expenses	3,714		3,714	3,897
Verger, Organists & Cleaners	5,284		5,284	4,447
Church, Christian Centre, Vicarage Repairs &	4,717		4,717	5,372
Heating, Lighting, Water & Cleaning Materials	11,654		11,654	9,647
Insurance	3,728		3,728	4,394
Parish Administration & Miscellaneous	4,870		4,870	3,092
Lunch Club	-		-	-
Other	-		-	-
Missions, Appeals and Charities	5,005	300	5,305	6,787
	<b>104,972</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>105,272</b>	<b>100,199</b>
<b>Fund Raising Expenses</b>	<b>310</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>310</b>	<b>69</b>
<b>Capital Expenditure</b>				
Projector	-	-	-	6,666
<b>Total Payments</b>	<b>105,282</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>105,582</b>	<b>106,934</b>
<b>Excess of Payments over Receipts</b>	<b>724</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>724</b>	<b>(1,824)</b>
Bank Balances at 1st January	31,608	-	31,608	32,432
Bank Balances at 31 December	<b>32,332</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>32,332</b>	<b>31,608</b>

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST. PETER AND ST. PAUL'S, RIVER, DOVER  
Charity Number: 1182752

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER 2025

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES AT THE YEAR END

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL 2025 £	TOTAL 2024 £
<b>Bank Balances</b>				
Community Account	8,660		8,660	8,961
CCLA - General Purposes	23,672		23,672	22,648
	32,332	-	32,332	31,608
<b>Other Monetary Assets</b>				
Gift Aid tax recovery	895		895	1,428
Interest Receivable	240		240	280
	1,135	-	1,135	1,708
<b>Fixed Assets - Net Book Value</b>				
Pre-2008 Items	71		71	95
AV/PA Systems	214		214	285
Water Heater	35		35	46
Kitchen Boiler	211		211	281
Outdoor Showcases	43		43	58
Computer Equipment	83		83	111
Radio Mics	408		408	544
Sound Desk Monitors & Cables	150		150	200
Camera	156		156	208
Piano	670		670	894
New Chairs	594		594	791
Projector	4,895		4,895	6,527
	<b>7,530</b>	-	<b>7,530</b>	<b>10,040</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>				
Creditors	1,223	-	1,223	981

NOTES

- The financial statements of the PCC have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 using the Receipts and Payments basis
- Restricted funds relate to sundry appeals made during the year  
The movement in restricted funds during the year were:

	2025 £	2024 £
Balance B/f	-	820
Receipts	300	1,684
	300	2,504
Payments	300	2,504
Balance C/f	-	-

Donations for appeals are not always identifiable and It has not been possible to arrive at a reliable estimate of the unidentified donations. The above figures are notified donations

Approved



A Fellows - Treasurer

Date 12<sup>th</sup> March 2026