



Holy Trinity  
**Amblecote**

# **REPORT AND ACCOUNTS**

**ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING**  
**26 April 2026**

**Vicar:**

The Revd Alan Williams TSSF SCP

**Churchwardens:**

Dennis Dipple, esq

Mrs Jane Fisher

# ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

## Sunday 26 April 2026 following the 10am Mass

### AGENDA

- 1 Opening Prayer
- 2 Apologies for absence
- 3 Approval of Minutes of the 2025 APCM *There are no matters arising*
- 4 Electoral Roll report
- 5 Elections: *Forms of nomination available in church. Nominations will be permitted at the meeting in accordance with the Representation Rules*
  - a) Churchwardens (2) *for the forthcoming year*
  - b) Deanery Synod Lay Representatives (2) *Until APCM 2029*
  - b) Parochial Church Council (3) *for a three-year term*  
(1) *for a two-year term*
- 6 To receive the Treasurer's Report and acceptance of the 2025 Accounts  
*Questions may be asked of the Treasurer*
- 7 To appoint the Independent Examiner and to agree remuneration
- 8 To receive the reports contained in the booklet  
*There will be no verbal reports. Questions may be asked about the written reports.*
- 9 To receive a report about Deanery Synod
- 10 Chairman's Business *Such business will be permitted at the discretion of the Chair, if notified in writing prior to the commencement of the Mass, such notice to include full details of the nature of the business.*
- 11 Date, time and venue of next year's APCM (Sunday 25 April 2027 after 10am Mass)
- 12 Closing prayer

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At a brief meeting of the new PCC following the APCM, the following business will take place:

- a] Appointment of
  - 1) A lay vice-chair of the PCC
  - 2) Secretary
  - 3) Treasurer
  - 4) One ordinary member of the Standing Committee
- b] Agreeing date of first full meeting of the PCC, and of the Standing Committee

# MINUTES OF ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

## SUNDAY 27th April 2025

Fr Alan Williams in the chair, there were 21 people in attendance.

### Apologies received from

June Weaver, Sheila and Colin Hill, Margaret Green, Martin Taylor, Kally O'Connor and Brenda Bullows

Fr Alan welcomed and thanked everyone for attending and opened the meeting with prayer.

### 1 MINUTES OF THE APCM 2024

The minutes of the APCM Sunday 28th April 2024 were **APPROVED** and duly signed.

### 2 ELECTORAL ROLL – Liz Walker Electoral Roll Officer.

This year has been a complete renewal of the electoral roll. There are 54 names on the new electoral roll, which still entitles us to two representatives to the deanery synod.

The total now stands at 31 residents and 23 non-residents.

The revised roll was **ACCEPTED**.

### 3 ELECTIONS

Forms had been available in Church and nominations were permitted at the meeting in accordance with Church Representation Rules.

#### (a) Churchwardens

Fr Alan from the chair, proposed Dennis Dipple

Jane Fisher, nominated by Helen Shakespeare and seconded by Mary Phillips.

There being no other nominations Dennis and Jane were duly **ELECTED** for the coming year. (This is Dennis's fifth year of office, and Jane's first).

Fr Alan thanked Dennis for his role as Churchwarden combined with that of Treasurer and welcomed Jane to the role. He looks forward to working with them in the coming year.

Fr Alan took the opportunity to thank Sue Boex, the retiring Churchwarden for her work and support during her time in office.

#### (b) Parochial Church Council Members

There have been three retirees, Helen Shakespeare, Susan Riches following a three-year term of office, and Jean Latham who retired early who we thank for their service.

Helen Shakespeare and Susan Riches were re-elected to serve a three-year term of office.

Sue Boex and Liz Walker were elected to the PCC for a three-year term of office. Liz will attend the meetings via the medium of Zoom.

#### (c) Deanery Synod

Martin Taylor and Paul Wilson were nominated from the floor and there being no other candidates were declared **ELECTED** as our deanery synod representatives for the next triennium.

(d) **Sidespeople**

Are now no longer elected at the APCM, but appointed at the discretion of the PCC.

4 **TREASURER'S REPORT**

Fr Alan expressed his gratitude to Dennis Dipple for all his hard work looking after the accounts this year as well as his role as Churchwarden.

The annual treasurer's report has previously been approved by the PCC at the March meeting, Fr Alan asked if the APCM were happy to receive the annual accounts for 2024.

Questions were invited – none were raised, and Church and Church Hall accounts were unanimously **APPROVED**.

5 **APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT EXAMINER (and to agree remuneration)**

Mike Bishop is willing to be the independent examiner for 2025, and a suitable remuneration will be made. **APPROVED**.

A cheque for £5000 was presented from the church hall accounts to the church accounts

6 **REPORTS**

Fr Alan thanked everyone for submitting reports. There were no questions, and the reports were **RECEIVED**.

**Safeguarding** is a statutory report to the APCM. There have been no complaints or issues needing attention this year, some concerns have been dealt with.

Liz Walker is content to remain as our Parish Safeguarding Officer, and Fr Alan as a representative. **APPROVED**.

7 **DEANERY SYNOD**

Deanery Synod have met twice in the past year, and meetings have been informative and useful. This report was **ACCEPTED**.

8 **CHAIRMAN'S BUSINESS AND ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

No notified business has been present.

9 **DATE OF NEXT APCM**

Sunday 26th April 2026 following 10.00am Mass

The meeting closed with Prayer.

Signed

Date

## MEMBERSHIP OF THE PCC :: 2025 – 2026

<b>CHAIRMAN</b>	Fr Alan Williams	since 2008	
<b>CHURCHWARDENS (2)</b>	Dennis Dipple	since 2021	
	Jane Fisher	since 2025	
<b>DEANERY SYNOD REPS (2)</b>	Martin Taylor	Until APCM 2026	
	Paul Wilson	Until APCM 2026	
<b>EX-OFFICIO</b>			
Licensed Lay Ministers	Eirlyn Jenkins	Permission to Officiate	
Treasurer	Dennis Dipple	since Nov 2022	
<b>COUNCILLORS (9)</b>		Term ends at apcm of	
	Doreen Easthope	2026	
	Barbara Hipkiss	2026	
	Vacancy	2026	
	Mary Phillips	2027	
	Ernie Roberts	2027	
	Susan Boex	2028	Authorised Lay Minister
	Susan Riches	2028	
	Helen Shakespeare	2028	
Liz Walker	2028		
<b>SECRETARY</b>	Susan Riches		
<b>MEETINGS</b> (May 2025 – April 2026)	Amblecote PCC has met on six scheduled occasions		

### PURPOSE AND AIMS OF THE PCC

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is the executive body of a Church of England parish. It is constituted as a body corporate by the Church Representation Rules set out in Schedule 3 to the Synodical Government Measure 1969, and consists of the clergy and Churchwardens of the parish, together with a number of representatives of the laity elected by the annual parochial church meeting of the parish. Its powers and duties are defined by certain Acts of Parliament and other legislation, principally the Parochial Church Councils (Powers) Measure 1956. It has the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent (rector, vicar or priest-in-charge) in promoting the mission of the Church in its parish.

Formally, the PCC is responsible for the financial affairs of the Church and the care and maintenance of the church fabric and its contents. These latter responsibilities are executed by churchwardens. It also has a voice in the forms of Service used by the church and may make representations to the bishop on matters affecting the welfare of the parish.

PCCs were set up in 1919 as a successor to the Vestries, which had had their civil functions removed in 1894 with the establishment of civil parishes.

PCC members are Trustees of the religious charitable body which is the Holy Trinity Church, Amblecote, whose charitable aims are the furtherance of the Christian religion within the Parish of Amblecote.

## **SAFEGUARDING STATEMENT**

The Incumbent, Churchwardens, and Parochial Church Council take the safeguarding of young people and vulnerable adults very seriously. We declare ourselves in full agreement with all the safeguarding policies emanating from the Church of England, and are committed to guarding against physical, sexual, psychological, and spiritual abuse of our members and neighbours. We are especially committed to the Safer Recruitment of volunteers, and to an awareness of domestic abuse of any kind.

**Mrs Liz Walker is our Parish Safeguarding Officer (PSO) and her details are to be found on the notice on the board. Fr Alan Williams is the Parish Safeguarding Representative (PSR), and both are contact points for any concerns you have.**

All members of the PCC, Volunteers, and others undertake the requisite Safeguarding training as a condition of their volunteering and involvement.

No incidents have been reported to Liz or Fr Alan during the course of the past year. The Parish Dashboard is maintained where needed.

*Fr Alan*

## **INCUMBENT'S REPORT**

We have come through the past year quite well. None of us are getting younger, and it is evident our energy levels are lower, and our willingness to come out at night is less. This is very much an observation and definitely NOT a criticism.

Our task has been to maintain the social life of our congregation, and our outreach to the Parish. To this end we have initiated a Knit and Natter session on a Tuesday afternoon, the Bible Study organised by Kally continues; midweek communions happen, and the Sunday services carry on.

Hollybush House, The Brambles and The Comberton Care homes each receive a monthly visit for a service; the two primary Schools use us for their Christmas services and bring their children for visits (though I find it impossible to be invited to either to conduct assemblies); and Home Communion is taken to those who are no longer able to attend church in person. So ministry continues, but leaves us as ever to find new ways of outreach.

It is noticeable that Occasional Offices are fewer. Church funerals are the exception rather than the rule (please don't get me started about direct cremations...). We have a few baptism requests and weddings are a rarity, though a goodly number of Banns applications.

This is a widespread phenomenon, though some churches remain popular for such events. We must work on our popularity.

The thing that always gives me great joy is that our building is open every day for people to look in and find some peace, to light a candle or whatever they need. We experience no thefts or vandalism, which gives the lie to the reluctance some places of worship have to making themselves available for their community.

We have had some new members join us in recent time, and even though the Bible Society's *Quiet Revival* report was shown to be untrue in the end, maybe we can sustain our own into the future. What we have to offer is good worship, good music, and an awareness of who we are and what we prefer. Others are always welcome to join us and become part of who we already are. We will be changed and enriched by their presence.

We know who we are: we welcome everyone as they are, in the way that our Lord does. We do not exclude anyone because of their gender or lifestyle choices. Women are welcome and encouraged to preside at our altar, as God made women and men in his image and likeness; even if the men who created the ecclesial priesthood disregarded that at the time. There are plenty of places nearby who get this wrong, so everyone can find the place that best supports their biases.

I call all of us to faithfulness to the sacraments, and to daily prayer, the better to be the servants of our parishioners, and to the greater glory of God.

*Fr Alan*

## **CHURCHWARDENS' REPORT**

### **CHURCH**

#### **General**

Our thanks to Fr Alan for his leadership, support and guidance in our worship. Also, to all our congregation for the support you give us each week. It is the little things that matter, the words of encouragement that help to motivate us, the reminders, have you done that, they are very much appreciated.

Sadly, our congregation numbers attending services in church has again reduced slightly from last year and we now have between twenty and thirty regularly attending, in addition we have a small number attending services via zoom.

#### **Quinquennial Inspection**

We have continued to carry out repairs/improvements recommended in our 2023 Quinquennial Inspection, together with improving our carbon footprint, in line with the recommendations made in our energy report of 2022/23.

#### **Church Roof – Balcony Storeroom - Quinquennial Inspection Work Required**

PJ Lee builders have now completed the required church roof and ceiling repairs needed in the balcony storeroom.

#### **Eco Church**

Mary Phillips is still making progress for us towards our bronze/silver ECO Church status in line with Diocese Targets, thanks Mary.

#### **Betty Griffin Memorial Window**

The Chancellor's has approved our application; the installation of the window must be completed by 12 December 2026. All parties are aware of the completion date and it is anticipated that the memorial window will be completed during the summer.

#### **Accessibility for All, WC Redecoration and Disabled Toilet Facilities.**

We have received drawing and plans from our Inspector Arnold Bartosch Ltd. We did suggest these be distributed to the PCC members for review and comments at future PCC meetings. However, as we agreed that we would contact our inspectors and ask them to consider our option to provide accessibility via the Vestry Door Entrance. We thought it better to hold back and distribute our options all in one go. We contacted our Inspectors early December and arrangements are now in hand for them to attend and review the Vestry Entrance option.

### **Kitchen Water Heater**

A new heater has been installed by Dan Bache (plumber) as recommended by Mary (another big thank you Mary). Two of our congregation members (who have declined publicity) paid for the heater and its installation costs (for which we are very grateful).

### **Annual Servicing**

All annual required servicing has been completed and necessary compliance certificates issued, Fire Extinguishers, Boiler and Organ. Fire Signage and First Aid kits remains compliant with regulations and in accordance with Fire & Safety Policies.

### **Public Meetings**

The last meeting was in September it was not very well attended and being honest the initial drive and enthusiasm has dissipated somewhat. All is not lost we (Mary thank you) held a Christmas craft making morning in church in November.

We did consider a wreath making session, we note that The Wharf just down the road did that at £60 per ticket. Maybe we missed the boat and should make a concerted effort for next year.

Hopefully from the compiled directory of activities and those who can supply the wherewithal for carrying them out, we could plan for at least one of those events to take place bi-monthly to the future, starting in 2026.

We do need other people to help drive these ideas forward if we are to see any progression. Please speak to Jane or Dennis if you can help.

### **Vestry Clock – Made by J Adams Stourbridge**

Whilst being rewound the weight on the pendulum came apart and needed repair. Quotes to repair, including a full service of all parts and a 6 month guarantee were between £550 to £600. To install a new quartz movement with time only and pendulum £225.

No information regarding the history or the origin of clock were forthcoming, research on the world wide web (internet) also drew a blank. The clock was sold to Antique dealers Vintage & Collectables who were holding a valuation day in the church hall for £40 and a new battery clock purchased for £11.79.

## **CHURCHYARD**

### **Wall and Railings Surrounding Churchyard**

Painting of the railings is continued as and when possible, by our volunteers.

The Community Payback team are unable to assist with the repointing of the wall that is needed. We will investigate other ways we may be able to seek help in this regard.

### **Trees**

We have received a tree report from Eden Arboriculture and it has outlined trees that require essential maintenance. These works will be conducted in 2026 after quotes have been received.

## **Outside Cellar Door**

The wood is rotting and some very kind soul has deliberately trod on it and damaged it. The whole door needs replacement. It is intended that our volunteers will do this asap. We have taken safety precautions to prevent injury to people using the Churchyard.

## **Burial Grounds**

The Churchyard has been kept tidy by our volunteers, students from Glass House College and their support workers and the Community Payback team (formerly Community Service).

The Community Payback team also continued the cleaning, stripping down and painting of the Churchyard railings. However, due to changes in Health & Safety regulations they can no longer undertake this type of work, our volunteers are continuing this work.

The Community Payback team are continuing to assist with general grass mowing and other general churchyard tidying and maintenance.

Once again, we have received comments of praise and appreciation from members of the public visiting the churchyard expressing their appreciation that the churchyard is looked after and a joy to visit.

Our thanks to those who spend their own time keeping up the churchyard appearance, for the enjoyment of those who visit for whatever reason.

## **Equipment**

No new equipment has been purchased.

## **Wall in Car Park-Neighbours Garden Wall**

Movement suspected since 2022, has been monitored since then and no obvious changes have been noted. Monitoring of the wall is continuing, should we see any evidence of movement in the wall we will contact our neighbours Mr & Mrs Ward as the wall is their responsibility.

## **Car Park & Churchyard-Retarmacking**

We still need to raise funds for the retarmacking of the section of the carpark not re tarmacked in 2024 and for certain paths within the Churchyard.

## **Working with the Community**

Our local Glasshouse College (an independent specialist day and residential establishment) providing learning and training for children and adults with learning difficulties and disabilities.

During the year we provided the opportunity for two such adults to attend with their support workers and assist our volunteer(s) in the churchyard in a variety of tasks each Monday and Wednesday respectively. It provides them the opportunity to gain experience and skills that will assist them to hopefully eventually obtain employment.

Towards the end of the year the college were unable to find suitable candidates to attend. They will contact us when they are identified.

*Jane Fisher and Dennis Dipple*

## CHURCH HALL

2025 was a very busy year for the Church Hall. We have regular hirers using the building Monday to Saturday afternoon and we are having to turn away some potential hirers because we just cannot find a slot for them. This year has seen the arrival of the Shukoki Karate group, Chair body conditioning, On Broadway Dance fitness class and Mattitude Dance Fitness (Zumba) who use our hall for two sessions weekly. The Alzheimer's Café who visit us once a month go from strength to strength and we are told that Holy Trinity is the most well attended of all their Dudley venues. Enville Street Players performed two one-week plays and Stourbridge Operatic Youth Section use the hall for some of their rehearsals. We hosted two Valuation Days during the year. Hearts Undergoing Support meet in the Committee Room on the 2nd Wednesday of the month under the stewardship of Ernie Roberts. Saturday afternoons and Sundays have also been busy hosting a good number of Children's Birthday parties. (We do not permit adult groups or late-night hires in consideration for our near neighbours).

This year we have had the roof over the Committee Room completely replaced, the emergency lighting system has been upgraded and the fire alarms improved. We have been fortunate in having no other major repairs and this has enabled us to hand back a substantial sum of money to the PCC. Grateful thanks must go to all the members of the Hall Committee – Helen, Jane, Colin, Dennis and our cleaner Sheree.

*Mike Fisher*

## DEANERY SYNOD

Martin Taylor and Paul Wilson are your designated Deanery Synod reps, and have now completed their Triennium. They have attended the two Synod meetings this past year.

The Synod is able to raise issues to the Diocesan Synod, who can forward motions for debate at General Synod, which is what happened last year with regards to the use of sustainable flowers and the adverse use of floral foam.

## BLACK COUNTRY INDEPENDENT SCOUTS' GROUP

The young membership of the Group has greatly diminished, but the adult volunteers remain committed to providing Scouting activities to those who remain interested. The adults have also formed a Rover Crew, and the motto of that section is service.

We have withdrawn our tentative membership of the Baden-Powell Scouts' Association, because with such small numbers we found it impossible to work within their rule book. I get the impression that they were cross with the letter we sent, because their first reaction was both to express sorrow and then demand some money from us. Not the best Scouting reaction. I have found that many adult volunteers forget that the Scout Law also applies to them, and not just to the youngsters.

We have been accepted into the Phoenix Scouts' Association, who will provide us with support and some training. It is a voluntary association of otherwise independent group.

We have been impressed recently to be able to host a young man undertaking his Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award. He likes us and might stay on as our Senior Scout.

We have vacated the slot we had in the Hal, allowing it to be hired out. We would be happy to have other enthused young people join us, and then we would hve to wok out where we meet.

We are pleased that the parish church wishes to be partners with us, and hope this will continue well into the future.

*Fr Alan (or Kes to his scouting friends)*

### **KNEELERS' GROUP**

We are a group of ladies who meet every second Monday in the church hall. The kneelers in church are the work of the group. They are sometimes made for personal reasons and at other times are made in memory of loved ones. We enjoy the fellowship and chat over a cup of coffee and a biscuit or two!

Anyone wishing to join us would be most welcome.

*Jane Fisher*

### **CHURCHES TOGETHER IN STOURBRIDGE REPORT**

Churches Together in Stourbridge (CTS) continues to flourish as a worship community and to serve the community of Stourbridge.

The Walk of Witness on Good Friday in Stourbridge town centre was well attended again and it is now an annual testimony to the Easter story.

CTS continues to promote Fair Trade, encouraging churches to take part in Fair Trade Fortnight.

Christian Aid continues to be a focus at CTS. Many churches are now holding fund raising events, rather than having door-to-door collections.

The Quakers continue to hold their annual discussion evenings in the Autumn.

At Christmas, the group held carol singing in Stourbridge town centre.

The Street Pastors are back in force in the town centre on Saturday evenings, helping young people in need, both practically and pastorally. They are always grateful of new members, either to patrol or to be part of the prayer team. Your prayers for them from your home are always appreciated.

The Food Bank continues to provide food and a welcome to those in need. They appreciate our donations and if you are able to volunteer there, please ask Helen or Jane for details.

The Life Debt Advice Centre continues to help people in debt and often has referrals from associated organisations. They welcome help from volunteers and financial donations to help with running costs and providing cups of tea etc., together with your ongoing prayers.

Please see Helen Shakespeare or Jane Fisher if you would like further information on the work of Churches Together.

Events are posted on the noticeboard at the back of the church and it would be lovely to see more of our congregation there. Do ask if you need a lift.

*Helen Shakespeare and Jane Fisher*

## NOTES TO THE CHURCH HALL ACCOUNTS 2025

Our income from Regular Hirers and our Occasional Lettings has remained steady. Party bookings have risen again and we have little capacity for any more regular lettings.

The major expenditure in 2025 was repairs to the church hall roof, £8498.

We were able to transfer £15000 to the main church account, thanks to the healthy balance we carried forward from 2024.

We are hoping that we won't have any major expenditure in 2026.

*Helen Shakespeare*



Holy Trinity  
**Amblecote**

# FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR 2025

**Incumbent**

The Revd Alan Williams TSSF SCP  
4 The Holloway  
Amblecote  
Stourbridge  
DY8 4DL

**Hon Treasurer**

Dennis Dipple esq  
70 Hagley Road  
Stourbridge  
DY8 1QT

**Bankers**

HSBC plc  
114 High Street  
Stourbridge  
DY8 1DZ

## HOLY TRINITY CHURCH, AMBLECOTE

### Treasurer's Report on 2025 Accounts to APCM 26 April 2026

I must admit that I was not expecting this year's report to say Income was higher than Expenditure. Especially as most of the year my reports have stated Expenditure has exceeded Income. It may only be £614 but it is better than making a loss. Income was £58,073 verses Expenditure of £57,459.

So how does that come about? Simple we have a Church Hall and a wonderful committee, who have donated £15,000 to Church during this financial year. Thus, preventing a loss of nearly £15,000, which is the true picture of our accounts for 2025.

Our thanks go to Helen Shakespeare, Mike & Jane Fisher for all their hard work in maintaining the hall and managing its users.

We can see from the 2024/2025 comparison that Planned giving, collections at services, Gift Aid recovered, all other giving and even Charity appeals were down from 2024. The shortfall from 2024 in 2025 was £4,868. This trend is expected to continue due to our aging congregation and the economic climate in the UK.

UK GDP growth momentum was expected to slow in 2026, as a weakening labour market is set to keep consumer spending sluggish. However, with the onset of war in the middle east, who knows what the economic fallout will be.

Life Events, Fundraising and all other income streams were slightly increase from 2024. See notes to receipts items 1f, g, & i. The increase was approximately £4,100.

Fund-raising events increased slightly from 2024 we raised £2,934, £300 more than 2024.

Organising these events requires careful planning and dedication, and I am very grateful for the hard work and commitment shown by everyone involved. Whether you helped with preparations, supported the events on the day, or contributed behind the scenes, your efforts ensured everything ran smoothly. Our 150 Clubs continued success is a testament to the enthusiasm and teamwork of all participants and especially our organiser Una Parsons. Thank you to all for making these events possible.

We recovered £3,749 from HMRC in respect of gift aid donations, down by £3,000 on 2024. Not as gloomy as it seems as we have one more claim to make (to match 2024 claims) that should bring in almost £1,000. We can expect recoveries from HMRC to decline as planned giving and service donations decline.

We did not organise our Churchyard Appeal this year and missed the opportunity to raise a further £1,000. We did receive some £390 from other donations to the Churchyard Fund. We must run the appeal in 2026 and I need help to do this, volunteers required, please see me for further information.

The Digital Giving device raised £1,675 an increase of nearly £400 from last year. I mentioned in last year's report making more use of this device and asked for volunteers to use it at fundraising events, no one stepped forward. Once again see me if you can help in this regard.

In 2025 our requested Ministry Share was £64,079, our 2025 grants application awards amounted to £11,085 leaving a balance of £52,994 to pay.

Our Lowest Income Community award was £6,560 and our MSF award was £4,525. The MSF funding is due to end in 2027 and our Lowest Income Support is also likely to decline.

We made Ministry Share payments of £24,000 during the year leaving a shortfall of £40,079 on the total request, with the grants included the shortfall was £28,994. Meaning with grants included we paid just over 54% of the total requested. With grants not taken into consideration we paid just over 37%, as a slight decrease from our 2024 contribution.

Ministry Share for 2026 has increased to £65,040.

Our vicar's expenses were slightly increased from 2024 and again due the generosity of other clergy (to whom we are very grateful) we only incurred costs of £50 for their services to cover the absence of Fr Alan when taking recuperation periods and well-deserved rest. Cost of life fees to the DBF were down slightly, as were organist, verger and sexton fees by approx. £275.

The church running expenses increased by nearly £3,500 from 2024. The main increase in costs was as usual, Insurance, Utilities Bills and routine annual services costs. There was also major roof repairs completed, costing nearly £10,000.

Churchyard expenses were reduced dramatically by £8,000 due to no tree maintenance costs being incurred, these will return in 2026.

We still need to carry out repairs and works in 2026, because of items raised from the Quinquennial Inspection, I anticipate these will be in the region of £3,000 to £5,000 repointing of the churchyard wall being a priority.

I reported last year that we have a group of people looking at ways for us to obtain grants to help towards general maintenance costs and those that we need to be undertaken to help in our ministry and mission work within the parish. Progress has been made but is slow, we have made applications for grants but have not been successful in that regard.

As in 2025, I pray that in 2026 we find the energy, determination and where withal to make grant applications and to undertake as many fundraising events as possible to help cover as many of our costs as we can.

To that end I enclose a document on how we can raise funds via an organisation called 'easyfundraising.' Whenever you shop online you can raise funds for our Church at no extra cost to you. Hopefully, the letter is self-explanatory, but should you require help and guidance Brian Buck has kindly offered his services. If you need his contact details please contact me and I will provide those to you.

Finally, my thanks go to Fr Alan and I know I speak for all at Holy Trinity, Amblecote. We give thanks for the times he stayed firm and resolute, after suffering setbacks, for the times when he has not received the support he needs and deserves, for times he has been knocked down and has gotten up again with even more determination. For the trials and tribulations of being our leader. We are grateful for all these things, especially for his leadership, his prayer and guidance over the last 12 months and to the future.

Dennis Dipple  
Treasurer

In these times of uncertainty please pray for peace in this world of ours:

Lord Jesus, conquer every spirit of violence and hatred that fuels war. Replace it with love, kindness, and understanding. Soften hardened hearts and open eyes to the pain caused by conflict. Teach us to forgive and to seek peace. Let your love transform enemies into friends.

Pray for our church and its Parish:

Pray with love in your hearts for God's guidance in the forthcoming year:

*Heavenly Father,*

We come before You with humble hearts, grateful for the calling You have placed upon our church. Fill us with wisdom to discern Your will, courage to follow where You lead, and compassion to love those You place in our path. May our mission be a light in the darkness, bringing hope, healing, and truth to all we encounter.

In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

Receipts and Payments Accounts page 1

	Note	Unrestricted (General) fund £	Unrestricted Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
<b>RECEIPTS</b>						
Voluntary receipts						
Planned Giving	1a	15,793			15,793	16,213
Collections at services	1b	2,355			2,355	2,983
Legacies / In Memoriam					-	-
Charity Appeals	1c			966	966	1,062
All other giving / voluntary receipts	1d	2,871		390	3,261	4,028
Gift Aid recovered	1e	3,749			3,749	6,706
					-	-
		24,768	-	1,356	26,124	30,992
Parochial (life events) fees	1f	10,659			10,659	7,117
Fundraising activities	1g	2,934			2,934	2,634
Church Hall Donations	1h	15,000			15,000	12,254
Bank Account Interest					-	-
All other receipts	1i	2,916		440	3,356	3,046
					-	-
<b>Total receipts c/fwd to page 2</b>		<b>56,277</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,796</b>	<b>58,073</b>	<b>56,043</b>

Receipts and Payments Accounts page 2

	Note	Unrestricted (General) fund £	Unrestricted designated funds £	Restrict ed funds £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
<b>Total receipts b/fwd from page 1</b>		<b>56,277</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1,796</b>	<b>58,073</b>	<b>56,043</b>
<b>PAYMENTS</b>						
Ministry Share	2a		24,000		24,000	24,000
Clergy expenses	2b	1,708			1,708	1,505
Parochial (life events) fees and extras	2c	3,226			3,226	3,507
Church running costs	2d	22,645		450	23,095	19,449
Churchyard expenses	2e			850	850	9,008
Church Hall running costs	2f				-	12,254
Mission giving and charitable donations	2g			705	705	1,218
Bank charges	2h	108			108	122
All other payments	2i	78	420		498	774
Sundries	2j	570		2,700	3,270	630
<b>Total payments</b>		<b>28,334</b>	<b>24,420</b>	<b>4,705</b>	<b>57,459</b>	<b>72,467</b>
<b>Excess of receipts over payments</b>		<b>27,943</b>	<b>(24,420)</b>	<b>(2,909)</b>	<b>614</b>	<b>(16,424)</b>
Transfers between funds	3	(4,828)	6,526	2,030	-	-
		23,315	(17,894)	(879)	614	(16,424)
Cash at bank at 1 January 25		(9,639)	20,827	60,864	72,052	87,118
Cash/cheques at bank and in hand at 31 Dec 2025		(11,660)	23,046	60,145	71,531	70,694
Accounts Payable at 31/12/2025						
WDBF Fees For All of 2025 (To be Paid in 2026)					-	2,794.00
Charities, Refugees, Gaza, Red Cross, Mary Stevens & Children's Society (To be Paid 2026)					-	796.37
Accounts Receivable at 31/12/25						
Gift Aid Applied to Charity Donations						199.09
<b>Total</b>					<b>-</b>	<b>3,391.28</b>

## NOTES to the Receipts and Payments Accounts 2025 page 1

NOTE	Unrestricted (General) fund	Unrestricted designated funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2025
	£	£	£	£
<b>1a</b> <u>Planned giving</u>				
Standing orders	13,099.00	-	-	13,099.00
Weekly envelopes	2,694.01	-	-	2,694.01
	<u>15,793.01</u>	-	-	<u>15,793.01</u>
<b>1b</b> <u>Collections</u>				
Open plate, Wall safe.	2,030.48	-	-	2,030.48
Churchyard Appeal Donations		-	-	-
Gift Aid.	325.00	-	-	325.00
	<u>2,355.48</u>	-	-	<u>2,355.48</u>
<b>1c</b> <u>Charity Appeals</u>				
Charities: Harvest Auction & Fish Chip Supper (Red Cross)	-	-	261.20	261.20
Charities: Lent - Gaza	-	-	177.90	177.90
Charities: Carols & Christingle (Children's Society) December			268.65	
MacMillan Coffee Morning			233.00	
Sheila Hill Funeral Donation to Mary Stevens Hospice			20.00	
Charities: Eco Toilet Twinning	-	-	5.00	5.00
	-	-	<u>965.75</u>	<u>965.75</u>
<b>1d</b> <u>All other giving / voluntary receipts</u>				
Baptism & Funeral Donations	1,348.00			1,348.00
Other Donations from Congregation, Book Sales & Memorial Service	347.88			347.88
McCormack Donation	100.00			100.00
Carols By Candlelight Service & Midnight Mass Donations	833.39			833.39
St Peters School Donation	50.00			50.00
Rotary Donations Liz Walker service	191.50			191.50
Other donations to Churchyard Fund			390.00	390.00
	<u>2,870.77</u>	-	<u>390.00</u>	<u>3,260.77</u>
<b>1e</b> <u>Gift Aid recovered from HMRC</u>				
July to Dec 23-Jan to Sept 24 - GASDS April 2023 to April 2024	3,748.62	-	-	-
	<u>3,748.62</u>	-	-	<u>3,748.62</u>
<b>1f</b> <u>Parochial (life events) fees</u>				
Banns, weddings, funerals, monuments	10,658.80			10,658.80
	<u>10,658.80</u>	-	-	<u>10,658.80</u>
<b>1g</b> <u>Fundraising activities</u>				
150 Club		854.00	-	854.00
Epiphany Revets	136.00			136.00
Coffee Morning	139.00			139.00
Quiz Night	180.70			180.70
Brice Braca Sale	50.20			50.20
Festive Fayre & Raffle	1,574.31			1,574.31
	<u>2,080.21</u>	<u>854.00</u>	-	<u>2,934.21</u>
<b>1h</b> <u>Church Hall</u>				
Donations	15,000.00	-	-	15,000.00
	<u>15,000.00</u>	-	-	<u>15,000.00</u>
<b>1i</b> <u>All other receipts</u>				
Bell Ringers Donation			200.00	200.00
Vestry Broken Clock Sale	40.00			40.00
Water Heater Replacement Donations	747.50			747.50
Liz Walker Bench Donation	395.00			395.00
Bernard Shaw Donation for Flowers	20.00			20.00
Exps Overclaim Repaid	36.70			36.70
Accessibility Ramp&Toilets			240.00	240.00
Digitat Giving	1,675.24			1,675.24
	<u>2,916.44</u>	-	<u>440.00</u>	<u>3,356.44</u>

NOTES to the Receipts and Payments Accounts 2025 page 2

NOTE	Unrestricted (General) funds	Unrestricted designated funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2025
	£	£	£	£
2a <u>Parish &amp; Ministry Share</u> Paid to WDBF for 2024	-	24,000.00	-	24,000.00
	-	24,000.00	-	24,000.00
2b <u>Clergy expenses and staffing costs</u> Vicar's expenses	1,657.61	-	-	1,657.61
Minister Cover	50.00	-	-	50.00
	1,707.61	-	-	1,707.61
2c <u>Parochial (life events) fees and extras</u> DBF fees	2,154.60	-	-	2,154.60
Sundry payments: organist/verger/sexton/etc	1,071.00	-	-	1,071.00
	3,225.60	-	-	3,225.60
2d <u>Church running costs</u> Altar supplies	548.48	-	-	548.48
Waste Management: waste disposal	993.54	-	-	993.54
Insurance	3,362.29	-	-	3,362.29
Licences: CCL, Zoom	434.40	-	-	434.40
Organ Maintenance & Fees	-	-	405.00	405.00
Printing, stationery and postage	487.39	-	-	487.39
Subscriptions: Church Times, Zoom & Visual Liturgy	203.30	-	-	203.30
Utilities: electricity, gas, water	5,241.38	-	-	5,241.38
Boiler, Alarm, Fire Extinguisher, CCTV Servicing	649.16	-	-	649.16
Church Roof Repairs	9,828.00	-	-	9,828.00
Church Water Heater Repair-Then Replace	835.00	-	-	835.00
Parish Outreach-Public Meeting Banner	108.00	-	-	108.00
	22,690.54	-	405.00	23,095.54
2e <u>Churchyard expenses</u> Eden Tree Survey	-	-	690.00	690.00
Elex Replace Outside sensors	-	-	160.00	160.00
	-	-	850.00	850.00
2f <u>Church Hall Costs-Floor Repairs &amp; Eco Lighting Installation</u>	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-
2g <u>Mission giving and charitable donations</u> MacMillan Coffee Morning	-	-	233.00	233.00
Carols & Christingle-Children's Society	-	-	452.01	452.01
W&DCR Belfry Repairs-Bell Ringers	-	-	20.00	20.00
	-	-	705.01	705.01
2h <u>Bank charges</u> Monthly Charges HSBC Bank	107.95	-	-	107.95
	107.95	-	-	107.95
2i <u>All other payments</u> Costs incurred in generating funds	77.90	-	-	77.90
150 Club	-	420.00	-	420.00
	77.90	420.00	-	497.90
2j <u>Sundries</u> Eucharist Wine, Palm Crosses & Batteries	89.20	-	-	89.20
Accessibility Access & Toilets Proposal & Drawings	-	-	2,700.00	2,700.00
New Vestry Clock, Banner alteration & Duct Tape	45.13	-	-	45.13
Bench for Churchyard	395.00	-	-	395.00
Dry Clean, Cleaning Materials	40.84	-	-	40.84
	570.17	-	2,700.00	3,270.17
3 <u>Transfers between funds</u> 150 Club to Churchyard (Unrestricted to Restricted)	-	1,898	1,898	-
Church improvements to Accessibility & Toilets (Restricted to Restricted)	-	-	2,030	-
Organist's honorarium	(2,608)	2,608	-	-
Churchyard honorarium	(1,000)	1,000	-	-
Decorating contingency	(1,020)	1,020	-	-
	(4,628)	6,526	3,928	-

Financial Statements for the year ending 31 December 2025

NOTE  
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FUNDS 2025

	01/01/2025				31/12/2025
	Bal b/fwd	Receipts	Payments	Transfers	Bal c/fwd
	£	£	£	£	£
<b>Restricted</b>					
Altar frontal	66	0	0	0	66
Bell Tower	1,579	200	(20)	0	1,759
Betty Griffin Legacy	53,000	0	0	0	53,000
Charities	521	961	(685)	0	796
Church Improvements	3,175		(2,120)	0	1,055
Churchyard	(153)	2,288	(850)	0	1,285
Decorating	1,360	0	0	0	1,360
Parish Outreach	79	0	(108)	0	(29)
Accessibility Access & Toilets	0	2,270	(2,700)	0	(430)
Sound system	1,208	0	0	0	1,208
Toilet Twining	30	5	0	0	35
	<u>60,864</u>	<u>5,724</u>	<u>(6,483)</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>60,105</u>
<b>Designated</b>					
Churchyard	(2,071)	1,000	0	0	(1,071)
Decorating	4,420	1,020	0	0	5,440
Organ	12,004	2,608	(405)	0	14,207
Ministry Share	4,000	24,000	(24,000)	0	4,000
150 Club	1,934	854	(2,318)	0	470
	<u>20,287</u>	<u>29,482</u>	<u>(26,723)</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>23,046</u>
<b>Balance at Bank-From Receipts &amp; Payments Sheet</b>					<b>72,052</b>
<b>Cash &amp; Cheques in Hand</b>					<b>363</b>
<b>CBF Church of England Investment Fund 31 Dec 2025</b>					<b>13,677</b>
<b>Total</b>					<b>86,092</b>

# Holy Trinity Amblecote Church Hall

## Receipts and Payments Account 2025

### RECEIPTS

	<u>2025</u>		<u>2024</u>	
<u>Receipts from Regular Lettings</u>		20,940.25		21,573.75
Dance Classes	14,640.25		12,870.00	
Wargamers	2,880.00		3,420.00	
Theatrical Groups	2,805.00		4,451.25	
Others	-			
Yoga	615.00		832.50	
<u>Receipts from other sources</u>		2,294.00		3,018.00
Parties	2,294.00		1,718.00	
DMBC			1,300.00	
Other Occasional Hirers				
<b>Total Receipts</b>		<b>23,234.25</b>		<b>24,591.75</b>

### PAYMENTS

	<u>2025</u>		<u>2024</u>	
<u>Transfer to main church account</u>		15,000.00		
<u>Regular Expenditures</u>		8,337.71		12,720.87
Utilities	2,207.07		3,052.93	
Insurance	1,056.82		1,028.31	
Cleaning	4,517.26		4,327.99	
General Maintenance	556.56		4,311.64	
<u>One-time / Irregular expenditure</u>		8,498.00		25,993.24
Building Work	8,498.00		25,993.24	
Misc				
<b>Total Payments</b>		<b>31,835.71</b>		<b>38,714.11</b>

Net of Receipts over Payments - 8,601.46 - 14,122.36

### Account balances

	<u>2025</u>		<u>2024</u>	
	Current Account	Reserve Account	Current Account	Reserve Account
Brought forward	13,472.27	2.15	27,594.63	2.10
Net transfers between accounts				
Receipts from above	23,234.25	-	24,591.75	-
Payments from above	31,835.71	-	38,714.11	-
Interest		0.04		0.05
<b>Closing Balance</b>	<b>4,870.81</b>	<b>2.19</b>	<b>13,472.27</b>	<b>2.15</b>

## Independent examiner's report to PCC of Holy Trinity, Amblecote

I report to the PCC on my examination of the accounts of Holy Trinity Church and Hall, Amblecote for the year ended 31 December 2025.

### Responsibilities and basis of report

The PCC 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 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 as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records.

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

Signed: 

Name: Michael Bishop BA(hons)

Address: 23 Dorchester Road, Stourbridge DY9 0XD

Date: 18 March 2026