



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From 1 January 2025
To 31 December 2025

Period start date
Period end date

Charity name: The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Mary's Frittenden

Charity registration number: 1183170

Objectives and Activities

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	The Parochial Church Council (PCC) of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Mary's Frittenden has the responsibility in promoting the whole mission of the church, pastoral, evangelistic, social, and ecumenical. St Mary's Frittenden is united as a benefice with Trinity Church, Sissinghurst with whom we work in close partnership.
Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.	Para 1.17 and 1.19	The PCC of St Mary's Frittenden is committed to encouraging as many people as possible to worship at the church and to become part of the parish community. Our services and worship put faith into practice through prayer and scripture, music and sacrament.
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	Para 1.18	When planning our activities for the year, the PCC has considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and, more specifically, the guidance on charities for the advancement of religion. In particular, we try to enable ordinary people to live out their faith as part of our parish community in a number of ways. These include: 1) worship and prayer. 2) learning about the gospel. 3) developing their knowledge and trust in Jesus. 4) provision of pastoral care for people living in the parish.

Achievements and Performance

	SORP reference	
Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.	Para 1.20	The PCC holds a wide range of church services every month that those attending find beneficial and spiritually fulfilling. These services also offer a creche provision for the under 5's and a Sunday Club for primary age children. Our Open the Book Team (combined with Trinity, Sissinghurst) leads Collective Worship fortnightly in the primary school. This serves to increase the profile of the children and families work we are providing. As we are joined by new families, we are seeking to work closely with them to develop tailored provision as we go forward. Little Lambs is an initiative started in 2021, to provide a safe place for parents, carers, babies and toddlers to meet together and where toys, craft activities, refreshments, a Bible story and singing time are provide every Monday morning during term time. Youth@Trinity was launched in September 2024 to offer a Christian space for secondary-school-age young people from Sissinghurst and Frittenden. It started by meeting by once a month but now meets fortnightly in Sissinghurst for the benefit of the whole Benefice. There are also other opportunities for parishioners to learn about the gospel with regular weekly home groups and courses held during Lent. The PCC continues to invest in the fabric of the church and now has faculty approval to install glass porch doors in the first half of 2026 in order to improve disabled access. We continue to place great importance on Charitable Giving, with our unrestricted giving being £5,350 in 2025 and our total giving essentially unchanged at £14,704. Our incumbent, the Revd Peter Deaves left in October 2025, so the Parish is currently going through an interregnum. Applications have already been received to replace him and we are hopeful of appointing a new Rector in the near future.

Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	Total receipts on an unrestricted basis were down 20% at £100,515, caused by the non-recurrence of £30,350 of legacies in the previous year, but partly offset by increases in other income. Our unrestricted payments also fell by 15% to £85,102, which was caused by the non-recurrence of spending a net figure of £17,084 on Church Spire repairs in 2024. Overall, our total surplus fell by 32% to £17,363 but the decline can be explained by the one-off factors outlined above.
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	The PCC agreed a policy in 2019 of transferring up to £5,000 into a designated Church Fabric Fund to provide for future works when surplus funds are available. We have made provision to transfer £5,000 again in 2025 which, together with the receipt of a grant for VAT incurred on the spire repairs, has helped to bring the Church Fabric Fund up to £29,472. Our plans to add some glass porch doors have now received faculty approval, and we will progress this project during 2026. Funding for the doors is partly coming from the generous legacies received during 2024 but we also launched an 'Access for All' appeal which has been well supported by parishioners. Youth work continues to be a major focus and helped by some generous donations in 2025, our restricted fund (covering both teenage children and younger children with Little Lambs) now stands at £1,822. In terms of our General Funds of £76,920, we aim to hold sufficient liquidity to cover between six and twelve months of expenses, before allowing for major one-off repairs and any discretionary charitable giving. We managed to achieve this in 2025. This should provide a cushion in the event of unforeseen circumstances (such as losing important donors) as well as helping towards specific projects as they arise in the future.

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

The charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising)	Para 1.47	The principal source of funds is our regular giving (with the associated Gift Aid) which is then supplemented by additional fundraising (whenever possible) such as our annual Gift Day and a Christmas Fayre. We also apply for grants wherever possible to carry out essential repairs.
Investment policy and objectives including any social investment policy adopted	Para 1.46	The PCC does not hold any investments apart from a low-risk interest-bearing cash deposit account.
A description of the principal risks facing the charity	Para 1.46	The principal risk is having enough income to cover our regular outgoings (such as Parish Share) which is dependent on our regular giving and some major donors. We also regard safeguarding as a key risk with two PCC members having specific responsibility and all members undergoing safeguarding training.

Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:		
Type of governing document (trust deed, royal charter)	Para 1.25	Parochial Church Councils (Powers) Measure 1956 as amended and Church Representation Rules that came into force on 2nd January 1956.
How is the charity constituted? (e.g unincorporated association, CIO)	Para 1.25	Body Corporate which, due to the level of receipts and payments in recent years, is registered with the Charity Commission under number 1183170.
Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees	Para 1.25	The PCC is made up of Licensed Clergy, Readers and Lay Workers in the Parish. It also includes the Churchwardens and any lay representatives on the Deanery Synod, Diocesan Synod or General Synod who are on the Electoral Roll of the Parish. The number of elected representatives on the PCC depends on the size of the Electoral Roll. As our church has between 50 and 100 members on the Electoral Roll, we are currently able to have up to 9 members on the PCC who serve a 3-year cycle. Our aim is to have balanced selection of members providing a wide range of skills.

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees	Para 1.51	All new Trustees must go through Safeguarding training under the supervision of our Parish Disclosure Officer as well the Charity Commission guidance on the 'Essential Trustee.'
The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works	Para 1.51	The PCC is responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance within the Parish including how the funds of the PCC are to be spent.
Relationship with any related parties	Para 1.51	The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Mary's Frittenden is part of the Diocese of Canterbury within the Church of England and is in the Weald Deanery.

Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Mary's Frittenden
Other name the charity uses	PCC Frittenden
Registered charity number	1183170
Charity's principal address	The Street Frittenden Kent TN17 2DG

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Reverend Peter Deaves	Incumbent	Until 9 November 2025	Diocese of Canterbury
2	James Highwood	Churchwarden		Elected by a meeting of Parishioners
	James Highwood	Safeguarding Officer		Electoral Roll
	James Highwood	Deanery Synod Representative		Electoral Roll
3	Anthony Staples	Lay Reader		Electoral Roll
4	Christopher Page	Treasurer		Electoral Roll
5	Joanna Beech	PCC Secretary		Electoral Roll
6	John Stansfeld			Electoral Roll
7	Heidi Easby			Electoral Roll
8	Zoe Murton			Electoral Roll

Declarations

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	James Highwood	
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Churchwarden	
Date	17/4/26	

St Mary's Church, Frittenden

Financial Report and Accounts

For the year ended 31 December 2025

PCC FRITTENDEN

YEAR TO 31 DECEMBER

	2025 £			2024 £		
RECEIPTS	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
VOLUNTARY RECEIPTS						
REGULAR AND TAX EFFICIENT GIVING						
Free will offerings under Gift Aid	34,892	0	34,892	32,489	0	32,489
Other free will offerings	20,222	0	20,222	20,261	0	20,261
	55,114	0	55,114	52,750	0	52,750
COLLECTIONS						
Under Gift Aid	6,537	1,683	8,220	6,812	1,968	8,780
Other	0	3,580	3,580	250	1,930	2,180
Contactless/One-Off	1,908	640	2,548	218	407	625
	8,445	5,903	14,348	7,280	4,305	11,585
OTHER VOLUNTARY RECEIPTS						
Legacies	0	0	0	30,350	0	30,350
Gift Day	5,707	0	5,707	6,635	0	6,635
Donations	2,666	0	2,666	2,315	810	3,125
Youth Work (Little Lambs)	0	1,947	1,947	0	455	455
	8,373	1,947	10,320	39,300	1,265	40,565
TAX RECOVERED AND GRANTS						
Collections/Donations	11,336	710	12,046	11,769	707	12,476
Grants	0	0	0	0	4,250	4,250
LPOW	3,555	0	3,555	0	0	0
	14,891	710	15,601	11,769	4,957	16,726
ACTIVITIES FOR GENERATING FUNDS						
EVENTS						
Christmas Fayre (net)	1,592	1,592	3,184	1,918	1,966	3,884
Carol Singing	0	1,324	1,324	0	1,675	1,675
Ride and Stride	128	0	128	408	0	408
Access For All	0	1,225	1,225	0	0	0
	1,720	4,141	5,861	2,326	3,641	5,967
CHURCH ACTIVITIES						
Fees due to Parish	2,776	0	2,776	2,417	0	2,417
	2,776	0	2,776	2,417	0	2,417
OTHER INCOME						
Interest	3,647	0	3,647	2,920	0	2,920
Magazine Income	5,489	0	5,489	6,241	0	6,241
Sundry Income	60	0	60	115	0	115
	9,196	0	9,196	9,276	0	9,276
TOTAL RECEIPTS	100,515	12,701	113,216	125,118	14,168	139,286

PCC FRITTENDEN

YEAR TO 31 DECEMBER

	2025			2024		
	£			£		
PAYMENTS	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
PARISH SHARE						
Diocesan Quota	50,556	0	50,556	43,354	0	43,354
MINISTRY						
Rector's Expenses	1,333	0	1,333	1,495	0	1,495
Youth Work	0	1,024	1,024	652	0	652
Little Lambs	0	373	373	0	268	268
	1,333	1,397	2,730	2,147	268	2,415
CHURCH RUNNING EXPENSES						
Insurance	5,226	0	5,226	5,121	0	5,121
Oil	1,876	0	1,876	1,695	0	1,695
Electricity and Water	1,229	0	1,229	1,501	0	1,501
Church Spire Repairs	0	0	0	17,084	4,250	21,334
Repairs and Maintenance	834	0	834	9,180	0	9,180
Churchyard Maintenance	1,415	0	1,415	660	0	660
Professional Fees	1,626	0	1,626	363	0	363
Honoraria	450	0	450	450	0	450
Other	1,621	0	1,621	998	0	998
	14,277	0	14,277	37,052	4,250	41,302
UPKEEP OF SERVICES						
Music Copyright	384	0	384	371	0	371
Organist	2,520	0	2,520	2,505	0	2,505
	2,904	0	2,904	2,876	0	2,876
OTHER EXPENSES						
Magazine	5,500	0	5,500	5,500	0	5,500
Website	465	0	465	418	0	418
Administrator	3,731	0	3,731	2,951	0	2,951
Sundry Expenses	986	0	986	347	0	347
	10,682	0	10,682	9,216	0	9,216
CHARITABLE GIVING	5,350	9,354	14,704	5,261	9,463	14,724
TOTAL PAYMENTS	85,102	10,751	95,853	99,906	13,981	113,887
SURPLUS	15,413	1,950	17,363	25,212	187	25,399

ST MARY'S CHURCH FRITTENDEN
BALANCE SHEET

As at 31 December		2025 £		2024 £
General Fund				
Opening b/f	70,063		37,767	
General Surplus for the Year	11,857		42,296	
Transferred to Church Fabric Fund	-5,000		-10,000	
Closing c/f		76,920		70,063
Church Fabric Fund				
Opening b/f	20,916		28,000	
Grant for Spire Repairs	3,556		-17,084	
Transfer from General Fund	5,000		10,000	
Closing c/f		29,472		20,916
Restricted Funds				
Youth Work/Little Lambs				
Opening b/f	1,272		1,085	
Excess of Donations Received	550		187	
Closing c/f		1,822		1,272
Access For All				
Opening b/f	0		0	
Excess of Donations Received	1,400		0	
Closing c/f		1,400		0
Total Funds		109,614		92,251

Represented By:

Monetary Assets

Bank Current Account	8,443		17,227	
CCLA Deposit Account	101,171		75,024	
Total Assets		109,614		92,251

Non-Monetary Assets

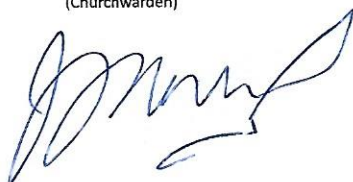
Clavinova/Two HP Laptops/Sound System/Audio Visual System/Music Stands
Chairs/Church Furnishings and Plate/Ceramic Poppies/Mower/Strimmer/Bas-Relief

Notes:

1. The financial statements of the PCC have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 using the Receipts and Payments basis.
2. Restricted Funds are those received for a specific purpose.

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 19 April 2026 and signed on its behalf by:

James Highwood
(Churchwarden)



John Stansfeld
(PCC Member)



Independent examiner's report to the members of the PCC of St Mary's Church, Frittenden

I report to the members of the PCC of St Mary's Church, Frittenden ("the PCC") on my examination of the accounts for the year ended 31st December 2025 set out on pages 7 to 9.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the members of the PCC, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act") and the Church Accounting Regulations 2006.

I report in respect of my examination of the PCC's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed 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 which gives me cause to believe that, in any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act;
or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



M. St.J Ashley FCA
19th April 2026

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