

Unaudited Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 December 2025
for
St James the Great, Colwall

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1192443

ST JAMES THE GREAT, COLWALL

Contents

	Page
Report of the Trustees	1 to 3
Independent Examiner's Report	4
Statement of Financial Activities	5
Balance Sheet	6
Notes to the Financial Statements	7 to 12

ST JAMES THE GREAT, COLWALL

Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31 December 2025

The trustees present their report and the unaudited financial statements of The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St James the Great, Colwall (St James the Great, Colwall) ("the charity") for the year ended 31 December 2025.

The Parochial Church Council

Is constituted according to The PCC (Powers) Measure 1956, and The Church Representation Rules (Amendment) Resolution 2009 as authorised by the Synodical Government Measure 1969. Its financial operation is in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2015, which define the relationship to the requirements of the Charities Act. It is Registered Charity No 1192443.

It has the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church: pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. It also has maintenance responsibilities for the Church, The Ale House, St Crispin's Chapel and associated buildings.

Trustees

Members of the PCC are ex officio, elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting, or co-opted by the PCC, in accordance with the Church Representation Rules. The PCC is chaired by the Incumbent.

Incumbent: The Reverend Prebendary Melanie Horton

Curate: The Reverend Andrew Falconer

After the Annual Parochial Church Meeting on 14 April 2025, the following served as members of the PCC

Church Warden:

Mr Martyn Steer

Assistant Church Wardens:

Mr William Clucas

Mr Steven Hockett

Mrs Carolyn Hands

Mrs Jane Hill

Mr Stuart Hands (Secretary)

Elected Lay Members of the PCC:

Mrs Joy Conlon (Deanery Synod representative)

Mr Michael Hakes

Mrs Susan Humphrey (Deanery Synod representative)

Dr Jonathan Pearce

Mrs Claire Pearson (Treasurer)

Mrs Patricia Hockett

Co-opted Members of the PCC:

Mr Keith Pieri (appointed 20th January 2026)

Rev'd Lynne Sparkes (appointed 13th May 2025)

Principal address

The Rectory
Walwyn Road
Colwall
Malvern
Herefordshire
WR13 6EG

ST JAMES THE GREAT, COLWALL

Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31 December 2025

Worship and Prayer

The PCC is determined that worship at St James the Great is as inclusive as possible and we reflected on models of inclusivity at a parish away day in October; we will continue to focus on the best way to embed models of inclusivity into all our systems and worship.

As ever, we have worshiped regularly together, celebrating the seasons and the high days and holidays as well as the everyday to maintain a regular heartbeat of prayer to underpin all that we do. Allowing time and space for God to touch us collectively and individually and to energise us for the task ahead – to live as God's people in this place. There have, of course, been some particular highlights worthy of note. In June we hosted a service celebrating volunteers across the Deanery who keep the worshipping life of our churches active; July saw us hosting our brothers and sisters from St James, Aston for the celebration of St James. August saw a new model, one day, craft festival combined with a Church fete and, on that weekend, we worshipped café -style in the Ale House reflecting on and celebrating our God-given gifts and how we use them for building up of our Church and community; October marked Harvest Festival and the celebration of St Crispin. All are welcome to attend our regular services. At present there are 111 parishioners on the church electoral roll. The average weekly attendance is between 55 and 65 increasing to well over double that at the major festivals. The church is open during daylight hours and is regularly used by members of the local community for prayer or quiet time as is the chapel of St Crispin attached to the local village hall.

Pastoral Care and Community Engagement

Members of the church family who are unable to attend services are offered home communion; currently this is being offered to six people and delivered by our licensed pastoral leaders, the Curate and the Reader. Pastoral visits are undertaken by the clergy as needed. We continue to support the provision of a monthly café for people living with dementia and their carers; the village foodbank and two local schools with the provision of Christian worship and delivery of elements of the RE curriculum. The clergy run a drop-in afternoon each week in a local café and the monthly Men's Breakfast is extremely popular and valued in the community. Our parish magazine is distributed monthly to about 490 households and is available in the local shops as well. The magazine informs people of all that is going on in church and the wider community and is a valuable tool for building community relationships. The church also has an active Facebook page and website.

Financial Review

The year's financial accounts show a deficit on unrestricted income and expenditure of £17,071 (2024: deficit of £10,931) before the revaluation of fixed asset investments. The increased deficit is as a result of lower income as, despite inflationary pressures, expenditure was lower than the previous year. It is hoped that, after a period of significant fundraising (2025: improvement project and 2024: roof repairs), people will feel able to increase their regular giving and also that fundraising can be directed towards general rather than specific purposes.

Investments are held in professionally managed funds with the objective of generating a long-term total return of UK CPI plus 3% on a low/medium risk basis in order to provide additional resources for the church. Although the accounts show a revaluation gain, this was mainly generated by the bond fund (which has been sold to provide funds for the church improvement project) and conceals the very disappointing performance of the remaining investments for the second year in a row. The fund manager (CCLA Investment Management Ltd.) is in the process of being acquired by Jupiter Fund Management and we hope that a change of strategy will bring more positive results. The Finance Committee, on behalf of the PCC, is keeping a close watch on the portfolio and will not hesitate to recommend changes if the promised improvements fail to materialise.

Donors were extremely swift and generous in their support for the Church Improvement Project and we were very optimistic until all the tenders came in much higher than predicted by our architect and quantity surveyor which was extremely disappointing as we had raised funds in accordance with their original figures. However, discussions with the architect and contractor have enabled us to reduce the costs to a more manageable level by removing certain features without losing the main objectives. The removed items can be reinstated should funds allow in future. It is also fortunate that a significant contingency had been included in the original funding target. The revised anticipated cost is £163,000 including VAT. We have received donations, including gift aid, of £53,800 and have been awarded grants of £56,400. The PCC has agreed to support the project further by designating an additional £10,000, making a total of £50,000.

No sooner had the revised specification been finalised than it was announced, in the last week of January, that the Listed Places of Worship VAT recovery scheme would end on 31 March 2026. There has been no detailed information about the grant scheme to replace it although the very limited statement released by the Department for Culture, Media and Sport makes it clear that VAT will be payable in future. Clearly, this is a blow to us, increasing costs by 20%. We are reclaiming as much VAT as possible before the deadline and are confident that we still have the resources to complete the reduced scale project, particularly as the project team have been extremely successful in applying for grants which will be paid once we have received invoices from the contractor.

The reserves policy is to hold approximately four months' normal income in reserves, currently amounting to approximately £30,000. We currently have free reserves (unrestricted net assets less investments) of £25,627 (2024: £4,864). The comparison with the prior year is misleading since our fixed asset investments have reduced by nearly £37,000, however, we are still very much solvent and the trustees consider the charity to be a going concern. Once the project is complete, we intend to work on rebuilding our investments.

ST JAMES THE GREAT, COLWALL

Report of the Trustees
for the year ended 31 December 2025

Statement of trustees' responsibilities

The Charities Act 2011 requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law the trustees have prepared the financial statements in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable law). The financial statements are required by law to give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the surplus or deficit of the charity for that period. In preparing those financial statements the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- follow applicable accounting standards and the Charities SORP, disclosing and explaining any departures in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to assume that the charity will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping accounting records which disclose, with reasonable accuracy, the financial position of the charity at any time, and for ensuring that the financial statements comply with charity law. The trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the charity's assets, and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 26 February 2026 and signed on its behalf by:



Rev. Preb. M.J. Horton
Trustee

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of St James the Great, Colwall

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of St James the Great, Colwall (the Trust) for the year ended 31 December 2025.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust 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 Trust's accounts carried out under Section 145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all 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 Trust as required by Section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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

LL 
Luke Keegan ACMA

27/02/2026

Greendawn Accounting Ltd
1A The Homend
Ledbury
Herefordshire
HR8 1BN

ST JAMES THE GREAT, COLWALL

Statement of Financial Activities
For the year ended 31 December 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	2025 Total funds £	2024 Total funds £
Income from						
Donations and legacies	2a	60,362	891	60,797	122,050	118,002
Church activities	2b	5,453	40	-	5,493	5,740
Activities for generating funds	2c	15,549	-	-	15,549	16,738
Insurance claim		-	-	7,700	7,700	-
Investment income	2d	<u>2,272</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,272</u>	<u>3,019</u>
Total income		<u>83,636</u>	<u>931</u>	<u>68,497</u>	<u>153,064</u>	<u>143,499</u>
Expenditure on						
Raising funds	3a	6,798	-	70	6,868	6,913
Church activities	3b	93,909	1,646	19,880	115,434	167,911
Total expenditure		<u>100,707</u>	<u>1,646</u>	<u>19,950</u>	<u>122,302</u>	<u>174,824</u>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		<u>(17,071)</u>	<u>(715)</u>	<u>48,547</u>	<u>30,762</u>	<u>(31,325)</u>
Other recognised gains/(losses)						
Gains/(losses) on revaluation of fixed asset investments	7	1,012	-	-	1,012	2,312
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		<u>(16,059)</u>	<u>(715)</u>	<u>48,547</u>	<u>31,774</u>	<u>(29,013)</u>
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS						
Total funds brought forward	10	<u>84,903</u>	<u>42,872</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>127,775</u>	<u>156,788</u>
Total funds carried forward	11	<u><u>68,845</u></u>	<u><u>42,157</u></u>	<u><u>48,547</u></u>	<u><u>159,549</u></u>	<u><u>127,775</u></u>

ST JAMES THE GREAT, COLWALL
Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2025

	Notes	General £	Designated £	Restricted £	2025 Total £	2024 Total £
Fixed assets						
Tangible assets	6	796	-	-	796	1,195
Investments	7	43,218	-	-	43,218	80,039
		44,014	-	-	44,014	81,234
Current assets						
Debtors	8	1,615	-	1,763	3,378	2,818
Cash at bank		29,613	42,124	48,282	120,019	52,837
		31,228	42,124	50,045	123,397	55,655
Creditors						
Amounts falling due within one year	9	(6,398)	33	(1,497)	(7,862)	(9,114)
Net current assets		24,831	42,157	48,547	115,536	46,542
Total assets less current liabilities		68,845	42,157	48,547	159,549	127,775
NET ASSETS		68,845	42,157	48,547	159,549	127,775
REPRESENTED BY						
Unrestricted						
General fund	10, 11	68,845	-	-	68,845	83,903
Designated						
Admiral's Café		-	1,297	-	1,297	1,543
Flower Fund		-	860	-	860	1,329
Improved Facilities		-	40,000	-	40,000	40,000
Restricted						
Improved Facilities Donations and Grants		-	-	48,318	48,318	-
Agency collections		-	-	229	229	-
TOTAL		68,845	42,157	48,547	159,549	127,775

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 26th February 2026 and were signed on its behalf by:

M J Horton
Trustee




P C Pearson
Trustee

1. Accounting policies

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 together with the Charities SORP (FRS102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) (effective 1 January 2016)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Charities Act 2011.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention with the exception of investments which are included at market value.

The financial statements include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible by law and have been prepared using the accruals method of accounting.

Financial reporting standard 102 - reduced disclosure exemptions

The charity has taken advantage of the following disclosure exemptions in preparing these financial statements, as permitted by FRS 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland':

- the requirements of Section 7 Statement of Cash Flows;
- the requirement of paragraph 3.17(d);
- the requirements of paragraphs 11.42, 11.44, 11.45, 11.47, 11.48(a)(iii), 11.48(a)(iv), 11.48(b) and 11.48(c).

Fund accounting

Unrestricted Funds represent the remaining income funds that are available for spending on the general purposes of the PCC.

Designated funds are general funds set aside by the PCC for spending on a future project and which are therefore not included in its 'free reserves' as disclosed in the trustees' report. Designated funds remain unrestricted and any surplus will be moved to other general funds.

Restricted Funds are donations and grants for a specific PCC activity intended by the donor.

Incoming resources

Planned giving, collections and similar donations are recognised when received. Tax recoverable on Gift Aid donations is recognised in the period in which the qualifying donations are received. Grants and legacies to the PCC are accounted for as soon as the PCC is notified of its legal entitlement, the amount due is quantifiable and its ultimate receipt by the PCC is reasonably certain. Dividends and interest are accounted for when received. All incoming resources are accounted for gross.

Unrealised gains or losses are accounted for on revaluation of investments at the year end.

Resources expended

Grants and donations are accounted for when paid over, or when awarded, if that award creates a binding or constructive obligation on the PCC. The diocesan parish share expected to be paid over is accounted for when due. All other expenditure is generally recognised when it is incurred and is accounted for gross.

Tangible fixed assets

Consecrated and benefice property is not included in the accounts in accordance with Section 10(2)(a) and (c) of the Charities Act 2011.

Tangible fixed assets are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year and cost at least £500.

Depreciation is calculated to write off the capitalised cost of fixed assets less their currently anticipated residual fair value over their estimated useful lives as follows:

▪ Land	Nil
▪ Fixtures & Fittings	20 years
▪ Computers and audio visual equipment	4 years

Investments in market securities

Investments are basic financial instruments, initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at fair value as at the year-end. The statement of financial activities includes net gains and losses arising on revaluation and disposals.

Short term deposits

These are cash held on deposit at the bank.

Reserves

The reserves policy is to hold approximately four months' normal income in reserves, currently amounting to approximately £30,000. Fixed asset investments are held for the long term and are therefore excluded from free reserves which comprise those unrestricted funds which are unencumbered amounts represented by cash and debtors less liabilities.

Value added tax

The Charity is not registered for VAT and accordingly, where applicable, all costs and expenditure incurred are accounted for inclusive of VAT.

Taxation

The charity is exempt from tax on its charitable activities.

Contingent assets

In accordance with the SoRP, the trustees disclose that grants amounting in aggregate to £56,400 have been approved by various charitable trusts during the year in respect of the church improvement project. £7,900 has already been received with the remaining £48,500 contingent upon receipt by them of appropriate invoices during 2026.

ST JAMES THE GREAT, COLWALL

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2025 - continued

2a. Donations and legacies	2025	2024
	£	£
Planned giving	42,201	36,726
Tax recoverable	18,695	14,210
Grants	14,557	50,776
Legacies	-	1,000
Appeals	21,786	-
Other donations	19,711	12,477
Other funds generate	5,100	2,813
	<u>122,050</u>	<u>118,002</u>
2b. Church activities	2025	2024
	£	£
Fees for weddings and funerals	5,463	5,379
Other	30	361
	<u>5,493</u>	<u>5,740</u>
2c. Fundraising	2025	2024
	£	£
Colwall Clock magazine	8,042	7,737
Alehouse lettings	2,830	1,843
Other events	4,677	7,158
	<u>15,549</u>	<u>16,738</u>
2d. Investment income	2025	2024
	£	£
Dividends	1,809	1,177
Deposit account interest	463	1,842
	<u>2,272</u>	<u>3,019</u>
3a. Cost of fundraising	2025	2024
	£	£
Colwall Clock magazine	5,804	5,559
Other	1,064	1,354
	<u>6,868</u>	<u>6,913</u>
3b. Church activities	2025	2024
	£	£
Missionary and charitable giving	4,890	2,676
Admiral's café	1,066	393
Parish Share	51,804	51,804
Other ministry costs	5,243	3,990
Church running and maintenance	11,406	11,781
Major repairs and improvements	18,659	71,417
Churchyard costs	2,698	1,303
Administration	12,940	13,925
Upkeep of services	4,960	4,961
Alehouse running costs	1,768	2,721
Other expenses	-	2,940
	<u>115,434</u>	<u>167,911</u>

ST JAMES THE GREAT, COLWALL

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2025 - continued

4. Trustees' remuneration and benefits

Payments to clergy, PCC members and related parties

	2025	2024
	£	£
Payments in respect of services as organists	2,115	2,115
Payments in respect of administration services	10,980	10,980
Contribution to rector's cost in heating parish office	1,600	1,600

No payments other than those identified above were paid to any other PCC member, persons closely connected to them or related parties.

5. Staff costs

During the year the PCC employed one part-time parish administrator.

	2025	2024
	£	£
Administration	10,980	10,980
Employers' national insurance less employment allowance	0	0
Pension contributions	0	0
Total	10,980	10,980

The average monthly number of employees during the year was as follows:

	2025	2024
	1	1

No employees received emoluments in excess of £60,000.

6. Tangible fixed assets

Computers and audio visual equipment

Cost	£
At 1 January 2025	1,594
Additions in year	-
At 31 December 2025	1,594
Depreciation	
At 1 January 2025	399
Charge for year	399
At 31 December 2025	798
Net book value	
At 31 December 2025	796
At 31 December 2024	1,195

ST JAMES THE GREAT, COLWALL

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2025 - continued

7. Fixed asset investments

CBF Church of England Investment Funds	£
Shares and long term deposits	
Valuation at 31 December 2024	80,039
Sold in year (Bond Fund)	(37,833)
Unrealised gain	1,012
Total investment at 31 December 2025	<u>43,218</u>

8. Debtors: amounts falling due within one year

	2025	2024
	£	£
Income tax recoverable	3,378	2,495
Other debtors	-	323
	<u>3,378</u>	<u>2,818</u>

£1,763 (2024: £0) of tax recoverable relates to restricted funds.

9. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2025	2024
	£	£
Mission – charitable donations	3,117	5,789
Prepaid Colwall Clock subscriptions and adverts	1,500	1,500
HMRC	556	-
Other	2,689	1,276
	<u>7,862</u>	<u>9,114</u>

10. Funds

The Improved Facilities Donations and Grants restricted fund consists of grants and donation received for the church facilities improvement project, including the new chairs.

The Sundry Specific fund consists of smaller specific funding items, mainly the new bench and display board in the churchyard.

The designated funds are the Flower Fund and the Admiral's Café Fund as well as the Church Facilities Improvement Fund: the PCC has allocated £40,000 from the General Reserve for this project which will start in early 2026.

Since the year end, and the cancellation of the Listed Places of Worship (VAT recovery) Scheme, a further £10,000 has been designated to ensure the project can be completed.

ST JAMES THE GREAT, COLWALL

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2025 - continued

11. Summary of fund movements

	Opening balance at 1 January 2025	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Investment gains	Closing balance at 31 December 2025
	£	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted					
General	84,903	83,636	100,707	1,012	68,845
Designated					
Flower	1,329	111	580	-	860
Admiral's Café	1,543	820	1,066	-	1,297
Improved facilities	40,000	-	-	-	40,000
Restricted					
Improved facilities – donations and grants	-	65,397	17,078		48,318
Sundry specific	-	2,950	2,950	-	-
Agency	-	229	-	-	229
Total	127,775	153,143	(122,381)	1,012	159,549

12. Comparatives for the statement of financial activities 2024

	Unrestricted funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	Total funds
	£	£	£	£
Income				
Donations and legacies	66,568	658	50,776	118,002
Church activities	5,419	321	-	5,740
Activities for generating funds	16,738	-	-	16,378
Investment income	3,019	-	-	3,019
Total	91,744	979	50,776	143,499
Expenditure				
Raising funds	6,913	-	-	6,913
Church activities	95,762	732	71,417	167,911
Total	102,675	732	71,417	174,824
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	(10,931)	247	(20,641)	(31,325)
Transfers between funds	(30,369)	25,185	5,184	-
Other recognised gains/(losses)				
Gains/(losses) on revaluation of fixed asset investments	2,312	-	-	2,312
Net movement in funds	(38,988)	25,432	(15,457)	(29,013)
Reconciliation of funds				
Total funds brought forward	123,891	17,440	15,457	156,788
Total funds carried forward	84,903	42,872	-	127,775