

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE PARISH OF HEATHFIELD

England & Wales · Charity number 1201528

Details

Status Registered

Legal form Other

Registered 2023-01-09

Register [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

Contact

Address Heathfield Vicarage
Hailsham Road
Heathfield
East Sussex
TN21 8AF

Phone 01435862744

Email vicar@heathfieldbenefice.org.uk

Website www.heathfieldbenefice.org.uk

Activities

Objects: PROMOTING IN THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH THE WHOLE MISSION OF THE CHURCH

Activities: The Primary objective is the promotion of the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to the doctrines of the Church of England.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Provides Services
- **What:** Religious Activities
- **Who:** Children/young People, Elderly/old People, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- East Sussex

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-12-31	£312,451	£217,855	-	-
2024-12-31	£126,656	£136,237	-	-
2023-12-31	£126,109	£124,645	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Alexis John Horatio Stafford		2025-05-07
Colin Basil Saunders		2022-01-01
David John Gardiner		2022-01-01
Diana Bronwen Hughes		2024-04-15
George Dearsley		2025-05-07
Hazel Elizabeth Nicol		2024-04-15
Heather May Bruce		2022-01-01
Jane Priscilla Eales		2022-01-01
Jennifer Gardiner		2022-01-01
Joseph Alexander James Peters		2022-01-01
Judith Jane Piper		2022-01-01
Linda Dearsley		2026-04-29
Mary Ann Sumner		2022-01-01
Michael Yule		2026-04-29
Nigel English		2026-04-29
Paul Martin		2026-04-29
Rev David Arthur Joseph Packham		2026-04-29
SUSAN LINDA GREENER		2022-01-01

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE PARISH OF HEATHFIELD

England & Wales - Charity number 1201528

Accounts

Trustees' Annual Report and Financial Report

The Parochial Church Council of the **Ecclesiastical Parish of Heathfield**

All Saints' Old Heathfield, St. Richard's Heathfield, and St. George's Broad Oak

For the year ended 31st December 2025



Heathfield Benefice

The Church of England in Your Community

In life. In love. In loss.

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Website:	www.heathfieldbenefice.org.uk
Incumbent:	Rev. David Packham
Church Wardens:	Miss Jane Eales Mrs. Heather Bruce
Independent Examiner:	Mr. Gary Hicks, FCCA 14 Meadow Way, Heathfield, East Sussex, TN21 8AF.
Bankers:	Barclays Bank Plc.

Heathfield Benefice

The Church of England in your Community

Mission Statement

Our mission is to be a single church family,
offering a genuine welcome to all within a
caring, prayerful, worshipping community,
faithful to biblical teaching,
that inspires active discipleship.



Heathfield Parochial Church Council

Trustees' Annual Report for 2025

Vicar's Report 2025

Our aims and purposes as a charity

The PCC has the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent in:

- The promotion of the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ according to the doctrines and practices of the Church of England
- Promoting in the parish the whole mission of the Church: pastoral, social, evangelistic and ecumenical
- Knowing Jesus better and make Him better known
- Engaging with all sectors of the local community, including school, colleges, and public services, in order to embed the Church in the life of the local community
- Practical support and care for the people in the parish.

What we achieved and how we affected beneficiaries' lives

Attendance at worship

Numbers attending worship across all three churches in the Parish have remained stable throughout the year, with at least one service of Holy Communion in the Parish every Sunday, a said service of Holy Communion on Wednesday mornings and a monthly BCP service of Holy Communion early on Sunday morning. We continue to be very grateful to our two retired priests, Revd. Canon Lucy Murdoch and Revd. Ann Pollington, who presided at most of our Holy Communion services, until the arrival of the new incumbent in July, and conducted all the Baptisms in 2025. The Benefice Choir sang at most morning services, on special occasions and at the

monthly Choral Evensong. In addition, the Junior Choir has sung at a number of services and a Youth Choir has now begun. We are very grateful to have Simon Hendry as our Benefice Choirmaster. Our Remembrance Sunday Service was well attended and included local uniformed organisations, while attendance during our Christmas services was up by 10% from last year. We are very grateful for the unstinting work of our Readers, Sacristans and Vergers, who have made so many of our services and related church activities possible.

Evangelism, outreach and pastoral care

Saint Richard's Hall continues to be used by many church and community groups such as the local Folk Dance Group, the Dementia Cafe and the Rainbows and Brownies. The Arts and Crafts Group and the Book Club continue to meet, in addition to the monthly free lunch that is run by church members but open to all. Two weekly Baby and Toddler groups run by church members meet at Saint Richard's Hall and in Saint George's Parish Room. Our provision of Sunday Church for children, during Sunday morning services, complements the Junior Choir and our partnership with All Saints' and St. Richard's School (our local voluntary aided primary school), to whom we make All Saints' Church available for school services throughout the year and to whom regular visits are made to lead Collective Worship or other activities.

The Benefice continues to support Heathfield Street Pastors and Heathfield School Pastors, who go into Heathfield Community College on a weekly basis during term time, supported by Prayer Pastors, which together form a collaborative Churches Together in Heathfield



initiative. We are very grateful to the local Mothers Union branch members for the support and help they provide in preparing candidates for Baptism, the monthly Wednesday Communion Service at Saint Richard's and the work done at All Saints' and St. Richard's School (often behind the scenes), including a wonderful Rainbow Collage made with the children last year, and showcased at our Christingle Service in December.

For older people, our partnership with Country Lunches offers a fortnightly lunch for up to 50 elderly residents, while links with Heffle Court (our local care home) have been maintained, in addition to a monthly service of Holy Communion at Holdenhurst (an independent living home). The highly valued Bereavement Cafe continues to meet once a month led by an Authorised Lay Minister (ALM) to provide friendship to bereaved people, while Home Communion is taken to those unable to attend church services. It is heartening that we now have a second ALM to support our pastoral work within the Benefice, having completed the training in 2025.

November saw the second Nativity Festival at Saint Richard's Church, which was well attended and at which over 100 nativity sets were loaned and displayed. The Parish continues to support the diocesan-based Family Support Work charity, regularly donating food and other items for distribution and providing a hub for their local caseworker at Saint George's Church. The Heathfield Magazine continues to be produced with many diverse articles covering a large number of subjects for a broad appeal, acting as a key tool for our mission and a community voice. 1,400 copies were distributed monthly and it was made available on the Benefice website. In addition, the weekly Grapevine e-newsletter continues to provide an up-to-date source of information on our services and activities.

Provision of church buildings for people to enjoy

All the church buildings and grounds in the parish have been maintained by a team of committed and able volunteers. We are very grateful to FASCOH (Friends of All Saints' Church Old Heathfield) for raising the necessary funds that allowed the plans to redecorate the interior of All Saints' Church to go ahead. Work on the updated lighting and sound system began in January and was completed in September. This has augmented the interior and brought a brightness to the building, enhancing the opportunity for church members and visitors alike to worship or meditate. 2025 also saw the redecoration of the west wall and part of the chancel and sanctuary of Saint Richard's Church, highlighting the value we place on using our worship spaces as opportunities for the whole community to enjoy. The growing number of bell ringers, which now meets to practise twice a week, rang the bells before services at All Saints' Church on Sunday mornings and on special occasions. All three of our church buildings are open in daylight hours for anyone who wishes to make the most of the quiet and pray.

Looking ahead

It has been hugely encouraging that, despite the extended interregnum, so many church activities and commitments have continued and that the Parish's work and mission is supported by so many people. Having looked at how far we have come, the opportunity to grow a fresh vision, revisit the mission action plan and focus on local needs, supported by a stewardship campaign, gives great hope and confidence as we enter a new phase of God's mission, journeying together as his people in Heathfield.

Reverend David

*David Packham
Vicar of Heathfield*



Financial Review

The attached accounts represent the financial activity of All Saints' Church, Old Heathfield, St Richards Heathfield and St George's Church, Broad Oak, Heathfield during the year 2025. The accounts for these Churches are consolidated into one account.

The total receipts within the General and Unrestricted Fund were £312,451 and are detailed in the Financial Statements.

The planned Giving through Envelopes and Bankers Orders decreased by 9% and the total overall income – including tax recovered – increased by 247%.

The largest item of expenditure was the Parish Contribution £50,000 to the Diocese to cover our Vicar, Curate and ministry costs. Our contribution for 2026 has increased by 2.5% to £52,500.

Reserves Policy

It is PCC policy to invest fund balances with the CBF Church of England Deposit Fund, the total of which is £190,394.

Structure, governance and management of the charity

The PCC is a charity, and is registered with the Charity Commission and the registered number is 1201528 Its governing document is the Parochial Church Councils (Power) Measure 1956.

Incumbent:	Rev. David Packham	
Church Wardens:	Mrs Heather Bruce Miss Jane Eales (Vice-Chair; Deanery Synod Rep; also on Diocesan Synod)	
Deanery Synod Representatives:	Dr Susan Greener (also on Diocesan Synod) Mrs Diana Hughes	
Elected Members:	Mr Alan Clark Mr George Dearsley Mrs Hazel Nicol (PCC Secretary) Mrs Judy Piper	Mrs Janette Reid Mr Colin Saunders Mr Alexis Stafford Mr Peter Weaver
Ex Officio (Non-voting)	Mr Nicholas Rayment (Treasurer)	

Membership of the PCC is determined under the Church Representation Rules and consists of certain ex-officio members, the vicar and lay readers licensed to officiate in the church, the church wardens and members of the Deanery, Diocesan or General Synods, and members of the church who are elected at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM). Members are warmly encouraged to stand for election to the PCC and we try to ensure a balance of skills and experience where possible.

This Trustees' Annual Report was approved by the PCC and signed on their behalf by Rev. David Packham, Incumbent

David Packham

Date: *11 March 2026*



Financial Accounts

The Parochial Church Council of the Parish of Heathfield All Saints' Old Heathfield, St.Richard's Heathfield, and St.George's Broad Oak

Financial Statements for the year ended 31st December, 2025

Summary of Financial Receipts and Payments

	<i>Unrestricted</i>		Designated Deposit A/C	<i>Restricted</i> Funds	<i>Total</i> All Funds 2025	<i>Total</i> All Funds 2024	Notes
	General Fund	Designated Funds					
	£	£	£	£	£	£	
Income and endowments from:							
Donations and legacies	273,373	-	-	720	274,093	91,042	
Charitable activities	3,594	-	-	-	3,594	5,298	
Other trading activities	30,509	-	-	-	30,509	27,537	
Investments	1,254	2,722	-	279	4,255	2,779	
Other receipts	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Total received	308,730	2,722	-	999	312,451	126,656	3
Expenditure on:							
Cost of raising funds	40	-	-	-	40	-	
Charitable costs	185,385	-	-	1,371	186,756	111,495	
Trading costs	31,557	-	-	-	31,557	25,837	
Other payments	-	-	-	(498)	(498)	(1,095)	
Total paid	216,982	-	-	873	217,855	136,237	4
<i>Reconciliation of funds:</i>							
Net income or (net expenditure)	91,748	2,722	-	126	94,596	(9,581)	
Transfers between funds	5,402	(5,402)	(373)	373	-	-	
Net movement in funds	97,150	(2,680)	(373)	499	94,596	(9,581)	
Bank accounts at 1 January 2025	66,243	36,879	6,909	39,021	149,052	158,633	
Bank accounts at 31 December 2025	163,393	34,199	6,536	39,520	243,648	149,052	A&L



Statement of Assets and Liabilities

	<i>Unrestricted</i>		<i>Restricted</i>	<i>Endowed</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Total</i>
	<i>General</i>	<i>Designated</i>				
	<i>Fund</i>	<i>Funds</i>	<i>Fund/s</i>	<i>Fund/s</i>	<i>2025</i>	<i>2024</i>
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Assets:						
Bank current account	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bank current account	656	274	158	-	1,088	735
Premium Deposit A/C	-	6,070	-	-	6,070	18537
Cash in Hand	22	-	-	-	22	48
Church Hall Current Account	929	-	-	-	929	8980
Church Hall Deposit Account	4,358	-	-	-	4,358	0
CBF Deposit Fund	156,161	27,855	6,378	-	190,394	81156
CBF Investment Fund	-	-	-	39,520	39,520	39021
PCC-owned bank balance	162,126	34,199	6,536	39,520	242,381	148,477
Parish Magazine	1,267	-	-	-	1,267	575
Total Bank and deposit accounts	£163,393	£34,199	£6,536	£39,520	£243,648	£149,052
Debtors						
Clergy Fees Diocese	-	-	-	-	-	2096
Gift Aid recoverable	690	-	-	-	690	427
GASDS Recoverable	1,432	-	-	-	1,432	1288
Total Debtors	£2,122	-	-	-	2,122	£3,811
Total assets	£165,515	£34,199	£6,536	£39,520	£245,770	£152,863
Liabilities:						
Gas and Electricity	324	-	-	-	324	715
Accountancy fees	500	-	-	-	500	500
Clergy & Other expenses	-	-	-	-	-	0
Parish Magazine Prepaid sales	6,444	-	-	-	6,444	8540
Fees payable to Diocese	£1,443	-	-	-	1,443	0
Total liabilities	£8,711	-	-	-	£8,711	9,755

This Financial Report for the year ended 31st December 2025, including the notes following, was Approved by the PCC and signed on its behalf by Rev. David Packham, Incumbent

David Packham

Date: 11 March 2026

Notes to the Annual Financial Report

- The financial statements of the PCC have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 and the Church Accounting Regulations 2006, using the Receipts and Payments basis.
- The following assets are recognised but not valued in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities: Movable church furnishings held by the churchwardens on special trust for the PCC, which require a faculty for disposal.
- Analysis of total received:**

	Unrestricted		Designated Deposit A/C	Restricted funds	Total All Funds 2025	Total All Funds 2024
	General Fund	Designated Funds				
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Planned giving (excl. tax refunds)	37,425	-	-	-	37,425	39,600
Planned giving (no tax refunds)	4,497	-	-	-	4,497	6,421
Loose cash collections	7,662	-	-	-	7,662	6,215
James Town	2,542	-	-	-	2,542	-
Gift Aid recovered	9,864	-	-	-	9,864	11,799
Fund Raising	1,892	-	-	-	1,892	2,385
Donations	3,461	-	-	600	4,061	3,000
Legacies	154,098	-	-	-	154,098	501
Grants	51,932	-	-	120	52,052	21,121
Donations and legacies	273,373	-	-	720	274,093	91,042
Fees for weddings & funerals	3,594	-	-	-	3,594	5,298
Charitable activities	3,594	-	-	-	3,594	5,298
Fees payable to Diocese	1,443	-	-	-	1,443	-
Sales of the parish magazine	14,359	-	-	-	14,359	16,470
Donations Parish Magazine	4,175	-	-	-	4,175	-
Other Hall Income	-	-	-	-	-	928
Church Hall Letting fees	10,532	-	-	-	10,532	10,139
Fund Raising	-	-	-	-	-	-
Insurance Claim	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other trading activities	30,509	-	-	-	30,509	27,537
Bank deposit interest	65	212	-	-	277	580
CBF Deposit Interest	1,189	2,510	-	279	3,978	2,199
Letting of investment property	-	-	-	-	-	-
Investments	1,254	2,722	-	279	4,255	2,779
Other receipts	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total received on all funds	308,730	2,722	-	999	312,451	126,656



Notes to the Annual Financial Report

4 Analysis of total paid:

	Unrestricted		Designated Deposit A/C	Restricted funds	Total	Total
	General Fund	Designated Funds			All Funds 2025	All Funds 2024
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Summer fete expenses	-	-	-	-	-	-
Concert posters & musicians expenses	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cost of raising funds	40	-	-	-	40	-
Cost of raising funds	40	-	-	-	40	-
Charitable grants and donations	1,062	-	-	1,371	2,433	3,019
Parish share to Chichester Diocese	50,000	-	-	-	50,000	47,300
Fees payable to Diocese	-	-	-	-	-	124
Clergy and other people's expenses	1,833	-	-	-	1,833	3,760
Mission & evangelism costs	304	-	-	-	304	40
Curate Expenses	-	-	-	-	-	-
Insurance	6,818	-	-	-	6,818	6,600
Water, Gas, Electricity, and Oil	10,182	-	-	-	10,182	8,175
Printing & photocopying	3,145	-	-	-	3,145	1,163
Other regular church running costs	7,161	-	-	-	7,161	5,104
Accounting and Examiner's fees	2,200	-	-	-	2,200	2,150
Church maintenance & redecoration	102,680	-	-	-	102,680	34,060
New building work	-	-	-	-	-	-
Charitable costs	185,385	-	-	1,371	186,756	111,495
Summer fete expenses	-	-	-	-	-	-
Parish Magazine running costs	782	-	-	-	782	142
Church hall caretaking & cleaning	3,523	-	-	-	3,523	2,660
Hall maintenance & redecoration	3,689	-	-	-	3,689	385
Magazine printing	18,560	-	-	-	18,560	16,680
Hall Running costs	5,003	-	-	-	5,003	5,970
Other trading costs	-	-	-	-	-	-
Trading costs	31,557	-	-	-	31,557	25,837
CBF Investment Profit/Loss	-	-	-	(498)	(498)	(1,095)
Total paid on all funds	216,982	-	-	873	217,855	136,237



Notes to the Annual Financial Report

5 Gift aid is recoverable on donations received up to year end

6 Payments to PCC employees
Remunerations
National Insurance

	2025	2024
	0	0
	0	0
	0	0

Summary of funds

Fund income and expenditure and final balances are as follows:

	Balances b/fwd 1 Jan 2025	Income	Expenditure	Transfers, other gains and losses	Balances c/fwd 31 Dec 2025
	£	£	£	£	£
CBF Investment Fund Shares	39,021	499	-	-	39,520
Total of all endowed funds	39,021	499	-	-	39,520
Deposit account	6,909	-	-	(373)	6,536
Total of all restricted funds	6,909	-	-	(373)	6,536
General fund	56,688	280,152	186,298	6,275	156,817
Designated Funds	36,879	2,722	-	(5,402)	34,199
Parish Magazine	575	18,534	19,342	1,500	1,267
Church Hall	8,980	10,544	12,215	(2,000)	5,309
Total of all unrestricted funds	103,122	311,952	217,855	373	197,592
Total funds	£149,052	£312,451	£217,855	-	£243,648



Independent Examiner's Report to the Parochial Church Council of the Parish of Heathfield

(All Saints' Church Old Heathfield, St Richard's Heathfield and St George's Church Broad Oak)

This is my report to the Parochial Church Council of the Parish of Heathfield (PCC) of All Saints' Church Old Heathfield, St Richard's Heathfield and St George's Church Broad Oak on the annual report for the year ended 31st December 2025 set out on pages 1 to 10.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The PCC members are responsible for the preparation of the annual reports. The PCC members consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Charities Act") and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

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

Basis of independent examiner's statement

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

Independent examiner's statement

I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants which is one of the listed bodies.

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
 - a. to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; and
 - b. to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act have not been met; or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.
3. The PCC has prepared receipts and payments accounts although a large legacy has taken them over £250,000 turnover, as they consider this to be a one-off occurrence.

Examiner's signature: 

Date: 3rd March, 2026

Examiner's name: Mr.G.A.Hicks, FCCA

Examiner's address: 14 Meadow Way, Heathfield, East Sussex. TN21 8AL





THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE PARISH OF HEATHFIELD

England & Wales - Charity number 1201528

Accounts

Trustees' Annual Report and Financial Report

The Parochial Church Council of the **Ecclesiastical Parish of Heathfield**

All Saints' Old Heathfield, St. Richard's Heathfield, and St. George's Broad Oak

For the year ended 31st December 2024



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Church Wardens:	Miss Jane Eales Mrs. Marigold Clarke
Independent Examiner:	Mr. Gary Hicks, FCCA 14 Meadow Way, Heathfield, East Sussex, TN21 8AF.
Bankers:	Barclays Bank Plc.

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Mission Statement

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offering a genuine welcome to all within a
caring, prayerful, worshipping community,
faithful to biblical teaching,
that inspires active discipleship.



Heathfield Parochial Church Council

Trustees' Annual Report for 2024

1.1 Sequestrator's Report

THE BENEFICE HAS been in interregnum throughout 2024. The Churchwardens, Miss Jane Eales and Mrs Marigold Clarke, together with the Rural Dean, Revd Marc Lloyd, have been the Sequestrators of the Parish. At the end of 2024 there were 111 people on the electoral roll. The PCC, as trustees of the parish, met eight times during 2024. Sub-committees of the PCC met regularly to deal with the financial administration of the parish, the maintenance of the church buildings and grounds, and the administration and care of St.Richard's Hall. All sub-committees reported back to the PCC.

The Ministry Team, comprising the parish's Readers and two local retired clergy, met with the churchwardens regularly.

Our aims and purposes as a charity

The PCC has the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent in:

- The promotion of the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ according to the doctrines and practices of the Church of England
- Promoting in the parish the whole mission of the Church: pastoral, social, evangelistic and ecumenical
- To know Jesus better and make Him better known
- To engage with all sectors of the local community, including school, colleges, and public services, in order to embed the Church in the life of the local community
- Practical support and care for the people in the parish

What we achieved and how we affected beneficiaries' lives

Attendance and worship

Numbers attending worship across all three churches in the Parish have remained stable throughout the year.

There was at least one service of Holy Communion in the Parish every Sunday throughout the year, as well as non-Eucharistic services on some Sundays. There was also a said service of Holy Communion on all but two Wednesday mornings in 2024 and, once a month, a said BCP service of Holy

Communion early on a Sunday morning. We are very grateful to our two local retired priests, Revd. Canon Lucy Murdoch and Revd. Ann Pollington, who presided at most of our services of Holy Communion and conducted all the baptisms in 2024.

The Benefice Choir, as well as singing at morning services and on special occasions, sang choral evensong once a month during the year at St.Richard's Church. Most Sunday services were live-streamed, primarily for the benefit of those who are housebound or are unable to get to a service. Some funerals also were live-streamed for those relatives and friends unable to travel to the service.

Our Remembrance Sunday service involved local uniformed organisations and, for the second year, some members of Warbleton Brass Band played for the service.

The children and staff of All Saints and St.Richard's School, our local voluntary aided primary school, walked to All Saints' Church for a school service five times in 2024.

All three of our church buildings were open every day during daylight hours for anyone to come into a quiet space to pray.

Evangelism and Outreach, and Provision of Pastoral Care

St.Richard's Hall has been used by many church and community groups. It has been hired out to individuals, families and groups for meetings, activities and hospitality; these include the rehearsal venue for the Cake and Wine Choir, and weekly meetings of the Heathfield Folk Dance Group, Heathfield Dementia Café, and Heathfield Rainbows and Brownies. The Arts and Crafts Group, run by church members, now includes board games; Scrabble is proving very popular. These afternoons are open to all members of our local community and provide opportunity for socialising, particularly for those who live alone, as well as a warm space during the winter months.

An informal, monthly, free lunch continues to happen in St.Richard's Hall. It is run by members of the church community and is open to all. There are two, weekly baby and toddler groups, run by



church members, one in St. Richard's Hall and the other in St. George's Parish Room. A Book Club meets monthly at the back of St. Richard's Church, as does a very active Mothers' Union branch.

Our provision for children continued in the Sunday Club (during the service on Sunday mornings), the Junior Choir, and our links with All Saints' and St. Richard's Primary School. For older people, we continue to engage with Country Lunches, which offers a lunch fortnightly for up to 50 elderly residents. We maintain regular links with Heffle Court (a local care home) by providing tea and conversation to the residents, and both our choirs sang for the residents at Christmas time.

The monthly service of Holy Communion which has been held in Holdenhurst, an independent living complex in the parish, continues to be well received and the number of people attending has grown.

A Friendship and Bereavement Group meets once a month in a café in Heathfield High Street, led by our Authorised Lay Minister. The venue has needed to be changed to a larger café to accommodate the number of people wanting to attend. The ALM also led a course entitled The Bereavement Journey which was valued by, and helpful to, many people. It is planned to repeat this course in 2025.

Four members of the parish have taken home communion to those who are unable to attend church services due to illness or infirmity.

Four days in November saw the first Nativity Set Festival in St. Richard's Church. This was well-attended by local people, who came to view over a hundred nativity sets which had been loaned for the occasion.

The free Heathfield Magazine, produced by Heathfield Benefice, contains many and varied articles covering a very broad range of interests. 1400 copies were distributed in the town each month and it is also available on the benefice website.

We actively support Heathfield Street Pastors and School Pastors. Two Street Pastors and four School Pastors are members of this parish, with a further two members of our parish about to complete training to become School Pastors. Both groups are supported by Prayer Pastors, who also include parishioners among their number.

The parish continues to support Family Support Work, a diocese-based charity, by providing a base

for their local caseworker at St. George's Parish Room and by regularly donating food and other items which are distributed to where they are needed.

Provision of the church buildings for people to enjoy

All the church buildings and church grounds in the parish have been mainly maintained by a team of volunteers.

With the help of FASCOH (the Friends of All Saints' Old Heathfield) in raising the necessary funds, All Saints' Church clock now has working chimes. At the end of 2024, plans and permissions were being put in place to redecorate the interior of All Saints' Church and update the lighting and the sound system, with work due to begin in January 2025.

In 2024, new lighting was installed in the chancel and sanctuary at St. Richard's, replacing the obsolete tungsten lamps with more cost-effective, dimmable LEDs.

St. Richard's Church and All Saints' Church have been venues for concerts, exhibitions and meetings, while still primarily being places where people can worship together and pray individually and corporately.

There has been a growing number of people joining the team of bellringers, learning how to ring the changes in the belltower at All Saints' Church. They rang the bells before services at All Saints' on Sunday mornings and on special occasions.

Deanery Synod

Four members of the PCC sit on the Deanery Synod. This provides the PCC with an important link between the parish and the wider structures of the church. A summary report of the proceedings of the Synod appears in the reports booklet.

Looking ahead

During this time of interregnum we aim to keep all our commitments going as far as possible, whilst seeking for a new Vicar of Heathfield who will lead us into the next phase of God's mission for His Church here.

The work and mission of the benefice is actively supported by a large team of people, working together for the furtherance of the Gospel in Heathfield.

*Jane Eales
Churchwarden and PCC Vice-Chair*



Financial Review

The attached accounts represent the financial activity of All Saints' Church, Old Heathfield, St Richards Heathfield and St George's Church, Broad Oak, Heathfield during the year 2024. The accounts for these Churches are consolidated into one account.

The total receipts within the General and Unrestricted Fund were £126,415 and are detailed in the Financial Statements.

The planned Giving through Envelopes and Bankers Orders decreased by 0.1% and the total overall income – including tax recovered – decreased by 0.2%.

The largest item of expenditure was the Parish Contribution £47,300 to the Diocese to cover our Vicar, Curate and ministry costs. Our contribution for 2025 has increased by 5.7% to £50,000.

Reserves Policy

It is PCC policy to invest fund balances with the CBF Church of England Deposit Fund, the total of which is £81,156.

Structure, governance and management of the charity

The PCC is a charity, and is registered with the Charity Commission and the registered number is 1201528 Its governing document is the Parochial Church Councils (Power) Measure 1956.

Incumbent: Vacancy

Church Wardens: Mrs Marigold Clarke
Miss Jane Eales (Vice-Chair; Deanery Synod Rep; also on Diocesan Synod)

Deanery Synod Representatives: Dr Susan Greener (also on Diocesan Synod)
Mr David Gardiner
Mrs Patricia Weaver

Elected Members:

Mr Alan Clark	Mrs Janette Reid
Mrs Jennifer Gardiner	Mr Colin Saunders
Mrs Diana Hughes	Mrs Mary Sumner
Mr Joseph Peters	Mr Peter Weaver

Mrs Heather Bruce
Ex Officio: Mrs Judy Piper
Mr Nicholas Rayment (Treasurer) Co-opted

PCC Secretary: Mrs Hazel Nicol

Membership of the PCC is determined under the Church Representation Rules and consists of certain ex-officio members, the vicar and lay readers licensed to officiate in the church, the church wardens and members of the Deanery, Diocesan or General Synods, and members of the church who are elected at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM). Members are warmly encouraged to stand for election to the PCC and we try to ensure a balance of skills and experience where possible.

This Trustees' Annual Report was approved by the PCC and signed on their behalf by Miss Jane Eales, PCC Vice-Chair

.....*J Eales*.....

Date:19/03/2025.....



Financial Accounts

The Parochial Church Council of the Parish of Heathfield All Saints' Old Heathfield, St.Richard's Heathfield, and St.George's Broad Oak

Financial Statements for the year ended 31st Decemeber, 2024

Summary of Financial Receipts and Payments

	<i>Unrestricted</i>		<i>Designated Deposit A/C</i>	<i>Restricted Funds</i>	<i>Total All Funds 2024</i>	<i>Total All Funds 2023</i>	<i>Notes</i>
	<i>General Fund</i>	<i>Designated Funds</i>					
	£	£	£	£	£	£	
Income and endowments from:							
Donations and legacies	89,450	500		1,092	91,042	88,316	
Charitable activities	5,298	-			5,298	5,219	
Other trading activities	27,537				27,537	29,719	
Investments	882	1,599	-	298	2,779	2,805	
Other receipts	-		-		-	50	
Total received	123,167	2,099	-	1,390	126,656	126,109	3
Expenditure on:							
Cost of raising funds	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Charitable costs	107,850	225		3,420	111,495	101,259	
Trading costs	25,837				25,837	25,619	
Other payments	-			(1,095)	(1,095)	(2,233)	
Total paid	133,687	225	-	2,325	136,237	124,645	4
<i>Reconciliation of funds:</i>							
Net income or (net expenditure)	(10,520)	1,874	-	(935)	(9,581)	1,464	
Transfers between funds	14,307	(9,184)	(7,153)	2,030	-	-	
Net movement in funds	3,787	(7,310)	(7,153)	1,095	(9,581)	1,464	
Bank accounts at 1 January 2024	62,456	44,189	14,062	37,926	158,633	157,169	
Bank accounts at 31 December 2024	66,243	36,879	6,909	39,021	149,052	158,633	A&L



Statement of Assets and Liabilities

	<u>Unrestricted</u> <u>General</u> <u>Fund</u>	<u>Designated</u> <u>Funds</u>	<u>Restricted</u> <u>Fund/s</u>	<u>Endowed</u> <u>Fund/s</u>	<u>Total</u> <u>All Funds</u> <u>2024</u>	<u>Total</u> <u>All Funds</u> <u>2023</u>
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Assets:						
Bank current account		-			-	
Bank current account	- 350	275	810		735	10800
Premium Deposit A/C	11,090	7,447			18,537	76697
Cash in Hand	48				48	146
Church Hall Current Account	8,980				8,980	8820
Church Hall Deposit Account	-				-	0
CBF Deposit Fund	45,900	29,157	6,099		81,156	23317
CBF Investment Fund				39,021	39,021	37926
PCC-owned bank balance	65,668	36,879	6,909	39,021	148,477	157,706
Parish Magazine	575	-	-	-	575	927
Total Bank and deposit accounts	£66,243	£36,879	£6,909	£39,021	£149,052	£158,633
Debtors						
Clergy Fees Diocese	2,096	-	-	-	2,096	0
Gift Aid recoverable	427	-	-	-	427	690
GASDS Recoverable	1,288	-	-	-	1,288	1411
	£3,811	-	-	-	3,811	£2,101
Total assets	£70,054	£36,879	£6,909	£39,021	£152,863	£160,734
Liabilities:						
Gas and Electricity	715	-	-	-	715	1545
Accountancy fees	500				500	500
Clergy & Other expenses	-		-	-	-	300
Parish Magazine Prepaid sales	8,540	-	-	-	8,540	7287
Fees payable to Diocese	-				-	98
Total liabilities	£9,755	-	-	-	£9,755	9,730

This Financial Report for the year ended 31st December 2024, including the notes following, was Approved by the PCC and signed on its behalf by the PCC Vice Chair

[Signature]
 Date 19/03/2025

Notes to the Annual Financial Report

- The financial statements of the PCC have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 and the Church Accounting Regulations 2006, using the Receipts and Payments basis.
- The following assets are recognised but not valued in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities: Movable church furnishings held by the churchwardens on special trust for the PCC, which require a faculty for disposal.
- Analysis of total received:**

	Unrestricted		Designated Deposit A/C	Restricted funds	Total	Total
	General Fund	Designated Funds			All Funds 2024	All Funds 2023
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Planned giving (excl. tax refunds)	39,600				39,600	39,145
Planned giving (no tax refunds)	6,421				6,421	6,942
Loose cash collections	6,215				6,215	7,931
James Town	-				-	2,599
Gift Aid recovered	11,799				11,799	11,410
Fund Raising	2,385				2,385	-
Donations	1,408	500		1,092	3,000	15,830
Legacies	501				501	2,128
Grants	21,121				21,121	2,331
Donations and legacies	89,450	500	-	1,092	91,042	88,316
Fees for weddings & funerals	5,298				5,298	5,219
Charitable activities	5,298	-	-	-	5,298	5,219
Fees payable to Diocese	-				-	1,527
Sales of the parish magazine	16,470				16,470	14,648
Donations Parisg Magazine	-				-	1,367
Other Hall Income	928				928	780
Church Hall Letting fees	10,139				10,139	11,037
Fund Raising	-				-	360
Insurance Claim	-				-	-
Other trading activities	27,537	-	-	-	27,537	29,719
Bank deposit interest	94	486			580	1,947
CBF Deposit Interest	788	1,113		298	2,199	858
Letting of investment property	-				-	-
Investments	882	1,599	-	298	2,779	2,805
Other receipts	-				-	50
Total received on all funds	123,167	2,099	-	1,390	126,656	126,109



Notes to the Annual Financial Report

4 Analysis of total paid:

	Unrestricted		Designated Deposit A/C	Restricted funds	Total	Total
	General Fund	Designated Funds			All Funds 2024	All Funds 2023
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Summer fete expenses	-	-	-	-	-	-
Concert posters & musicians expenses	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cost of raising funds	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cost of raising funds	-	-	-	-	-	-
Charitable grants and donations	519	-	-	2,500	3,019	790
Parish share to Chichester Diocese	47,300	-	-	-	47,300	43,000
Fees payable to Diocese	124	-	-	-	124	3,120
Clergy and other people's expenses	3,760	-	-	-	3,760	4,427
Mission & evangelism costs	40	-	-	-	40	98
Curate Expenses	-	-	-	-	-	-
Insurance	6,600	-	-	-	6,600	6,468
Water, Gas, Electricity, and Oil	8,175	-	-	-	8,175	6,712
Printing & photocopying	1,163	-	-	-	1,163	1,214
Other regular church running costs	4,184	-	-	920	5,104	5,213
Accounting and Examiner's fees	2,150	-	-	-	2,150	2,150
Church maintenance & redecoration	33,835	225	-	-	34,060	28,067
New building work	-	-	-	-	-	-
Charitable costs	107,850	225	-	3,420	111,495	101,259
Summer fete expenses	-	-	-	-	-	-
Parish Magazine running costs	142	-	-	-	142	930
Church hall caretaking & cleaning	2,660	-	-	-	2,660	2,713
Hall maintenance & redecoration	385	-	-	-	385	519
Magazine printing	16,680	-	-	-	16,680	16,740
Hall Running costs	5,970	-	-	-	5,970	4,617
Other trading costs	-	-	-	-	-	100
Trading costs	25,837	-	-	-	25,837	25,619
CBF Investment Profit/Loss	-	-	-	(1,095)	(1,095)	(2,233)
Total paid on all funds	133,687	225	-	2,325	136,237	124,645



Notes to the Annual Financial Report

5 Gift aid is recoverable on donations received up to year end

6 Payments to PCC employees

Remunerations

National Insurance

	2024	2023
Remunerations	0	2320
National Insurance	0	0
	0	0

Summary of funds

Fund income and expenditure and final balances are as follows:

	Balances b/fwd 1 Jan 2024	Income	Expenditure	Transfers, other gains and losses	Balances c/fwd 31 Dec 2024
	£	£	£	£	£
CBF Investment Fund Shares	37,926	1,390	2,325	2,030	39,021
Total of all endowed funds	37,926	1,390	2,325	2,030	39,021
Deposit account	14,062	-	-	(7,153)	6,909
Total of all restricted funds	14,062	-	-	(7,153)	6,909
General fund	52,672	95,630	107,850	16,307	56,759
Designated Funds	44,189	2,099	225	(9,184)	36,879
Parish Magazine	927	16,470	16,822	-	575
Church Hall	8,857	11,067	9,015	(2,000)	8,909
Total of all unrestricted funds	106,645	125,266	133,912	5,123	103,122
Total funds	£158,633	£126,656	£136,237	-	£149,052



Independent Examiner's Report to the Parochial Church Council of the Parish of Heathfield

(All Saints' Church Old Heathfield, St Richard's Heathfield and St George's Church Broad Oak)

This is my report to the Parochial Church Council of the Parish of Heathfield (PCC) of All Saints' Church Old Heathfield, St Richard's Heathfield and St George's Church Broad Oak on the annual report for the year ended 31st December 2024 set out on pages 1 to 10.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The PCC members are responsible for the preparation of the annual reports. The PCC members consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Charities Act") and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

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

Basis of independent examiner's statement

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

Independent examiner's statement

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

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the requirements
 - a. to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; and
 - b. to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act have not been met; or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Examiner's signature

.....

Examiner's name Mr G. A. Hicks FCCA

Date: 10-3-2025

Relevant professional qualification(s) or body FCCA

Examiner's address: 14 Meadow Way, Heathfield, East Sussex. TN21 8AL



