Annual Report

Thanksgiving for 2025

Wareham's Church of England Family

The Priory Church of Lady St Mary, Wareham

Sandford St Martin's Church

St Martin on the Walls, Wareham

St John the Evangelist, East Holme

St Nicholas, Arne

Each church has its own distinctive character
and each has its own committed worshiping community,
but all five churches are part of a single Benefice
working together as one Parochial Church Council

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Foreword
from the Team Rectors

St Paul wrote some brilliantly practical letters to Church communities to encourage them in their Christian life together. His letter to the Philippians includes this advice:

Rejoice in the Lord always: again I will say. Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your request be made known to God. And the peace of God which surpasses all understanding will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Philippians 4. 4-7

These verses guide, how we have reviewed the life and work of the Wareham Church of England Family, this year (January 2025 - January 2026).

Rejoice in the Lord always ...

We do rejoice in the presence of God over this past year and evidence of his life-giving Spirit, at work:

In the commitment and team-working of so many people, across the five church communities in our Benefice. Sharing their skills, gifts, time and energy, to sustain and enhance our worship and community life.

In the variety of forms of worship and welcome offered; informally at Sandford Breakfast@9, Going Deeper and Fire Pit East Holme, to weekly Eucharist services and big civic and festival events. This includes an encouraging increase, in Easter and Christmas attendance, at Lady St Mary's this year. None of the above, would be possible without many teams of people involved.

In the response to running the Lay Worship Leaders Course, together with other Purbeck Deanery clergy, in Spring last year. Lay Worship Leaders from across the Parish and Deanery were commissioned by Bishop Karen in May, formally affirming the vocation many have been exercising for many years.

In the support of clergy colleagues, including being blessed this year, with our new curate in training, Revd Shelma Vaughan, welcomed to the Parish, at our licensing as Team Rectors on 6th July.

In the appointment, in December, of Shelma, as our new part-time Parish Administrator. Supported by an invaluable new team of Parish Office and Events Booking volunteers.

In being able to serve some of the needs of our wider community. For example, offering hospitality at Saturday coffee mornings, supporting the local Food Bank and Community Table and engaging with children and

families, through Wareham Toddlers and Sandford Friday Night Youth (FNY). The latter providing a safe and fun space for 40-50 children each week, in term-time.

In the Christian outreach to children through Angel Voices and Hand Bell ringers and in our presence in local primary schools. Giving thanks for our Pioneer Priest and Schools Worker, Revd Hilary Bond, who, along with us, leads Collective Worship and other events, with over 500+ school children each week.

In the opportunities we have as a Church to share the love of Christ and build relationships through life events. We had the joy this year, of celebrating Baptisms, Marriages and Wedding Blessings. We also invited couples to a Spring Wedding Planning Event.

Let your gentleness be known ...

With the reduction in the numbers of the clergy team, caring for each other practically and pastorally, has increasingly been the responsibility of the whole body of Christ. The way members of the congregation and retired clergy, have visited and supported others, including those who are bereaved, has been invaluable. As new Team Rectors we have also been humbled by the love and care shown to us.

We were delighted that our team of Lay Pastoral Assistants were re-commissioned in July 2025 and are profoundly grateful for the support and work they provide, including to Baptism families.

The Lord is near ...

Signs of God's kingdom work are evident locally and globally. Our ongoing support (financial and in prayer) for our Mission Partners; the Taylor family in the Dominican Republic, St Stephen's School, Terekeka, in South Sudan and Ruth Guinness serving in Malawi, with SIM, is a constant reminder that the Lord is near, everywhere. Mission Sunday, in September, with a focus on South Sudan, was a reminder of this.

A Tourism Chaplaincy trial was launched in August 2025, at Lady St Mary's and St Martin on the Walls. This highlighted how many local people and visitors, value our ancient churches and visit, seeking spiritual peace and comfort and a listening ear, if there is one available! The month-long trial, instigated by Bishop Karen, with retired clergy as Chaplains, also identified appreciation of the volunteer 'Guides', still providing a welcome at Lady St Mary.

Do not worry about anything ... in everything by prayer ... with thanksgiving, let your request be known to God.

There have been many changes and challenges for the clergy team, Churchwardens, PCC members and whole Parish, due to the Team Rector vacancy, then Team Vicar vacancy and then our long-serving Parish Administrator leaving. Recruitment processes took a lot of work and we are grateful to everyone, especially Mike and Hilary our Parish Churchwardens, who helped to share the work load, practically and in prayer.

Stewarding our resources and generosity in giving, has also been a concern and how we would manage financial administration and achieve financial sustainability,

to underpin mission and ministry. Regarding this, we have been overwhelmed with thanksgiving, for the generosity and giving of others and God's answer to prayer.

Including how our Treasurer, Mark Lapper, has taken on so much additional work; the material donations people have made, through Revd Michael and Gay Young's, Silver and Jewellery auction scheme; the monetary giving via new digital giving devices installed and those who have given in other ways, of their time and creativity so generously. For example, those initiating a T.E. Lawrence Day and Christmas Tree Festival, at St Martin on the Walls.

Persevering in prayer, is an antidote to worry. We are deeply thankful, therefore, for everyone leading and sharing in prayer and bible study together, during the week. This includes the Parish Prayer Group, Home Fellowship Groups and Friday Prayers for Peace.

Discerning mission priorities and the best way forward for the Parish, when there are so many competing priorities has been a concern. At the PCC Vision Day in September, facilitated by Revd Canon Lucy Holt, at St James' Church Poole, the PCC identified priorities for work over the next three years. These are the priorities underpinned by prayer:

- Building capacity, addressing the areas of:
  - Administration
  - Communication
  - Finance
- Teaching and Discipleship
- Children, youth and families
- Creative use of sacred spaces for prayer and worship.

We started to make changes, to address these, particularly in relation to 'Building Capacity', in order to be able to work more effectively.

The Peace of God ...

It is always hard to live with the loss of long-standing church members and many bereavements have affected our Church family this year. Through the loss and pain of death and concern for those who have been sick, we continue to seek God's peace.

We give thanks for the funeral and memorial services (27) our clergy team have taken this year and the opportunity to share our resurrection hope.

Reflecting on the past and looking to the future, we are called to trust that God can work through us and despite us, through his Holy Spirit. Let's praise God for the life of faith we've shared this past year and for the friendship, fellowship and sense of community, that comes from being the body of Christ. And let's entrust the future to him, to find his peace *'which surpasses all understanding'*.

The Report which follows includes an overview of further practical aspects of our community life and work, ultimately with the vision of:

> '*Making Jesus known,*
> *in every place, so that all may flourish and grow, seeking his Kingdom here and now*'.

Deborah Neil

Revd Deborah Swann & Revd Neil Kelly

Co-Team Rectors
The Benefice of Wareham

Churchwardens Overview

Hilary and Mike have continued in their roles as churchwardens with responsibility for four of the churches in our Benefice. St John the Evangelist Church, East Holme has its own churchwardens who are Jon Moulton and Leslie Selby. We are very grateful for the assistance given by our local wardens, Anne Laking at Lady St Mary, Becky Green at St Martin on the Walls, Heather Duncan at St Nicholas Church, Arne and Barbara Wells at Sandford St Martin and our vergers, Simon Lathwell and Maureen Lever. We are also thankful for the support of those who serve on the different church committees. Thanks too, to all those who volunteer in different roles including welcomers, Bob Day and Nick Burden on PA, flower arrangers, Choir and Bell Ringers, those who read lessons or lead prayers, and those on coffee and other rotas. We are always in need of more volunteers and please contact one of us if you are able to help.

We were very pleased that our Team Vicars, the Revd's Neil Kelly and Deborah Swann were appointed as Team Rectors and inducted by Bishop Karen on 6th July. We then started the process of recruiting a new Team Vicar, but despite two periods of advertising the post in the Church Times and on the Salisbury Diocesan website, were unable to appoint a suitable candidate. Further discussions about how to proceed will be held in early 2026.

We were delighted to welcome the Revd Shelma Vaughan as our new curate in July. Shelma is self-supporting and not paid by the Diocese.

It is great that we were able to maintain our previous rhythm of services in our five different churches despite the reduction in the numbers of paid clergy. The regular services were as follows:

Church	**Service**		**Average No attending**	
			Adults	*Under 16s*
Lady St Mary, Wareham	8am	Said Communion	12	
	10am	All Age Communion	78	14
	10am	Sung Communion	78	1
	10am	Praise Communion	65	1
Sandford, St Martin	9am	Breakfast Church	36	8
	10.30am	Communion or Morning Prayer	20	
St Nicholas, Arne *(fortnightly)*	10.30am	Holy Communion	15	
St John the Evangelist, East Holme *(fortnightly)*	10am 6pm	Holy Communion or Evensong *(during Summer)*	11	
St Martin on the Walls, Wareham *(Weds)*	11am	Holy Communion	11	

The average numbers of adults attending our five churches each week (or each fortnight at Arne and East Holme) increased to 180 from 175 in 2024, and this is encouraging.

The lack of a Team Vicar has put considerable strain on our two Team Rectors and our two unpaid clergy, the Rev Michael Young and the Rev Hilary Bond, in maintaining our pattern of services and we are grateful to them and to our retired clergy who have stepped in to take services.

It is very pleasing that we can keep Lady St Mary and St Martin on the Walls, Wareham and St Nicholas Church, Arne open every day for visitors, and we are grateful to those who serve as church guides.

In August, our longstanding Parish Administrator, Debs Barclay, resigned. Debs had been in position for 18 years serving both as administrator and bookkeeper and her departure has led to significant challenges, but also opportunities for updating policies and making improvements in our communications, parish calendars, newssheets, hall and church bookings, record keeping and finances. Mark Lapper has been tackling our bookkeeping in addition to his role as church treasurer and has put in many hours of work. Nick Burden has taken on the role of bookings administrator and various people volunteered to be present in the church office for opening hours on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays and to assist with other areas of administration. We are extremely grateful to all these volunteers for their ongoing help. After advertising the post and interviewing we were delighted to appoint the Revd Shelma Vaughan as our new administrator from 1st December, but on only half of the paid hours that Debs Barclay was working. This reduction will assist with our finances but also enable various roles to be undertaken by volunteers.

We are proposing to start a new organisation to support the upkeep and maintenance of our four historic churches called the 'Friends of Wareham Churches'. This is intended to be a group of people who live locally or further afield who have developed due regard for Wareham Parish Churches as local centres of worship and mission, as places of service to the community and as a focus for local identity. They may not necessarily worship at these churches or be on the Electoral Roll of the Parish. We are very grateful to Jane Lambert for her work on this scheme which will be launched later in 2026.

Hilary Goodinge & Mike Quinlan
Churchwardens

Churchwardens Overview

from St John the Evangelist, East Holme

Our little church continues with our fortnightly services of two 10.00am Holy Communion (BCP) throughout the winter with an Evensong (BCP) at 6.00pm during the summer months in place of one of the communion services. We are grateful to Nigel Webb who plays at both services and will also read a lesson when required.

The annual 'Hymns and Pimms' attracted a good number and will be held on the Sunday 26th July in 2026. Thank you to Wareham Choir for joining us and making the service what it is.

The Flower Festival was a great success and although the weather was extremely hot, we had more visitors than ever. Our thanks go out to all the team who help to set up, run and break down this event without whom it wouldn't happen. We would also like to thank William and Hilary Bond for allowing us to hold it on front lawn. This year's event will take place on the last Bank Holiday Monday in August (31st).
Purbeck Village Quire visited us twice last year and we would like to thank them for attending and putting on two lovely concerts. The Carol Service was well attended, and we had our usual festive refreshments afterwards. Finally, we would like to thank Graham, Nigel, and Leslie Selby for their continued hard work in keeping the churchyard and car park maintained throughout the year, also to all those who read lessons throughout the year.

Jon Moulton & Leslie Selby
Church Wardens

Images from St John the Evangelist Church, East Holme

Marriage, a time of joy; East Holme Fete, a time of Community.
Churchyard monument, providing inspiration for the new Parish logo, introduced in 2025

Financial Review

The comments in this report relate to the full accounts previously circulated to the PCC, particularly the SOFA (p11), balance sheet (p12), analysis of income and expenditure (pp17& 20), and charity funds (p37-40)

Income

Donations and legacies were up by 20.7 % compared to the previous year. This good result was in part due to some gifts in wills, but it was encouraging to see that regular giving and gifts were also up. We continue to encourage those who wish to give regularly to the work of the parish to sign up to the Parish Giving Scheme (PGS). It is easy to do, and you retain full control of your giving. Gift aid is automatically collected if you give authority to do so.
I should also note that there was excellent income from the sale of unwanted jewellery and gold items, and from the sale of refreshments. The treasurer would like to thank all those who contributed to this.
The total income in unrestricted funds was £197, 766 and increase of 20.3% on the previous year. This is an excellent result for which thanks is due to many in our congregations.

Expenditure

Our expenditure was £59,714 lower than in 2024 (-25.8%). Just over half of this saving was the result of our agreed reduction in parish share, the sum we pay to Salisbury to cover the salaries, pensions and expenses of our serving clergy. The other significant saving was on administration (-24.8%), following the resignation of our administrator at the end of August. Her work was covered by volunteers until a new finance/administration person started in December.

Statement of Financial Activities (SoFA)

The encouraging results explained above led to a surplus of £26296 in our general fund. When investment losses and other exceptional items were accounted for, we were able to increase the holding in our general fund by £18530, to £111928. This has provided a good starting point for the current year.

Restricted funds

Our accounts show 25 restricted funds which can only be used for the purposes specified when they were set up. They are enriched variously by donations, investment income, and services provided to third parties. At year end we carried forward £92752 in total into 2026. This compares with £73329 brought forward from 2024. It should be noted that roughly half of the restricted funds showed no expenditure during the year.

Mark Lapper
Treasurer

Caring for our Church Buildings

Mike Quinlan is Fabric Officer for our churches (except for East Holme) and is supported by a Fabric Committee with the other members being Tim Salter, Phil Stephens, Nick Burden and Simon Lathwell. It has been a relatively quiet year for fabric repairs although we have been preparing for works in 2026 and the committee only met once in March.

The Lady St Mary's Church

We have been preparing for repairs to the Anthony Trew Monument and quotations were obtained from two companies. The contract was awarded to Minerva Construction with plans to carry out the work in January 2026 at a cost of £7,960 plus VAT. A grant of £4,500 was secured from the Leche Trust and £500 was raised from a sale of art in the Town Hall arranged by Love it Local in July.

We enquired about disposing of two items from the church:

- The wooden font cover that sits on top of an old font base at the east end of the north side aisle. This was removed from its previous suspension by chains above the hexagonal lead font around 50 years ago following safety concerns.
- A small Enamel Diptych that used to be kept in the Edward Chapel, but more recently has been kept in a safe. It is in a poor state of repair and probably of low value.

In both cases the Diocesan Advisory Committee (DAC) advised against these disposals, and we are now looking into the possibilities of restoring the Diptych. Although we could challenge the DAC recommendations, this could be both time-consuming and financially costly.

More successfully we obtained faculty consent for installation of 4 TV screens in the church to replace the current projector and drop-down screen that is lowered from a roof truss in the chancel. This screen is expected to fail at some stage and would be very difficult and expensive to replace. Technology has advanced since the projector and screen were installed and using TVs would give better quality images. We will probably delay this work until the current arrangement becomes unreliable.

In 2024, woodworm was detected in the Swell section of the church organ, and it was decided to replace the 'action' in the swell organ. This work was carried in the summer of 2025. During this work, woodworm was also discovered in the Great section of the organ, and it was recommended that the same repairs should be carried out to this section. The total cost of repairs to both sections will be around £28,000 + VAT. The PCC agreed to this expenditure but on condition that no money should be used from the General Fund of the church. The work to the Great Section is programmed for early in 2026. We are very grateful to all those who contributed to the cost of the organ works.

Further progress has been made in planning for the repairs identified in the Quinquennial Inspection carried out by our inspecting Architect, Daniel Cantrell on 4th May 2023. The Architect has produced a specification for

these works and List B approval was received from the Archdeacon for the works to proceed. It is intended to obtain tenders in early 2026 with a view to starting work in the summer of 2026. However, this will depend largely on fundraising as the total costs are likely to be around £70,000 + VAT.

A significant fabric matter to arise in October 2025 was the failure of the boiler to start. Our previous heating engineers were unable to respond, and we initially employed a local firm of commercial heating engineers. It soon became apparent that we would need to employ the engineers appointed by the manufacturer that cover the south of England and are based near Guildford. Despite five separate visits by engineers in November and December, they were unable to resolve the issue. Services were temporarily relocated to the Parish Hall during the coldest weather, and we trust that the problem will be resolved in early 2026.

St Martin on the Walls

Over a number of years we have been looking at the possibility of installing underfloor heating at St Martin on the Walls with an Air-Source Heat Pump supplemented by an electrical boiler. Designs had been produced but to proceed further we needed trial holes to investigate the possibility of burials or significant archaeological features below the floor. As part of the Church is a Scheduled Monument, consent was required from Historic England in addition to a Faculty from the Diocese. This was proving very difficult and expensive particularly in getting Scheduled Monument Consent. As a result the PCC took the decision in March 2025 to pause any further work on this scheme. We have subsequently looked at the possibility of replacing the existing storage heaters, but this will also require consent from the Diocese.

St Nicholas Church Arne and Sandford St Martin's Church

There have been no significant works carried out in 2025.

Wareham Parish Hall

The main electrical installation was overhauled with the main circuit boards and emergency lighting replaced in order to obtain an Electrical Installation Certificate at a total cost of £4,007. A Fire Risk Assessment was also carried out by Vale Fire Security and a Fire Risk Assessment produced.

'Ornaments'

The Church of England requires us to prepare an Inventory of the contents and some of the fixtures (windows, monuments, pews etc.) in each of our churches and to check these each year before the Annual Parochial Church Meeting. Any losses or additions not covered by a Faculty need to be reported back to the Diocese. At Lady St Mary's there are some 350 different items listed in the Inventory. The checks are carried out by the churchwardens assisted by Local Wardens.

The inventories for each of our five churches have been checked. There were no significant losses or additions to any of the inventories.

Mike Quinlan
Fabric Officer

Deanery Synod during the Year

Purbeck Deanery Synod Chairman The Revd Canon Richard Bartlett

Three meetings were held in 2025

18th March 2025 at All Saints Church Hall, Swanage
"Scroll all about it – communicating in a digital world"

The speaker Rebbeca Paveley (Diocesan Director of Engagement) spoke about how 9 out 10 young people got their news from on-line sources. As churches, we need to communicate well through digital channels if they we are to get our key message across. Key points were to ensure that websites were kept up-to date, and that the design was suitable for display on a mobile phone. The "A Church Near You" website was available to serve as a framework, including helpful resources. Social media, such as "Facebook", "WhatsApp", etc, were also important tools. Although there were some concerns regarding safeguarding and permissions to use third party data, including pictures, these could be handled with care. For most congregations Facebook seemed to be the most appropriate medium.
The Synod Lay Chair, Carol Richards, had visited parish churches in the deanery and made personal assessments of different aspects of how their image impacted on her.

Awards were made in the following categories:

- Most welcoming outside: St Christophers, Winfrith Newburgh
- Most engaging interior: St Michael and All Angels, Steeple
- Clearest web site: West Purbeck Benefice
- Highest number of posts on Facebook: St Marks, Herston

12th July 2025 at St Nicholas of Myra Church, Worth Matravers
Purbeck Deanery Synod Eucharist, presided over by Archdeacon Penny

The evening was about the major repairs carried out to the church of St Nicholas of Myra Church and where they sourced funding. There was also a talk on the Dorset Historic Church Trust by Jeremy Selfe, this included their role within the church community.

22nd October 2025 at Wareham Parish Hall
"Conservation in Our Church Yards"

The talk was led by Rev Lydia Reece, and she explained that the historic and protected nature of the churchyard natural environment meant that in many cases the ecology present represents very rare and ancient characteristics. This should be nurtured, although potential conflicts could make this difficult.

Deanery Synod representatives from Wareham Parish are:

Ex-officio: The Revd Neil Kelly, Revd Deborah Swann, Revd Hilary Bond and Revd Shelma Vaughan

Elected Lay Members: Hilary Goodinge, Jon Moulton, Becky Green, Margaret Harris, and Anne Laking.

Safeguarding

Safeguarding is not a discrete function of our church life; it is integral to our identity and mission. The calling to create communities that are safe, just and compassionate reflects the heart of the gospel and our responsibility to all who engage with our churches.

Everyone who participates in the life of the Church has a role to play in promoting a safer church for all.

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) and Team Rectors have oversight and ultimate responsibility for safeguarding within the Parish of Wareham. The Parish Safeguarding Officer (PSO) is responsible for implementing safeguarding arrangements and ensuring relevant guidelines are adhered to. The PSO, along with Cilla Spurling, the Safeguarding Officer for Sandford St Martin's Church, supports the PCC and Team Rectors, giving independence to the system. In addition, the Parish works closely with the Diocesan Safeguarding Team.

During 2025 our longstanding Parish Safeguarding Officer, Debs Barclay left the Parish to start a new job. We give thanks for the contribution that Debs made to the parish in fulfilling this role. In addition, we are very grateful for the ongoing support and work that has continued to be provided by Cilla Spurling, who has ensured DBS checks and appropriate Safeguarding Training is up to date for individuals working within the church.

There have been no reported safeguarding incidents during 2025.

A considerable amount of work was required however, to resolve issues created by a Data Barring Service (DBS) data breach, across the Salisbury Diocese. This breach occurred due to criminals gaining access to records held by a sub-contractor to APCS who are the Data Processor employed by the Diocese of Salisbury.

Starting in 2026 the Diocese of Salisbury will be introducing important new tools to support parishes in strengthening their safeguarding practices. This will include registering Wareham Parish Safeguarding Hub with the Salisbury Diocese. This facilitates the parish responsibility to meet the Church of England's safeguarding requirements and is funded by the Diocese. Parish safeguarding information is to be stored securely in one place on the Hub

Safeguarding Hubs were set up in response to changes made by the Diocese for processing DBS checks and training. All DBS requests and training will now link directly with the Parish Safeguarding Hub as an automated and updated management system to ensure our Parish responsibilities.

Governance

The Parochial Church Council

The aim, purpose, and vocation of every Church of England Parish is primarily to promote the mission of the church by serving the community within the parish boundary, hold regular public Christian services, to which all are welcome, and to guard, promote and safeguard the historic assets of the church, held in trust for the people of the community.

The church nationally, has developed five marks of mission, which we as Wareham Parochial Church Council (PCC) seek to promote through pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical activities.

These are:

- Proclaim the good news of the kingdom.
- Teach, baptise and nurture new believers.
- Respond to human need by loving service.
- Transform, unjust structures of society, to challenge violence of every kind, and pursue peace and reconciliation.
- Strive to safeguard the integrity of creation, and sustain, and renew the life of the earth.

As Trustees, members of the Parochial Church Council, we work collaboratively with the clergy of the Parish, to ensure the financial sustainability, mission and maintenance of the five church buildings and also the Parish Hall.

- The Priory Church of Lady St Mary, Wareham
- The Church of St Martin on the Walls
- The Church of St Nicholas, Arne
- Sandford St Martin Church
- The Church of St John the Evangelist, East Holme

Appointment and Membership of the PCC

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the church representation rules and the standing orders. Each of our five churches elects a certain number of members at an annual meeting of that church. Members are elected for three years and can serve a maximum of two terms in succession.

During the year the following served as members of the PCC, who are trustees of the charity (Charity No: 1132868):

Ex officio:

The Reverend Neil Kelly	Team Rector appointed July 2025
The Reverend Deborah Swann	Team Rector appointed July 2025
The Reverend Hilary Bond	Pioneer Priest & Schools Worker
The Reverend Shelma Vaughan	Assistant Curate appointed July 2025

Hilary Goodinge Parish Churchwarden
Michael Quinlan Parish Churchwarden & Lay Chair

St John the Evangelist, East Holme elected representatives:

Jonathan Moulton Local Warden Leslie Selby Local Warden

Lady St Mary, Wareham elected representatives:

Anne Laking Local Warden

Nicholas Burden, Jenny Elmes, Simon Lathwell
Anthony Tew until May 2025
David Nicholas appointed PCC Secretary May 2025

St Martin on the Walls, Wareham elected representative: Vacant

Sandford St Martin elected representatives:

Barbara Wells Local Warden

Sarah Levett, Priscilla Spurling

St Nicholas, Arne elected representatives:

Heather Duncan Local Warden

Virginia Collings

Deanery Synod members:

Hilary Goodinge, Rebecca Green (Local Warden for St Martin on the Walls)
Margaret Harris, Anne Laking, Jonathan Moulton

Co-opted members: Mark Lapper Treasurer
Deborah Barclay PCC secretary until May 2025

The PCC met eight times in 2025 in the Parish Hall. Meetings were well attended (mean average: 70%). PCC members also attended a Vision and Planning Day in St James' Church, Poole on the 6th of September 2025.

Matters discussed at the eight PCC meetings in 2025 include:

Approval of the annual accounts for 2024	Terms of reference for Friends of Wareham Parish Churches
Digital giving	Worship patterns
Parish share contribution	Digitisation of parish records
Maintenance of Parish Hall, Lady St Mary and St John the Evangelist	Payments to international mission partners
School governor vacancies	Appointment of a Team Vicar
Safeguarding	Organisation of the Parish Office and appointment of a Parish Administrator

Priorities identified at the Vision and Planning Day included

- creating capacity (administration, communications and finance);
- teaching and discipleship;
- children, youth and families;
- creative use of sacred spaces for prayer and worship.

The PCC has various subcommittees. Members of these subcommittees include PCC members and other members of our churches.
Each church has its own Congregational Committee.

Financial Statement

Section A Statement of financial activities

Recommended categories by activity	Guidance Notes	Unrestricted funds	Restricted income funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Prior year funds
		£	£	£	£	£
Incoming resources (Note 3)		F01	F02	F03	F04	F05
Income and endowments from:						
Donations and legacies	S01	154761	29611		184372	155589
Charitable activities	S02	8675	1390		10065	10387
Other trading activities	S03	22164	1266		23430	14478
Investments	S04	4205	15233		19438	19373
Separate material item of income	S05	7961	0		7961	9124
Other	S06	0	0		0	8500
Total	S07	197766	47500	0	245266	217451
Resources expended (Note 6)						
Expenditure on:						
Raising funds	S08	161	0		161	128
Charitable activities	S09	73244	9959		83203	95304
Separate material item of expense	S10	96016	23621		119637	201252
Other	S11	2049	137		2186	20538
Total	S12	171470	33717	0	205187	317222
Net income/(expenditure) before investment gains/(losses)	S13	26296	13783	0	40079	-99771
Net gains/(losses) on investments	S14	-2126	-2575	-1928	-6629	3711
Net income/(expenditure)	S15	24170	11208	-1928	33450	-96060
Extraordinary items	S16					0
Transfers between funds	S17	-5640	5640		0	0
Other recognised gains/(losses):						
Gains and losses on revaluation of fixed assets for the charity's own use	S18				0	0
Other gains/(losses)	S19	0	0	0	0	0
Net movement in funds	S20	18530	16848	-1928	33450	-96060
Reconciliation of funds:						
Total funds brought forward	S21	93398	104407	48211	246016	342076
Total funds carried forward	S22	111928	121255	46283	279466	246016

Section B Balance sheet

Parochial Church Council of Wareham
Annual Accounts from 1 December 2025 to 31 December 2025

		Guidance Notes	Unrestricted funds £ F01	Restricted income funds £ F02	Endowment funds £ F03	Total this year £ F04	Total last year £ F05
Fixed assets							
Intangible assets	(Note 15)	B01	0	0	0	0	0
Tangible assets	(Note 14)	B02	0	0	0	0	0
Heritage assets	(Note 16)	B03	0	0	0	0	0
Investments	(Note 17)	B04	51052	61847	46283	159182	165811
Total fixed assets		B05	51052	61847	46283	159182	165811
Current assets							
Stocks	(Note 18)	B06				0	0
Debtors	(Note 19)	B07	16336			16336	9105
Cash short term deposits	(Note 17.4)	B08		8200		8200	8200
Cash at bank and in hand	(Note 24)	B09	54870	51208		106078	74336
Total current assets		B10	71206	59408	0	130614	91641
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	(Note 20)	B11	10330			10330	11436
Net current assets/(liabilities)		B12	60876	59408	0	120284	80205
Total assets less current liabilities		B13	111928	121255	46283	279466	246016
Creditors: amounts falling due after one year	(Note 20)	B14	0	0	0	0	0
Provisions for liabilities		B15	0	0	0	0	0
Total net assets or liabilities		B16	111928	121255	46283	279466	246016
Funds of the Charity							
Endowment funds	(Note 27)	B17			25000	25000	25000
Restricted income funds	(Note 27)	B18		92752		92752	73329
Unrestricted funds		B19	88422			88422	67766
Revaluation reserve		B20	23506	28503	21283	73292	79921
Total funds		B21	111928	121255	46283	279466	246016

Note 3 Analysis of income

	Analysis	Unrestricted funds	Restricted income funds	Endowment funds	Total funds £	Prior year £	LAST YEAR 2024 Unrestricted funds	Restricted income funds	Endowment funds	Total funds £
Donations and legacies:	Donations and gifts	33126	15958		49084	35268	19021	16247		35268
	Gift Aided planned giving	61870	770		62640	56341	56341			56341
	Tax recovered and recoverable	16312	1860		18172	13881	13871	10		13881
	Other non gift aided planned giving	4655			4655	3350	3350			3350
	Legacies	13250			13250	2000	2000			2000
	Collections	20425	720		21145	17525	17525			17525
	Grants provided by Governments or local authority	0	7585		7585	5788	0	5788		5788
	Offertory boxes	4793			4793	5970	5970			5970
	Home/Overseas mission	0	2718		2718	5330	0	5330		5330
	Gift day	330			330	10136	10136			10136
	Other				0	0				0
	Total	154761	29611	0	**184372**	**155589**	**128214**	**27375**	**0**	**155589**
Charitable activities:	Parish hall hire	5786	730		6516	8400	7600	800		8400
	Church Vestry hire/Sandford Worship Space	2889	660		3549	1987	1677	310		1987
	Other	0			0	0	0			0
	Total	8675	1390	0	**10065**	**10387**	**9277**	**1110**	**0**	**10387**
Other trading activities:	Refreshments (LSM(Sat&Sun)+Sandford)	7831	313		8144	6470	6339	131		6470
	Parish fund raising	14333	544		14877	7372	7372			7372
	Wareham Toddlers/Sandford Seedlings		409		409	636		636		636
	Other				0	0				0
	Total	22164	1266	0	**23430**	**14478**	**13711**	**767**	**0**	**14478**
Income from investments:	Investment Interest Income	3804	14121		17925	18183	3486	14697		18183
	Bank/Building Society Interest	401	1112		1513	1190	1190			1190
	Total	4205	15233	0	**19438**	**19373**	**4676**	**14697**	**0**	**19373**
Separate material item of income:	P.C.C. fees	7961	0		7961	9124	8496	628		9124
					0					0
										0
	Total	7961	0	0	**7961**	**9124**	**8496**	**628**	**0**	**9124**
Other:	Grants	0	0	0	0	8500	0	8500	0	8500
	Total	0	0	0	0	8500	0	8500	0	8500
TOTAL INCOME		**197766**	**47500**	**0**	**245266**	**217451**	**164374**	**53077**	**0**	**217451**

Note 6 Analysis of expenditure

	Analysis	Un restricted funds	Restricted income funds	Endowment funds	Total funds £	Prior year £	LAST YEAR 2024 Un restricted funds	Restricted income funds	Endowment funds	Total funds £
Expenditure on raising funds:	Incurred seeking donations			-	0				-	0
	Staging fund raising events	161			161	128	128			128
	Advertising, marketing, direct mail and publicity				0	0				0
	Database development costs				0	0				0
	Other trading activities				0					0
					0	0				0
	Total expenditure on raising funds	161	0	0	161	128	128	0	0	128
Expenditure on charitable activities	Church running	39936	830		40766	39590	39494	96		39590
	Clergy	1229			1229	1668	1668			1668
	Sudan school				0	0				0
	Administration	24698			24698	32833	32833			32833
	Parish hall running	5765	144		5909	7469	6872	597		7469
	Schools/Youth work	308			308	1081	995	86		1081
	Wareham Toddlers/Sandford		137		137	448		448		448
	Home & overseas mission	1308	8848		10156	12215	1985	10230		12215
					0	0				0
	Total expenditure on charitable activities	73244	9959	0	83203	95304	83847	11457	0	95304
Separate material item of expense	Diocesan parish share	95900		-	95900	126808	126808		-	126808
	Building & fabric repair	116	23621		23737	74444		74444		74444
		0	0	-	0	0	0	0	-	0
	Total	96016	23621	0	119637	201252	126808	74444	-	201252
Other	Miscellaneous	0			0	12744	12744		-	12744
	Sundries	489	137		626	5679	5542	137	-	5679
	Governance costs	1560			1560	2115	2115		-	2115
					0	0		0	-	0
					0	0	0	0	-	0
	Total other expenditure	2049	137	0	2186	20538	20401	137	-	20538
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		**171470**	**33717**	**-**	**205187**	**317222**	**231184**	**86038**	**-**	**317222**

Note 27 Charity funds

27.1 Details of material funds held and movements during the CURRENT reporting period

Please give details of the movements of material individual funds in the reporting period together with a balancing figure for 'Other funds'. The 'Total funds' figure below should reconcile to 'Total funds' in the blanace sheet.

**** Key: PE - permanent endowment funds; EE - expendible endowment funds; R - restricted income funds, including special trusts, of the charity; and U - unrestricted funds***

Fund names	Type PE, EE R or UR *	Purpose and Restrictions	Fund balances brought forward £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Gains and losses £	Fund balances carried forward £
Wareham Land Funds	PE	Endowment fund held by the Diocese on behalf of the PCC. The income from the fund's capital is used for the repair of SMOW and /or charitable work in the Parish of Wareham		0	0	0	0	0
Michael Smith Endowment fund	PE	Shares in Tesco held by the PCC but not shown in B/S. Interest for Mission and Fabric						0
LSM TB & BF Fund	Permanent Endowment	Capital sum invested. Interest for LSM music & organ	9643				386	**9257**
LSM Fabric Ashton Taylor fund	Permanent Endowment	Capital sum invested Interest for LSM Fabric	19284				771	**18513**
Arne Fabric Ashton Taylor fund	Permanent Endowment	Capital sum invested. Interest for Arne Fabric	19284				771	**18513**
		sub total	**48211**					**46283**
Blessing Fund	Restricted		0	4196	1678	140		**2658**
LSM Fabric	Restricted	LSM Fabric	6582	3029	4570	5000		**10041**
Elmes Memorial	Restricted	Elmes Memorial Fund	2737					**2737**
LSM AV/Media	Restricted	LSM sound and visual systems	437	650	457			**630**
LSM Fabric Re-ordering	Restricted	LSM Fabric Re-ordering	1517					**1517**
Sandford Fabric	Restricted	For fitting out Sandford Worship Centre	4534					**4534**
Arne Fabric	Restricted	Arne fabric	10740	1115				**11855**
Arne Church Congregation	Restricted	Arne Congregation	1000					**1000**
Saint Martins on the Wall Fabric	Restricted	SMOW fabric	1948	8396	572	10084		**15960**
East Holme Fabric	Restricted	EH Fabric	9041	177				**9218**
LSM Bell Fund	Restricted	LSM Church bells maintenance	4834					**4834**
St.Stephens School S. Sudan	Restricted	Sudan School upkeep & teacher wages	0	1642	557	500		**1585**
Parish Hall Maintenance	Restricted	PH Repairs and maintenance	3907	1100	4151			**856**
Legacies	Restricted	From the estate of Paddy for PCC uses	16285					**16285**
Land Fund interest (SMOW/Parish)	Restricted	Land Fund (SMOW Fabric/Parish)	0	10084		10084		**0**
Sandford Mission	Restricted	Sandford Mission	803	196	413			**586**
Rector/Church Wardens Discret.	Restricted	Rector/CW (small donations for needy)	802					**802**
Clergy Property Redecoration Fund	Restricted	Clergy Property Redecoration Fund	3800					**3800**
LSM Flowers	Restricted	Flowers for LSM Church	36	187	96			**127**
LSM Organ	Restricted	LSM Organ	4568	13295	14472			**3391**
LSM Music	Restricted	LSM Music	0	66				**66**
Angel Voices	Restricted	Angel Voices	95					**95**
Mission Fund	Restricted	Overseas/Home Mission including M.Taylor, R.Guinness	626	2818	6613			**3169**
Agency Collection	Restricted	Various	1686	140				**1826**
Parish Toddler Group	Restricted	Parish Toddler Group	1247	409	138			**1518**
		sub total	**73329**					**92752**
LSM Fabric Investment Revaluation	Restricted	Gains on revaluations as at 31.12.2025	15663				1298	**14365**
LSM TB & BF Investment Reval.	Restricted	Gains on revaluations as at 31.12.2025	5358				444	**4914**
Arne Fabric Investment Revaluation	Restricted	Gains on revaluations as at 31.12.2025	10057				833	**9224**
		sub total	**31078**					**28503**
		Total Endowment & restricted funds	**152618**	**47500**	**33717**	**5640**	**4503**	**167538**
Other:- Unrestricted but Designated Funds		**From The SOFA The totals line must be:-**		**47500**	**33717**	**5640**	**4503**	
M.Smith Endowment Fund Interest	Designated	by the PCC - Mission	**4206**	2312	1308	500		**4710**
From General Funds	Designated	by the PCC for Clergy Prop Refurb.	**500**					**500**
From Gifford Legacy	Designated	by the PCC for LSM Re-Ordering	**9355**					**9355**

27.2 Details of material funds held and movements during the PREVIOUS reporting period

Please give details of the movements of material individual funds in the reporting period together with a balancing figure for 'Other funds'. The 'Total funds' figure below should reconcile to 'Total funds' in the blanace sheet.

** Key: PE - permanent endowment funds; EE - expendible endowment funds; R - restricted income funds, including special trusts, of the charity; and U - unrestricted funds*

Fund names	Type PE, EE R or UR *	Purpose and Restrictions	Fund balances brought forward £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Gains and losses £	Fund balances carried forward £
Wareham Church Land Funds	PE	Endowment fund £339,813 held by the Diocese on behalf of the PCC. The income from the fund's capital is used for the repair of SMOW and /or charitable work in the Parish of Wareham		0	0	0	0	0
Michael Smith Endowment fund	PE	Shares in Tesco held by the PCC but not shown in B/S. Interest for Mission and Fabric						0
LSM TB & BF Fund	Permanent Endowment	Capital sum invested. Interest for LSM music & organ	9426				217	**9643**
LSM Fabric Ashton Taylor fund	Permanent Endowment	Capital sum invested Interest for LSM Fabric	18853				431	**19284**
Arne Fabric Ashton Taylor fund	Permanent Endowment	Capital sum invested. Interest for Arne Fabric	18853				431	**19284**
		sub total	**47132**					**48211**
LSM Fabric	Restricted	LSM Fabric	1468	8374	3480	220		**6582**
Elmes Memorial	Restricted	Elmes Memorial Fund	2737					**2737**
LSM AV/Media	Restricted	LSM sound and visual systems	353	300	216			**437**
LSM Fabric Re-ordering	Restricted	LSM Fabric Re-ordering	5333		3816			**1517**
Sandford Fabric	Restricted	For fitting out Sandford Worship Centre	4834		300			**4534**
Arne Fabric	Restricted	Arne fabric	18384	4856	12500			**10740**
Arne Church Congregation	Restricted	Arne Congregation	1000	860	860			**1000**
Saint Martins on the Wall Fabric	Restricted	SMOW fabric	25000	10873	47831	10010		**1948**
East Holme Fabric	Restricted	EH Fabric	8614	427				**9041**
LSM Bell Fund	Restricted	LSM Church bells maintenance	6432	1000	2598			**4834**
St.Stephens School S. Sudan	Restricted	Sudan School upkeep & teacher wages	119	1166	2465	1418		**0**
Parish Hall Maintenance	Restricted	PH Repairs and maintenance	2667	3845	2605			**3907**
Legacies	Restricted	From the estate of Paddy for PCC uses	16285					**16285**
Land Fund interest (SMOW/Parish)	Restricted	Land Fund (SMOW Fabric/Parish)	0	10010		10010		**0**
Sandford Mission	Restricted	Sandford Mission	500	303				**803**
Rector/Church Wardens Discret.	Restricted	Rector/CW (small donations for needy)	821		19			**802**
Clergy Property Redecoration Fund	Restricted	Clergy Property Redecoration Fund	3000	800				**3800**
LSM Flowers	Restricted	Flowers for LSM Church	42	20	26			**36**
LSM Organ	Restricted	LSM Organ	3740	1794	966			**4568**
Angel Voices	Restricted	Angel Voices	95					**95**
Mission Fund	Restricted	Overseas/Home Mission including M.Taylor, R.Guinness	272	5556	7232	2030		**626**
Agency Collection	Restricted	Various	0	2218	532			**1686**
Parish Toddler Group	Restricted	Parish Toddler Group	1314	675	592	150		**1248**
		sub total	**102772**					**73329**
LSM Fabric Investment Revaluation	Restricted	Gains on revaluations as at 31.12.2024	14936				727	**15663**
LSM TB & BF Investment Reval.	Restricted	Gains on revaluations as at 31.12.2024	5109				249	**5358**
Arne Fabric Investment Revaluation	Restricted	Gains on revaluations as at 31.12.2024	9591				466	**10057**
		sub total	**29636**					**31078**
		Total Endowment & restricted funds	**179540**	**53077**	**86038**	**3518**	**2521**	**152618**
Other:- Unrestricted but Designated Funds								
M.Smith Endowment Fund Interest	Designated	by the PCC - Mission	**7496**	2278	2568	3000		**4206**
From General Funds	Designated	by the PCC for Clergy Prop Refurb.	**500**					**500**
From General Funds	Designated	by the PCC for Insurance Purchase	**15000**		15000			**0**
From Gifford Legacy	Designated	by the PCC for LSM Re-Ordering	**9355**					**9355**

Note 27 Charity funds (cont)

27.3 Transfers between funds

	Reason for transfer and where endowment is converted to income, legal power for its conversion	Amount
From unrestricted to restricted funds	£140 from Unrestricted to Blessing Fund and £5,000 from unrestricted to LSM Fabric Fund.	**£5,140**
Between restricted funds	Wareham Land Fund monies of £10,084 - transferred to the SMOW Fabric fund.	**£0**
From restricted funds to unrestricted funds		**£0**
From Designated funds to Restricted funds.	£500 from Michael Smith Fund to St Stephens School Sudan.	**£500**

TOTAL £5,640

27.4 Designated funds

Planned use	Purpose of the designation	Amount
Michael Smith legacy	Designated by the PCC to support home and overseas mission and the LSM fabric fund in line with family wishes	**£4,710**
Clergy property fund	Designated by the PCC to provide a fund for future maintenance of clergy property.	**£500**
LSM re-ordering Fund	Designated by the PCC to provide a fund for re-ordering LSM from monies received from the Gifford legacy	**£9,355**

Note 27 **Charity funds (cont)**

27.3 Transfers between funds

	Reason for transfer and where endowment is converted to income, legal power for its conversion	Amount
From unrestricted to restricted funds	£220 from Unrestricted to LSM Fabric and £448 transferred to St Stephens School Sudan.	**£668**
Between restricted funds	Wareham Land Fund monies of £10010 - transferred to the SMOW Fabric fund. £120 transferred from Mission to St Stephens School Sudan.	**£0**
From restricted funds to unrestricted funds	From restricted fund Parish Baby & Toddlers £150 to unrestricted fund to reimburse for use of Hall utilities	**-£150**
From Designated funds to Restricted funds	£3000 from Michael Smith Fund to Parish Mission split as follows: £2150 transferred to Parish Mission and £850 transferred to Parish Mission for St Stephens School Sudan.	**£3,000**

27.4 Designated funds

Planned use	Purpose of the designation	Amount
Michael Smith legacy	Designated by the PCC to support home and overseas mission and the LSM fabric fund in line with family wishes	**£4,206**
Clergy property fund	Designated by the PCC to provide a fund for future maintenance of clergy property.	**£500**
LSM re-ordering Fund	Designated by the PCC to provide a fund for re-ordering LSM from monies received from the Gifford legacy	**£9,355**

Back cover image: Parish Retreat to Lee Abbey, Devon

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