

**Congregational Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2025**

**Scottish Charity No. SC016907**

**Congregation No. 331973**

**Inverurie West Parish Church**

**The Church of Scotland**

## **Trustees' Annual Report Year ended 31 December 2025**

The trustees present their annual report and financial statements for Inverurie West Parish Church for the year ended 31 December 2025. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the accounts and comply with the General Assembly Regulations for Congregational Finance, the Charity and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005, the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended) and the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to the charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland published on 16 July 2014.

### **Objectives and Activities**

The Church of Scotland is Trinitarian in doctrine, Reformed in tradition and Presbyterian in policy. It exists to glorify God and to work for the advancement of Christ's Kingdom throughout the world. As a national Church, it acknowledges a distinctive call and duty to bring the ordinances of religion to the people in every parish of Scotland through a territorial ministry. It co-operates with other Churches in various ecumenical bodies in Scotland and beyond.

Services of Worship normally take place once a week. There is a Junior Church group and a Guild meeting. The Congregation are also involved in a wide range of Social Events and Community Activities.

### **Achievements and Performance**

The Spring and Summer of 2025 were blessed with really good weather and this was reflected in a positive feeling in the Church. The joint IDCT Holy Week Services were hosted by St Mary's, culminating in an Easter service up the Bass and an Easter Breakfast and service at St Andrew's. All the local churches took turns in leading the week's services and over 30 people took part in the Walk of Witness on the Friday.

During the year we also had the opportunity to share worship with St Andrew's, with joint services at the West in July and At St Andrew's in August. This provides an opportunity for the congregations to come together and build on the process of eventually joining. These actions reinforce our outward looking philosophy, continuing our practice of being a welcoming space for regulars and visitors alike.

Like all churches, we struggle to include all ages in our worship, but one very positive development has been the introduction of the Play Church. On the first Sunday of the month, in the afternoon, there is now an opportunity for younger members and their families to join in creative activities, incorporating music and drama. It is hoped that this initiative will continue to grow.

## Achievements and Performance

There are also links to the wider community through the garden. As well as providing much appreciated produce for the Acorn Centre, it is developing as a space for people to come together, to work and have a blether. The demolition of the hall is still an ongoing issue, but once resolved will provide further space for extending the outdoor area.

The groups within the Church still meet regularly are:

The **Prayer Group** has been going for 27 years and meets weekly to respond to the prayer needs of individuals as well as thinking about wider issues.

The **West Church Guild** has regular meetings with a variety of speakers, including Andrew Wainwright talking about Pittodrie Excavations and Ian Telfer talking about the role of the Hospital Chaplaincy. It also hosts joint meetings with other Guilds in the North East.

The **Junior Church** meets during Sunday services, where the leaders explore religious themes, using a range of creative activities.

**Mainly Music** has been going for 13 years, and is a hugely successful opportunity for pre-school children and their parents (or grandparents!) to engage in Christian related songs and rhymes.

**Carer's Cuppa** started in August, providing carers the opportunity for mutual support and a fine cup of tea.

The **Education Team** had its annual Advent Evening, this year contemplating the historic and current developments in Bethlehem.

Our Minister Rhona Cathcart, and other local clergy, continue to have a presence in local schools and, along with volunteers, engage with Inverurie Academy pupils at a weekly **Chaplaincy Cafe**. The primary schools also come into the West for their end of year service. By the sound of things they had a whale of a time and almost literally brought the roof down!

The **UBUNTU** Fairtrade shop continues to flourish within the Acorn Centre. The philosophy of supporting developing countries extends through members volunteering with Christian Aid. A successful Book Sale was held in May, when Christian Aid celebrated its 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Volunteers also help with the local Christian Aid Christmas card delivery service and this year the Garrioch Christian Aid Group won the Standing Together Award. The congregation also support the work of Crossreach, with a special service on the 16<sup>th</sup> November and the sale of Christmas cards and calendars.

The Kirk Session visit members twice a year before the "big" Communion and even members who do not attend regularly still express a wish for these connections to continue. The monthly informal Communion on the last Sunday of the month also provide people with an opportunity to share the elements.

## Achievements and Performance

Other events throughout the year include:

- Quiz nights in March and November.
- The annual Bennaachie Bike Ride in August.
- The Climate Action and Community Garden Groups organised a talk from David Hunter of Habitat People and progressed work on the swift box, which has been 9installed in the church.
- The organisers organised a delicious Garden Party in July to raise funds for the upkeep of the organ
- The then Moderator of the General Assembly, the Rt Reverend Dr Shaw Paterson, presented long service certificates to Elders in the North East, and a special mention must be made for Billy McLelland and Tom McMorland, who later received certificates for 50 years' service!
- £6,000 was distributed to local groups through the Small Grants scheme. This is possible due to the generosity of the customers and volunteers at the Acorn Centre.
- On Christmas Day the West hosted a "Jingle and Mingle" lunch, offering a Christmas dinner to those who struggle at that time of year, or may be on their own.
- A successful grant application from Vattenfall Unlock Our Future Fund enabled the installation of mineral wool insulation in the roof space.

It can be seen from this run through of 2025 that Inverurie West Church has had a busy and productive year. These developments and events could not happen without our Minister Rhona Cathcart's vision and the willing participation of lots of volunteers (though there's always room for more!!) We look forward to another eventful year in 2026.

the start of the year.

In the event, the general Church budget recorded a deficit of £22,334 for the 2025, which meant that financial performance was marginally worse than the budget set at

to return to a financial position where it can balance the annual Church budget. Whilst deficit budgets can be covered from Church Reserves in the short term, this position is not financially sustainable in the longer term. Decisions will need to be made in the coming years to increase income and reduce expenditure if the Church is

equivalent to 12% of the Church's income base. necessitated the Kirk Session agreeing a "deficit" budget of £19,224 for 2025, and further increases in Presbytery Dues and Council Tax. All of these cost pressures £6,600 increase in the Fabric budget due to inspection work required on the steeple Scotland, a 6.73% increase in staff salaries due to the National Minimum Wage uplift, a £7,500 increase in the "Giving to Grow" contribution to the central Church of Church was faced with significantly increased costs in several areas including a worsening in the financial position compared with 2024. At the start of 2025 the In financial terms 2025 was a very challenging year for the Church which resulted in

<b>Net Movement in Funds</b>		(33,637)
Add Recognised Gains		7,062
Less Adjustments for Non-Cash Transactions		(21,494)
Total Cash Transactions		(19,205)
Fund Development Fund		(25)
Fund adjustments (Guild, Ubuntu & John Bothwell)		3,154
<b>Net Deficit - Church</b>		(22,334)
Financed by:		39,952
Total Outgoing Resources - Church		£
Contribution from Acorn Centre (Inverurie) Ltd		39,452
Ubuntu		500
The consolidated Church Accounts for 2025 show a negative movement in funds for		£
the year of £33,637, compared to a negative movement of £18,326 in 2024. The net		(62,286)

**Financial Review**  
The consolidated Church Accounts for 2025 show a negative movement in funds for the year of £33,637, compared to a negative movement of £18,326 in 2024. The net movement in funds for 2025 comprises the following: -

In terms of income raised during 2025, Givings were slightly lower (0.2%) in 2025 compared to 2024. The amount recovered from Gift Aid was also lower than in 2024. Fundraising income and investment income were also lower than in 2024, the latter due to the fall in interest rates during the year. On the positive side, income from Church lets increased by 15% compared to 2024.

No legacies were received during the year but the Church successfully applied and was awarded a grant of £7,840 to fund the costs of insulating the Church. This will not only improve the carbon footprint of the Church, but will also make the Church warmer for services and events and also save money on energy charges.

On the expenditure side general Church expenditure increased by 9.7% compared to 2024. The most significant areas of increase were in fabric costs (see below), the "Giving to Grow" contribution and salaries (impact of National Minimum Wage). One area where expenditure reduced compared to 2024 was on energy costs as a result of the closing of the Church Hall and switching of energy contracts to cheaper deals.

The Church is fortunate to have a reasonable level of Reserves but the challenging position in 2025 meant that £17,500 had to be called down from the funds that the Church has invested with the Church of Scotland in order to meet normal running costs. This means that investment returns in future years will be reduced.

Fabric expenditure for the year was £24,092. There were two major projects. Firstly, £8,994 was spent on a high level inspection and repairs to the steeple. Secondly, £7,840 was spent on insulation for the Church. This project was financed in full by a grant from Foundation Scotland. The cost of maintaining and running our buildings does represent an increasing share of overall Church expenditure compared with the recent past. This is mainly due to the increasing cost of maintenance work and the need to cover energy charges which remain at levels which are higher than earlier years. Although energy costs were lower in 2025 than in 2024, they still amounted to £19,555 compared to £10,547 in 2022 reflecting an almost doubling in costs. The Church has taken steps to reduce energy consumption and entered into new contracts for electricity and gas supply in 2025 which provided financial savings.

Work has continued to progress on options for the disposal of the Church Hall. The Kirk Session agreed that demolition of the Hall should be progressed. An architect has been engaged and plans have been drawn up for the demolition of the Hall and redevelopment of the site. Initial discussions have been held with the Planning staff of Aberdeenshire Council to assess any restrictions which may impinge on the proposal. The draft plans are currently being amended to reflect the initial feedback from Planning staff.

Income from lets was £7,669 in 2025 compared to £6,650 in 2024. The increase is welcome but the level of income is still not at the amount that was achieved prior to the closure of the Hall for external lets.

The Acorn Centre had a reasonable year in financial terms in spite of having to deal with the loss of a number of trading days due to bad weather and staff sickness together with the impact of inflation on food costs and the uplift in the National Minimum Wage.. Hospitality takings in 2025 were down on 2024 mainly due to the loss of 3 weeks worth of trading days. Some price increases had to be implemented in 2025 to reflect the higher costs of the Centre, but the Centre attempts to strike a balance between maintaining football and covering costs. The Centre is still very well used and attracts very positive feedback.

Ubuntu (our Fairtrade shop) continues to operate and recorded a surplus for the year of £2,611. Ubuntu is now overseen by a group of Congregational members who work on a voluntary basis to operate and manage the shop.

Cash balances reduced by £24,092 in 2025. This was due to the need to finance a deficit budget which resulted in the need to call down cash invested with the Church of Scotland in order to meet normal running costs. Cashflow is still carefully managed for the main Church bank account and the other bank accounts held by the various funds. At the end of the year total cash balances were £227,418 and remain in a healthy position, although a proportion of the balance relates to funding held to support the disposal of the Church Hall.

The Church budget has been set for 2026. Due to a number of new cost pressures for 2026 we have again not been able to set a budget for the year which balances income and expenditure and will need to set a "deficit" budget with a higher projected deficit than 2025. . The main factors giving rise to this position are:

1. An increase in the "Giving to Grow" contribution to the central Church of Scotland of £11,814 (22%) compared to 2025. The contribution is based on the income figures from the Church Accounts for 2024.
2. An increase in Presbytery Dues of £600 (22%) compared to 2025.
3. An 4.1% increase in the National Minimum Wage from April which will increase Payroll costs by almost £3,100.

The overall Church budget for 2026 projects a deficit of £34,049. This position will be continued to be covered by using Church Reserves in the short term. However, setting deficit budgets at this level is not financially sustainable in the long term and some further difficult choices will still need to be considered by the Kirk Session to safeguard the financial position of the Church in the medium to longer term.

In the current uncertain financial climate, the Church's financial position will continue to depend largely on the continuing support and commitment of the Congregation together with the financial performance of the Acorn Centre.

## Risk Management

The trustees have identified that the principal risks and uncertainties facing the Church are:

1. An ageing and declining congregation  
In order to minimise the impact of an ageing congregation and a drop in numbers through illness or death, the trustees have established a Mainly Music Group which meets weekly during the school term. The Group is very popular. One of the aims of the Group is to develop and deepen relationships with young families who have a connection with the Church and also those with no Church links. In addition to this project, we continue to investigate ways of developing our Sunday morning services to welcome and attract the younger generations. We are also striving to provide services to assist the elderly to attend services of worship and church events by, for example, providing transport to and the live streaming of services.
2. A reduction in regular giving.  
Regular giving in 2025 just below the level achieved in 2024 but Givings are still below historical levels reflecting recent falls in the Congregational roll. Givings are monitored on a monthly basis which provides an opportunity to bring to the trustees' attention any significant changes to our financial situation and where appropriate take early action to mitigate any financial challenges. A Stewardship campaign is planned for 2026.
3. Building repairs  
Inverurie West Church has responsibility for the care and repair of three properties. Regular assessment of these properties is carried out and any work required is done timeously. The Church and Manse are well maintained but our Church Hall is not in the same condition and has now been earmarked for disposal through demolition. Discussions regarding the plan for demolition are at an early stage to ensure all relevant planning regulations are satisfied. Regarding overall maintenance of the Church's buildings, there are ongoing annual maintenance contracts in place for boiler servicing, fire alarms, fire extinguishers, lift maintenance, and window cleaning.
4. Data Protection  
The trustees are aware of the importance of protecting personal data. In order to minimise any risks which may result in the loss of data, all Office Bearers have been trained in Data Protection principles. Personal and financial records are all stored in securely locked cupboards. The Church also emptied the Church Hall of paper records in 2024 with any records that did not require retention being disposed of as confidential waste.
5. Replacement of Key Office Bearers  
A number of our key Office Bearers have been in post for many years and it can be a challenge to find suitable replacements when they decide to stand down. An example is our Property Convenor post where the previous Convenor stood down at the end of 2024 after many years of service, but a suitable replacement has not yet been identified. The role is being covered on a temporary basis by a member of the Kirk Session.



## Reserves Policy

The general policy of the Church is to maintain reserves equivalent to six months of cash expenditure. This would require basic reserves of around £87,000. At present the General Fund balance is £33,987 which would cover between two and three months of expenditure. The Trustees are aware of the Reserves balance which is reported to each meeting of the Kirk Session. The Trustees will also continue to keep the level of reserves under close review with the aim of increasing the General Fund balance during 2026 if possible by seeking to reduce expenditure and generate greater levels of income. The primary objective of the management of Reserves by the Church is to ensure that the Church is capable of meeting financial obligations with ease of liquidity of Church funds being an important consideration.

At the year end the Church held unrestricted funds of £1,590,867 comprising of £33,987 for the General Fund and £1,556,880 in the Heritable Property Fund, representing Church property. The Church also had a balance of £270,714 on restricted funds which have been provided for the purposes specified in Note 14.

## Structure, Governance and Management

The Church is administered in accordance with the terms of the Unitary Deed of Constitution.

Members of the Kirk Session are the charity trustees. The Kirk Session members are the elders of the church and are chosen from those members of the church who are considered to have appropriate gifts and skills.

On Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> May 2012, Inverurie West Church adopted a Unitary Constitution. Under the Unitary Constitution the functions of the Congregational Board were taken over by the Kirk Session, which now covers both spiritual and operational matters. The Congregational Board sub committees have been replaced by a number of Teams, covering Environmental Matters, Fabric, Finance, Fund Raising, Social Events, Christian Education, Publicity and the Acorn Centre Management Group. The Kirk Session met six times in 2025.

## Reference and Administrative Information

Charity Name: Inverurie West Parish Church

Charity Registration Number: SC016907

Congregation Reference No: 331973

Contact Address:

Inverurie West Church  
West High Street  
Inverurie  
Aberdeenshire  
AB51 3SA

## Trustees

The following individuals were trustees of Inverurie West Parish Church during 2025:

Church Treasurer: Mrs Alison Blair  
 Session Clerk: Mr Mark Paterson & Mrs Gillian Paterson (up to 12<sup>th</sup> April 2025)  
 Dr Morag Mitchell (from 13<sup>th</sup> April 2025)  
 Minister: Reverend Rhona Cathcart

## Kirk Session Members during 2025:

Helen Anderson	Fred Barber	Elizabeth Barrow
Alison Blair	Ann Marie Coleman	Joy Doorghean
Janet Duncan	William Duncan	Cindy Farquhar
Joan Feltham	Jane Fraser	Chris Gardner
Kenneth Gray	Laura Gray	Alan Harrow
Margaret Harrow	Irene Jamieson	James Lyle
Karin Main	Isla Maitland	Tom McMorland
Eleanor Mitchell	Morag Mitchell	Gillian Paterson
Mark Paterson	Joyce Petrie	Margaret Sangster
Alison Sharp	Doreen Tough	Larry Young
Jill Yule		

## Independent Examiner

David Minett, James Milne, 5 High Street, Inverurie, Aberdeenshire, AB51 3QA

## Bankers

Virgin Money, 26 West High Street, Inverurie, Aberdeenshire, AB51 3SL

**Trustees Annual Report (continued)**  
**Year Ended 31 December 2025**

**Trustees' Responsibilities in Relation to the Financial Statements**

The charity trustees are responsible for preparing a trustees' annual report and financial statements in accordance with the applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice). The law applicable to charities in Scotland requires the charity trustees to prepare financial statements for each year which show a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources, of the charity for that period. In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the method and principles in the applicable Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operational existence.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended). They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the charity and financial information on the congregation's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

Approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf.

*Morag Mitchell*

Dr Morag Mitchell

Session Clerk

Date... 12/3/2026.

Inverurie West Parish Church  
SC016907

**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Inverurie West Church**

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2025 which are set out on pages 13 to 24.

**Respective Responsibilities of trustees and examiner**

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the terms of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended).

The charity trustees consider that the audit requirement of Regulation 10(1) (a) to (c) of the Accounts Regulations does not apply. It is my responsibility to examine the accounts as required under section 44(1) (c) of the Act and to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

**Basis of independent examiner's statement**

My examination is carried out in accordance with Regulation 11 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended). 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 seeks explanations for the 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**

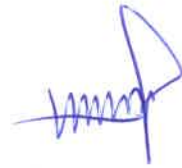
In the course of my examination, no matter has come to my attention which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 44 (1) (a) of the 2005 Act and Regulation 4 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations (as amended), and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with Regulation 8 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations (as amended) 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.

David Minnett CA  
James Milne  
5 High Street  
Inverurie  
Aberdeenshire  
AB51 3QA

Date 18.3.26



## Statement of Financial Activities

	Note	Unrestricted Funds 2025	Restricted Funds 2025	Total 2025	Unrestricted Funds 2024	Restricted Funds 2024	Total 2024
<b>Income and endowments from:</b>							
Donations and legacies	1	87836	636	88472	90867	800	91667
Charitable Activities	2	4627	50193	54820	7685	48889	56574
Other trading activities	3	7669	0	7669	6650	0	6650
Investments	4	11763	798	12561	14509	0	14509
<b>Total Income</b>		<b>111895</b>	<b>51627</b>	<b>163522</b>	<b>119711</b>	<b>49689</b>	<b>169400</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>	5						
Raising Funds		68	0	68	68	0	68
Charitable activities		194324	9829	204153	177120	11573	188693
<b>Total Expenditure</b>		<b>194392</b>	<b>9829</b>	<b>204221</b>	<b>177188</b>	<b>11573</b>	<b>188761</b>
<b>Net income / (expenditure) before gains and losses on investments</b>		<b>(82497)</b>	<b>41798</b>	<b>(40699)</b>	<b>(57477)</b>	<b>38116</b>	<b>(19361)</b>
Net Gains / (Losses) on Investments		7062	0	7062	1035	0	1035
<b>Net income / (expenditure)</b>		<b>(75435)</b>	<b>41798</b>	<b>(33637)</b>	<b>(66442)</b>	<b>38116</b>	<b>(18326)</b>
Transfers between funds	14	39952	(39952)	0	41590	(41590)	0
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b>(35483)</b>	<b>1846</b>	<b>(33637)</b>	<b>(14852)</b>	<b>(3474)</b>	<b>(18326)</b>
Reconciliation of funds:							
Total funds brought forward	14	1626350	268868	1895218	1641202	272342	1913544
Total funds carried forward	14	1590867	270714	1861581	1628350	268868	1895218

## At 31 December 2025

Alison Blair

Mary M. M. M.

## Statement of Cash Flows

Year Ended 31 December 2025

	Total Funds 2024	Funds 2025	Note
Net cash used in operating activities	(11458)	(36653)	15
Cash flows from investing activities			
Interest and dividends		12561	
Purchase of fixed assets		0	
Proceeds from sale of investments		0	
Net cash provided by investing activities	14509	12561	
Cash flows from financing activities			
Repayment of borrowings		0	
Net cash provided by financing activities	0	0	
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year	3051	(24092)	
Cash and cash equivalents brought forward	248459	251510	
Cash and cash equivalents carried forward	251510	227418	

## Accounting Policies

The principal accounting policies, which have been applied consistently in the current and preceding year in dealing with items which are considered material to the accounts, are set out below.

### Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standards applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued on 16 July 2014 and the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102), the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005, and The Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended).

### Fund accounting

Funds are classified as either restricted funds or unrestricted funds, defined as follows. Restricted funds are funds subject to specific requirements as to their use which may be declared by the donor or with their authority or created through legal processes, but still within the wider objects of the charity. Endowment funds are funds which have been given on the condition that the original capital sum is not reduced, but the income there from is used for the purposes defined in accordance with the objects of the charity. Unrestricted funds are expendable at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the objects of the charity. If parts of the unrestricted funds are earmarked at the discretion of the trustees for a particular purpose, they are designated as a separate fund. This designation has an administrative purpose only and does not legally restrict the trustees' discretion to apply the fund.

### Incoming resources

Income is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the item(s) of income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

### Resources expended

Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis as the liability is incurred.

### Donated services and facilities

Donated professional services and donated facilities are recognised as income when the charity has control over the item, and conditions associated with the donated item have been met, the receipt of economic benefit from the use by the charity of the item is probable and that economic benefit can be measured reliably. In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) the general volunteer time of congregation members is not recognised.

On receipt, donated professional services and donated facilities are recognised on the basis of the value of the gift to the charity which is the amount the charity would have been willing to pay to obtain services or facilities of equivalent economic benefit on



the open market; a corresponding amount is then recognised as expenditure in the period of receipt.

#### Interest receivable

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the bank.

#### Fixed Assets

The charity owns and has the right to use for its charitable objects certain tangible fixed assets, including the Church, Church Hall and a manse at 1 Westburn Place, Inverurie. The title to these properties is vested in the Inverurie West Church Congregational Board. No consideration is payable for the use of these assets. Expenditure incurred on the repair and maintenance of these assets is charged as resources expended in the statement of financial activities in the period in which the liability arises.

The properties of the Church are valued in the Accounts at Open Market Value, based on professional valuations obtained on 9 July 2008. The exception to this is the manse at 1 Westburn Place, Inverurie which is shown at a Trustees valuation based on the original purchase price.

All tangible fixed assets costing in excess of £5,000 having a value to the charity greater than one year, other than those acquired for specific purposes, are capitalised. Depreciation is provided on a straight-line basis to write off the cost or initial value, less residual value, of tangible fixed assets over their estimated useful lives:

Kitchen Equipment	5 years
Fixtures, fittings and office equipment	5 years
Church Manse	50 years
Church Hall	25 years

No depreciation is provided in the Accounts in respect of the main Church building on the grounds that it is over 100 years old and will retain value provided that an adequate level of maintenance continues to be carried out. The Trustees will review this policy on a regular basis.

#### Investments

Fixed asset investments are stated at market value at the balance sheet date. Unrealised gains and losses represent the difference between the market value at the beginning and end of the financial year or, if purchased in the year, the difference between cost and market value at the end of the year. Realised gains and losses represent the difference between the proceeds on disposal and the market value at the start of the year or cost if purchased in the year.

#### Taxation

Inverurie West Parish Church is recognised as a charity for the purposes of applicable taxation legislation and is therefore not subject to taxation on its charitable activities. The charity is not registered for VAT and resources expended therefore include irrecoverable input VAT.

Notes forming part of the financial statements  
for the year ended 31 December 2025

	Unrestricted Funds 2025	Restricted Funds 2025	Total 2025	Unrestricted Funds 2024	Restricted Funds 2024	Total 2024
<b>1 Donations and Legacies</b>						
Offerings	66516	301	66817	66604	415	67019
Tax Recovered on Gift Aid	11696	0	11696	18620	0	18620
Legacies & Grants	7840	0	7840	500	0	500
Other	1784	335	2119	5143	385	5528
	<b>87836</b>	<b>636</b>	<b>88472</b>	<b>90867</b>	<b>800</b>	<b>91667</b>
Income from donations and legacies was £88,472 (2024 £91,667) of which £87,836 was unrestricted (2024 £90,867) and £636 was restricted (2024 £800)						
<b>2 Income from charitable activities</b>						
Weddings and funerals	520	0	520	945	0	945
Regular Fundraising Events	4107	296	4403	6740	277	7017
Other		49897	49897		48612	48612
	<b>4627</b>	<b>50193</b>	<b>54820</b>	<b>7685</b>	<b>48889</b>	<b>56574</b>
Income from charitable activities was £54,820 (2024 £56,574) of which £4,627 was unrestricted (2024 £7,685) and £50,193 was restricted (2024 £48,889)						
<b>3 Income From Other Trading Activities</b>						
Rents Received	7669	0	7669	6650	0	6650
	<b>7669</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>7669</b>	<b>6650</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>6650</b>
<b>4 Investment Income</b>						
Deposit Interest	8470	798	9268	12018	0	12018
Dividends Received	3293	0	3293	2491	0	2491
	<b>11763</b>	<b>798</b>	<b>12561</b>	<b>14509</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>14509</b>
Total Investment Income was £12,561 (2024 £14,509) of which £11,763 was unrestricted (2024 £14,509) and £798 was restricted (2024 £0)						

[illegible]

**Notes forming part of the financial statements  
for the year ended 31 December 2025**

	2025	2024
<b>6 Staff costs and numbers</b>		
Salaries and wages	45528	42925
Social security costs	10324	8374
<b>Total</b>	<b>55852</b>	<b>51299</b>
The average number of employees during the year, calculated on the basis of a head count, was as follows:		
	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
	<b>Number</b>	<b>Number</b>
Administration	3	3
No employee had employee benefits in excess of £50,000 (2024 nil)		
All Church of Scotland congregations contribute to the National Stipend Fund which bears the costs of all ministers' stipends and employers contributions for national insurance, pension and housing and loan fund. Ministers' stipends are paid in accordance with the national stipend scale, which is related to years of service. For the year under review the minimum stipend was £32,433 and the maximum stipend (in 5th and subsequent years of service) was £39,856.		
<b>7 Trustee Remuneration and Related Party Transactions</b>		
During the year, the following expenses were reimbursed to the Minister, the Reverend Rhona Cathcart :-		
Council Tax for Church Manse	£	3326.97
<b>Total</b>		<b>3326.97</b>
No trustee or a person related to a trustee had any personal interest in any contract or transaction entered into by the charity during the year.		
During the year a total of £13,801 was donated to the Congregation by trustees.		

The following investments are held:

[illegible]

## Notes forming part of the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2025

[illegible]

in common with all congregations of the Church of Scotland the congregation benefits from the contributions made by volunteers who give their time and talents willingly for the benefit of the Church. The areas of congregational life which rely on the contribution of volunteers are many and varied and much of the activity would be unable to continue were it not for the commitment shown.

**Notes forming part of the financial statements  
for the year ended 31 December 2025**

14 Movements in Funds						
	At 1 January 2025	Incoming Resources	Outgoing Resources	Gain/ (Loss) on Revaluation	Transfers	At 31 December 2025
	£	£	£	£	£	£
<b>Restricted funds</b>						
The John Bothwell Bequest	17728	798	(121)	0	0	18405
Development Fund	240974	41278	(2636)	0	(39952)	239664
West Church Guild	835	932	(1064)	0	0	703
Ubuntu	9331	8619	(6008)	0	0	11942
	268868	51627	(9829)	0	(39952)	270714
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>						
General Fund	49261	111895	(174183)	7062	39952	33987
Heritable Property Fund	1577089	0	(20209)	0	0	1556880
	1626350	111895	(194392)	7062	39952	1590867
<b>Total funds</b>	<b>1895218</b>	<b>163522</b>	<b>(204221)</b>	<b>7062</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1861581</b>

**Purpose of Restricted Funds**

The John Bothwell Bequest: This fund provides resources for Christian education and Junior Church activities.

Development Fund: This fund provides the resources for the redevelopment of the Church.

West Church Guild: This fund supports the activities of the Guild, which is a congregational organisation.

Ubuntu: This fund is generated from the fair trade shop located within the Acom Centre. Funds are used to support the aims of fair trade.

**Purpose of Designated Funds**

The Heritable Property Fund: The Trustees have established this fund to introduce the heritable properties of the Church, Church Hall, the manse at 1 Westburn Place, Inverurie into the Church's balance sheet.

15 Reconciliation of net movement in funds to net cash flow from operating activities			
	2025	2024	£
Net movement in funds	(33637)	(18326)	
Add back depreciation charge	21494	21494	
Deduct interest income	(12561)	(14509)	
Deduct gains / add back losses on investments	(7062)	(1035)	
Decrease (increase) in stock	(570)	815	
Decrease (increase) in debtors	(7375)	3315	
Increase (Decrease) in creditors	3058	(3212)	
Net Cash Used in Operating Activities	(36653)	(11458)	

#### Note 16 Collections on Behalf of Third Parties

During 2025 there was two retiring collections:

- A collection of £333 for Shelter Scotland.
- A Harvest Festival Service collection of £400 for the Church of Scotland "In Their Lifetime" appeal.

#### Note 17 Deposits with Church of Scotland

At the 31<sup>st</sup> December 2025 Inverurie West Church held amounts of £195,108 in deposit accounts with the Church of Scotland.