

Parochial Church Council of St Leonard Church, Sunningwell

Report and Accounts 2025

Parochial Church Council of St Leonard Church, Sunningwell
is officially known as

***The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Leonard,
Sunningwell in the Diocese of Oxford***

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 1213446

CONTENTS

Page 2 Annual Report of the Parochial Church Council

Page 3 Church Activities Report

Page 4 Church Fabric Report

Pages 5 to 7 Treasurer's Report

Pages 8 to 11 Accounts

Page 12 Independent Examiner's Report

Parochial Church Council of St Leonard Church, Sunningwell

Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2025

Administrative Information

St. Leonard's church is situated in the village of Sunningwell and is part of the United Benefice of Radley, Sunningwell and Kennington in the Diocese of Oxford.

The correspondence address is The Vicarage, Kennington Road, Radley. OX14 2JN

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Leonard, Sunningwell in the Diocese of Oxford is a registered charity: (charity number 1213446). Members who have served from 22nd November 2024 until this report was approved are:

<i>Clergy Incumbent:</i>	Rev'd Robert Glenny
<i>Associate Priests:</i>	Rev'd Samson Kuponiyi
	Rev'd Glynis Beckett
<i>Curate</i>	Rev'd Anne Curtis (resigned 28 th February 2026)
<i>Churchwardens:</i>	Mrs Emma Chorley

Deanery Synod Representative: Vacant

Elected Members *Ex-Officio*

Mr Robert Chorley (Treasurer)

Mrs Eileen Cross

Mrs Karen Laister

Mr John Logan

Mrs Sarah O'Kelly (resigned 16th June, 2025)

Mrs Cynthia Warmington (Secretary)

Mr Richard Youdale (commenced 23rd March 2025)

Structure, governance and management

The Method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. All Church Attendees are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC. The Friends of Sunningwell church is a committee of the PCC.

Objectives and activities

St Leonard's PCC has the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent, in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the church, pastoral, evangelical, social and ecumenical.

Achievements and performance

There are 24 parishioners on the Church Electoral Roll of whom 5 are not resident in the parish. The average adult weekly attendance as counted in October is 14.

Review of the year

The full PCC met four times during the year.

Rob, Samson, Glynis and Anne are maintaining weekly Sunday Communion in all three parishes.

Financial Review

The Financial details are given separately. The Parish Share was paid in full and on time.

Reserves policy

It is PCC policy to maintain a balance on unrestricted funds (if possible), which equates to approximately six months unrestricted payments. The balance is sufficient to meet this requirement at present. It is our policy to invest our funds with the CBF Church of England Deposit Fund.

Approved by the PCC in March 2026 and signed on their behalf by Rev Rob Glenny (Rector)

Church Activities Report for the year ended 31 December 2025

Our church may be small but we are a friendly church and visitors are always made very welcome. Of course, we would like more to join us and share some of the enjoyable 'chores'. We continue to manage our Lay-led service and even when we think we are running short of ideas, more spring to mind. I know many look forward to the diversity of the service.

Emma, John, Vanessa and Mike plus helpers, have made great efforts to enlarge the Sunday School but sadly Rugby practise/tennis practise/swimming/shopping etc. are rivals to our Sunday School but we try, pray and hope each week that more will wish to come.

'Open the Book' continues to share Bible Stories with Radley and Sunningwell Primary Schools. Two teams regularly rehearse, dress up and bring the Bible stories alive for the children in the schools.

Fund raising continues with the two quizzes and monthly film nights. Showing the 'Muppets Christmas Carol' was a brilliant idea and much fun was enjoyed by children and parents. Film nights now have regular visitors who attend and enjoy the refreshments. Thanks must go to Robert and Emma for all their work now they have taken over from Edward and Thomas. Also to be thanked are Nick Horn, Ben Tonks and Jon Twinn with their eloquent quiz questions. Not forgetting Roger Dennett for organising the raffle.

We had several extra special events in our church life this year. The first was the VE Day Celebration which was held in the churchyard along with the Padre from Dalton Barracks and the Army Cadets from Abingdon School. This was a joint Church and Parish event, and was well received by the parish.

In September we held a Pet Service. Children from the school came with their pets and we were relieved that no snakes joined in. Again very much enjoyed.

At the Remembrance Day service we again welcomed the Army Cadets from Abingdon School. After a quick refreshment break they rushed to Bayworth to join in their Service of Remembrance.

The Christmas services were enjoyed by many in the Parish the highlight being the Crib Service enjoyed particularly by Glynis. Although a lot of preparation is required, the Christingle service is great fun. Many from the villages attended one or two service particularly enjoying the welcome given by church members.

We have passed our Quinquennial inspection which has raised a long list for Emma and John to solve. John has this in hand and more work will be completed this year.

Many thanks must be given to all those who help with the services. The PCC of course, Bob Evans who daily opens the church and ensures we have the right altar cloths. Vanessa and Mike for continually welcoming us all for refreshments. Val King who prepares the hymn books and order of service; and sneakily cleans the church. The readers; intercessors; chalice helpers; the flower ladies, Chris Gill our stand in organist and of course Felicity Fletcher-Campbell, our treasured organist.

Cynthia Warmington
PCC Secretary, 22 March 2026

Church Fabric Report for the year ended 31 December 2025

Church entrance pathway replacement

I have recently chased the Vale of White Horse for Planning permission for the pathway replacement only to be told that I have used the wrong form for the online application, so I am now re doing the application, hopefully using the correct form! I apologise that this straightforward work is taking so long – I will keep everyone appraised of my progress

Quinquennial Inspection

Since our last meeting the QI has taken place, and I have previously circulated a copy to PCC members. I would encourage everyone to look at the listed items that Robert Montgomery has identified and if anyone felt they would like to undertake any of the works – please let me know and I will assist with obtaining approvals etc from the DAC.

Bells and associated activity

The inspection of the Bells did take place as planned and we have a brief report from Whites of Appleton confirming that they have carried out that work.

We (Richard and I) were able to seek guidance from Mark ('Whites') regarding the best method to remove the bells from the bell tower and we are currently waiting for his written report which we will then use to seek approval from the DAC for their removal and associated maintenance work.

CCTV camera

We have a quote for the placement of the CCTV camera on the south wall of the Village Hall (we have the permission of the Village Hall committee to install it) and I am hopeful that we will soon have it installed.

Duke of Edinburgh Award – volunteers

My daughter, Emma has been keeping the wall clear of ivy, and she is coming to the end of the time for her Silver award – I expect her to say she is finished in the next few weeks. My son, Jack is now moving on to start his D of E Gold award and he will be happy to step back into Volunteering his time (for 18 months) carrying on with wall clearing and in addition to this he will undertake some of the jobs identified in the QI – hopefully everyone will support this initiative. I will send out a list of the jobs that Jack will undertake so that we don't have any overlap in voluntary work.

John Logan – 26th February 2026.

Parochial Church Council of St Leonard Church, Sunningwell

Treasurer's Report for the year ended 31 December 2025

HIGHLIGHTS

As reported last year, St Leonard's financial position was transformed in 2024 by a generous interim legacy of £113,000 from the Estate of the late Geoffrey Bailey, which in 2025 has since been supplemented by the final distribution of £3,746 from Geoffrey Bailey's estate and a further large legacy of £84,576 from the Estate of Angela Baker. These large legacies have been put aside into a separate designated fund for capital expenditure (hereafter referred to as the "Capital Fund"), distinguished from the General Fund, which is held to cover day-to-day expenditure funded by day-to-day income generation.

Notwithstanding these generous legacies, it should be noted that to fund its day-to-day expenditure St Leonard's remains reliant on the continued generous regular giving of our congregation and parishioners, one-off donations and fundraising activities (quiz and film nights), for which we are truly grateful.

The General Fund had a surplus for the year of £5,057, leaving St Leonard's in a healthy financial position with total reserves including Capital and Fabric funds of £201,321 (of which £199,520 is unrestricted). This enables St Leonard's to look forward to the future with confidence, fund any major capital works required by the recently completed Quinquennial inspection and consider further capital projects that might further St Leonard's mission and secure its future.

Parochial Church Council (PCC) General Fund

Summary

Receipts £30,302 (2024: £25,084) increase of £5,218 or 21%

Expenditure: £25,244 (2024: £28,399) decrease of £3,155 or 11%

Surplus: £5,057 (2024: £3,314 deficit) an improvement of £8,371

Receipts

The £5,218 (21%) increase in income receipts generated by the General Fund is primarily the result of an increase in income from the following inherently volatile sources of income:

- Increased interest income¹ (positive £2,803) thanks to the unexpended balance on the Geoffrey Bailey legacy, to be further boosted in 2026 by the Angela Baker legacy.
- Consolidation of the Bell fund account into the General Fund (see comment overleaf), amounting to £1,316, and included in "All Other Giving (General Donations)".
- Fundraising (positive £605) has benefited from one additional film night and the April Quiz raised c£200 more versus comparator period.
- While fees for weddings and funerals increased by £465 versus prior year, these are still significantly less than 2022 and 2023 when they were over double the fees generated in 2025. There have been no weddings at St Leonard's since 2023.

¹ As a designated fund there is no requirement for the Capital Fund to be held in a segregated bank account separate from other unrestricted funds, such as the General Fund. The PCC agreed in 2024 that all interest arising on unrestricted fund cash and deposit balances should be allocated to the General Fund.

Otherwise planned giving and collections at services have been relatively stable with a small increase in income, while the rebate of the Diocesan share was £308 higher than prior year.

As is common in other parishes, historically St Leonard's bell-ringers maintained a separate bank account to cover sundry expenses related to the church bells (inspection fees, minor repairs and maintenance, Ringing Guild fees), funded by donations from parish and visiting bell-ringers and fees for ringing the bells at weddings and other events. These expenses will in the future be incurred by the PCC's general fund. £1,281 being the balance on the Bell fund bank account was transferred to the PCC in June since supplemented by donations of £35 and has been included in "All Other Giving (General Donations)". A fee of £238 was incurred for the annual inspection of the Bells, resulting in a remaining balance of £1,078 on the Bell account.

Expenditure

The £3,155 (11%) decrease in expenses incurred by the General Fund is primarily the result of a £2,728 reduction of in Sunningwell's Diocesan Contribution Share. The allocation of the Joint Benefice's parish share between the three parishes is based on the electoral roll of the three churches, with the reduction reflecting changes in St Leonard's electoral roll relative to St James's, Radley and St Swithan's, Kennington.

Clergy and staff expenses were £1,270 (2024: £1,426) a decrease of 11%. These are incurred by the Radley PCC on behalf of Sunningwell PCC and recharged.

Church running expenses were £7,895 (2024: £8,060), a decrease of 2%. An increase in church yard expenses of £450, primarily reflecting the one-off expense of reducing the canopy of trees was more than offset by a reduction in utility costs (decrease £247) and a 62% decrease in trading fees, as most funerals / burials in 2025 were performed by non-stipendary clergy reducing the fees rebatable quarterly to the Diocese.

We made charitable donations of £637 (2024: £557), comprising donations to The Children's Society, Crisis, Citizens Advice and the Oxfordshire Historic Churches Trust.

Fundraising costs of £26 represent the 1.5% transaction for donations collected by credit card. The prior year fundraising costs were inflated by the one-off expense of £200 for the purchase of a Sum-Up credit card reader.

Funds

Total General Fund (unrestricted): 2025: £20,504 (2024: £15,447)

The PCC's reserves policy is to have sufficient funds to cover 6 months of operating costs, which currently equates to £12,622. Current reserves in the general fund equate to circa 9.7 months operating costs.

Income is recognised as and when received and therefore while the £395 gift aid recoverable on December 2025 donations is disclosed in the accounts as a not just an asset but as an account receivable or debtor, it is not recorded as income in 2025, as the gift aid claim was made and tax rebate received in January 2026.

Interest for Q4 2025 of £1,461 on the CBF Deposit account was credited to the deposit in January 2026 and therefore, as the accounts are prepared on a receipts basis, will be recognized as income in the 2026 accounts.

Capital Fund (Designated) & Friends Fabric Fund (Restricted)

Summary

PCC Capital Fund

Receipts £89,340 (2024: £116,307)
Expenditure: £4,847 (2024: £21,784)
Surplus: £84,493 (2024: £94,523)

Friends Fabric Fund

Receipts £1,977 (2024: £13,038)
Expenditure: £1,837 (2024: £33,105)
Surplus: £140 (2024: Deficit £1,798)

If there are sufficient funds, the PCC's policy is to charge major capital works to the Friends Fabric Fund ahead of the Designated Capital Fund, as the former is restricted and therefore cannot be applied in any circumstances to any other purpose.

Expenditure

Capital-related major work in 2025 was considerably down after the extensive work in 2024 to repair the church roof with new leadwork, stonework and replacement timbers and reinforcement. The following items of major works expenditure in 2025 were:

Charged to Capital Fund, as there were insufficient funds in the Friends Fabric Fund

- Further masonry repairs amounting to £2,400
- Internal replastering walls and painting with lime-based paint following the 2024 roof repairs amounting to £1,496 charged to capital fund and £520 charged to the Fabric Fund.
- Architect fees for the Quinquennial fabric inspection, which will provide direction to the PCC of major capital projects over the next five years

Charged to Fabric Fund

- The cost of timberwork and the alarm for the scaffolding required for the roof repairs in December 2024, paid in January and amounting to £760.
- £556 for clearance and disposal of debris and waste relating to the roof repair work in 2024.

Receipts

As referred to earlier, in 2025 the Capital Fund received £89,340 in income being Angela Baker's legacy and the final distribution from the estate of the late Geoffrey Bailey. No grants were received in 2025, while the comparator period included significant grants received for the Church roof repairs undertaken in 2024.

Friends Fabric Fund Income of £1,977 relates to planned giving (gross of tax recovered through Gift Aid) and interest and is in line with the 2024 comparator period.

Funds

The resulting balances at 31 December 2025 for the Capital Fund is £179,016 (2024: £94,523) and Friends Fabric Fund is £1,801 (2024: £1,661).

The PCC's reserves policy is to hold £10,000 to fund future capital expenditure and repairs covered by the Capital Fund and Friend's Fabric Fund combined, while drawing on the Friend's Fabric Fund before the Capital Fund to cover capital expenditure. We are clearly well above this amount. The PCC will consider in 2026 how to apply the excess to possible future capital projects that support the church in its mission, as well as the cost of repairs identified in the quinquennial report received late-2025.

Robert Chorley

28 February 2026

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNTS

Parochial Church Council of St Leonard Church, Sunningwell

Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2025

Receipts and Payments Accounts

	Note	Unrestricted Funds		Restricted Fund	Total 2025	Total 2024
	4	General	Designated			
		£	£	£	£	£
RECEIPTS						
Voluntary Receipts:						
Planned giving		10,615	-	1,555	12,170	12,048
Collections at services		3,768	-	-	3,768	3,557
Legacies	4	-	89,340	-	89,340	113,000
All other giving/voluntary receipts	5a	2,173	-	-	2,173	15,388
Gift Aid recovered		3,608	-	389	3,997	3,746
		20,164	89,340	1,944	111,448	147,739
Activities for generating funds	5b	2,807	-	-	2,807	2,202
Investment income	5c	4,182	-	33	4,215	2,113
Church activities	5d	2,346	-	-	2,346	1,881
Other	5e	803	-	-	803	495
Total receipts		30,302	89,340	1,977	121,619	154,430
PAYMENTS						
Diocesan parish contribution		15,417	-	-	15,417	18,146
Clergy and staffing costs		1,270	-	-	1,270	1,426
Church running expenses	5f	7,895	-	-	7,895	8,060
Mission giving and donations	5g	637	-	-	637	557
Major works	5h	-	4,847	1,837	6,684	54,889
		25,219	4,847	1,837	31,903	83,078
Cost of generating funds		26	-	-	26	210
Total payments		25,245	4,847	1,837	31,929	83,288
SURPLUS / (DEFICIT) for the year		5,057	84,493	140	89,690	71,142
Transfer between funds		-	-	-	-	-
Fund Balances 1 January		15,447	94,523	1,661	111,631	40,489
Fund Balances 31 December		20,504	179,016	1,801	201,321	111,631
Represented by Cash Funds		199,520		1,801	201,321	111,631

Statement of Assets and Liabilities

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Cash Funds					
Bank Current Account		6,192	1,028	7,660	6,744
Deposit – Barclays		24,380	-	24,000	24,000
CBF Deposit – CCLA Account		168,948	773	169,721	80,887
		199,520	1,801	201,321	111,631
Other Monetary Assets					
Gift Aid recoverable		395	-	395	391
Investment Assets					
Investment Fund shares at market value	3	-	-	-	-
Assets retained for Church use	2	-	-	-	-
Liabilities		-	-	-	-

Notes

1. The financial statements of the Parochial Church Council ("PCC") have been prepared in accordance with the Church Account Regulations 2006 using the Receipts and Payment basis.
2. The church has no fixed assets.
3. The church has no investments

Note 4. Movements in designated and restricted funds during the year

	Balance b/fwd	Receipts	Payments	Transfer	Bal c/fwd
Designated					
Capital Fund	94,523	89,340	(4,847)	-	179,016
	94,523	89,340	(4,847)	-	179,016

In 2024, following the receipt of a large legacy, the PCC agreed to put aside this and subsequent large legacies received into a separate designated fund for capital expenditure, distinguished from the General Fund for the purpose of the accounts. As an unrestricted fund, subject to PCC agreement, it would still at a future date be possible redesignate any unexpended funds from the legacy to the General Fund to cover general day to day expenses.

As a designated fund there is no requirement for the Capital Fund to be held in a segregated bank account separate from other unrestricted funds, such as the General Fund. The PCC agreed also in 2024 that all interest arising on unrestricted fund cash and deposit balances should be allocated to the General Fund.

	Balance b/fwd	Receipts	Payments	Transfer	Bal c/fwd
Restricted					
Friend's Fund	1,661	1,977	(1,837)	-	1,801
	1,661	1,977	(1,837)	-	1,801

The Friend's Fund represents accumulated donations and appeals specifically for the church fabric maintenance, which can only be spent for that purpose.

Note 5. Further Analysis of Receipts and Payments

	Unrestricted Funds		Restricted Fund	Total 2025	Total 2024
	General	Designated			
	£	£	£	£	£
Receipts					
a) All other giving/voluntary receipts:					
General donations	2,016	-	-	2,016	1,204
Grants	157	-	-	157	14,184
	2,173	-	-	2,173	15,388
b) Activities for generating funds:					
Quiz nights	1,388	-	-	1,388	1,186
Film nights	1,419	-	-	1,419	1,016
	2,807	-	-	2,807	2,202
c) Investment income:					
Barclays Deposit	380	-	-	380	1,021
CCLA Deposit Fund interest	3,802	-	33	3,835	1,092
	4,182	-	33	4,215	2,113
d) Church activities:					
Fees for weddings and funerals	2,346	-	-	2,346	1,881
	2,346	-	-	2,346	1,881
e) Other:					
Diocesan share refunds	803	-	-	803	495
	803	-	-	803	495
Payments					
f) Church running expenses:					
Church expenses	4,913	-	-	4,913	4,919
Churchyard expenses	1,530	-	-	1,530	1,080
Utility costs	1,233	-	-	1,233	1,480
Trading	219	-	-	219	581
	7,895	-	-	7,895	8,060
g) Mission Giving and Donations					
Oxfordshire Historic Churches Trust	100	-	-	100	100
The Children's Society	97	-	-	97	-
Citizens Advice Oxfordshire	220	-	-	220	228
Crisis	220	-	-	220	229
	637	-	-	637	557

	Unrestricted Funds		Restricted Fund	Total 2025	Total 2024
	General	Designated			
	£	£	£	£	£
h) Major works					
Repairs to Church Roof (leadwork, stonework, timbers replacement and reinforcement)	-	2,400	1,317	3,717	54,889
Internal remedial works following Repairs to Church Roof (replastering, repainting)	-	1,496	520	2,016	-
Quinquennial Inspection	-	951	-	951	-
	-	4,847	1,837	6,684	54,889

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

I report to the trustees of Parochial Church Council of St Leonard Church, Sunningwell on my examination of the accounts of the Parochial Church Council of St Leonard Church, Sunningwell for the year ended 31 December 2025

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records.

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

Signed:



Name: Bruno Delacave

Professional qualification: ACA

Address: 4 Beaulieu Court, Sunningwell, OX13 6RQ

Date: 28 February 2026