

St Margaret's Church, Harpsden
Annual Parochial Church
Report and Meeting
27th April 2025
09:30



The Harpsden PCC has the responsibility of promoting the whole mission of the parish: pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. It also has maintenance responsibilities for the church buildings and other facilities in the benefice.

This booklet contains the statutory information required by canon law for us to hold our Annual Parochial Church Meetings (APCM), which will be held on Sunday 27th April 2025: at St Margaret's, Harpsden at 09:30.

The agenda for both the vestry meetings (to elect churchwardens) and the APCM can be found on the inside back page of this document.

In this document you will find the minutes of our 2024 APCM, together with the various reports and accounts.

Please read these reports ahead of the APCM. All parishioners are welcome to attend, but only those on the Electoral Roll are permitted to vote and participate within the meeting. The majority of the activity reports will be taken as read at the meetings, with time for questions if required.

Minutes of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting of the Parish of Harpsden cum Bolney on Sunday 5th May 2024 at 09:30

Vestry Meeting – for the election of Churchwardens

Prayers

The Revd. Robert Thewsey opened the meeting with a prayer

Present

There were 42 people present at the meeting.

Apologies

Clare Ward and Caroline Fulton

Minutes of the last meeting – 3rd April

The Minutes of the 2022 Vestry Meeting were adopted as an accurate record of the meeting.

Churchwarden Elections

David Ward and Valerie Nicholson were nominated, proposed and seconded and were duly elected by unanimous agreement for the year 2023-2024.

Archdeacon Visitation

Archdeacon's Visitation – will be on 8th June 7.30pm at Dorchester Abbey, when our churchwardens are sworn in. Parishioners are encouraged to attend to support them.

APCM

Present

As for the Vestry Meeting

Apologies

As for the Vestry Meeting

Minutes of the 2022 APCM

It was proposed that 'by a large majority' should be deleted from item seven – Presentation of the Accounts.

All agreed.

The rest of the Minutes of the 2022 APCM Meeting were adopted as an accurate record of the meeting.

Election of PCC members

Jo Taylor, Josie Peddie, Paul Barrett, David Ward, Tilden McKean, Sue Wright, Shelagh Stanbridge Bennet, Kester George, Jane Burt and Valerie Nicholson were all nominated and accepted unanimously by the meeting.

Secretary

LL will continue to act as secretary

Safeguarding

LL to continue as Safeguarding officer. All agreed.

Diocesan Safeguarding policy should be adopted. All agreed.

Data Protection

LL to continue as Data Protection officer. All agreed.

Diocesan Data Protection policy to be adopted. All agreed.

Health and Safety

Ian Bartlett to continue as Health and Safety officer. All agreed.

Health and safety policy to be adopted. All agreed.

Electoral Roll Officer

James Frost has agreed to continue in this role. All agreed.

Presentation of Accounts and Treasurer's Report

The accounts had been available for a month for inspection before the APCM. RT thanked Nigel Smith for his hard work in preparing the accounts and asked the meeting for questions. They have already been adopted by HPCC.

There was a question about legacy money. NS explained that a generous legacy had been left by Mr. Watson, not to the church, but to the incumbent who could decide how best to spend it.

RST explained that a document was available in church all about legacies. It would be best to leave money for general maintenance of the church and grounds.

All agreed the accounts should be accepted.

Appointment of Auditors

All agreed that Richard Parker should continue.

Inventory

The Terrier and Inventory has been checked and all items are present and correct.

All agreed to accept.

Reports

All other reports were taken as read.

All agreed.

Vision Day Saturday 17th June 10:00-16:00 – Shiplake

To create a benefice vision. RST asked everybody to attend to feed into the vision. If you can't attend, please send in any thoughts and ideas.

Prayers

RST closed th meeting with a prayer and The Grace.

REPORTS FOR YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 2024

CLERGY REPORTS

Revd. Pam Gordon

2024 Report for APCMs of Shiplake with Dunsden and Harpsden cum Bolney
Benefice from Rev Pam Gordon

My responsibilities changed as Rev Sarah Nesbitt took her position as team Rector in Wallingford and later Rev Robert Thewsey took his new position as rector in the Manchester diocese.

I expanded my support for lay leadership and ministry by coordinating the team and extending its membership.

Both colleagues' absences [and Rev Heather's surgery] increased the frequency of my Sunday and Wednesday contributions as a president and preacher.

The interregnum changed the dynamics of my responsibilities which I describe by **SMARTY** goals.

Specific target to ensure the pattern of services could continue [with the exception of the 8am], all Holy Communion services were resourced by clergy – yes, all lay led worship – yes. Thank you visiting clergy, especially Rev John Ryeland and Rev Becky Medlicott who offered their time before I had a chance to ask. The 2nd specific target was to ensure communication between those now holding responsibility for different strands of benefice life that had previously been exercised concurrently by the rector, e.g. ministry and administration, worship and buildings, vocational gifting and finances, pastoral service and health, safety and safeguarding.

Measurable goals included providing for the special seasonal services of Harvest and All Souls, Remembrance, Advent and Christmas, plus the concerts and social occasions – yes.

Achievable – yes because of dedicated parishioners in all 3 churches who found resources of energy, time and passion to support these extras. Impossible for me without their commitment.

Relevant – the church year sets the relevance but the interpretation was met with creativity and hard work by teams, e.g. multiple carol services with no need of a priest although I did enjoy each and every one from the pews.

Time bound goals – were planned efficiently and responsibility shared, e.g. setting up nativity scenes.

YOU – in what ways were these goals I could contribute to?

I was able to apply my love of learning / education to equip and encourage, support and resource the lay ministry teams to extend their areas of responsibility

IMMENSELY – without them it would have been hopeless.

I drew on my management experiences to differentiate where priests were required and where laity / congregation were the right leaders and doers. Delegation? yes.

Empowerment? yes. Very satisfying for me to not be needed and see others absolutely flourish in new roles.

As a former counsellor and trained listener, having time for those involved in pastoral concerns and services was a joy. Finding out ways people might like to be more involved – so rewarding.

In my personal circumstances of Nana time, husband now partially sighted and needing a driver, living so close to the next 2 generations, it was possible to earmark those spaces with a flexibility in my ministry thanks to the support of colleagues, especially Leigh, churchwardens and the lay ministry team,. We covered Rev Heather's necessary absence.

I look back on 2024 with a smile and thanks that, together, we met these SMARTY goals. We offered and many new faces crossed our thresholds. We did our best.

Revd. Heather

During the last year I have been privileged to continue to exercise ministry in diverse ways within the Benefice. Be it conducting worship, helping with children's activity days, conducting Bible study or pastoral visiting. This has included taking the sacrament to house bound people, and to Tower House and Lashbrook, residential care homes within Shiplake Parish. My first year as Anna Chaplain was blessed by Paul Barrett and Valerie Nicholson, being licensed as Anna Friends. (after requisite training orchestrated by BRF) Their ministry became invaluable in maintaining all the links forged during the year with parishioners : be it the monthly social Anna lunch or tea which now attracts over 20 on each occasion as well as maintaining all the pastoral sacramental links when personal surgery demanded my absence. I am indebted to them.

Church Wardens' Report - Valerie Nicholson and David Ward

Another year, another Interregnum! We were sorry to lose Robert last year to pastures new and hope he and his family are enjoying their lives in the north.

The interregnum has brought with it many demands, both on the clergy and lay members of the church, putting pressure on ensuring the church was run smoothly and efficiently. We owe a huge debt of gratitude to Rev. Pam for her unstinting efforts in making sure we have a service every Wednesday and Sunday. She has been ably supported by Rev. Heather and the many visiting priests who have brought their own styles of worship to St. Margaret's. Rev. Heather has introduced the Anna Chaplaincy and is offering Holy Communion to people in the local care homes and privately at their homes. St. Margaret's regularly take a Holy Communion service to Henley Manor and our wonderful prayer group meet regularly in Albert Court.

We have also been fortunate to have the services of our Lay Leaders and the Morning Praise service has grown in popularity.

Shelagh has provided our young children with the most wonderful knowledge of the Bible and encouraged them to get to know the church. The Patronal Festival was testament to her ability to enable children to grow in faith and confidence.

The fabric of the church is in good order. A Quinquennial survey was carried out this year and, with one or two minor issues, was favourable. The Churchyard is owned by the SODC and is regularly maintained. The East wall adjoining Harpsden Court will be repaired by the Council.

The cemetery is looking lovely, and from April is being mown regularly after a winter break.

The Inventory and Terrier are up to date and available for inspection. We are due an Archdeacon's Triennial Inspection next year and we will ensure they will be happy with what they find!

We are truly blessed at Harpsden to have the most wonderful people who give their time and efforts. Our brilliant organist, the choir, the flower team, coffee and cake providers, readers, intercessors, chalice servers and sacristan, and the sidesmen who welcome us every Sunday. Thanks also to the people who draw up the various rotas, so we know what we are doing!

We have grown in our relationship with Shiplake and Dunsden and have been working together more than ever during this interregnum.

We have an exciting building project ahead of us, which will provide much needed space and, hopefully, a place for the extended community to use.

We look forward to welcoming our new Priest in Charge.

Treasurer's report - Nigel Smith
Separate booklet

Music and the Choir - Roger Derbyshire

Music plays an integral part in supporting and enhancing our worship during the regular services at St Margaret's, both by leading the congregation's singing, and performing beautiful and more challenging music to the praise of God.

During 2024 we were very fortunate again to be able to rely upon the resources of a dedicated choir numbering up to around twenty individuals, singing a varied selection, from traditional to contemporary, of hymns, anthems, psalms, Taizé chants, songs and carols. A regular weekly choir practice was held throughout the year.

In addition to contributing to our regular Sunday services at St Margaret's the choir also sang at a number of weddings, funeral and memorial services. It helped support the monthly Benefice Services at Shiplake and Dunsden, and during Christmas time performed Carol Concerts for the residents of The Manor and Albert Court care homes. As part of the Patronal Festival celebrations in July an informal 'Hymnathon' of requested hymns was held, and at the Harvest Lunch in September we contributed to the musical entertainment following the wonderful feast!

As always, I would like to record my sincere thanks to two choir members in particular for their help and support throughout the year: first to Josie Peddie for continuing to look after the administration work behind the choir music, robes, bookings, attendance; and secondly to Nigel Smith, both for his wise words of advice and for conducting the choir where needed whilst also singing tenor!

Finally, thanks to Jonty for his help playing the hymns during Morning Praise in August and the carols at the Christingle Service on Christmas Eve, and also to Helen for covering the services for me when I am away.

We look forward to continuing to support the worship at St Margaret's and throughout the Benefice during 2025.

"Music can amuse, charm, annoy and challenge; it can provide comfort and be incredibly uplifting. It is a gift given to us by God, and we endeavour to use this gift 'Ad maiorem Dei gloriam' – to the greater glory of God."

(Tim Pratt, St Mary's Priory, Abergavenny, RSCM Music Sunday 2012)

Benefice Administrator Report – Leigh Leadbetter

As Benefice Administrator, I manage the day-to-day operations of the parish, ensuring smooth communication between staff, volunteers, and the wider community. I oversee administrative tasks, coordinate events and maintain records.

In my role as Safeguarding Officer, I prioritise the safety and wellbeing of children, vulnerable adults and all parish members. I ensure adherence to safeguarding policies, providing training and guidance to staff and volunteers and addressing concerns in an appropriate manner.

As the Data Protection Officer, I ensure compliance with data protection laws, handling parishioners' personal information responsibly and securely.

As Health and Safety Officer, I maintain a safe environment for everyone, conducting risk assessments, ensuring compliance with health and safety regulations and providing guidance on safe practices.

Finally, as PCC Secretary, I manage meeting agendas, record minutes, and support the PCC in its decision-making processes.

In 2024 there were three SwDPCC meetings, three HPCC meetings and three Joint PCC meetings. Arch Deacon David Tyler attended a SwDPCC meeting to discuss Parish Share and to offer suggestions on how to raise money. Other items discussed include the Church Hall development, the state of Church Lane, the extension at Dunsden etc. We also welcomed Nigel Smith who agreed to take on the role of Treasurer.

Electoral Roll – James Frost

It is 5 years since the update of the Electoral Roll in 2020. In that 5 years we have seen enormous changes, not only in the Parish but worldwide.

Parishioners have moved away to pastures new, and some are unfortunately no longer with us. However, it is also easy to forget the massive upheaval during this period caused by the COVID pandemic. The country closed down as people succumbed to the infection, and that included the closure of churches. We were all fearful of meeting together.

There have been newspaper reports of congregations being decimated, with numbers down by as much as 50%, still struggling to recover.

I am thrilled to report, that notwithstanding the loss of our Assistant Rector in early 2024, promoted to a new benefice, and our Rector in the Autumn of 2024, returning to his home county in the north west, we have thrived. Thanks to the enormous amount of work given with great enthusiasm by our non-stipendiary Associate Priest, Rev Pam, our Church Wardens, Valerie and David, the Choir, Sides people, Readers, Coffee makers, Flower arrangers and many, many more, we have thrived. The members on the Electoral Roll now number **78**, an actual **increase** of **7%**.

This result is attributable to the fantastic church family that is St Margaret's, where together we have grown as a church family and together we will continue to grow,

being there for our community when they need us. Thank you for your support and patience.

Sunday School – Shelagh Stanbridge-Bennett

This year has been an extremely exciting and progressive year at our benefice Sunday School held at St Margaret's in Harpsden. Sunday school happens every week whether there is a service in the Church. We call these empty Church weeks when we go into the main body of the Church and the children learn about its history the furnishings and symbols within it and importantly the Aumbry where the sacrament is kept, the Altar, the table of the Lord, and the baptismal font. They have learned the significance of the windows and during this time we talked about our great benefactor in Harpsden, John Hodges. The children became particularly interested in him and we spent time cleaning his grave and planting a garden there which was very apt as it was his centenary year, a hundred years exactly from his death in 1824. As you read this the garden is in full bloom.

At Christmas, the children presented a tableau and sang the Carol "The Angel Gabriel, at the Christingle service on Christmas eve. On mothering Sunday, they gave their first Child Led Service with enormous success and will be doing, a child led service every fifth Sunday in the year which is about five Sundays a year. This is a unique endeavour, enormously important to them in their understanding of the liturgy of the Anglican church and easing them in when the time comes for their transition from Sunday School to adult worship. It has been an important year for the children as they continue to develop their knowledge of the Old Testament and have found the connections to Jesus within it. We had a successful celebration of our Patronal festival with the children re-enacting the story in a short playlet form Pageant, in the Church yard with a scary dragon coming in the midst of red and yellow billows of smoke. The audience were afterwards to a cream tea. Other events were a flower festival with the Church bedecked with many flowers. We are a truly intergenerational Sunday school with the children sharing what they have been learning in class with members of the congregation at the end of the service which they love doing a happy and well-motivated and above all hope to continue growing in number as well as in spirit with a well-grounded knowledge of their Bible and their faith.

**The Vestry Meeting
&
Annual Parochial Church Meeting
of the Harpsden cum Bolney PCC
Sunday 27th April 2025 09:30**

Vestry Meeting Agenda

1. Prayers
 2. Apologies for absence
 3. Minutes of last meeting
 4. Elections
 - Church Wardens
- Vestry Meeting Ends

APCM Agenda

1. Apologies for absence
2. Minutes of last meeting 5th May 2024
3. Elections of PCC Members

Safeguarding Officer – Leigh Leadbetter

- Need to adopt Diocesan policy

Data protection Officer – Leigh Leadbetter

- Need to adopt Diocesan policy

Health and Safety Officer - SD/H – Leigh Leadbetter

- Need to adopt Diocesan policy

Electoral Roll Officer -

H -James Frost

4. Accounts to be adopted
 5. Appointment of Auditor for 2025
 6. Presentation of Terrier and Inventory
 7. All other reports to be taken as read– and questions asked if needed
 8. Prayers to close
- The Grace**

The first meeting of the PCC will elect a Secretary and Treasurer and agree the dates of the PCC meetings for 2025/26

The parish of

Harpsden cum Bolney

St Margaret of Antioch

Parochial Church Council

Statement of Financial Activities

for the year ended 31st December 2025

**Independent Examiner's Report
to Harpsden Parochial Church Council**

This report on the accounts of the PCC for the year ended 31st December 2025, which are set out on pages 2 to 7, is in respect of an examination carried out under Regulation 3(3) of the Church Accounting Regulations 1997 to 2001 (the Regulations) and s.43 of the Charities Act 1993 (the Act).

Respective Responsibilities of the PCC and the Examiner

As members of the PCC you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts; you consider that the audit requirement of Regulation 3(3) and s.43 of the charities Act do not apply. It is my responsibility to issue this report on those accounts in accordance with the terms of Regulation 25.

Basis of my Report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission under sec.43(7)(b) of the Act and to be found in the guidance, 2001 edition, issued by the Finance Division of the Archbishop's Council. That examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the PCC and a comparison of the accounts with those records. It also includes considering any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts 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 I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent Examiner's Statement

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

1.) which gives me to believe that in any material respect the requirements

a. to keep proper accounting records in accordance with s 41 of the Act; and

b. to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the requirements of the Act and the Regulations

have not been met

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

Signed.....  RICHARD PARKER

Date..... 13/2/26

Address..... CROMWELL OTTAGE, 6 CROMWELL GARDENS
MARLOW SL7 1BG

Qualification.....Chartered Accountant (retired)

Harpsden Parochial Church Council							
Statement of Financial Activities							
for the Year ending 31st December 2025		2025			2024		
	Note	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
Incoming Resources		£	£	£	£	£	£
Voluntary Income	2	42,972	10,250	53,222	41,535	10,000	51,535
Activities for generating funds		5,501		5,501	3,302		3,302
Investment income		19,545		19,545	24,533		24,533
Total Income		68,018	10,250	78,268	69,370	10,000	79,370
Resources used (Expenses)	3						
Cost of generating funds (Running costs)		19,563	3,125	22,688	14,657	10,000	24,657
Governance costs (parish & deanery share)		43,444	150	43,594	50,608		50,608
Total expenses		63,007	3,275	66,282	65,265	10,000	75,265
Surplus/(Deficit)		5,011	6,975	11,986	4,105	-	4,105
Gain/(loss) on value of Investments		1,722		1,722	2,502		2,502
Increase/(reduction) in funds		6,733	6,975	13,708	6,607		6,607
Funds at 1st January 2025		566,106	7,911	574,017	559,499	7,911	567,410
Funds at 31st December 2025		572,839	14,886	587,725	566,106	7,911	574,017
The notes on page 4 to 8 form part of these accounts							

Harpsden Parochial Church Council				
Balance Sheet at 31st December 2025		Total		
	Note	2025	2024	
		£	£	
Fixed Assets				
Investments	5	131,880	134,562	
Current Assets				
Debtors	6	9,981	10,812	
Annexe Fund		2,749		
Bank accounts				
Lloyds Treasurer's		11,223	12,508	
Lloyds Classic		2,706	6,946	
CCLA - Church Board of Finance		306,004	296,004	
Charity Bank deposit account	5	124,000	115,000	
Accrued interest		2,387		
Total Current Assets		459,050	441,270	
Current Liabilities				
	7	3,205	1,816	
Net Current Assets				
		455,845	439,454	
Total Net Assets				
		587,725	574,016	
Funds				
Restricted Funds - Sunday School Fund		6,054	6,054	
- Rectory Decoration		1,857	1,857	
- Other restricted		6,975		
General Fund		572,839	566,106	
Total Funds				
		587,725	574,017	
Approved by the Parochial Church Council on March 2025 and signed on its behalf by:				
Valerie Nicholson (Church Warden)		Nigel L Smith (Treasurer)		
The notes on pages 4 to 8 form part of these accounts				

Harpsden Parochial Church Council

Notes to the financial Statements for the year ended 31st December 2025

1. Accounting Policies

- a. The financial statements have been prepared on the accruals basis in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 1997 as amended by the Church Accounting (Amendment) Regulations 2001 together with applicable accounting standards and the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice
~~The financial statements have been prepared under the historic cost convention~~
- b. The accounts include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the Parochial Church Council (PCC) is responsible in law.
- c. Incoming resources are recognised as follow:
Collections - when received
~~Planned giving - when received~~
Fund raising events - when carried out
Church fees - when due
~~Investment income - when due~~
- d. Consecrated and beneficed property has been excluded by law from the accounts
- e. ~~No value has been placed in the accounts on moveable church furnishings held by churchwardens on trust for the PCC. Other fixtures, furniture and equipment are written off in the year of purchase unless they exceed £2,000~~
- f. Short term deposits include cash held on deposit at the banks or CBF of the Church of England
- g. ~~Debtors include amounts due from activities during the year and prepaid expenditure~~
- h. Income tax refunds on voluntary income have been allocated in the accounts to the appropriate revenue items.
- i. Funds are analysed and reported on in a variety of classes, the principal distinction being between Unrestricted and Restricted Funds. Restricted Funds consist of money which has been given by the donor for a specific purpose. ~~Unrestricted Funds may include Designated Funds which have been set aside by the PCC to be used for a particular purpose in the future. The PCC has the power to reallocate these funds.~~

Harpsden Parochial Church Council						
Notes to the financial Statements for the year ended 31st December 2025						
2. Incoming resources	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
	Funds			Funds		
2a. Voluntary Income			2025			2024
Gift Aid income	18,593		18,593	19,046		19,046
Tax recoverable	5,447		5,447	6,998		6,998
Loose plate collections	6,370		6,370	9,482		9,482
Appeals and donations	12,062	10,250	22,312	6,009	10,000	16,009
Other funds generated			-			
Grants received	500		500			
Legacies			-			
	42,972	10,250	53,222	41,535	10,000	51,535
2b. Activities For generating funds						
Fund raising events	2,560		2,560	1,261		1,261
Fees for weddings & funerals	2,941		2,941	2,041		2,041
	5,501		5,501	3,302		3,302
2c. Investment Income						
Dividends	1,812		1,812	1,726		1,726
Bank & CBF interest	17,733		17,733	22,807		22,807
	19,545		19,545	24,533		24,533
Total incoming resources	68,018	10,250	78,268	69,370	10,000	79,370

Harpsden Parochial Church Council						
Notes to the financial Statements for the year ended 31st December 2025						
3. Resources used			2025			2024
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
3a. Cost of generating funds						
Gas Electricity & Water	- 101	1,900	1,799	2,198		2,198
Insurance	2,550		2,550	2,489		2,489
Church maintenance (A)	9,069	1,225	10,294	1,859	10,000	11,859
Organist Fees	4,837		4,837	4,881		4,881
Choir, music & psalters			-			-
Upkeep of services	98		98	200		200
Advertising inc CCLI			-			-
Flowers at services	860		860	600		600
Cemetery grass cutting	2,250		2,250	2,430		2,430
						-
	19,563	3,125	22,688	14,657	10,000	24,657
3b. Governance Costs						
Giving to agreed charities	4,500		4,500	5,273		5,273
Parish Share	32,993		32,993	39,582		39,582
Deanery Synod levy	319		319	336		336
Shared Benefice Clergy expenses	4,933		4,933	4,807		4,807
Admin/stationery	699	150	849	610		610
Independent Examiners fee			-			-
	43,444	150	43,594	50,608		50,608
Total Resources Used	63,007	3,275	66,282			75,265

Harpsden Parochial Church Council		
Notes to the financial Statements for the year ended 31st December 2025		
All payments come from unrestricted funds.		
4. Charitable Donations	2025	2024
Shiplake Church of England Primary School		5,000
Kohima Educational Trust		273
Nomad	1,500	
Launchpad	1,500	
Christian Aid	1,500	
	4,500	5,273
5. Investments - value at 31st December 2025	2025	2024
Church of England Global Equity Fund	98,755	101,945
M&G Charities Fixed Interest Fund 4,064.252 units		4,385
M&G Equities Investment Fund for Charities 1,917.446 units	33,125	28,232
	131,880	134,562
During the year M&G closed the fixed interest fund. £4,405 was received in settlement.		
A realised profit of £19.92 was recognised. Unrealised gains were £1,703 making a total gain of £1,723		
6. Debtors	2025	2024
Income tax recoverable Q4	1,759	575
Interest due	3,100	3,456
Charity Bank accrued		6,780
Parish share paid in advance	3,718	
Monies due for weddings and funerals	1,404	
	9,981	10,811
7. Creditors	2025	2024
From previous years		25
Benefice expenses	2,739	1,250
Anna chaplaincy	441	541
	3,180	1,816

Harpsden Parochial Church Council			
Notes to the financial Statements for the year ended 31st December 2025			
Note 8. Church Hall Annex Fund			
1. Funds have been donated for the demolition of St Peter's vestry and the construction of a church hall annexe. The terms of the donation which have been agreed by the PCC are as follows:			
a. The funds donated will be restricted to paying for the demolition and building of the annexe together with fixtures and fittings			
b. Payments shall be authorised by the representatives of the donors.			
c. Any interest earned by the funds shall be added to the capital sum donated			
d. Any surplus funds which may exist following the completion of this project shall be held and paid out in accordance with the wishes of the donors.			
2. Funds at 31st December 2025			
Monies donated	771,241.48		
Interest earned to date	13,433.67		
	784,675.15		
Less: Payments	32,952.40		
	751,722.75		
Represented by:			
Charity Bank deposit	754,471.83		
Owed to Harpsden PCC	- 2,749.08		
	751,722.75		
3. Payments			
Payments represent fees paid out prior to planning permission.			
Payments are made from Harpsden PCC bank account and reimbursed by the monies donated. At 31st December 2025 monies were owed to Harpsden PCC bank account.			

The parish of

Harpsden cum Bolney

St Margaret of Antioch

Parochial Church Council

Statement of Financial Activities

for the year ended 31st December 2025

**Independent Examiner's Report
to Harpsden Parochial Church Council**

This report on the accounts of the PCC for the year ended 31st December 2025, which are set out on pages 2 to 7, is in respect of an examination carried out under Regulation 3(3) of the Church Accounting Regulations 1997 to 2001 (the Regulations) and s.43 of the Charities Act 1993 (the Act).

Respective Responsibilities of the PCC and the Examiner

As members of the PCC you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts; you consider that the audit requirement of Regulation 3(3) and s.43 of the charities Act do not apply. It is my responsibility to issue this report on those accounts in accordance with the terms of Regulation 25.

Basis of my Report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission under sec.43(7)(b) of the Act and to be found in the guidance, 2001 edition, issued by the Finance Division of the Archbishop's Council. That examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the PCC and a comparison of the accounts with those records. It also includes considering any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts 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 I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent Examiner's Statement

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

1.) which gives me to believe that in any material respect the requirements

a. to keep proper accounting records in accordance with s 41 of the Act; and

b. to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the requirements of the Act and the Regulations

have not been met

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

Signed.....  RICHARD PARKER

Date..... 13/2/26

Address..... CROMWELL OTTAGE, 6 CROMWELL GARDENS
MARLOW SL7 1BG

Qualification.....Chartered Accountant (retired)

Harpsden Parochial Church Council							
Statement of Financial Activities							
for the Year ending 31st December 2025		2025			2024		
	Note	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
Incoming Resources		£	£	£	£	£	£
Voluntary Income	2	42,972	10,250	53,222	41,535	10,000	51,535
Activities for generating funds		5,501		5,501	3,302		3,302
Investment income		19,545		19,545	24,533		24,533
Total Income		68,018	10,250	78,268	69,370	10,000	79,370
Resources used (Expenses)	3						
Cost of generating funds (Running costs)		19,563	3,125	22,688	14,657	10,000	24,657
Governance costs (parish & deanery share)		43,444	150	43,594	50,608		50,608
Total expenses		63,007	3,275	66,282	65,265	10,000	75,265
Surplus/(Deficit)		5,011	6,975	11,986	4,105	-	4,105
Gain/(loss) on value of Investments		1,722		1,722	2,502		2,502
Increase/(reduction) in funds		6,733	6,975	13,708	6,607		6,607
Funds at 1st January 2025		566,106	7,911	574,017	559,499	7,911	567,410
Funds at 31st December 2025		572,839	14,886	587,725	566,106	7,911	574,017
The notes on page 4 to 8 form part of these accounts							

Harpsden Parochial Church Council				
Balance Sheet at 31st December 2025		Total		
	Note	2025	2024	
		£	£	
Fixed Assets				
Investments	5	131,880	134,562	
Current Assets				
Debtors	6	9,981	10,812	
Annexe Fund		2,749		
Bank accounts				
Lloyds Treasurer's		11,223	12,508	
Lloyds Classic		2,706	6,946	
CCLA - Church Board of Finance		306,004	296,004	
Charity Bank deposit account	5	124,000	115,000	
Accrued interest		2,387		
Total Current Assets		459,050	441,270	
Current Liabilities				
	7	3,205	1,816	
Net Current Assets				
		455,845	439,454	
Total Net Assets				
		587,725	574,016	
Funds				
Restricted Funds - Sunday School Fund		6,054	6,054	
- Rectory Decoration		1,857	1,857	
- Other restricted		6,975		
General Fund		572,839	566,106	
Total Funds				
		587,725	574,017	
Approved by the Parochial Church Council on March 2025 and signed on its behalf by:				
Valerie Nicholson (Church Warden)		Nigel L Smith (Treasurer)		
The notes on pages 4 to 8 form part of these accounts				

Harpsden Parochial Church Council

Notes to the financial Statements for the year ended 31st December 2025

1. Accounting Policies

- a. The financial statements have been prepared on the accruals basis in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 1997 as amended by the Church Accounting (Amendment) Regulations 2001 together with applicable accounting standards and the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice
~~The financial statements have been prepared under the historic cost convention~~
- b. The accounts include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the Parochial Church Council (PCC) is responsible in law.
- c. Incoming resources are recognised as follow:
Collections - when received
~~Planned giving - when received~~
Fund raising events - when carried out
Church fees - when due
~~Investment income - when due~~
- d. Consecrated and beneficed property has been excluded by law from the accounts
- e. ~~No value has been placed in the accounts on moveable church furnishings held by churchwardens on trust for the PCC. Other fixtures, furniture and equipment are written off in the year of purchase unless they exceed £2,000~~
- f. Short term deposits include cash held on deposit at the banks or CBF of the Church of England
- g. ~~Debtors include amounts due from activities during the year and prepaid expenditure~~
- h. Income tax refunds on voluntary income have been allocated in the accounts to the appropriate revenue items.
- i. Funds are analysed and reported on in a variety of classes, the principal distinction being between Unrestricted and Restricted Funds. Restricted Funds consist of money which has been given by the donor for a specific purpose. ~~Unrestricted Funds may include Designated Funds which have been set aside by the PCC to be used for a particular purpose in the future. The PCC has the power to reallocate these funds.~~

Harpsden Parochial Church Council						
Notes to the financial Statements for the year ended 31st December 2025						
2. Incoming resources	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
	Funds			Funds		
2a. Voluntary Income			2025			2024
Gift Aid income	18,593		18,593	19,046		19,046
Tax recoverable	5,447		5,447	6,998		6,998
Loose plate collections	6,370		6,370	9,482		9,482
Appeals and donations	12,062	10,250	22,312	6,009	10,000	16,009
Other funds generated			-			
Grants received	500		500			
Legacies			-			
	42,972	10,250	53,222	41,535	10,000	51,535
2b. Activities For generating funds						
Fund raising events	2,560		2,560	1,261		1,261
Fees for weddings & funerals	2,941		2,941	2,041		2,041
	5,501		5,501	3,302		3,302
2c. Investment Income						
Dividends	1,812		1,812	1,726		1,726
Bank & CBF interest	17,733		17,733	22,807		22,807
	19,545		19,545	24,533		24,533
Total incoming resources	68,018	10,250	78,268	69,370	10,000	79,370

Harpsden Parochial Church Council						
Notes to the financial Statements for the year ended 31st December 2025						
3. Resources used			2025			2024
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
3a. Cost of generating funds						
Gas Electricity & Water	- 101	1,900	1,799	2,198		2,198
Insurance	2,550		2,550	2,489		2,489
Church maintenance (A)	9,069	1,225	10,294	1,859	10,000	11,859
Organist Fees	4,837		4,837	4,881		4,881
Choir, music & psalters			-			-
Upkeep of services	98		98	200		200
Advertising inc CCLI			-			-
Flowers at services	860		860	600		600
Cemetery grass cutting	2,250		2,250	2,430		2,430
						-
	19,563	3,125	22,688	14,657	10,000	24,657
3b. Governance Costs						
Giving to agreed charities	4,500		4,500	5,273		5,273
Parish Share	32,993		32,993	39,582		39,582
Deanery Synod levy	319		319	336		336
Shared Benefice Clergy expenses	4,933		4,933	4,807		4,807
Admin/stationery	699	150	849	610		610
Independent Examiners fee			-			-
	43,444	150	43,594	50,608		50,608
Total Resources Used	63,007	3,275	66,282			75,265

Harpsden Parochial Church Council		
Notes to the financial Statements for the year ended 31st December 2025		
All payments come from unrestricted funds.		
4. Charitable Donations	2025	2024
Shiplake Church of England Primary School		5,000
Kohima Educational Trust		273
Nomad	1,500	
Launchpad	1,500	
Christian Aid	1,500	
	4,500	5,273
5. Investments - value at 31st December 2025	2025	2024
Church of England Global Equity Fund	98,755	101,945
M&G Charities Fixed Interest Fund 4,064.252 units		4,385
M&G Equities Investment Fund for Charities 1,917.446 units	33,125	28,232
	131,880	134,562
During the year M&G closed the fixed interest fund. £4,405 was received in settlement.		
A realised profit of £19.92 was recognised. Unrealised gains were £1,703 making a total gain of £1,723		
6. Debtors	2025	2024
Income tax recoverable Q4	1,759	575
Interest due	3,100	3,456
Charity Bank accrued		6,780
Parish share paid in advance	3,718	
Monies due for weddings and funerals	1,404	
	9,981	10,811
7. Creditors	2025	2024
From previous years		25
Benefice expenses	2,739	1,250
Anna chaplaincy	441	541
	3,180	1,816

Harpsden Parochial Church Council			
Notes to the financial Statements for the year ended 31st December 2025			
Note 8. Church Hall Annex Fund			
1. Funds have been donated for the demolition of St Peter's vestry and the construction of a church hall annexe. The terms of the donation which have been agreed by the PCC are as follows:			
a. The funds donated will be restricted to paying for the demolition and building of the annexe together with fixtures and fittings			
b. Payments shall be authorised by the representatives of the donors.			
c. Any interest earned by the funds shall be added to the capital sum donated			
d. Any surplus funds which may exist following the completion of this project shall be held and paid out in accordance with the wishes of the donors.			
2. Funds at 31st December 2025			
Monies donated	771,241.48		
Interest earned to date	13,433.67		
	784,675.15		
Less: Payments	32,952.40		
	751,722.75		
Represented by:			
Charity Bank deposit	754,471.83		
Owed to Harpsden PCC	- 2,749.08		
	751,722.75		
3. Payments			
Payments represent fees paid out prior to planning permission.			
Payments are made from Harpsden PCC bank account and reimbursed by the monies donated. At 31st December 2025 monies were owed to Harpsden PCC bank account.			