



**The Parish of St Paul's Church Yelverton  
Parochial Church Council**

**Annual Report  
and  
Financial Statements**

**for**

**The Year Ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2025**

**Rector: The Rev Andrew Thomas**

**Bankers:**

**HSBC Bank 4 Old Town Street Plymouth  
Lloyds Bank Royal Parade Plymouth**

**Independent Examiner:**

**Col Gordon Mills**

**1 Downlea**

**Tavistock**

**PL19 9AW**

**Web site: [www.westdartmoor.church](http://www.westdartmoor.church)  
The Parochial Church Council is an Excepted Charity**

## **Objectives and Activities**

St Paul's Parochial Church Council (the PCC) has the responsibility of cooperating with the Incumbent in promoting throughout the West Dartmoor Benefice the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical.

In addition to maintaining the Church itself, which is a Grade II Listed Building, the PCC is also responsible for maintaining the Church Hall next door.

In partnership with our 5 fellow-Parishes within the West Dartmoor Mission Community we aim:

- To build up our worshipping congregation
- To support both individuals and families
- To engage in mission and outreach work
- To maintain and enhance the fabric of church and church hall

## **Public benefit statement (statutory declaration)**

When planning our activities, the PCC has considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit, and in particular the specific guidance on charities for the advancement of religion.

## **Achievements during 2025:**

### **Worship and Prayer**

We record warm thanks for their spiritual leadership to Andrew our Rector and our Ministerial Team: Rev'd Mike Fairall, Rev'd Miranda Donne, Rev'd Denis Robinson and our LLM Martin Jury.

With a reduced team available, St Paul's main Sunday Eucharists were reduced to once a month (avg.att.24) – plus one Sunday evening Eucharist (avg.12) and a regular midweek midday Eucharist (avg.9). Family Worship on the first Sunday of the month continued to attract 25 avg.

One of the Archdeacon's annual Visitations was held in St Paul's in June – some 70 visitors attended.

Two major worshipping occasions came at Christmas. The Service of 9 Lessons and Carols held on Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> December attracted 70+ attendees. The Christmas Eve Crib Service featured Airline Angel Wings flight 777 to Bethlehem with in-flight entertainment story-telling featuring key episodes around Jesus' birth – some 75 adults attended plus a large number of children.

### **Various**

Electoral Roll: 28 (last year 32)

Baptisms: 3. Weddings: 0. Funerals: 4.

The church was affected by three unsettling episodes during the summer.

Most spectacularly our lectern was vandalized. Fortunately the Eagle was recovered safely and the lectern was restored by a highly competent woodworker from our wider Yelverton community for no charge. We are most grateful.

Secondly someone came into church and lit every available candle. Fortunately no arson was committed.

There were no financial consequences, but most candles have been removed.

Thirdly someone broke into the clergy vestry and sabotaged our electronic sound system. In the wake of this

the vestry locks were changed and one iPad was made usable again – at a cost of some £800. Despite these setbacks, the PCC remains determined to keep the church open to the public daily.

Two concerts were staged in church: in October there was a fund-raiser in aid of Devon Historic Churches Trust (c£900) with a guitar performance by Alison Smith. In December the Levowan Choir performed. The audiences topped respectively 90 and 120.

From January the PCC took cleaning in-house. We are most grateful to the team of volunteers who have stepped up to keep the Church and the Hall in an acceptable state.

Warmest thanks also go to all others who do jobs on the congregation's behalf: to the PCC, especially office-holders. Also to our Deanery Synod rep, musicians, Flower team, flag-master, refreshments providers, eco compliance monitor, grounds clearance work-parties.

We also record thanks to all our church hall Hirers especially the Rainbows who provide floral decoration outside the kitchen. Likewise to the Walkham Valley Scouts who manage the Wayside Crib at Christmas time.

### **Fabric**

Church: we thank Martin Jury for carrying out an exhaustive H&S survey of church and hall.

The Lightning Conductor was tested by Dawson's of Bristol.

In December we took receipt of a Payaz machine – an initiative of the Diocesan Board of Finance.

Hall: Evidence of water ingress under the stage was investigated exhaustively but inconclusively.

The old MC Office was removed.

A major pothole repair and drains clearance outside the kitchen was carried out by volunteers on the last day of the year – our warmest thanks.

### **Safeguarding statement**

The PCC has complied with the duty under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016 (duty to have complied with the House of Bishops' guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults).

### **Financial Review**

Another uneventful year with the usual pattern of receipts falling a little short of payments. The positive surplus of £7,159 is due to the inclusion of a generous legacy of £10,000.

Overall our financial position is extremely healthy, with strong reserves and notably an increase of some £20,000 in the market value of our investments during the year.

The Church Hall continues to be well used and generated a surplus of £2,496 even after unusually heavy expenditure required through the demolition of the old parish office and a lot of urgent electrical work.

### **Reserves Policy**

The PCC has reserves to ensure as far as possible the ability to meet major renewal and repair costs that will arise from time to time to maintain the church in good order

### **Structure, Governance and Management**

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. The Council comprises the Incumbent (Chair, ex officio), Licensed Clergy, the Churchwardens, a representative of the Readers, those elected to the Deanery Synod, and other members who are elected at the Annual Parochial

Church Meeting by those on the Electoral Roll. Members of the congregation are always urged to join the Electoral Roll, and to stand for election to the PCC.

The Church is situated at Yelverton, PL20 6AB and is part of the Deanery of Tavistock, in the Diocese of Exeter. The correspondence address is The Parish Office, St Paul's Church, Yelverton, PL20 6AB. The PCC is a body corporate (PCC Powers Measure 1956, and the Church Representation Rules 2006) and a Charity excepted from registration with the Charity Commission.

**The PCC is a body corporate (PCC Powers Measure 1956 and the Church Representation Rules 2022)**

**Administrative Information**

PCC members who served during the year were:

The Incumbent (ex officio)	Rev. Andrew Thomas
Benefice Licensed Priest	Rev. Miranda Donne
LLM	Martin Jury
Churchwarden	Richard Byrn (Acting Chair)
Secretary	Belinda Gardiner
Deanery Synod Rep	Belinda Gardiner
Elected:	Brian Medhurst (Treasurer)
	Anne-Marie Critchley
	John Gozzard
	Jenny Gray
	James Watt

**Signature(s):**

**Date:**

Richard Byrn  
Churchwarden

10 February 2026

**Independent Examiner’s Report to the members of the Parochial Church Council (‘The Trustees’) of St Paul’s Church Yelverton**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Parochial Church Council of St Paul’s Church, Yelverton (the Trust) for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2025

**Responsibilities and basis of the 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:

.....

Col Gordon Mills

Date:.....

ST PAUL'S CHURCH YELVERTON  
Receipts & Payments Account for year to 31 December 2025

		2025		2024	
		£	£	£	£
<b>RECEIPTS</b>					
Donations and Legacies					
	Regular Giving				
	Tax efficient Planned Giving				
	Parish Giving Scheme	13644		15,643	
	Envelopes and Bank SOs	2284		3,329	
	Collections at Services	1765		2,196	
	Gift Aid tax recovered				
	Parish Giving Scheme	3122		3,911	
	Other	1669		1,994	
			22,484		27,073
	Other Voluntary Receipts				
	Grants	0		0	
	Legacies	10000		0	
	Donations	1124		2,521	
			11,124		2,521
Income from Church Activities					
	Church Hire	487		430	
	Cream Teas	1377		1,434	
	Fees	1277		1,416	
			3,141		3,280
Receipts from Investments					
	Interest	1789		1,310	
			1,789		1,310
Other Receipts					
	Miscellaneous	0	0	3,481	3,481
<b>Total Receipts</b>		<b>38,538</b>		<b>37,665</b>	
<b>PAYMENTS</b>					
Church Activities					
	Diocesan Parish Share	19540		21,686	
	Mission Community Share	1000		0	
	Upkeep of Services	110		204	
	Church Utility Costs	2406		1,017	
	Church Running Costs	5829		6,242	
	Church Maintenance	2369		13,168	
	New Building Work	0		0	
	Mission Giving	125		0	
			31,379		42,317
<b>Total Payments</b>		<b>31,379</b>		<b>42,317</b>	
Excess of Receipts over Payments			7,159		-4,652
Transfer to General Reserve			7,159		-4,652

**ST. PAUL'S CHURCH YELVERTON**

**Statement of Assets & Liabilities at 31 December 2025**

<b>ASSETS</b>	2025			2024		
	Market Val. £	Cost £		Market Val. £	Cost £	
<b>Investments</b>						
Equities Investment Fund for Charities	112,037	11,592		89,922	11,592	
CBF Investment Fund Shares	73,387	14,543	26,135	74,254	14,543	26,135
<b>Current Assets</b>						
Cash at Bank		48,900			11,540	
Cash in Hand		24			35	
Fixed term deposit					31,108	
Notice Account		31,644	80,568		20,726	63,409
<b>Fixed Assets</b>						
St Paul's Church Hall					NIL	
<b>Total Assets</b>		<b>106,703</b>			<b>89,544</b>	
<b>REPRESENTED BY</b>						
<b>Current Liabilities</b>						
Loan from St Paul's Church Hall		20,000	20,000		10,000	10,000
<b>GENERAL RESERVE ACCOUNT</b>						
Balance at 1 January		77,785			82,437	
Transfer from Receipts & Payments account		7,159			(4,652)	
Balance at 31 December					84,944	
					77,785	
<b>TOWER FUND ACCOUNT</b>						
Balance at 1 January		1,759			1,759	
Surplus/(Deficit) on Tower Fund account		0			0	
Balance at 31 December					1,759	
					1,759	
<b>Total Balance Sheet Value</b>		<b>106,703</b>			<b>89,544</b>	

## St Paul's Church Hall

### Receipts & Payments Account for year to 31 December 2025

	2025	2024
	£	£
<b>INCOME</b>		
Lettings	14,443	15,311
Electricity Meters	1,696	1,930
<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>	<b>16,139</b>	<b>17,241</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>		
Heating & Lighting	3,084	3,396
Repairs & Renewals	7,985	728
Insurance	1,669	1,648
Cleaning	343	1,189
Miscellaneous Expenses	562	79
<b>TOTAL PAYMENTS</b>	<b>13,643</b>	<b>7,040</b>
<b>SURPLUS (DEFICIT) FOR THE YEAR</b>	<b>2,496</b>	<b>10,201</b>

### Statement of Assets & Liabilities at 31 December 2025

	2,025	2,024
	£	£
<b>ASSETS</b>		
<b>Current Assets</b>		
Loan to St Paul's Church	20,000	10,000
Cash at Bank	7,651	15,155
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>27,651</b>	<b>25,155</b>
<b>REPRESENTED BY:</b>		
<b>Accumulation of Funds</b>		
Balance at 1 January	25,155	14,954
Surplus/(Deficit) for the year	2,496	10,201
<b>Total Balance Sheet Value</b>	<b>27,651</b>	<b>25,155</b>

**St Paul's Church Yelverton**

Notes to the 2025 Accounts and Financial Statements

1. The financial statements of the PCC have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 using the Receipts and Payments basis.
2. There are no remaining liabilities arising from the work programme on rendering the Tower. The balance of the Tower Fund will be retained for maintenance of the Tower.
3. The Church Hall is included as a fixed asset. The cost has been written down to nil consistent with an asset which has no market value.
4. Accounts have been prepared separately for the Church and the Church Hall, but it should be noted that the combined totals of receipts and payments amounted to £54,677 and £45,022 respectively.
5. The combined total of balance sheet reserves at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2025 for the Church and the Church Hall amounted to £114,354.
6. Moveable church furnishings held by the Churchwardens on trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal are recognised but not included and valued in the statement of assets.

**Approved by the PCC on the 10th February 2026 and signed on its behalf by:**

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**Richard Byrn (Churchwarden)**

.....  
**Brian Medhurst (Treasurer)**

.....  
Andrew Thomas (Rector)