

**ST. MATTHEWS
PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL**

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31ST DECEMBER 2025

**MANNINGTONS
VICTORIA HOUSE
THE MOOR
HAWKHURST
TN18 4NR**

St Matthew's Church, St Leonards-on-Sea

Registered Charity No. 1139019

ANNUAL REPORT

AND

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

OF THE

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST. MATTHEW, ST. LEONARDS-ON-SEA

For the year ended 31 December 2025

CONTENTS

	Page
Annual report	2
Statement of financial activities	6
Balance sheet	7
Notes to the accounts	8
Report of the independent examiner	16

St Matthew's Church, London Road, St Leonards-on-sea, East Sussex, TN37 6PD
Website: - <https://www.stmatts.co.uk>

Minister in Charge:- Revd Matthew Foy
81A Filsham Road, St Leonards-on-sea, East Sussex, TN38 0PG

Bankers:- Lloyds Bank - Hastings branch

Independent Examiners:- Manningtons, Victoria House, The Moor, Hawkhurst, TN18 4NR

Parochial Church Council of St Matthew, St Leonards-on-Sea Annual Report for 2025

Aim and purposes as a charity

The P.C.C. has the responsibility of co-operating with the minister in charge, in:

- ☒ Promoting the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to the doctrines and practices of the Church of England.
- ☒ Promoting the whole mission of the church, pastoral, social, evangelistic and ecumenical.
- ☒ To bring people to faith in Jesus and to enable them to get to know him better.
- ☒ Practical support and care to those in need through personal involvement and through financial support of other organisations with similar objectives.
- ☒ The P.C.C. is also responsible for maintaining the Church and Church Centre together with the surrounding grounds.

Objectives and activities

The P.C.C. is committed to growing St Matthews both spiritually and numerically. Our vision is summarised as “helping local people follow Jesus Christ”. The P.C.C. maintains an overview of the activities aimed at achieving this objective.

When planning our activities for the year we have considered the Charity Commission’s guidance on public benefit and in particular, the specific guidance on “charities for the advancement of religion”. We try to enable ordinary people to come to faith and to live out this faith as part of our parish community through:

- ☒ Biblical teaching, worship and prayer both in the church buildings and in midweek groups
- ☒ Provision of pastoral care for people living in the parish and for members of the church family
- ☒ Missionary, outreach and humanitarian work within the parish and in the wider community

To facilitate this work it is important that we maintain the fabric of the Church and Church Centre at St Matthews.

The P.C.C. has complied with the duty under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline measure 2016 fully recognising its duty to have due regard to the House of Bishops guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults.

Achievements and performance

Worship and Prayer

Towards the end of 2025 the services for worship and prayer were as follows:-

- ☒ An 11am service every Sunday with groups for children aged 0-14. Communion is shared once a month at this service. There were also occasional all age worship services throughout the year.
- ☒ An occasional all age family service on a Sunday afternoon especially for under 12s and their families.
- ☒ Prayer meetings continue to be held monthly on a Wednesday. Two meetings take place, one at lunch time and the other in the evening. The lunch time meeting is usually followed by a light lunch.
- ☒ Several midweek groups for bible study and prayer continue to meet. Our aim is for as many people as possible to attend these groups.
- ☒ In June, St Matthews hosted two of the year 6 Diocesan Leavers’ services with around 700 children from East Sussex church schools attending.

There were 84 members on the church electoral roll at the end of 2025 (91 in 2024). The average weekly attendance, counted during October, was 67 adults and 19 children (71 and 17 in 2024).

Sussex Brass came and provided the music at the morning service on the 7th December. The 11am service on the 21st December was a family carol service On Christmas Eve there was a Christingle service at 4.30pm. An 11am service was held at St Matthew’s Church on Christmas day. On the 19th December the church hosted a service for St Pauls CE Primary Academy which was very well attended.

Deanery Synod

St Matthews has three elected members of the Hastings Deanery Synod. This provides the PCC with an important link between the parish and the wider structures of the church. The Deanery synod met twice in 2025, the first meeting being a wider celebration of the Diocesan Year of Faith.

Review of the year

1. The full P.C.C. met seven times during the year. The Standing Committee met occasionally between P.C.C. meetings and the results of their deliberations were received by the full P.C.C. and discussed where necessary.
2. The Charity employed four members of staff (1 full time, 3 part time) during the year to enable it to achieve its objectives. The staff and Churchwardens met regularly to facilitate the mission and ministry of the church.
3. The full-time member of staff (Nicky Adams) was employed as a “Families and Youth Worker” with responsibility for

developing our work amongst families and young people. Her employment was possible following receipt of several grants. Sadly Nicky left us in August. This post has enabled us to develop and increase our work amongst children and young people. For example:

1. The Roots group for teenagers continued to meet during the year on Thursday evenings whilst Nicky was with us. A number of children from this group went away on a CPAS summer youth residential in 2025. Following Nicky's departure a monthly group was started at St Ethelburgas.
2. The "Smarties" parent and toddler group has continued on Wednesday mornings. It is well attended and has members from both within the church family and from the local community.
3. In February half term a "Holiday Club" was held for children aged 5-11. It was a very successful event with many children attending from the local community.
4. St Matthews continues to maintain its close links with St Paul's Primary Academy and the staff team continue to lead an act of collective worship each week and provide support for RE lessons.
4. "The Hub" meets on Tuesday mornings and provides coffee, tea, cakes and conversation in the Church Centre and has been advertised locally as a "warm space" as a response to the cost-of-living crisis.
5. The Church's pastoral team continues to connect with and visit housebound members of the church and we maintain links with Crest House and The Derwent care homes. We have resumed regular services at both care homes and members of the congregation sang carols at these homes in December.
6. The Friendlies group, for older people, continued to flourish in 2025. The Friendlies group attracts people from both inside and outside the immediate church family.
7. Nigel and Evelyn Brett and others continue to work on the church grounds with regular gardening events being organised during the warmer months.
8. St Matthews continued to support the Christians against Poverty Hastings Debt Centre and two church members are commissioned as befrienders to support their work with local people.
9. The St Matthew's Church Centre continues to be an important community asset. It is rented out to a variety of local groups and for children's parties. The groups that use the Church Centre include a local Guide Group, the Townswomen's Guild, a country dancing group and a Men's Group for seniors (Senior Men's forum)
10. St Matthews continued to support the Hastings Foodbank including through a special Harvest Service collection.
11. St Matthew's continues to support other charities including the London City Mission, Tearfund and the Sussex Gospel Partnership.
12. Several social events took place during the year. These included lunches for men's and women's groups and a crazy golf event. We are grateful to Catherine Harvey, Sarah Searle and Dave Broom for organising these events.

Buildings and Maintenance

1. In 2025 a significant amount of effort was spent on the maintenance and improvement of the Church Building, Church Centre and the Church House at 98 Sedlescombe Gardens. We are particularly grateful to Nigel Brett as he continues to co-ordinate and carry out maintenance and repairs to the buildings.
2. During the spring we received confirmation that our application to BIFFA for a grant to greatly improve the southern entrance to the hall was successful. The work to replace the doors and windows was completed successfully and the toilet just inside the south entrance was refurbished. We are most grateful to BIFFA for their generous grant.
3. A further four pews in the nave have now been removed under an Archdeacon's licence to allow wheelchair and buggy users to sit within the congregation rather than at the very front or back of the church. A faculty to make this permanent was granted in July 2025.
4. A quinquennial inspection was completed in Autumn 2024 which highlighted nothing urgent. The PCC is continuing to consider the implications of the inspection and is developing a prioritised schedule of repairs.
5. Following an inspection of 98 Sedlescombe Gardens by St Matthews during 2023 revealed several problems including damage from water leaks, faulty flooring and external paintwork flaking. Most of the remedial work to correct these problems was carried out in 2025.

Financial Review

1. We are most grateful to the grant making bodies and individuals who have made contributions towards the costs of our Church and Hall. BIFFA has provided the grant of £50,453 for the work to greatly improve the south end of the hall. Benefact trust provided £16,000 for our youth work. All Saints Lindfield have continued to support our youth work by providing £1,250 quarterly.
2. Thanks to our members generous giving and the additional income from the Church Centre and renting the church house at 98 Sedlescombe Gardens we were able to meet all of our financial commitments.
3. The largest expenditure of the PCC in 2025 were the sums paid to various contractors for the work on the hall.
4. In 2025 we were able to increase our Parish Share to £22,000 from £20,000 in the previous year. This amount is still far short of the amount required for half of a full-time minister. The Parish Share is used by the diocese to pay stipends, National Insurance, pensions, Housing, Training and curates, ministry support, parish support services and the national church.
5. The continuing need for repairs improvements to our buildings will undoubtedly continue to put a strain on our finances.

Reserves Policy

1. It is the PCC's policy aim to maintain a balance on the general unrestricted funds (excluding property), which equates to :-
 - i. Two months worth of unrestricted payments.
 - ii. In addition one months unrestricted salary costs
 - iii. Funds to meet unexpected repair costs as follows.
 - I. Church and Church Grounds £8,000
 - II. Church Centre £3,000
 - III. 98 Sedlescombe Gardens £1,500

The closing reserves balance in 2025 was about £8,680 short of meeting these objectives. However, the PCC has an investment account which could be used to meet much of this shortfall.

2. The balance of any restricted fabric fund is retained towards the cost of repairs.
3. It is PCC policy to invest funds balances with the C.B.F. Church of England deposit fund.

Structure, governance and management

Membership of the PCC is determined under the Church Representation Rules and consists of certain ex-officio members (the incumbent/priest-in-charge, curate, lay readers licensed to officiate in the church), the churchwardens and members of the Deanery, Diocesan or General Synods and 9 members of the church who are elected at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM). Members committed to the vision and values of St Matthews are warmly encouraged to stand for election to the PCC and we try to ensure a balance of skills and experience where possible.

Administrative information

The parish is a charity registered with the Charity Commission as required by the Charities act 2011. Its governing document is the Parochial Church Councils (Powers) Measure 1956. The "Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Matthew St Leonards-on-sea" is registered as Charity No. 1139019

During the year the following served as members of the Parochial Church Council (PCC):

Minister & Chairman	Revd. Matthew Foy	
Church Wardens	Mrs Alison Hodgkins	
	Dr Ben Masters-Stevens	(From the 2025 APCM)
	Mr Nigel Brett	(Up to the 2025 APCM)
Representatives on the Deanery Synod	Mr Malcolm Harris	
	Mrs Sarah Searle	
	Miss Nicky Adams	(Up to August 2025)
Elected Members:	Ms Vinyo Aidam	
	Mr Nigel Brett	(From the 2025 APCM)
	Mr David Broome	
	Mr Timothy Blythe	
	Mr David Clover	(From the 2025 APCM)
	Mrs Shirley Coulthard	(Up to November 2025)
	Mrs Catherine Harvey	
	Mrs Alison Hodgkins	
	Mrs Margaret Lloyd	Parish Safeguarding Officer
	Dr Ben Masters-Stevens	PCC Secretary
Mr Tom Morgan	Hon. Treasurer	
Mr Bob Tilley	Up to the 2025 APCM	

The PCC has the following sub Committees.

i Standing Committee

Approved on behalf of the PCC by Revd Matthew Foy

(Chairman) 

Date 28th March 2026

ST MATTHEWS CHURCH PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	<u>TOTAL</u> <u>Funds</u> <u>31.12.25</u>	<u>TOTAL</u> <u>Funds</u> <u>31.12.24</u>
		£	£	£	£	£
Income and Endowments from:						
<i>Donations and Legacies</i>	2a	70,169	73,556	-	143,725	128,681
<i>Charitable Activities</i>	2b	1,365	-	-	1,365	607
<i>Other trading activities</i>	2c	25,391	-	-	25,391	24,665
<i>Investments</i>	2d	914	-	-	914	1,318
<i>Other Income</i>	2e	825	-	-	825	-
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total incoming resources		98,664	73,556	-	172,220	155,271
Resources expended						
<i>Raising funds</i>	3a	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Charitable Activities</i>	3b	66,475	19,514	-	85,989	129,667
<i>Other trading activities</i>	3c	34,783	45,293	-	80,076	16,979
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total Resources expended		101,258	64,807	-	166,065	146,646
Net incoming (outgoing) resources		(2,594)	8,749	-	6,155	8,625
Other recognised gains/losses						
<i>Gains/(losses) on revaluation of fixed assets</i>		-	-	-	-	-
<i>Gains/(losses) on investment assets</i>	8	(298)	-	-	(298)	167
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Net movement of funds		(2,892)	8,749	-	5,857	8,792
Total funds brought forward at 1st January 2025		58,435	13,040	1,250	72,725	63,933
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total funds carried forward at 31st December 2025		55,543	21,789	1,250	78,582	72,725
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

**ST MATTHEWS CHURCH PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL
BALANCE SHEET AT 31 DECEMBER 2025**

	Note	2025	2024
Fixed Assets			
Intangible assets		-	-
Tangible fixed Assets	8b	26,319	26,319
Heritage Assets		-	-
Investment Assets	8a	<u>7,148</u>	<u>7,445</u>
Total fixed assets		33,467	33,764
Current Assets			
Stock		-	-
Debtors	10	10,322	3,711
Short Term Deposits		21,670	21,670
Cash at Bank and in hand		<u>18,824</u>	<u>18,639</u>
Total current assets		50,816	44,020
Liabilities			
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	11	<u>(5,701)</u>	<u>(5,059)</u>
Net current assets		45,115	38,961
Total assets less current liabilities		78,582	72,725
FUNDS	14		
Unrestricted funds	13	55,543	58,435
Restricted funds	13	21,789	13,040
Endowment funds	13	<u>1,250</u>	<u>1,250</u>
		78,582	72,725

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 28 March 2026 and signed on its behalf by

Matthew Foy

The Revd Matthew Foy (chairman)

Date 28th March 2026

**ST MATTHEWS CHURCH PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025**

I. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

a) Accounting convention

The PCC is a public benefit entity within the meaning of FRS102. The financial statements have been prepared under the Charities Act 2011 and the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 in accordance with applicable accounting standards and the current Statement of Recommended Practice Accounting and Reporting by Charities SORP (FRS102).

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention as modified by the inclusion of investments at market value. The financial statements include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible in law. They do not include the accounts of church groups that owe their affiliation to another body, nor those that are informal gatherings of church members.

b) Fund accounting

Endowment funds are funds, the capital of which must be maintained; only income arising from the investment of the endowment may be used, either as restricted or unrestricted funds depending on the purpose set out in the terms of the original endowment.

Restricted funds comprise (a) income from trusts or endowments which may be expended only on those restricted objects provided in the terms of the trust or bequest. (b) donations or grants received for a specific object or invited by the PCC for a specific object. The funds may only be expended on the specific object for which they were given. Any balance remaining unspent at the end of the year is carried forward as a balance on the fund.

Unrestricted funds – general funds which can be used for P.C.C. ordinary purposes.

Designated funds - monies set aside by the P.C.C. out of unrestricted funds for specific future purposes or projects.

Income and endowments

All income and endowments are accounted for without deduction for any costs of receivability, are recognized when there is evidence of entitlement, receipt is probable, and the amount can be measured reliably.

a) Donations and legacies

Collections are recognized when received.

Planned giving receivable is recognized when there is evidence of entitlement, receipt is probable, and the amount accords with the Gift Aid Declaration or other record of intention to donate.

Gift aid recovered is recognized when the income to which it is attached is recognized.

Grants and legacies are recognized when the formal offer in writing of the funding is received by the P.C.C.

b) Charitable activities

Statutory fees for weddings and funerals are recognized when the office occurs.

c) Other trading activities

Trading activities are where income is receivable in return for selling goods or providing services. Income from trading is recognized either a) when received or b) in the case of concerts: for the year in which the event occurs irrespective of date of receipt. Advance bookings are included in creditors until the concert has taken place.

Sales of magazines and study notes are recognized when received

Rents from property are recognized in accordance with the rental agreement, when receipt is probable.

ST MATTHEWS CHURCH PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

d) Investment income

– Dividends are accounted for when due and payable. Interest entitlements are accounted for as they accrue.

e) All other income

All other income is recognized in accordance with the above overall policy.

f) Gains and losses in investments

Realised gains are recognized when the investments are sold.

Unrealised gains and losses are accounted for on revaluation at 31 December

Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised when there is evidence of entitlement, payment is probable, and the amount can be measured reliably

a) Grants

Grants and donations are accounted for when paid over, or when awarded where the award creates a binding obligation on the P.C.C.

b) Church Activities

The diocesan parish share is accounted for on an annual basis, reflecting the allocation set by our Deanery. Any parish contribution unpaid at 31 December is provided for in these accounts as an operational (though not a legal) liability and is shown as a creditor in the balance sheet.

c) Fixed assets

i. Tangible fixed assets

Consecrated and beneficed property of any kind is excluded from the accounts by s.10(2) of the Charities Act 2011. Movable church furnishings held by the Rector and Churchwardens on special trust for the P.C.C. and which require a faculty for disposal are accounted as inalienable property unless consecrated. They are listed in the church's inventory, which can be inspected but are not included in the financial statements. For other property acquired prior to 2000 there is insufficient cost information available and therefore the cost of such assets is not stated in the financial statements.

All expenditure on consecrated or beneficed buildings and individual items costing under £1,000 are written off when they were incurred.

ii. Depreciation

Depreciation is calculated to write down the cost of tangible fixed assets, excluding freehold properties, over their expected useful lives. The rates generally applicable are:

Fixtures and fittings	20%
Audio Visual equipment	33% Straight line
Office equipment	25%

No depreciation is provided on freehold buildings as the useful economic life of these assets exceeds 50 years and residual values so high that potential depreciation would be immaterial. It is the PCC's policy to maintain these assets in a continual state of sound repair. Resulting from regular impairment reviews, provision will be made if there has been any permanent diminution in value.

iii. Investments

Investments are stated at market value at the balance sheet date.

d) Current Assets

Amounts owing to the P.C.C. at 31 December in respect of fees, rents or other income are shown as debtors less provision for amounts that may prove uncollectable.

Short term deposits include cash held on deposit either with the C.B.F. Church of England funds, or at the bank.

ST MATTHEWS CHURCH PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

2 INCOMING RESOURCES

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Endowment	Total Funds	
	Funds	Funds	Funds	2025	2024
	£	£	£	£	£
2 Analysis of income and endowments					
2a Donations and Legacies					
Planned Giving (excl tax refunds)	34,505	-	-	34,505	31,897
Planned Giving (no tax refunds)	6,375	-	-	6,375	10,062
Loose cash collections	1,592	150	-	1,742	1,476
Gift Days	-	-	-	-	5,950
Sundry donations and appeals	10,140	7,380	-	17,520	11,502
Income Tax Recoverable	10,484	2,623	-	13,107	11,627
Grants	7,073	63,403	-	70,476	56,167
Legacies	-	-	-	-	-
	<u>70,169</u>	<u>73,556</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>143,725</u>	<u>128,681</u>
2b Charitable Activities					
Fees from weddings etc	1,365	-	-	1,365	607
	<u>1,365</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,365</u>	<u>607</u>
2c Other trading activities					
Fund raising events	-	-	-	-	-
Church Centre Lettings	14,790	-	-	14,790	14,231
Rent from letting parish house	10,601	-	-	10,601	10,434
Bookstall	-	-	-	-	-
	<u>25,391</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>25,391</u>	<u>24,665</u>
2d Investments					
Dividends on CBF Investment fund	207	-	-	207	202
CBF deposit interest	707	-	-	707	1,116
	<u>914</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>914</u>	<u>1,318</u>
2e Other Income					
Insurance claims	825	-	-	825	-
Training course receipts	-	-	-	-	-
	<u>825</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>825</u>	<u>-</u>
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES	<u>98,664</u>	<u>73,556</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>172,220</u>	<u>155,271</u>

ST MATTHEWS CHURCH PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025
CONTINUED

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total 2025 £	Funds 2024 £
3 Resources expended					
3a Raising funds					
Special appeal costs	-	-	-	-	-
Fund-raising events	-	-	-	-	-
Stewardship costs	-	-	-	-	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
3b Charitable Activities					
Missionary and charitable giving: (see note 4)	2,265	150	-	2,415	2,152
Ministry costs	-	-	-	-	-
Diocesan Parish Share	22,000	-	-	22,000	20,000
Other clergy costs	4,283	-	-	4,283	2,960
Salaries and honoria (see note 5)	16,585	18,182	-	34,767	43,546
Church running expenses	13,362	-	-	13,362	10,763
Church Maintenance/Improvements	3,822	246	-	4,068	44,812
Bookstall	-	-	-	-	-
Training	429	-	-	429	752
Upkeep of services	1,417	-	-	1,417	1,321
Upkeep of church grounds	82	-	-	82	178
Children and Youth Work	1,080	936	-	2,016	1,843
Bank Charges	-	-	-	-	-
Governance - see note 6	1,150	-	-	1,150	1,340
	<u>66,475</u>	<u>19,514</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>85,989</u>	<u>129,667</u>
3c Other trading activities					
Church Centre Hiring Costs	-	-	-	-	-
Church Centre Running Costs	34,783	45,293	-	80,076	16,979
Bookstall costs	-	-	-	-	-
Other Trading costs	-	-	-	-	-
	<u>34,783</u>	<u>45,293</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>80,076</u>	<u>16,979</u>
TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED	<u>101,258</u>	<u>64,807</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>166,065</u>	<u>146,646</u>

ST MATTHEWS CHURCH PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025
CONTINUED

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total 2025 £	Funds 2024 £
4 Missionary and charitable giving:					
<i>Overseas</i>					
Tear Fund	600	-	-	600	600
<i>Home</i>					
London City Mission,	600	-	-	600	600
Evangelical Alliance	45	-	-	45	45
Christians Against Poverty	900	150	-	1,050	907
Sussex Gospel Partnership	120	-	-	120	-
	<u>2,265</u>	<u>150</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,415</u>	<u>2,152</u>

5 Staff Costs

a	<i>Wages and Salaries</i>					
	Caretaker/Cleaner	5,252	-	-	5,252	4,918
	Administrator	11,233	-	-	11,233	9,223
	Organists	100	-	-	100	-
	Families and Youth Pastor	-	17,722	-	17,722	28,125
	Families & Youth Pastor expenses and other costs	-	460	-	460	1,280
	Employers National Insurance	-	-	-	-	-
		<u>16,585</u>	<u>18,182</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>34,767</u>	<u>43,546</u>

Wages and Salaries

a. During the year the PCC employed a Families and Youth Pastor, a Caretaker/Cleaner and two Parish Administrators. Social Security costs were paid in connection with all employees. The Families and Youth Pastor and one of the Administrators were enrolled in a pension scheme with NEST. Contributions to this scheme were made by both the church and the Youth Pastor/Administrator.

b. No members of the PCC received any remuneration from the Councils funds. A small immaterial portion of the expenses paid to the Rector may have related to his services as chairman of the P.C.C. Mrs P.Blythe the parish administrator is the wife of P.C.C. member Mr T.D.Blythe, There were no other disclosable transactions in respect of PCC members, nor persons closely connected to them, nor other related parties.

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total 2025 £	Funds 2024 £
6 Governance					
Independent examination fee	1,130	-	-	1,130	1,320
Cost of annual accounts	20	-	-	20	20
	<u>1,150</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,150</u>	<u>1,340</u>

7 Analysis of transfers between funds

-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-

ST MATTHEWS CHURCH PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025
CONTINUED

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total 2025 £	Funds 2024 £
8 Fixed Assets					
a Investments					
Market value 1st January 2025	7,446	-	-	7,446	7,279
Disposals at carrying value	-	-	-	-	-
Purchases at cost	-	-	-	-	-
Net gains and revaluation	(298)	-	-	(298)	167
Market value 31st December 2025	<u>7,148</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>7,148</u>	<u>7,446</u>

Holdings at 31st December 2025- 322 shares in the CBF Church of England Investment Fund

b Tangible fixed assets	Freehold Land And Buildings £	Auidio visual Equipment £	Total fixed assets £
Cost or valuation			
At 1st January 2025	26,319	38,923	26,319
Additions	-	-	-
Disposals	-	-	-
Revaluation	-	-	-
At 31st December 2025	<u>26,319</u>	<u>38,923</u>	<u>26,319</u>
Depreciation			
At 1st January 2025	-	38,923	38,923
Provided in the year	-	-	-
Disposals	-	-	-
At 31st December 2025	<u>-</u>	<u>38,923</u>	<u>38,923</u>
Net book amounts			
At 31st December 2025	<u>26,319</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>26,319</u>
At 31st December 2024	<u>26,319</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>26,319</u>

The Freehold land and buildings comprise the house at 98 Sedlescombe Gardens, St Leonards-on-sea. For accounting purposes, the historical cost of this property is deemed to be its original cost which has not been updated. Church Equipment comprises the video system, the electronic piano and other audio equipment

c Heritage Assets None

9 Analysis of cash and cash equivalents

	Total Funds 2025 £	Total Funds 2024 £
Cash in hand	18,824	18,639
Notice deposits (less than 3 months)	21,670	21,670
Overdraft facility	-	-
	<u>40,494</u>	<u>40,309</u>

ST MATTHEWS CHURCH PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025
CONTINUED

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total Funds 2025	Total Funds 2024
	£	£	£	£	£
10 Debtors					
Income Tax Recoverable	2,492	45	-	2,537	2,665
Prepayments and Accrued Interest	882	-	-	882	1,046
Other Debtors	6,903	-	-	6,903	-
	<u>10,277</u>	<u>45</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>10,322</u>	<u>3,711</u>
11 Creditors					
Amounts falling due within one year					
Deferred Income	£	£	£	£	£
Accruals of utility and other costs	5,108	-	-	5,108	4,866
Creditors for goods and services	593	-	-	593	193
Other creditors	-	-	-	0	-
Loans	-	-	-	-	-
	<u>5,701</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>5,701</u>	<u>5,059</u>
12 Creditors					
amounts falling due after more than one year					
Deferred Income	£	£	£	£	£
Accruals of utility and other costs	-	-	-	-	-
Creditors for goods and services	-	-	-	-	-
Other creditors	-	-	-	-	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

ST MATTHEWS CHURCH PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

Statement of funds 2025

	Bal b/fwd 1st Jan 2025	Income	Expenditure	Transfers, other gains and losses	Bal c/fwd 31st Dec 2025
13 Unrestricted Funds					
General fund	58,019	97,970	(95,528)	(5,148)	55,313
Buildings/Fabric fund - designated	-	-	-	-	-
Equipment / Improvements - designated	-	-	(4,809)	4,850	41
Pastoral fund -designated	-	97	(50)	-	47
Children and Youth Work - designated	416	597	(871)	-	142
	<u>58,435</u>	<u>98,664</u>	<u>(101,258)</u>	<u>(298)</u>	<u>55,543</u>
Restricted Funds					
Buildings/Fabric fund	-	45,323	(45,293)	-	30
Equipment/ Improvements fund	246	-	(246)	-	-
Families and Youth Fund	12,794	28,083	(19,118)	-	21,759
Mission Gift Day	-	-	-	-	-
Other Restricted Collections	-	150	(150)	-	-
	<u>13,040</u>	<u>73,556</u>	<u>(64,807)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>21,789</u>
Endowment Fund					
C.L. Cleaver bequest	1,250	-	-	-	1,250

The designated Buildings/Fabric fund is for funds allocated by the PCC for repairs to the Church, Church Centre and 98 Sedlescombe Gardens

The designated Equipment/Improvement fund is for funds allocated by the PCC for updating the equipment in the church and church centre

The designated Pastoral fund is to provide financial assistance to parishioners in urgent need

The designated Children and Youth Work fund provides funds allocated by the PCC for the day to day operation of the Churches Childrens and Youth Work

The restricted Buildings/Fabric and Equipment/Improvements funds provide the same functions as the designated funds but are allocated by the donor

The restricted Families and Youth fund is Primarily used to fund a Childrens and Youth Worker

The Endowment fund consists of a £1,250 legacy from C.L.Cleaver which was received in 1976. The capital is not to be spent but the income is to be used to meet normal Expenditure.

Statement of funds 2024

	Bal b/fwd 1st Jan 2024	Income	Expenditure	Transfers, other gains and losses	Bal c/fwd 31st Dec 2024
Unrestricted Funds					
General fund	43154	101855	(87158)	167	58018
Buildings/Fabric fund - designated	-	-	-	-	-
Equipment / Improvements - designated	-	-	-	-	-
Pastoral fund -designated	-	-	-	-	-
Children and Youth Work - designated	801	767	(1152)	-	416
	<u>43955</u>	<u>102622</u>	<u>(88310)</u>	<u>167</u>	<u>58434</u>
Restricted Funds					
Buildings/Fabric fund	3000	22278	(25278)	-	-
Equipment/ Improvements fund	3705	-	(3459)	-	246
Families and Youth Fund	11873	30213	(29292)	-	12794
Mission Gift Day	-	-	-	-	-
Other Restricted Collections	150	157	(307)	-	-
	<u>18728</u>	<u>52649</u>	<u>(58336)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>13040</u>
Endowment Fund					
C.L. Cleaver bequest	1250	-	-	-	1250

14 Analysis of Net assets by fund

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total Funds 2025	Total Funds 2024
	£	£	£	£	£
Fixed Assets for Church use	26,319	-	-	26,319	26,319
Investment Fixed Assets	7,148	-	-	7,148	7,445
Current assets	27,777	21,789	1,250	50,816	44,020
Current Liabilities	(5,701)	-	-	(5,701)	(5,059)
Fund Balance	<u>55,543</u>	<u>21,789</u>	<u>1,250</u>	<u>78,582</u>	<u>72,725</u>

15 Related parties and transactions

None

**Independent examiner's report
To the PCC of St Matthew's Church**

This report on the accounts of the PCC for the year ended 31 December 2025, which are set out on pages 6 to 14, is in respect of an examination carried out in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 ('the Regulations') and s.145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

Respective responsibilities of the PCC and the examiner

As members of the PCC you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts; you consider that the audit requirement of Regulations and section s. 144 of the Act do not apply. It is my responsibility to issue this report on those accounts in accordance with the terms of Regulations.

Basis of this report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act and to be found in the Church guidance, 2006 edition. That examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the PCC and a comparison of the accounts with those records. It also includes considering any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent examiner's statement

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; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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..... *R Walsh*

Date..... *31/03/26*

Mrs R T Walsh FCCA
Manningtons
Victoria House
The Moor
Hawkhurst
TN18 4NR