

Parochial Church Council St. Catharine's, Houghton

("the Charity")

Annual Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2025

(registered as a charity in England and Wales: number 1196545)

Parochial Church Council St. Catharine's, Houghton

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Parochial Church Council St. Catharine's, Houghton

Legal and administrative information

For the year ended 31 December 2025

| | |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| Charities registration number: | 1196545 (England and Wales) |
| Foundation date: | 2nd January 1957 |
| Governing document: | Parochial Church Council Powers Measure (1956) as amended, and Church Representation Rules that came into force on 2nd January 1957 |
| Registered address: | St. Catharine's Church, Main Street, Houghton-on-the Hill, Leicestershire LE7 9GD |
| Website: | https://www.stcatharineschurch.co.uk/ |
| Contact: | Team Vicar <u>0116 2416895 or 07977298838</u> |

Current trustees:

| Name | Date appointed as a trustee |
|--------------------|------------------------------------|
| Reverend S Ransley | 1st June 2019 |
| E P Bates | 17 th March 2025 |
| M J Evans | 20nd November 2020 |
| P A Jackson | 14th September 2023 |
| I E Oldham | 20th November 2020 |
| R W B Morrison | 22nd October 2020 |
| S J Richardson | 18th October 2024 |
| D Shaw | 12th January 2023 |
| M Welsh | 17th May 2023 |

| | |
|-----------------|--|
| Bankers: | National Westminster Bank plc 1 Granby Street Leicester, LE1 6EJ |
|-----------------|--|

| | |
|------------------------------|---|
| Independent examiner: | P.S. Collins BSc FCA 5 Weare Close Billesdon, Leicestershire LE7 9DY |
|------------------------------|---|

Parochial Church Council St. Catharine's, Houghton

Trustees' Report

For the year ended 31 December 2025

The Trustees present their Annual Report and the financial statements for the year to 31st December 2025. The governing document of the charity is the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure (1956) as amended and the Church Representation Rules that came into force on 2nd January 1957. It is registered as a charity under Charity Commission reference number 1196545. The Parochial Church Council St. Catharine's, Houghton ("the Charity") is currently managed by nine trustees.

The trustees confirm that the accounts comply with current statutory requirements and with the governing document.

Organisation

St. Catharine's Church is a church for the people of Houghton-on-the-Hill in Leicestershire. We are part of the Church of England and follow Jesus in the Anglican way. We are a community of imperfect people from all kinds of backgrounds united by Jesus Christ, seeking to live our lives for him and make a difference to those around us.

Charitable objects

The objective of the charity is to promote in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the church. There have been no changes during the year to the charity's objectives or to the policies adopted in order to achieve those objectives.

Environmental and sustainability policy

The Charity's mission includes being good stewards for all God has given us, specifically caring for God's earth and endeavoring to develop both the theology and practical implications of this on a continuing basis, by following sustainable practice and taking into account global and local environmental considerations for present and future generations. In particular:

1. *Energy and Water*

To ensure energy is used efficiently and to, wherever possible, reduce its use, to encourage the increased use of renewable energy, to use water efficiently.

2. *Waste*

To reduce the production of material waste including unnecessary packaging, to encourage re-use, repair and recycling of materials including organic waste, to dispose of waste in a safe and responsible way

3. *Materials and Resources*

To buy products which are made in accordance with the principle of using material in a sustainable way and to use locally-made goods where practicable, to take into account the lifetime costs of materials when repairing, altering or rebuilding premises, to maximize the proportion of paper used from sustainable sources and recycled materials, to offer electronic communication as an alternative to paper for those who are suitably equipped

4. *Travel*

To be sensitive to the impact of church activities on the local environment, to make every effort to reduce air pollution and energy consumption resulting from the use of the car by avoidance of unnecessary travel, encouraging shared car transport where possible, encouraging access by public transport, cycle and on foot.

Parochial Church Council St. Catharine's, Houghton

Trustees' Report (continued)

For the year ended 31 December 2025

Risk management

The trustees understand that they have a duty to identify and review the risks to which the charity is exposed, and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error. The charity's capital is principally held in assets for resale and bank accounts which the trustees regularly monitor.

Reserves

It is the policy of the charity to maintain a balance of unrestricted liquid funds equal to at least 9 months unrestricted expenditure. As at 31st December 2025, the ratio was slightly higher than target, at 10.1 months:

| | 2025 | 2024 |
|---|--------------------|-------------|
| Unrestricted liquid funds (see page 10) | £52,951 | £57,433 |
| Unrestricted expenditure (see page 9) | £62,614 | £34,751 |
| Funds held as a ratio of expenditure | 10.1 months | 19.8 months |

Excluding the expected sale of assets, mentioned elsewhere in this report, no significant changes are expected to these figures during 2026.

Review of the year

Income of the trust continues to be derived from donations, rental income and grants.

Income for the year totaled £59,370 (2024: £55,352), a year-on-year increase of 7%. Legacy receipts of £5,000 (2024: £nil) accounted for most of this increase, other revenues (regular giving including gift aid, rental income etc.) being broadly in line with last year's levels.

Expenditure for the year totaled £62,614 (2024: £34,751), of which the Parish Share payment was £35,000 (2024: £3,402), and the youth worker cost £nil (2024: £14,696). As noted in last year's report, the charity put in place expenditure reduction plans during the 2024 financial year, pausing the Parish Share payments in February 2024 and ceasing the Children's Worker project in July 2024. The Parish Share payment was re-instated in January 2025. An increase in utility, insurance and technology costs (new laptop and digital mixing console) accounted for the majority of the other cost increases.

Overall, a net deficit of £3,532 was reported for the year (2024: surplus of £20,801).

The church land and barn are currently up for sale and net sale proceeds of around £480,000, after deducting sales expenses, are expected to be realised during 2026. These assets have been included in these financial statement as "assets for resale" at a valuation based on this expected net sales figure.

Net assets, principally being the church land, barn and cash at bank, totaled £571,473 as of 31st December 2025 (2024: £495,005), the increase due principally to an £80,000 uplift in the valuation of property held.

Parochial Church Council St. Catharine's, Houghton

Trustees' Report (continued)

For the year ended 31 December 2025

Trustees

The following served as trustees during the period from 1st January 2025 up to the date of signing of these financial statements on 27th April 2026, serving throughout the whole period unless otherwise stated:

Current as at 27th April 2026

Reverend S Ransley (chair)

E P Bates (appointed 17th March 2025) (secretary)

M J Evans

P A Jackson

I E Oldham

R W B Morrison (warden)

S J Richardson (warden)

D Shaw

M Welsh

Resigned since 1st January 2025 (none)

Trustees stand for re-election every three years, the wardens standing for re-election each year.

On behalf of the Trustees

P A Jackson - Trustee



27th April 2026

Independent examiners report to the Trustees of the Parochial Church Council St. Catharine's, Houghton

I report on the annual financial statements of the Parochial Church Council St. Catharine's, Houghton ("The Charity"), for the year ended 31 December 2025, which are set out on pages 9 to 14.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiners

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements. The Charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year (under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 ("the 2011 Act")) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility as examiner to:

- Examine the financial statements under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- To follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners (under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act); and
- To state whether any particular matters have come to my attention.

I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of The Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales.

Basis of independent examiners' report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the financial statements, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any 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 financial statements present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statements below.

Independent Examiners Statement

I have completed my examination. 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 2011 Act; and
- to prepare financial statements which accord with the accounting records and
- to comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act

have not been met; or

2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the financial statements to be reached.



Paul Collins BSc FCA

Independent Examiner

5 Weare Close, Billesdon, Leicestershire LE7 9DY

27th April 2026

Parochial Church Council St. Catharine's, Houghton

Statement of trustees' responsibilities

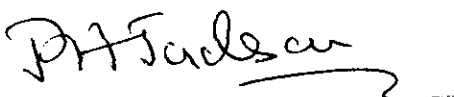
The charity's trustees are responsible for preparing an annual report and financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales, and the provisions of the charity's constitution, requires the charity's trustees to prepare financial statements for each year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period. In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently.
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities – Statement of Recommended Practice ("SORP").
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent.
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements.
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity, and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

On behalf of the Trustees



P A Jackson - Trustee

27th April 2026

Parochial Church Council St. Catharine's, Houghton

Statement of comprehensive income

For the year ended 31 December 2025

| | 2025 £ Unrestricted | 2025 £ Restricted | 2025 £ Total | 2024 £ Total |
|--|---------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Income (note 1) | | | | |
| Income from church activities (note 4) | 57,154 | - | 57,154 | 52,675 |
| Investment income | 831 | 1,385 | 2,216 | 2,677 |
| | <u>57,985</u> | <u>1,385</u> | <u>59,370</u> | <u>55,352</u> |
| Expenditure (notes 1 and 5) | 62,614 | - | 62,614 | 34,751 |
| Unrestricted | 62,614 | - | 62,614 | 34,751 |
| Restricted | - | - | - | - |
| | <u></u> | <u></u> | <u></u> | <u></u> |
| Surplus/(deficit) from activities | (4,629) | 1,385 | (3,244) | 20,601 |
| Surplus/(deficit) on revaluation of investments – note 2 | 147 | (435) | (288) | 200 |
| | <u>147</u> | <u>(435)</u> | <u>(288)</u> | <u>200</u> |
| Total surplus/(deficit) for the year | <u>(4,482)</u> | <u>950</u> | <u>(3,532)</u> | <u>20,801</u> |

Parochial Church Council St. Catharine's, Houghton

Statement of changes in reserves

For the year ended 31 December 2025

| | Unrestricted £ | Restricted £ | Total reserves £ |
|--|-------------------|-----------------|---------------------|
| As at 1 January 2024 | 38,334 | 35,870 | 74,204 |
| Total surplus for the year | 19,099 | 1,702 | 20,801 |
| Revaluation of church land and barn (note 3) | 400,000 | - | 400,000 |
| | <u>457,433</u> | <u>37,572</u> | <u>495,005</u> |
| As at 31 December 2024 (see page 10) | 457,433 | 37,572 | 495,005 |
| Total surplus for the year | (4,482) | 950 | (3,532) |
| Revaluation of church land and barn (note 3) | 80,000 | - | 80,000 |
| | <u>532,951</u> | <u>38,522</u> | <u>571,473</u> |
| As at 31 December 2025 (see page 10) | 532,951 | 38,522 | 571,473 |

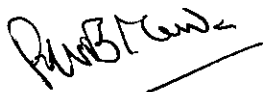
Parochial Church Council St. Catharine's, Houghton

Statement of financial position

As at 31 December 2025

| | Reserves note | 2025 £ | 2024 £ |
|--|---------------|----------------|----------------|
| Tangible fixed assets (see note 3) | | | |
| Church land and barn | Unrestricted | - | 400,000 |
| Fixed asset investments (see note 2) | | | |
| Central Board of Finance short duration bond fund | Unrestricted | 2,797 | 2,650 |
| Central Board of Finance COIF repair account | Restricted | 8,656 | 9,091 |
| | | 11,453 | 411,741 |
| Assets for resale (see note 3) | | | |
| Church land and barn | Unrestricted | 480,000 | - |
| Current assets: Cash and cash equivalents | | | |
| Nat West general account | Unrestricted | 23,606 | 31,211 |
| Nat West number 2 account | Unrestricted | 13,239 | 10,839 |
| Central Board of Finance ordinary account | Unrestricted | 13,309 | 12,733 |
| Central Board of Finance restoration deposit account | Restricted | 29,866 | 28,481 |
| Net current assets | | 560,020 | 83,264 |
| Net assets | | 571,473 | 495,005 |
| Reserves allocation (see page 9) | | | |
| Unrestricted – liquid assets | | 52,951 | 57,433 |
| Unrestricted - property | | 480,000 | 400,000 |
| Restricted | | 38,522 | 37,572 |
| Total reserves | | 571,473 | 495,005 |

These financial statements, including the notes on pages 11-14, were approved by the trustees and authorised for issue on 7th May 2026, and are signed on their behalf by:



R W B Morrison
Trustee

P A Jackson
Trustee

Charities number: 1196545

Parochial Church Council St. Catharine's, Houghton

Notes to the Financial Statements For the year ended 31 December 2025

1 Accounting policies

Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities published on 16th July 2014, the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (FRSSE) and the Charities Act 2011 and UK Generally Accepted Practice as it applies from 1st January 2015.

The financial statements have been prepared to give a 'true and fair' view and have departed from the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 only to the extent required to provide a 'true and fair view'.

Going concern

The charity's forecasts and projections show that the charity should be able to operate within the level of its current cash reserves. As noted earlier, the sale of the church land and barn are expected to raise around £480,000 during 2026. After making enquiries, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. The charity therefore continues to adopt the going concern basis in preparing its financial statements.

Income and expenditure

Income represents donations (together with the associated claims for gift aid where applicable), rental income, grants, income from investments and interest on deposits and are included in the financial statements when credited or due to be received.

Expenditure is included in the financial statements on a cash basis when paid.

Reserves

Funds specifically received for projects and schemes (i.e. giving for a specific cause), principally repairs and restoration, and youth worker initiatives, are deemed to be restricted. All other funds are unrestricted and are available for the general purposes of the charity.

Tangible fixed assets and assets for resale

The church land and barn are included in the financial statements at an open market value and are not depreciated. Once assets are classified as "for sale", they are held at the lower of carrying value and expected net disposal price.

The church building is not included in the financial statements due to uncertainty over ownership.

Parochial Church Council St. Catharine's, Houghton

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

For the year ended 31 December 2025

2 Fixed asset investments

Investments are stated at their open market value, based on middle market prices, with revaluation surpluses and deficits put through the Statement of Comprehensive Income. The CCLA Short Duration Bond Fund was previously known as the Fixed Interest Fund and the Charity are the beneficiary's of the fund, the Leicester Diocesan Board of Finance being the custodian trustees:

| | £ 2025 | £ 2024 |
|--|--------------|--------------|
| 1,831 Shares in the Short Duration Bond Fund at the CCLA Central Board of Finance | | |
| At 1 st January 2025 | 2,650 | 2,650 |
| Revaluation | 147 | - |
| At 31st December 2025 | 2,797 | 2,650 |
| 448 Shares in the COIF Charity Investment Fund | | |
| At 1 st January 2025 | 9,091 | 8,891 |
| Revaluation | (435) | 200 |
| At 31st December 2025 | 8,656 | 9,091 |
| COIF Charity Investment Fund share prices (mid-market) | | |
| At 1 st January 2025 | £20.29 | £19.85 |
| At 31 st December 2025 | £19.32 | £20.29 |

3 Tangible fixed assets and assets for resale

Church land and barn:

In April 2015, the church land and barn were bequeathed, at nil cost, to the Leicester Diocesan Board of Finance as custodian trustees. The Charity are the beneficial owners of these assets, to enjoy both the revenues generated from them and any proceeds from their sale. The assets are insured by the Charity. In June 2024 they were valued at £400,000 (land £310,000, barn £90,000) and during 2025 were further revalued by the trustees at £480,000. The assets are currently up for sale and a completion of sale is anticipated during 2026. The assets have therefore been reclassified as "assets for resale" in the 2025 financial statements.

Tangible fixed assets

| | £ 2025 | £ 2024 |
|---|-----------|----------------|
| Church land and barn | | |
| At 1 st January 2025 | 400,000 | - |
| Revaluation during the year | 80,000 | 400,000 |
| Reclassification as "assets for resale" | (480,000) | - |
| At 31st December 2025 | - | 400,000 |

Parochial Church Council St. Catharine's, Houghton

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

For the year ended 31 December 2025

3 Tangible fixed assets and assets for resale (continued)

Assets for resale

| | £ 2025 | £ 2024 |
|---|----------------|-----------|
| Church land and barn | | |
| At 1 st January 2025 | - | - |
| Reclassification of tangible fixed assets | 480,000 | - |
| | <hr/> | <hr/> |
| At 31st December 2025 | 480,000 | - |
| | <hr/> | <hr/> |

Church building:

The church was built in the 13th century. Due to a lack of historical records, uncertainty exists with regard to ownership of the Church. Consequently, no cost or valuation has been reported in the Statement of Financial Position. The building is insured by the Charity at an insured value of £14,697,000.

4 Income from church activities: analysis

| | £ 2025 | £ 2024 |
|--|---------------|---------------|
| Income | | |
| Regular giving (includes Parish Giving Scheme) | 42,402 | 39,389 |
| Gift aid claims from HMRC | 3,110 | 5,646 |
| Donations received | 639 | 546 |
| Funeral and wedding fees (2024: net of repayments) | 3,419 | 1,311 |
| Legacy receipts | 5,000 | - |
| Rents received | 2,584 | 4,292 |
| Other income | - | 1,491 |
| | <hr/> | <hr/> |
| Total income | 57,154 | 52,675 |
| | <hr/> | <hr/> |
| Unrestricted | 57,154 | 52,675 |
| Restricted | - | - |
| | <hr/> | <hr/> |
| Total income | 57,154 | 52,675 |
| | <hr/> | <hr/> |

Parochial Church Council St. Catharine's, Houghton

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

For the year ended 31 December 2025

5 Expenditure: analysis

| | £ 2025 | £ 2024 |
|---|---------------|---------------|
| Expenditure | | |
| Church activities – parish share | 35,000 | 3,402 |
| Children and youth worker salary and expenses | - | 14,696 |
| Utilities and insurance | 8,986 | 6,029 |
| Mission and outreach | 2,133 | 1,469 |
| Donations made | 4,155 | 4,160 |
| Music and technology (2025: laptop, mixing console) | 5,793 | 767 |
| Other expenditure (includes clergy expenses, repairs) | 6,547 | 4,228 |
| Total expenditure | 62,614 | 34,751 |
| Unrestricted | 62,614 | 34,751 |
| Restricted | - | - |
| Total expenditure | 62,614 | 34,751 |
| As a % of total costs | | |
| Church activities – parish share | 56% | 10% |
| Children and youth worker salary and expenses | - | 42% |
| Others | 44% | 48% |
| | 100% | 100% |

6 Related party transactions

Trustees regularly donate money to the Charity and receive reimbursement for expenses incurred on behalf of the Charity. The Charity is not aware of any other related party transactions.