

**ANNUAL MEETING OF THE PARISHIONERS FOR THE  
ELECTION OF CHURCHWARDENS**

**AND**

**ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING**

**TUESDAY 24<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2026**

**7.45 PM IN ST. PAUL'S CHURCH ROOM**

**Annual Meeting of The Parishioners for the Election of Churchwardens  
and Annual Parochial Church Meeting for 2026  
to be held on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> March 2026 at 7.45pm in St. Paul's Church Room**

**AGENDA**

**Annual Meeting of the Parishioners for the Election of Churchwardens for 2026**

1. Opening Prayer
2. Apologies for absence
3. Minutes of the 2025 Meeting of the Parishioners held on 9<sup>th</sup> April 2025 **p.3**
4. Election of Churchwardens

**Annual Parochial Church Meeting for 2026**

1. Minutes of the 2025 APCM held on 9<sup>th</sup> April 2025 **pp.4-6**
2. Presentation of the revised Electoral Roll for 2026 **pp.7-9**
3. Elections to the Tandridge Deanery Synod
4. Elections to the Parochial Church Council
5. Election of Deputy Churchwarden
6. Reports: -
  - (a) Churchwardens' Report, including report on the Fabric, Goods and Ornaments of the church **pp.10-12**
  - (b) Finance Report – including the Accounts for 2025 and Annual Report **pp.13-30**
  - (c) Report on the proceedings of the Tandridge Deanery Synod **pp.31-33**
  - (d) Report on the proceedings of the Parochial Church Council, incorporating Website Development **pp.34-36**
  - (e) Report on Safeguarding **pp.37-38**
  - (f) Report on Leading Your Church into Growth **pp.39-41**
  - (g) Report on St. Paul's Church Room **p.42**
  - (h) Report on the Golden Connections Café **p.43**
  - (i) Chair's Remarks **pp.44-46**
7. Appointment of an Independent Examiner for 2026
8. Any Other Business
9. Closing Prayer

**Minutes of the Meeting of Parishioners and Annual Parochial Church Meeting for 2025  
held on Wednesday 9 April at 7.45pm in St. Paul's Church Room**

**Present:** The Revd Dr Catherine Dowland-Pillinger (Chair)  
Mrs Nancy Collard  
Mrs Judy Fortune  
Mr. Nigel Hardy  
Mrs. Nickki Hardy  
Mrs Alison Mead  
Mrs Shelagh Musk  
Mr David Ridout  
Mr. Christopher Roberts  
Mr Tim Salmon  
Mrs Maggie Stevenson  
Mr Robin Tozer  
Mrs Maureen Westmarland

**Minutes of the Meeting of Parishioners for 2025**

- 1. Opening Prayer** a passage from John 14 was read followed by a prayer for guidance for all who attended the meeting.
- 2. Apologies for Absence** were received from Janine Battersby and Barbara Tozer.
- 3. The Minutes of the 2024 Meeting of Parishioners**, held on Thursday 25 April 2024, were accepted, having been proposed by Nancy and seconded by Tim. All attendees accepted these minutes as a true and accurate record of the 2024 meeting.

**4. Election of Churchwardens**

Two nominations had been received:

**Mrs Judy Fortune**, proposed by Nigel Hardy and seconded by Tim Salmon  
**Mr Nigel Hardy**, proposed by Christopher Roberts and seconded by Maureen Westmarland.

Judy and Nigel were duly elected to serve as our wardens for 2025-2026.

Christopher Roberts was stepping down as warden following two separate terms of office. The meeting wished to record its deepest thanks to Christopher for his wonderful service to the Parish over so many years.

The above being completed, the Meeting of Parishioners was concluded.

## **Minutes of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting for 2025**

- 1. Minutes of the 2025 Annual Parochial Church Meeting** held on 25 April 2024 were agreed to be a correct record. Nigel Hardy proposed, Nikki Hardy seconded, and the meeting unanimously voted to approve the minutes
  
- 2.** A new Electoral Roll had been prepared and had been for the required period ahead of the meeting. No omissions or errors had been reported, and the new Roll was accepted. There were **76** people on the new Electoral Roll  
Of the 108 names on the old Electoral Roll, 18 had been on the Roll to achieve a Qualifying Connection for Marriage, 3 had moved away from the parish and 3 had died. A few people had not renewed their membership of the Electoral Roll; 7 new people had enrolled on the new Roll.

### **3. Elections to the Parochial Church Council (PCC):**

Revd. Catherine confirmed that Mrs Judy Fortune, Mrs Shelagh Musk and Mrs Maggie Stevenson had all completed their three-year term as members of the PCC. They were thanked for their service to the parish. Judy had now been elected as Church Warden and so would be an ex officio PCC member.

**Mr Tim Salmon and Mrs Maureen Westmarland** still had two years of their terms of office to serve, and our Deanery Synod Representatives (**Mrs Alison Mead and Mr Robin Tozer**) had one more year to serve, and therefore also as ex officio members of the PCC; they too were thanked for their service.

Two nominations had been received for additional lay members of the PCC:

**Mrs Nancy Collard**, proposed by Maureen Westmarland, seconded by Marianne Osborne.  
**Mr Christopher Roberts**, proposed by Maureen Westmarland and seconded by Judy Fortune.

Nancy and Christopher were duly elected for three-year terms of office on the PCC.

### **4. Reports:**

The reports had all been circulated in advance as part of the booklet for the meeting. Questions and comments were taken on the various reports.

#### **(a) Churchwardens' Report:**

David Ridout questioned the claim of reasonable attendance at evening services. It was generally agreed that attendances at the three special choral services (especially the All Souls' Evensong and the Nine Lessons and Carols) were usually good, though the numbers for the Evening Prayer with Hymns services on other months were disappointingly low.

Christopher confirmed that a faculty for the small-scale work on a section of the flint on the tower will be required and will be delayed due to our builder being on paternity leave.

The work is due to start in May. A faculty for the full works will be applied for in late summer/autumn. Our architect, Libby, will advise on the details of the work. The Wardens also reported on the fabric, goods and ornaments of the church in general.

Revd Catherine conveyed thanks on behalf of the church to Christopher and Nigel for the Churchwardens' Report and for all their work, and that of Tim, on the church fabric and building during the year.

**(b) Finance – Accounts and Annual Report**

The Accounts and Annual Report had been approved by the PCC, the Accounts approved by the Independent Examiner, and made available to members in advance of the meeting, as required. Tim said some of the church funds reported in the Annual Accounts are yet to be received but will arrive in due course. This included the Marshall endowment. Revd Catherine conveyed thanks on behalf of the whole parish for the meticulous way Tim has looked after the Church's accounts and also for all the work he has also contributed towards the upkeep of the church grounds.

**(c) Report on the Tandridge Deanery Synod**

The discussions at the meetings of the Synod were included in the report. Robin also noted that the Deanery Synod would like to arrange a picnic within Tandridge, the date and location of which were still to be determined. Robin and Alison were thanked for representing us on the Deanery Synod.

**(d) Report on the proceedings of the Parochial Church Council**

Details of the dates of and the main issues discussed by the PCC and the Standing Committee were included in the report and Maggie was thanked for her hard work as our PCC Secretary, as were those PCC members reaching the end of their terms of office.

**(e) Report on Safeguarding**

The central importance of safeguarding was emphasised in the report. Alison reported that our DBS checks and training records were kept up to date and that safeguarding was a standing item on the PCC agenda. She and Maureen were thanked for undertaking this important work for the parish.

**(f) Publicity and Communications Group Report, including website development**

Maggie reported on the continued development of our Parish Website and plans for its further improvement, especially in the Community section. We were continuing to work with Ali Coombs on this and in ensuring that the website is constantly kept up to date. The church Christmas cards produced in 2024 had proved very successful and it was planned to produce a new card for 2025. Maggie was thanked for all she does in coordinating our publicity and communications work.

**(g) Golden Connections Café Report**

Alison reported on the consultation process which led to the formation of the Golden Connections Café for older adults; the group began to meet in November 2024 and quickly became well established and valued by its guests. It was being supported by team of volunteers from the parish and the village to whom thanks were expressed, along with Alison, for this positive new project.

**(h) Worship Committee Report, including Footsteps Children's Group**

The main development during the year had been the introduction of a non-Eucharistic All-Age service on the third Sunday of the month (with a later said Eucharist on those weeks). The new format seemed to be working well and would continue to be reviewed moving forward. All those who contribute to our worship, especially David Ridout and the Choir, those involved with our children's work, and the servers and sacristans who support our services were thanked for their contributions.

**(i) Mission Action Plan Report**

Nigel Hardy reported on progress towards a new Mission Action Plan, with suggested possible developments under each of the Five Marks of Mission (Tell, Teach, Tend, Transform and Treasure), in some cases strengthening and developing existing work, as well as trying some new initiatives. Nigel and those others who had contributed to the MAP work were thanked for their efforts. The proposed Vision Statement included in the report was approved and adopted by the meeting.

**(j) Chairman's Remarks**

Catherine's remarks summarized the areas of activity included in the other reports, referring also to our community links and work with Woodlea School and Woldingham School, as well as thanking all those who support the mission and ministry of our parish in any way.

The Reports were unanimously approved by the meeting.

**5. Appointment of an Independent Examiner for 2025**

It was hoped that Ian Tyler would agree to serve as our Independent Examiner once again in 2025; Tim would approach Ian about this.

**6. Any Other Business**

There was no other business.

**7. Closing Prayers**

The meeting closed with the saying of The Grace.

## 2. Presentation of the Electoral Roll for 2026

### St. Paul's with St. Agatha's, Woldingham - Electoral Roll revised for 2026 APCM

|    |                      |                 |
|----|----------------------|-----------------|
| 1  | Janine Claire        | BATTERSBY       |
| 2  | Caroline Jane        | BELL            |
| 3  | Henry David          | BELL            |
| 4  | Henry John           | BLANCHARD       |
| 5  | Ann                  | BOND            |
| 6  | April Margaret       | CAMILLERI       |
| 7  | Joseph John          | CAMILLERI       |
| 8  | Derek                | CAMPS-HARRIS    |
| 9  | Sheila               | CAMPS-HARRIS    |
| 10 | David Anthony        | CHAPMAN         |
| 11 | Victoria Ann Lorimer | CHAPMAN         |
| 12 | John Maurice         | CHAPMAN-FORTUNE |
| 13 | Tania                | CHAPMAN-FORTUNE |
| 14 | Sheila Joan          | CHRISTMAS       |
| 15 | Nancy                | COLLARD         |
| 16 | Gareth               | COX             |
| 17 | Jessica              | COX             |
| 18 | Sean                 | COX             |
| 19 | Susan Elizabeth      | COX             |
| 20 | Sinead               | CROSBIE         |
| 21 | Bill (William)       | CROTHERS        |
| 22 | Lucy Mary            | CROTHERS        |
| 23 | Margaret             | DAVISON         |
| 24 | Judy                 | FORTUNE         |
| 25 | Dawn                 | FRANCIS         |
| 26 | Rosemary Margaret    | FRANCIS         |
| 27 | Victoria Maria       | FRANCIS         |
| 28 | Meriel ANN           | HAMILTON        |
| 29 | Nicola Mary          | HARDY           |
| 30 | Nigel John           | HARDY           |
| 31 | Nicholas             | HART            |
| 32 | Nicoletta            | HILL            |
| 33 | Jacqueline Yvonne    | KELLY           |
| 34 | Geoffrey             | KING            |

**St. Paul's with St. Agatha's Woldingham**  
Woldingham St. Paul's with St. Agatha's (CR1/059BK5)  
Registered charity number 1179945

|    |                      |            |
|----|----------------------|------------|
| 35 | Jennifer Ann         | KING       |
| 36 | Joyce                | KNIGHT     |
| 37 | Richard John         | KYLE       |
| 38 | Martin Antony        | LEVIE      |
| 39 | Jasmine Susan        | LEVIE      |
| 40 | John Edward          | LLOYD      |
| 41 | David Frank          | LOCKET     |
| 42 | Ingegard Christina   | LOCKET     |
| 43 | Susan Margaret       | LOWNDES    |
| 44 | Casey Dawn           | MANN       |
| 45 | Daniel Christopher   | MANN       |
| 46 | Alison Margaret      | MEAD       |
| 47 | Anthony              | MORRIS     |
| 48 | Philip               | MORRIS     |
| 49 | Stella               | MORRIS     |
| 50 | Katherine Camilla    | MOTCHMAN   |
| 51 | Stuart Douglas       | MOTCHMAN   |
| 52 | Shelagh Margaret     | MUSK       |
| 53 | Katharine            | O'CARROLL  |
| 54 | Marianne             | OSBORNE    |
| 55 | Susan Carole         | PAGEOT     |
| 56 | Rosemary             | PIRIE      |
| 57 | Elizabeth Jayne Boyd | RENDELL    |
| 58 | Mary Ann             | RICHARDSON |
| 59 | Christopher William  | ROBERTS    |
| 60 | David John           | RIDOUT     |
| 61 | Gillian              | ROSS       |
| 62 | Margaret (Maggie)    | STEVENSON  |
| 63 | Pamela               | SYKES      |
| 64 | Daniel Rickwood      | TODD       |
| 65 | David Peter          | TODD       |
| 66 | Denise Elaine        | TODD       |
| 67 | Joshua Peter         | TODD       |
| 68 | Barbara Anne         | TOZER      |
| 69 | Robin Gerald         | TOZER      |
| 70 | Amy Rebecca          | TYLER      |
| 71 | Janet Lynn           | TYLER      |
| 72 | Lucy Charlotte       | TYLER      |

**St. Paul's with St. Agatha's Woldingham**  
Woldingham St. Paul's with St. Agatha's (CR1/059BK5)  
Registered charity number 1179945

|    |                |             |
|----|----------------|-------------|
| 73 | Annie          | WELLER      |
| 74 | Maureen May    | WESTMARLAND |
| 75 | Pamela Hilda   | WILLIAMS    |
| 76 | William Trevor | WILLIAMS    |

76 on the Electoral Roll in 2025

4 removals (2 moved away, 2 R.I.P), 4 additions

**76 on the Electoral Roll at the APCM 24 March 2026**

## **6(a) Churchwardens' Report, including Report on the Fabric, Goods and Ornaments of the Church**

### **ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING 2026: CHURCHWARDENS' REPORT**

This report covers the main activities of the church over the past year, and (as we are required to do) the fabric, goods and ornaments of the church. Before getting into detail, Nigel and Judy would like to say how grateful we are to Maureen Westmarland who assists with baptisms and weddings and is an invaluable source of support and advice whenever needed.

#### **Church services and other activities**

Regular services took place at both churches. At the main service of the week, the 10am service at St Paul's on Sundays, attendance remains steady around the mid-twenties. While there are some new, and very welcome, members of the congregation, the numbers are matched by those who have died or moved away. Services on special occasions like Easter Sunday and Remembrance Sunday produce a full church. It would be good to see higher levels of attendance as a matter of routine.

Rev Catherine and the PCC are well aware of the importance of welcoming children and young people to church. For the past three years the 10am service on the third Sunday of the month has been presented as an all-age service with participation by children and adults. Recently we have gone a stage further by making this a simpler, non-eucharistic service, still for both children and adults, except when the timing coincides with big church festivals like Easter. We have added a said Eucharist Service at 11.30am on the third Sunday of the month, for anyone wanting to have communion and unable to attend the usual communion services. Meanwhile, we continue with the service for young families at 11:30 am on the first Sunday of the month, after the main service at St Paul's. These and other services are actively publicised on the church website.

St Agatha's continues to play an important part in church life in the village. A small but loyal congregation attends the 9 am prayer book communion service every Sunday. A special service held just before Christmas to commemorate those no longer with us clearly meets a need. The church is open on Sundays, Mondays, and Wednesdays, and attracts visitors to the churchyard as well as walkers from nearby hiking trails.

In the context of outreach to the parish an important recent initiative, spearheaded by Alison Mead, has been the launch of the Golden Connections café on the second and fourth Tuesday afternoons each month, for older adults including those with dementia and their Carers. This got off to a good start, is becoming more popular within our community and fits well into one of our MAP steps for Leading our church into growth.

The main fundraising events of the year were another successful harvest supper in the Village Club and a Breast Cancer Awareness Coffee Morning, spearheaded by Nigel, accompanied by David and Denise. Money raised from the Harvest Supper went to the local food bank and money raised from the Breast Cancer coffee morning went to Breast Cancer. Both events were organised as gatherings for the village and the broader community.

## **The Choir**

Warm thanks are owed to our Director of Music and Organist, David Ridout, for maintaining a musical tradition well above the average for a village church. The congregation is grateful to the choir for their time and commitment, and new members are always welcome. Choral Evensong is held three or four Sundays each year, while on other first Sundays of the month, there is a spoken Evensong with hymns. Both services get a fair number of attendees. This is a special Anglican tradition, which should be preserved.

## **The buildings and their contents**

While over the past year there has been no major work on the fabric of our two churches, we still have a problem with crumbling stonework at St Paul's. Last spring we appointed Libby Watts, an architect based in Westerham, as our Quinquennial Inspector, in succession to Bob Wilson, who had resigned. Libby is now fully engaged with the stonework problem and at present we are awaiting a faculty decision for the tower works.

At St Agatha's there has been a problem with the heaters not working properly and causing discomfort to the congregation on cold, winter mornings. This problem had now been rectified.

The Churchwardens are most grateful to Tim Salmon our Treasurer. Over the past years Tim has, in addition to his responsibilities as Treasurer, faithfully dedicated a great deal of his time to taking the lead on repair and maintenance issues for both churches. Tim also took on several other roles. It is with sadness that we have had to say goodbye to him as he has decided to move out of the village. We have, with difficulty, had to find volunteers to fit into all the roles performed by Tim, but we are pleased to inform you that Stella Morris is now our new Treasurer. Stella is a member of our congregation at St. Agatha's, and we look forward to working with her and thank her for stepping up to this challenge.

The contents of the churches (formally known as the "goods and ornaments") remain unchanged. The contactless machine, for cashless donations, has now been available for just over four years and has been successfully used.

## **The Grounds**

Annie Anderson and her team on the flower rota, produce splendid floral displays inside St Paul's. At St Agatha's there is still room for another row of burials, but the eastern third of the churchyard, hitherto semi-wild, will need to be brought into use before long.

A grant for the continual upkeep of the grounds at St Agatha's was approved by the Parish Council in November 2025. The PCC are incredibly grateful and have expressed their thanks.

In October, work to reduce the crowns of two oaks and one ash tree in the churchyard at St. Agatha's, was undertaken. We have also had tree work done at St. Paul's, which has let more light in and revealed the true beauty of the stained-glass windows. Regular upkeep of the grounds at St. Agatha's and St Paul's is now ongoing.

## **Record Keeping**

Usual records have been completed, and The Quinquennial Inspection was conducted by Revd Michelle. She was content with what she found.

## **Volunteers**

Our churches could not function without the team of volunteers who give of their time and skills regularly over the year, and to whom Rev Catherine, the PCC and the Churchwardens are enormously grateful. We would like to bring in more volunteers, including newcomers to the two churches, and would ask those who have not yet been involved to consider how they might contribute.

## **Churchwardens**

Christopher has stood down after four years as Churchwarden (and an earlier stint some twelve years ago) Christopher has retired but continues to support Nigel and Judy in the background. Christopher still serves on the PCC and Standing Committee and continues to assist at funerals.

Nigel Hardy and Judy Fortune, March 2026

**6(b) Finance Report, including Accounts for 2025 and Annual Report**

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL  
OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF  
ST PAUL WITH ST AGATHA,  
WOLDINGHAM  
REGISTERED CHARITY 1179945

Annual Report and  
Financial Statements  
for the year ended 31 December 2025

## Annual Report 2025

### **Administrative information**

Woldingham is part of the Diocese of Southwark within the Church of England. The Caterham Team, of which it had been a part for a number of years, has now been disbanded and the churches are operating as a Group with the clergy of the churches collaborating and supporting each other.

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St. Paul with St. Agatha, Woldingham ('Woldingham PCC' or the 'PCC') is a charity registered with the Charity Commission with registration number 1179945.

The following served as members of the PCC (trustees of the charity) during the period covered by this report, together with their unexpired terms of office where applicable. There are currently eleven trustees including one who is co-opted.

|                               |   |
|-------------------------------|---|
| Incumbent                     | Rev Dr C Dowland-Pillinger  |
| Church Wardens                | Mr N J Hardy – until APCM 2026<br>Mrs J P Fortune – until APCM 2026   |
| Deanery Synod representatives | Mr R G Tozer – until APCM 2026<br>Mrs A M Mead – until APCM 2026  |
| Other trustees                | Mrs N Collard – until APCM 2028<br>Mr D J Ridout (co-opted) – until APCM 2026<br>Mr C W Roberts – until APCM 2028<br>Mr T J Salmon – until APCM 2027<br>Mrs M M Stevenson (co-opted) – until APCM 2026<br>Mrs M Westmarland – until APCM 2027 |
| Parish safeguarding officers  | Mrs A M Mead and Mrs M Westmarland  |
| Treasurer                     | Mr T J Salmon   |
| Secretary                     | Mrs M M Stevenson   |

Those retiring at the Annual Meeting are Mr Hardy, Mrs Fortune, Mrs Mead and Mr Tozer plus co-opted member Mr Ridout.

### **Objectives and activities**

The PCC has responsibility for co-operating with the incumbent in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelical, social and ecumenical. It also has maintenance responsibilities for the churches and grounds of St. Paul's and St. Agatha's.

### **Structure, governance and management**

Members of the PCC are either ex-officio or elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) in accordance with the Church Representation Rules. Members normally serve on the PCC for three years, or the remainder of the term of those whom they succeed.

The PCC operates through a number of committees, which meet between full meetings of the PCC. The committees presently established are set out below. Members of the Committees who are also continuing members of the PCC are shown; the chair is shown as the first name in each list. The Incumbent is entitled to attend and chair any of the Committees if she so wishes. Other members are co-opted onto these committees from time to time.

## Annual Report 2025 (continued)

### *Standing Committee*

This is the only committee required by law. It has the power to conduct the business of the PCC between its meetings, subject to any direction given by the PCC.

*Members: Rev Dr C Dowland-Pillinger, Mr Hardy, Mrs Fortune, Mr Roberts, Mrs Stevenson and Mr Salmon.*

### *Buildings and Fabric Committee*

This group is responsible for the stewardship of the church buildings, fabric and churchyards.

*Members: Rev Dr C Dowland-Pillinger, Mr Hardy, Mrs Fortune, Mr Roberts and Mr Salmon.*

### *Social Committee*

This committee is responsible for social activities.

*Members: Mrs Fortune, Mrs Mead and Mrs Stevenson with others being co-opted as required.*

### *Worship Committee*

This committee is responsible for considering worship in conjunction with outreach, evangelism and mission.

*Members: Rev Dr C Dowland-Pillinger, Mr Hardy, Mrs Fortune, Mrs Mead plus co-opted member Mr Ridout.*

### *Mission Action Planning*

This group is responsible for the renewal of our Mission Action Plan.

*Members: Rev Dr C Dowland-Pillinger, Mr Hardy, Mrs Fortune, Mrs Stevenson and Mrs Mead.*

A small committee, led by Mrs Stevenson and Mrs Mead with others co-opted as required continues to work on the content and delivery of our website. We are indebted to Ali Coombs who continues to maintain the website and to Mrs Maureen Westmarland, who continues to provide assistance.

### **Church attendance**

There are currently 76 people on the Roll, including some not resident in the parish. Average weekly attendance at the main service was 30 (2024 – 28).

### **Safeguarding**

The role of the Parish Safeguarding Officers is to work with the incumbent, churchwardens, PCC and members of the church community to make sure that we create a safe environment for the activities that we undertake with children and vulnerable adults. We follow the guidance provided by the Diocesan Safeguarding Officer in 'A Safe Church' which includes carrying out DBS checks for appropriate people, discussing safeguarding guidance with those undertaking church activities and encouraging them to attend training sessions, and producing risk assessments where appropriate. A summary of the safeguarding principles adopted by the PCC can be found on the website. 'A Safe Church' is available on the Diocesan website ([www.southwark.anglican.org](http://www.southwark.anglican.org)) for anyone who would like to read it; the diocesan safeguarding policies are adopted annually by the PCC and copies displayed in the churches and on the parish website ([www.woldinghamparish.com](http://www.woldinghamparish.com)). The PCC has complied with the duty to have "due regard" to the House of Bishops' guidance in relation to safeguarding.

## Annual Report 2025 (continued)

### **Review of the year**

The PCC met eight times during 2025 and has met twice to date in 2026. Committees normally meet between these meetings and reports of those meetings are conveyed to the PCC and discussed where necessary.

The PCC's financial statements show that we recorded a deficit on the general fund in 2025 of around £9,000 (page 16). This reflects the loss of some income from donations during the year following the deaths of a number of members of our congregation. Our reserves, however, remain at a level at which it will allow us to deal with unexpected loss of income or emergency expenditure, although we remain dependent on a number of other significant donors.

The funding of clergy in the Southwark Diocese is provided by a scheme under which each parish pledges what it can afford, each year. The PCC agreed to the requested increase of 3.5% for 2025, pledging £49,700. For 2026 we have pledged £48,000, rather than accepting the requested 3.5% increase. As we have previously acknowledged, this results directly from the decline in donors referred to above. A significant portion of our 2025 pledge was funded from reserves and we anticipate at least as much being so funded in 2026. We believe that our contribution still reflects fairly both the size of our congregation and the costs attributable to the parish, and at the same time being supportive of less well-off parishes within the Diocese.

We continue to benefit from annual licence fees for the base station and good cost control; we are particularly fortunate to have secured long term fixed pricing for gas (until June 2026) which we have recently extended for a further two years; although the cost is significantly higher than we have enjoyed in recent years, it remains highly competitive compare to the market and to domestic rates. The other factor that continues to affect our general fund beneficially is the legacy, which, in accordance with the donor's wishes, is being used to cover the costs of repairs and maintenance, rather than these having to be funded by the general fund. This legacy is enabling us to keep both church buildings in good repair. Please consider putting a gift in your will to help us to build up a fund for future work and ministry.

We were notified of a legacy during 2024 (which was included in last year's accounts as a receivable) which was received in 2025. The legacy, from the estate of the late Mrs Mona Marshall (and increased as a result of the generosity of her three children) was received during 2025.

Thanks in part to a much appreciated contribution from the Woldingham Parish Council we remain able to maintain the churchyard at St. Agatha's (the Parish Burial Ground) to a high standard.

Our investments, with CCLA, the charity investment organisation, have declined in value a little towards the end of 2025, in common with the stock market generally.

### **Projects**

Some stone replacement, additional pointing and lead work is required to reduce the amount of moisture entering the St. Paul's church tower and we have accepted a tender to carry out the works from PAYE, the specialist stonework contractor, after a competitive bid process. Works should begin in 2026 as soon as the weather improves.

The Diocesan quinquennial inspection of the buildings last took place at the end of 2020 and resulted in a programme of maintenance and minor works, most of which have been completed. The next such inspection is now due.



On behalf of the Parochial Church Council  
**Rev. Dr. Catherine Dowland-Pillinger**  
Chair

17 February 2026

## Independent Examiner's Report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of the Woldingham Parochial Church Council ('the Charity') for the year ended 31 December 2025.

### **Responsibilities and basis of report**

As the trustees of the Charity you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act).

I report in respect of my examination of the Charity's financial statements carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act. In carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

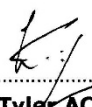
### **Independent examiner's statement**

Your attention is drawn to the fact that the Charity has prepared financial statements in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) in preference to the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice issued on 1 April 2005, which is referred to in the extant regulations but has now been withdrawn. I understand that this has been done in order for financial statements to provide a true and fair view in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Practice effective for reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2015.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no 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 Charity as required by section 130 of the 2011 Act; or
2. the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
3. the financial statements 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 financial statements to be reached.

  
.....  
**I P Tyler ACA**  
Moorlands  
Lunghurst Road  
Woldingham  
Surrey CR3 7EJ  
.....

## Statement of Financial Activities

31 December 2025

|  | Notes | Restricted<br>funds<br>£ | Unrestricted<br>funds<br>£ | Total funds<br>2025<br>£ | Total funds<br>2024<br>£ |
|--|-------|--------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| <b>INCOME &amp; ENDOWMENTS</b>                 | 1     |                          |                            |                          |                          |
| Voluntary income                               |       | 7,063                    | 56,548                     | 63,611                   | 135,787                  |
| Income from investments                        |       | 8,963                    | 3,001                      | 11,964                   | 11,356                   |
| Church activities                              |       | 3,285                    | 2,646                      | 5,931                    | 5,905                    |
| Activities for generating funds                | 3     | -                        | 955                        | 955                      | 2,787                    |
| <b>TOTAL INCOME &amp; ENDOWMENTS</b>           |       | <b>19,311</b>            | <b>63,150</b>              | <b>82,461</b>            | <b>155,835</b>           |
| <b>EXPENDITURE</b>                             | 2     |                          |                            |                          |                          |
| Costs of generating voluntary income           | 3     | -                        | 955                        | 955                      | 1,595                    |
| Other support costs                            |       | 12,669                   | 67,912                     | 80,581                   | 82,377                   |
| Project expenditure                            |       | 5,176                    | -                          | 5,176                    | -                        |
| <b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>                       |       | <b>17,845</b>            | <b>68,867</b>              | <b>86,712</b>            | <b>83,972</b>            |
| <b>NET INCOMING / (OUTGOING)<br/>RESOURCES</b> |       |                          |                            |                          |                          |
| Gains / (losses) on investment assets          |       | 1,466                    | (5,717)                    | (4,251)                  | 71,863                   |
| - on revaluation                               | 10    | (6,829)                  | -                          | (6,829)                  | 4,029                    |
| <b>NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS</b>                   |       | <b>(5,363)</b>           | <b>(5,717)</b>             | <b>(11,080)</b>          | <b>75,892</b>            |
| Fund balances at 1 January                     |       | 297,491                  | 91,973                     | 389,464                  | 313,572                  |
| <b>FUND BALANCES AT<br/>31 DECEMBER</b>        |       | <b>292,128</b>           | <b>86,256</b>              | <b>378,384</b>           | <b>389,464</b>           |

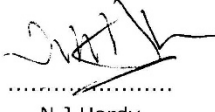
## Balance Sheet


31 December 2025

|  | Notes | Restricted funds<br>£ | Unrestricted funds<br>£ | Total<br>2025<br>£ | Total<br>2024<br>£ |
|--|-------|-----------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| <b>FIXED ASSETS</b>                            |       |                       |                         |                    |                    |
| Investments                                    | 10    | 171,768               | -                       | 171,768            | 178,597            |
| <b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>                          |       |                       |                         |                    |                    |
| Debtors  | 11    | 12                    | 11,478                  | 11,490             | 78,897             |
| Short term deposits                            |       | 120,348               | 71,407                  | 191,755            | 134,794            |
| Cash at bank and in hand                       |       | -                     | 9,036                   | 9,036              | 6,160              |
|  |       | 120,360               | 91,921                  | 212,281            | 219,851            |
| Creditors: amounts falling due within one year | 13    | -                     | (5,665)                 | (5,665)            | (8,984)            |
| <b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>                      |       | <b>120,360</b>        | <b>86,256</b>           | <b>206,616</b>     | <b>210,867</b>     |
| <b>NET ASSETS</b>                              |       | <b>292,128</b>        | <b>86,256</b>           | <b>378,384</b>     | <b>389,464</b>     |
| <b>FUNDS</b>                                   |       |                       |                         |                    |                    |
| General Church Fund                            |       | -                     | 51,284                  | <b>51,284</b>      | 60,276             |
| <i>Designated funds</i>                        |       |                       |                         |                    |                    |
| Organ Fund                                     |       | -                     | 16,512                  | <b>16,512</b>      | 15,907             |
| Choir Robes Fund                               |       | -                     | 50                      | <b>50</b>          | 50                 |
| Fabric / Garden Fund                           |       | -                     | 2,027                   | <b>2,027</b>       | -                  |
| Youth Group Fund                               |       | -                     | 240                     | <b>240</b>         | 240                |
| Clergy Discretionary Fund                      |       | -                     | 16,143                  | <b>16,143</b>      | 15,500             |
| <i>Restricted funds</i>                        |       |                       |                         |                    |                    |
| St. Agatha's Churchyard Fund                   |       | 43,880                | -                       | <b>43,880</b>      | 38,912             |
| Lucy / Marshall Fund                           |       | 231,687               | -                       | <b>231,687</b>     | 242,711            |
| St. Agatha's Bell Appeal Fund                  |       | 4,135                 | -                       | <b>4,135</b>       | 3,962              |
| Village Memorial Fund                          |       | 12,426                | -                       | <b>12,426</b>      | 11,906             |
| <b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>                             |       | <b>292,128</b>        | <b>86,256</b>           | <b>378,384</b>     | <b>389,464</b>     |

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 17 February 2026 and signed on its behalf by:

  
.....  
J Fortune  
Church Warden

  
.....  
N J Hardy  
Church Warden

  
.....  
T J Salmon  
Treasurer

## Statement of Accounting Policies

31 December 2025

The financial statements have been prepared under the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 in accordance with applicable accounting standards and the current Statement of Recommended Practice, Accounting and Reporting by Charities and applicable accounting standard FRS102.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention except for investment assets, which are shown 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 main affiliation to another body, nor those that are informal gatherings of church members. The accruals basis has been used.

### Funds

General funds represent the funds of the PCC that are not subject to any restrictions regarding their use and are available for application on the general purposes of the PCC. Funds designated for a particular purpose by the PCC are unrestricted. Restricted funds are those that must be expended for specific purposes; details of the funds held and restrictions are provided below. The restricted funds are:

|                                   |  |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| The Churchyard Fund               | fees from burials in St. Agatha's churchyard and donations and grants given for the upkeep of the churchyard. Funds are used for the maintenance of the churchyard.  |
| The Lucy / Marshall Fund          | established as a result of a bequest given to fund the future maintenance of the two churches, this fund receives investment income and is expended on maintenance. It was renamed in 2024 to reflect a bequest from the late Mrs Mona Marshall with the same purpose. |
| The Village Memorial Fund         | established in 2011 to fund the replacement of the wooden memorial with a permanent stone replacement in the grounds of St. Paul's.  |
| The St. Agatha's Bell Appeal Fund | established in 2016 to fund repairs to, and re-installation of, the St. Agatha's Church bell.  |

The unrestricted funds are:

|                  |  |
|------------------|--|
| The General Fund | receives regular donation income and is expended in connection with all aspects of the management and operation of the churches. |
|------------------|--|

#### *Designated Funds*

|                               |   |
|-------------------------------|---|
| The Organ Fund                | established to provide a fund for major maintenance to the St. Paul's church organ, this fund receives contributions arising from usage at events such as weddings and funerals and is utilised for repairs.                          |
| The Choir Robes Fund          | established in 2006 to fund the purchase of replacement robes for the choir of St. Paul's.  |
| The Youth Group Fund          | established in 2008 to fund the commencement of a Youth Group.  |
| The Clergy Discretionary Fund | established in 2011 from a donation specifically to fund gifts to those in need at the discretion of the incumbent and church wardens.  |
| The Fabric / Garden Fund      | originally the Fabric Fund, closed in 2007; re-opened in 2017 to fund major repairs to the churches and re-designated in 2019 as the Tower Fund. From 2025 it is being used to fund garden work at St Paul's and renamed accordingly. |

The financial statements include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible in law. They do not include the financial statements of church groups that owe their main affiliation to another body, nor those that are informal gatherings of church members.

## Statement of Accounting Policies (continued)

31 December 2025

### **Income and Endowments**

#### *Voluntary income and capital sources*

Plate collections are recognised when received by or on behalf of the PCC. Planned giving receivable under Gift Aid is recognised only when received. Tax recoverable on Gift Aid donations is recognised when the donation is recognised.

Grants and legacies to the PCC are accounted for as soon as the PCC is notified of its legal entitlement, the amount due is quantifiable and its ultimate receipt by the PCC is reasonably certain. Funds raised by events and the sale of items are accounted for gross. Funds raised for Good Causes are accounted for gross.

#### *Income from investments*

Interest entitlements are accounted for as they accrue. Realised gains or losses are recognised when investments are sold. Unrealised gains or losses are accounted for on revaluation of investments at the end of the financial year.

#### *Parochial fees*

Under the arrangements that exist in the Diocese of Southwark between the Diocese and its ministers, statutory fees are collected by the PCC as agent for the Diocese and paid over to the Diocese; they are netted off in these financial statements with only amounts collected, but not yet paid over, shown as outstanding creditors at the balance sheet date.

### **Expenditure**

#### *Committed giving*

Collections for good causes and other outreach are shown gross.

#### *Activities directly relating to the work of the Church*

The Parish Pledge to the Diocese is accounted for when paid. Any unpaid pledge at 31 December is provided for in these financial statements as an operational (though not a legal) liability and is shown as a creditor in the balance sheet.

### **Fixed asset investments**

Investments are valued at bid prices at 31 December.

### **Fixed assets**

Consecrated and beneficed property of any kind is excluded from the financial statements in accordance with s.10(2)(a) and (c) of the Charities Act 2011. Equipment purchased for use on church premises and which is not incorporated into the buildings is written off on a straight line basis over its useful life, although individual items costing less than £500 are written off when the asset is acquired.

### **Current assets**

Amounts owing to the Church Council at 31 December in respect of fees or other income are shown as debtors less provision for any amounts that may prove uncollectible. Short-term deposits are with the Central Board of Finance of the Church of England.

### **Interfund balances**

Interest is paid on any monies borrowed from restricted funds at the same rate as received on deposits with the Church of England Deposit Fund.

## Notes to financial statements

31 December 2025

### 1. Income and Endowments

#### (a) Restricted funds

|                                      | St. Agatha's<br>churchyard<br>fund | Lucy /<br>Marshall<br>fund | St. Agatha's<br>bell appeal | Village<br>Memorial<br>fund | Total<br>2025        | Total<br>2024        |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
|                                      | £                                  | £                          | £                           | £                           | £                    | £                    |
| <i>Voluntary income</i>              |                                    |                            |                             |                             |                      |                      |
| Planned giving                       | 50                                 | -                          | -                           | -                           | 50                   | 2,206                |
| Income tax recoverable               | 13                                 | -                          | -                           | -                           | 13                   | 552                  |
| Legacies                             | -                                  | 5,000                      | -                           | -                           | 5,000                | 70,000               |
| Grants                               | 2,000                              | -                          | -                           | -                           | 2,000                | 2,000                |
|                                      | <u>2,063</u>                       | <u>5,000</u>               | <u>-</u>                    | <u>-</u>                    | <u>7,063</u>         | <u>74,758</u>        |
| <i>Income from investments</i>       |                                    |                            |                             |                             |                      |                      |
| Investment income                    | 168                                | 4,828                      | -                           | -                           | 4,996                | 4,837                |
| Interest receivable                  | 1,509                              | 1,765                      | 173                         | 520                         | 3,967                | 2,359                |
|                                      | <u>1,677</u>                       | <u>6,593</u>               | <u>173</u>                  | <u>520</u>                  | <u>8,963</u>         | <u>7,196</u>         |
| <i>Income from Church activities</i> |                                    |                            |                             |                             |                      |                      |
| Fees                                 | 3,285                              | -                          | -                           | -                           | 3,285                | 3,083                |
| <b>Total income and endowments</b>   | <b><u>7,025</u></b>                | <b><u>11,593</u></b>       | <b><u>173</u></b>           | <b><u>520</u></b>           | <b><u>19,311</u></b> | <b><u>85,037</u></b> |

The Woldingham Parish Council provides an annual grant towards the maintenance of the Churchyard as the Parish burial ground. In 2025 we applied for £2,000 which was received in December.

The legacy notified to us last year of £70,000 towards the maintenance and upkeep of the buildings and grounds at St Paul's and St Agatha's was received in May 2025. In fact, the legacy received was £75,000 resulting in additional income of £5,000 in 2025. We are most grateful to the family of the late Mrs Mona Marshall for agreeing to significantly enhance her original legacy.

## Notes to financial statements (continued)

31 December 2025

### 1. Income and Endowments (continued)

(b) *Unrestricted funds*

|   | General<br>church<br>fund | Fabric /<br>Garden<br>fund | Organ<br>fund | Clergy<br>disc'y fund | Total<br>2025 | Total<br>2024 |
|---|---------------------------|----------------------------|---------------|-----------------------|---------------|---------------|
|   | £                         | £                          | £             | £                     | £             | £             |
| <i>Voluntary income</i>                       |                           |                            |               |                       |               |               |
| Planned giving                                | 25,924                    | 1,825                      | -             | -                     | 27,749        | 29,546        |
| Income tax recoverable (see below)            | 8,322                     | 456                        | -             | -                     | 8,778         | 9,026         |
| Cash collections                              | 2,979                     | -                          | -             | -                     | 2,979         | 2,780         |
| Miscellaneous income and donations            | 14,197                    | -                          | -             | -                     | 14,197        | 14,556        |
| Collections for charities and others (note 4) | 2,845                     | -                          | -             | -                     | 2,845         | 5,121         |
|   | <u>54,267</u>             | <u>2,281</u>               | <u>-</u>      | <u>-</u>              | <u>56,548</u> | <u>61,029</u> |
| <i>Activities to generate funds</i>           |                           |                            |               |                       |               |               |
| Special events (note 3)                       | 955                       | -                          | -             | -                     | 955           | 2,787         |
| <i>Income from investments</i>                |                           |                            |               |                       |               |               |
| Interest receivable                           | 1,695                     | 26                         | 637           | 643                   | 3,001         | 4,160         |
| <i>Income from church activities</i>          |                           |                            |               |                       |               |               |
| Fees  | 2,246                     | -                          | 400           | -                     | 2,646         | 2,822         |
| <b>Total income and endowments</b>            | <b>59,163</b>             | <b>2,307</b>               | <b>1,037</b>  | <b>643</b>            | <b>63,150</b> | <b>70,798</b> |

*Designated funds*

Income and expenditure in respect of the other designated funds (Choir Robes and Youth Group) are combined with the General Fund to avoid excessive analysis.

Income tax recoverable under Gift Aid, shown above, includes that recoverable under the Gift Aid Small Donations Scheme of £1,728 (2024 - £1,193).

Miscellaneous income and donations includes the annual licence fee receivable in respect of the Base Station in the St Paul's Church Tower of £7,050 (2024 - £7,050).

## Notes to financial statements (continued)

31 December 2025

### 2. Expenditure

#### (a) Restricted funds

|                                 | St. Agatha's<br>churchyard | Lucy /<br>Marshall<br>fund | St. Agatha's<br>bell appeal | Village<br>Memorial | Total<br>2025 | Total<br>2024 |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------|---------------|---------------|
|                                 | £                          | £                          | £                           | £                   | £             | £             |
| <i>Church activities</i>        |                            |                            |                             |                     |               |               |
| Churchyard maintenance          | 2,175                      | -                          | -                           | -                   | 2,175         | 2,928         |
| Church repairs &<br>maintenance | -                          | 10,494                     | -                           | -                   | 10,494        | 7,566         |
| Other support costs             | 2,175                      | 10,494                     | -                           | -                   | 12,669        | 10,494        |
| <i>Project expenditure</i>      |                            |                            |                             |                     |               |               |
|                                 | -                          | 5,176                      | -                           | -                   | 5,176         | -             |
| <b>Total expenditure</b>        | <b>2,175</b>               | <b>15,670</b>              | <b>-</b>                    | <b>-</b>            | <b>17,845</b> | <b>10,494</b> |

General maintenance works were undertaken in 2025. These included substantial works to trees in both churchyards, together with preparatory work on the required repairs to the St. Paul's church tower (shown as project expenditure above) and repairs to the heating in the St. Paul's church room.

#### (b) Unrestricted funds

|  | General<br>church<br>fund | Fabric /<br>Garden<br>Fund | Organ<br>fund | Clergy<br>discretion<br>-ary fund | Total<br>2025 | Total<br>2024 |
|--|---------------------------|----------------------------|---------------|-----------------------------------|---------------|---------------|
|  | £                         | £                          | £             | £                                 | £             | £             |
| <i>Church activities</i>                     |                           |                            |               |                                   |               |               |
| Missionary and charitable giving<br>(note 4) | 2,845                     | -                          | -             | -                                 | 2,845         | 5,121         |
| Rector and rectory (note 5)                  | 98                        | -                          | -             | -                                 | 98            | -             |
| Organist and music (note 6)                  | 3,463                     | -                          | -             | -                                 | 3,463         | 2,860         |
| Churches & church grounds (note 7)           | 10,275                    | 280                        | 432           | -                                 | 10,987        | 13,680        |
| Diocesan share (note 8)                      | 49,700                    | -                          | -             | -                                 | 49,700        | 48,000        |
| Governance costs (note 9)                    | 819                       | -                          | -             | -                                 | 819           | 2,222         |
| Other support costs                          | 67,200                    | 280                        | 432           | -                                 | 67,912        | 71,883        |
| <i>Costs of generating funds</i>             |                           |                            |               |                                   |               |               |
| Event costs (note 3)                         | 955                       | -                          | -             | -                                 | 955           | 1,595         |
| <i>Project expenditure</i>                   |                           |                            |               |                                   |               |               |
|  | -                         | -                          | -             | -                                 | -             | -             |
| <b>Total expenditure</b>                     | <b>68,155</b>             | <b>280</b>                 | <b>432</b>    | <b>-</b>                          | <b>68,867</b> | <b>73,478</b> |

As the St. Paul's Director of Music, Mr D Ridout, who was a co-opted member of the PCC throughout the year, was paid £2,400 during the year (2024 - £2,040). No payments or expenses were paid to any other member of the PCC, persons closely connected to them or other related parties, other than reimbursement of expenses paid for on behalf of the PCC.

## Notes to financial statements (continued)

31 December 2025

### 3. Special events and collections

|                                    | Revenues<br>2025 | Costs<br>2025 | Net<br>2025 | Net<br>2024 |
|------------------------------------|------------------|---------------|-------------|-------------|
|                                    | £                | £             | £           | £           |
| <i>General church fund</i>         |                  |               |             |             |
| Harvest supper                     | 1,569            | (955)         | 614         | 746         |
| Less direct donations (see note 4) | (614)            | -             | (614)       | (746)       |
|                                    | 955              | (955)         | -           | -           |

We were delighted to hold the Harvest Supper at the Woldingham Village Club again, with all profits to the Caterham Foodbank (Note 4). Revenues from special events exclude any related Income Tax recovered under Gift Aid which is included in note 1(b).

### 4. Collections and donations to charities and others

|   | 2025  | 2024  |
|---|-------|-------|
|   | £     | £     |
| Bishop of Southwark's Lent Appeal                             | 331   | 350   |
| Children's Society  | 479   | 337   |
| Welcare, including funeral collection for Peter Johnson       | 63    | 1,225 |
| Royal British Legion  | 183   | 142   |
| Surrey Churches Preservation Trust                            | -     | 140   |
| St Christopher's Hospice                                      | 216   | 327   |
| St Catherine's Hospice  | -     | 1,211 |
| Cats Protection (Michael Batterbury funeral)                  | -     | 187   |
| Dementia UK (Michael Batterbury funeral)                      | -     | 187   |
| Embrace the Middle East                                       | -     | 150   |
| Foal Farm (Lady Christopher funeral)                          | -     | 119   |
| Wear it Pink (Breast cancer appeal)                           | 938   | -     |
| Caterham Food Bank, including Harvest Supper profits (note 3) | 614   | 746   |
| Other   | 21    | -     |
|   | 2,845 | 5,121 |

## Notes to financial statements (continued)

31 December 2025

### 5. Rector and Rectory

|               | 2025 | 2024 |
|---------------|------|------|
|               | £    | £    |
| Relief clergy | 98   | -    |
|               | 98   | -    |

### 6. Organist and music

|                      | 2025  | 2024  |
|----------------------|-------|-------|
|                      | £     | £     |
| Organist stipend     | 2,400 | 2,040 |
| Relief organists     | 230   | 110   |
| Organ & piano tuning | 258   | 159   |
| Music and licensing  | 575   | 551   |
| Sundries             | -     | -     |
|                      | 3,463 | 2,860 |

### 7. Churches and church grounds

|   | 2025   | 2024   |
|---|--------|--------|
|   | £      | £      |
| Altar and vestry supplies                                 | 478    | 431    |
| Heat, light and water                                     | 4,364  | 4,344  |
| Insurance   | 5,001  | 4,911  |
| St Paul's church tower repairs, charged to the Tower Fund | -      | 3,562  |
| Other running costs, including gardening & cleaning       | 1,144  | 432    |
|   | 10,987 | 13,680 |

### 8. South London Church Fund

|  | 2025   | 2024   |
|--|--------|--------|
|  | £      | £      |
| Pledge paid to the Parish Support Fund | 49,700 | 48,000 |

Every year we make a pledge to the Diocese of Southwark as a contribution to the costs of ministry in the Diocese. For 2026, the PCC has pledged £48,000, having considered the current state of our finances and, particularly, the relatively healthy state of our reserves. We acknowledge that a substantial proportion of our 2026 pledge will need to come from those reserves (as indeed has our 2025 contribution) and that our 2027 pledge will have to be considered in the light of the likely state of reserves at that time.

## Notes to financial statements (continued)

31 December 2025

### 9. Governance costs

|   | 2025       | 2024         |
|---|------------|--------------|
|   | £          | £            |
| Stationery and sundries                               | 245        | 225          |
| Catering  | (444)      | (540)        |
| Croft Road Association                                | 150        | 150          |
| Website, IT licensing & contact-less giving costs     | 785        | 1,471        |
| Quinquennial inspection (cost spread over five years) | -          | 470          |
| Other, including safeguarding costs                   | 83         | 446          |
|   | <u>819</u> | <u>2,222</u> |

Other expenses above include Christmas cards which generated profits of £193.

### 10. Fixed asset investments

|                                     | 2025           | 2024           |
|-------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
|                                     | £              | £              |
| Market value at 1 January           | 178,597        | 174,568        |
| Net gains / (losses) on revaluation | (6,829)        | 4,029          |
| Market value at 31 December         | <u>171,768</u> | <u>178,597</u> |
| Historical cost at 31 December      | <u>89,203</u>  | <u>89,203</u>  |
| <i>Analysis of investments</i>      |                |                |
| Investment Fund                     | 166,826        | 173,773        |
| Fixed Interest Securities Fund      | 4,942          | 4,824          |
| Market value at 31 December         | <u>171,768</u> | <u>178,597</u> |

### 11. Debtors

|                                   | 2025          | 2024          |
|-----------------------------------|---------------|---------------|
|                                   | £             | £             |
| Income tax recoverable (note 12)  | 9,237         | 7,346         |
| Legacy awaiting asset disposition | -             | 70,000        |
| Due for base station electricity  | 1,276         | 1,194         |
| Other debtors and prepayments     | 977           | 357           |
|                                   | <u>11,490</u> | <u>78,897</u> |
| Restricted funds                  | 12            | 70,552        |
| Unrestricted funds                | <u>11,478</u> | <u>8,345</u>  |
|                                   | <u>11,490</u> | <u>78,897</u> |

## Notes to financial statements (continued)

31 December 2025

### 12. Income tax recoverable

|                               | 2025         | 2024         |
|-------------------------------|--------------|--------------|
|                               | £            | £            |
| Opening balance               | 7,346        | 7,888        |
| Received in year              | (7,346)      | (11,019)     |
| Estimated amount due for 2025 | 9,237        | 10,128       |
| Closing balance               | <u>9,237</u> | <u>7,346</u> |

Included in the amounts estimated as due for 2025 is £1,728 (2024 - £1,660) in relation to the Gift Aid Small Donations Scheme under which Gift Aid is available on a limited amount of small cash donations made to the church, without Gift Aid declarations, each year.

### 13. Creditors

|                                | 2025         | 2024         |
|--------------------------------|--------------|--------------|
|                                | £            | £            |
| Heat, light and water          | 2,011        | 1,966        |
| Church grounds & maintenance   | -            | 4,320        |
| Special collections for others | 479          | 651          |
| Deferred income                | 1,763        | 1,962        |
| Other accruals                 | 1,412        | 85           |
|                                | <u>5,665</u> | <u>8,984</u> |
| Restricted funds               | -            | -            |
| Unrestricted funds             | <u>5,665</u> | <u>8,984</u> |
|                                | <u>5,665</u> | <u>8,984</u> |

## Summary of Funds

31 December 2025

### A) Restricted Funds

|  | Lucy /<br>Marshall<br>Fund | St. Agatha's<br>bell appeal | Churchyard<br>Fund | Village<br>Memorial<br>Fund | Total          |
|--|----------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------|-----------------------------|----------------|
|  | £                          | £                           | £                  | £                           | £              |
| Income and endowments                    | 11,593                     | 173                         | 7,025              | 520                         | 19,311         |
| Expenditure                              | (15,670)                   | -                           | (2,175)            | -                           | (17,845)       |
| Net incoming (outgoing)<br>resources     | (4,077)                    | 173                         | 4,850              | 520                         | 1,466          |
| Unrealised gain (loss) on<br>investments | (6,947)                    | -                           | 118                | -                           | (6,829)        |
| <b>Net movement in Funds</b>             | <b>(11,024)</b>            | <b>173</b>                  | <b>4,968</b>       | <b>520</b>                  | <b>(5,363)</b> |
| Funds at 1 January                       | 242,711                    | 3,962                       | 38,912             | 11,906                      | 297,491        |
| <b>Funds at 31 December</b>              | <b>231,687</b>             | <b>4,135</b>                | <b>43,880</b>      | <b>12,426</b>               | <b>292,128</b> |

### B) Unrestricted Funds

|                                      | General<br>Fund | ----- Designated Funds ----- |               |                          |                        |                | Total          |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------|------------------------------|---------------|--------------------------|------------------------|----------------|----------------|
|                                      |                 | Fabric /<br>garden<br>Fund   | Organ<br>Fund | Clergy<br>Disc'y<br>Fund | Choir<br>Robes<br>Fund | Youth<br>Group |                |
|                                      | £               | £                            | £             | £                        | £                      | £              | £              |
| Income and endowments                | 59,163          | 2,307                        | 1,037         | 643                      | -                      | -              | 63,150         |
| Expenditure                          | (68,155)        | (280)                        | (432)         | -                        | -                      | -              | (68,867)       |
| Net incoming (outgoing)<br>resources | (8,992)         | 2,027                        | 605           | 643                      | -                      | -              | (5,717)        |
| <b>Net movement in Funds</b>         | <b>(8,992)</b>  | <b>2,027</b>                 | <b>605</b>    | <b>643</b>               | <b>-</b>               | <b>-</b>       | <b>(5,717)</b> |
| Funds at 1 January                   | 60,276          | -                            | 15,907        | 15,500                   | 50                     | 240            | 91,973         |
| <b>Funds at 31 December</b>          | <b>51,284</b>   | <b>2,027</b>                 | <b>16,512</b> | <b>16,143</b>            | <b>50</b>              | <b>240</b>     | <b>86,256</b>  |

Income and expenditure in respect of the Choir Robes and Youth Group designated funds are combined with the General Fund in Notes 1 and 2.

## Disposition of Net Assets

31 December 2025

A) Restricted Funds

|  | Lucy /<br>Marshall<br>Fund | St. Agatha's<br>bell appeal | Church yard<br>Fund | Village<br>Memorial<br>Fund | Total          |
|--|----------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------|----------------|
|  | £                          | £                           | £                   | £                           | £              |
| Investments  | 166,826                    | -                           | 4,942               | -                           | 171,768        |
| Central Board of Finance                                 | 64,861                     | 4,135                       | 38,926              | 12,426                      | 120,348        |
| Debtors  | -                          | -                           | -                   | -                           | -              |
| Income tax recoverable                                   | -                          | -                           | 12                  | -                           | 12             |
| <b>Current assets</b>                                    | <b>64,861</b>              | <b>4,135</b>                | <b>38,938</b>       | <b>12,426</b>               | <b>120,360</b> |
| Current liabilities: Amounts falling due within one year | -                          | -                           | -                   | -                           | -              |
| <b>Net current assets (liabilities)</b>                  | <b>64,861</b>              | <b>4,135</b>                | <b>38,938</b>       | <b>12,426</b>               | <b>120,360</b> |
| <b>Net assets</b>  | <b>231,687</b>             | <b>4,135</b>                | <b>43,880</b>       | <b>12,426</b>               | <b>292,128</b> |

B) Unrestricted Funds

|  | ----- Designated Funds ----- |                           |               |                          |                        |                | Total         |
|--|------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------|--------------------------|------------------------|----------------|---------------|
|  | General<br>Fund              | Fabric/<br>garden<br>Fund | Organ<br>Fund | Clergy<br>Disc'y<br>Fund | Choir<br>Robes<br>Fund | Youth<br>Group |               |
|  | £                            | £                         | £             | £                        | £                      | £              | £             |
| Investments  | -                            | -                         | -             | -                        | -                      | -              | -             |
| Central Board of Finance                                 | 36,791                       | 1,671                     | 16,512        | 16,143                   | 50                     | 240            | 71,407        |
| Debtors  | 2,253                        | -                         | -             | -                        | -                      | -              | 2,253         |
| Income tax recoverable                                   | 8,769                        | 456                       | -             | -                        | -                      | -              | 9,225         |
| Cash at bank and in hand                                 | 9,036                        | -                         | -             | -                        | -                      | -              | 9,036         |
| <b>Current assets</b>                                    | <b>56,849</b>                | <b>2,127</b>              | <b>16,512</b> | <b>16,143</b>            | <b>50</b>              | <b>240</b>     | <b>91,921</b> |
| Current liabilities: Amounts falling due within one year | (5,565)                      | (100)                     | -             | -                        | -                      | -              | (5,665)       |
| <b>Net current assets</b>                                | <b>51,284</b>                | <b>2,027</b>              | <b>16,512</b> | <b>16,143</b>            | <b>50</b>              | <b>240</b>     | <b>86,256</b> |
| <b>Net assets</b>  | <b>51,284</b>                | <b>2,027</b>              | <b>16,512</b> | <b>16,143</b>            | <b>50</b>              | <b>240</b>     | <b>86,256</b> |

## **6(c) Report on the Proceedings of the Tandridge Deanery Synod**

### **TANDRIDGE DEANERY SYNOD Report for the Annual Parochial Church Meeting in Woldingham On 24th March 2026**

Deaneries have been here since Edward the Confessor in the 11th century. They were formed to keep an eye on the behaviour of the clergy and people in rural areas, with the Rural Dean as the focus – now Area Dean. In the first half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century the role of Rural Dean was restored after its earlier decline and the emergence of Archdeacons. With this revival of Rural Deans, Deanery Chapters were established and in due course conferences with lay representation, which were the forerunner of Deanery Synods. Deanery Synods operate under General Synod rules and take on 'the whole mission of the Church.'

Tandridge Deanery Synod was inaugurated in October 2016 and came into full operation in 2017. In terms of church organisation Deanery Synods are the bridge between the parishes and the diocese. They bring together parishes in a particular area (in the case of Tandridge 26 parishes in East Surrey stretching from Warlingham to the Sussex border) to exchange ideas and to discuss matters of common interest, particularly in relation to mission.

Tandridge Deanery is the amalgamation of what were previously the separate Caterham and Godstone Deaneries. It has around 100 members and is chaired jointly by the Area Dean, Michelle Edmonds, Team Rector of Warlingham and the Lay Chair, Susan Gibbin. (of St John's, Caterham Valley). All licensed clergy in the Deanery, including, of course, our Rev Catherine, are members, while lay representatives (the number based on figures on each electoral roll) are elected by each parish at Annual Parochial Church Meetings (APCMs). For Woldingham the lay representative, elected for three years at the 2021 APCM, are Robin Tozer and Alison Mead. Lay representatives are required to provide feedback to their respective Parochial Church Councils (PCCs). It meets three times a year and its focus is on issues that matter to local worshipping communities. Occasionally Deanery Synods are required to take formal decisions, sometimes by means of a vote. Becoming elected to a Deanery Synod is therefore not only significant locally, but also for the wider Church.

**On 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2025** a Deanery picnic (Picnic in the Field) was held at Glebe Field, near St Peter's Church, Tandridge, RH8 9NN from 12.30pm 'till 3pm. It was a great opportunity to have fun and meet others, who are part of our Church family in Tandridge Deanery...and the weather was kind to us. It is hoped that this will become an annual event and that it will be open to all church members of all parishes in the Deanery, not just Deanery Representatives of the parishes in the Deanery.

The 2026 picnic will be held at the same venue on 21<sup>st</sup> June 2026 and will be open to all.

**On 25<sup>th</sup> June 2025**, the meeting was held on zoom. Revd Michelle Edmonds, was re-appointed for another term as Area Dean, with Revd James Ashton as Assistant Area Dean.

Revd Helen Burnet of Chaldon, reported on the Diocesan Climate Pilgrimage from 8<sup>th</sup> June 2025 to 13<sup>th</sup> June 2025, walking from St Peter and St Paul in Chaldon and passing through 60 parishes across the Southwark diocese, supported by Bishop Martin (Bishop of Kingston), to Southwark Cathedral, via churches in Whyteleafe, South Beddington, Croydon, Southfields, Colliers Wood, Tulse Hill, Streatham to Greenwich and finally Southwark Cathedral.

It was noted that Revd Annie Kurk had finished her ministry at Whyteleafe and will be starting as the incumbent at Dormansland. Further that the archdeacon of Reigate, Venerable Moira Astin has moved to be Bishop of Crediton in Devon and Revd Helen Cooke will be covering as acting Archdeacon of Reigate and Tandridge Deaneries. Feedback from Deanery parishes covered work with various topics, such as: working with women in women's prisons, domestic abuse, Southwark against Slavery, mental health, the Ukrainian community and Racial Justice.

**On 11<sup>th</sup> November 2025**, the meeting was held on zoom.

Deanery Secretary: Maria Foulkes is the new appointment as Deanery Synod Secretary.

Reigate Archdeacon: Dr Geoff Dubreck will be appointed on 11<sup>th</sup> January 2026

Limpsfield Chart: The Rev Timothy Brunt has been appointed as Team Vicar.

Support for Refugees: refugees at Home is a UK Charity, which connects those with a spare room in their home to refugees. If you are interested, please contact Helen Burnett, Vicar at Chaldon.

Developing Pilgrimage within the Deanery - Work is underway to map a pilgrimage route that takes in all the churches in the Deanery – more information will be circulated in 2026.

**FEEDBACK FROM PARISHES: FOCUS FOR MISSION:** Church Members from parishes across the Deanery shared how their parishes were becoming a more diverse and inclusive church family. Suggestions included: encouraging a broader range of ethnicity and age in church leadership; developing our engagement across all ages. Supporting foodbanks, reaching out to families with small children who don't normally come to church – reaching out to young families. Advertising services as a village church event – pet blessing, carol services, bringing a wider range of people into the church, such as our own Golden Connections café in our Church Room from 2pm to 4pm on 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays of every month.

**On 11<sup>th</sup> February 2026**, the meeting was held on zoom.

The focus for discussion and presentation by Southwark Diocese's David Cundrill was about "Tandridge Greenhouse". If we want to be an even better parish church, we are invited to try something new, start or develop a fresh expression of church and improve our pioneering. We are encouraged to join a Greenhouse. Greenhouse is a learning community providing a safe space to explore our ideas for growing our church, in the same way that a greenhouse helps nurture plants in a safe environment. It is an opportunity to hear from the leaders of the learning community as well as those who have participated before. Rev James Ashton at St. Mary's Church, Oxted is the host on 26.3.2026 and 18.6.2026 from 7.30pm to 9.30pm.

Bishop Christopher is retiring in 2026 – Church members are being asked to think about what we might hope for in our new bishop and what we would like him or her to do.

At this year's APCM, we will be electing our Deanery representatives for the next three years. We at St. Paul's Church, Woldingham are entitled to elect 3 representatives, dependent on the numbers on our Electoral Roll as of May 2026. The leaders of our Deanery are encouraging us to promote participation in this forum as a way of connecting with more Christians in the local area. A place where we can learn and share opportunities for mission, as well as forum for prayer and worship.

Signed,

**Robin Tozer & Alison Mead**

Tandridge Deanery representatives of St Paul's & St Agatha's Woldingham PCC

**24 March 2026.**

(the next Deanery Synod meetings are to be held on 24 June 2026 at the Church of St John the Evangelist, Hurst Green and 11<sup>th</sup> November 2026 on zoom)

## **6(d) Report on the Proceedings of the Parochial Church Council, including Website development**

### **The Parochial Church Council Secretary's Report for 2025-2026**

The PCC met formally seven\* times during the year. At the APCM in April 2025 and having completed her three-year term, PCC member Shelagh Musk stood down. Thanks were extended to Shelagh and all PCC members for the substantial help they have each contributed to the church during their periods of office.

Our Churchwardens, Nigel Hardy and Judy Fortune have ensured the continued health and wellbeing of our church community through the care and support they have provided to our vicar, Reverend Catherine, our Choirmaster David and choir, all our volunteers, the PCC and our parishioners and ensured that everyone involved in our services and outreach initiatives were on duty and in place at the correct times.

The PCC received regular reports from the various committees and teams throughout the year including those overseeing buildings and grounds, publicity and communications, social, community engagement, Mission Action Planning as well as updates on church finance, safeguarding, health and safety and reports from our Deanery Synod representatives. The Standing Committee met on two occasions between PCC meetings and reported to the PCC or made recommendations as appropriate.

We always considered our church to be truly blessed by the service and longstanding support of our Honorary Treasurer, Tim Salmon. For many decades Tim has provided us with wise financial advice and guidance, as well as undertaking an enormous range of practical and administrative tasks to maintain our churches, producing our annual church accounts. At the PCC on 17 February 2026 Tim formally stood down, due to his being about to move house. For a great many months, the church had searched for a new book-keeper whilst also attempting to re-allocate the dozens of other tasks which Tim had taken on for us over the years. By extraordinary timing, at the same PCC meeting on 17 February we warmly welcomed Mrs Stella Morris as our new Hon treasurer/book-keeper.

The main focus on building works needed both for churches, over and above normal running costs, has been preservation, restoration and renewal of parts of St. Paul's church tower, stonework and work on St. Agatha's church and graveyard as well as the grounds of both churches. The majority of funds required for St. Paul's Church tower have been found, thanks to the very generous Mona Marshall bequest of £75,000, and the PCC is currently awaiting the permissions we require from the Diocese to carry them out. Regular new gardening services have been arranged for which the church pays due to the lack of volunteers able to maintain the grounds of both our churches; some parishioners are kindly donating money each month towards these costs. In addition to regular reports from our sub-committees, discussions have also been conducted on issues such as church opening times, our weekly services, and making our churches more accessible, with risk assessments being undertaken when needed.

During this year a few events were held to welcome newcomers, engage with churchgoers and other local residents and to raise awareness and funds. These included our participation in the Ride and Stride event on 14 September, when our volunteers provided refreshments and tours of our stained-glass windows and heard the organ being played. It was agreed to improve our publicity for the 2026 event so as to attract more people and funds for Surrey Church Preservation Trust and our own church. In October 2025 the village Harvest Supper we organised attracted many local families and raised funds for the Caterham Food Bank. In November 2025, we celebrated one year of our latest and most successful outreach initiative, the "Golden Connections" Café. This was set up to attract older people who are lonely, suffering from dementia or from other physical or mental disabilities and their carers. Golden Connections runs on alternate Tuesday afternoons and has built up a wide appeal. Despite the huge efforts put in by the volunteers who organise and run it, no church funds have as yet been needed until only recently when the PCC agreed to finance a very low cost specialist item for wheelchair users.

For the second year running, the church has produced its own Christmas cards carrying images of our stained-glass windows. This year we had a very short run of 500 cards and raised £200. It is hoped we can improve both sales and profit for 2026.

Safeguarding has been a prime consideration over several years and we are blessed to have two experienced PCC members as our safeguarding officers. Not only do they keep the church up to date with legal requirements, and keeping everyone in the church informed, but also ensure that volunteers and all who are closely associated with the running of our churches undertake the required training and that DBS checks are kept up-to-date. Safeguarding is a standing item on our PCC agenda, and we marked Safeguarding Sunday once again in 2025. Special courses are also attended, including one recently on "Churches against on Modern Slavery." In December 2025 Baroness Butler-Sloss gave a talk on modern slavery during one of our Sunday services.

Incoming funds continue to decrease; we appreciate this is due to lower attendances and fewer donors; however, our prayers were answered by the love and generosity of our parishioners, the church was able to increase slightly our annual pledge at the level required by the diocese for the Parish Support Fund. The PCC is aware that during the coming year it will be necessary to launch a new stewardship campaign if we are to meet the likely PSF request for 2027.

The church continues to try and extend its appeal and outreach. Several of our most popular services, such as Mothering Sunday, Easter Sunday, Harvest, Remembrance Sunday, All Soul's Day and our Christmas services had excellent attendance figures. Our 9 Lessons and Carols and Crib services in particular were very popular, the latter providing a superb demonstration of little ones acting out the nativity story with great gusto and enthusiasm. The number of people attending these special services has caused us to reflect on additional safety measures we need to put in place for future larger congregations and including more in-depth training of our sides people volunteers. In addition, during this year, 5 people attended classes and were confirmed; and we had several happy Sunday services which included baptisms.

In the autumn of 2025 Judy Fortune was appointed to organise and oversee the new cross-Diocese outreach initiative, "Leading Your Church into Growth" which it is hoped will be rolled out during the coming year.

Our Church website, launched on 1 March 2023 continues to attract a regular following and site visits. Most notices posted to its home page get referred to the Woldingham Village and Woldingham Church Facebook pages. The website is regularly updated by Ali Coombs. In the coming months, the Website & Communications team will seek ways of making the website more interactive and reflective of the initiatives which will be introduced when rolling out the church's new mission plan. We will also try to ensure the website is more interactive with other web users and extends its appeal to children and younger people. The Weddings page has proved a success as 100% of all wedding couples have visited our webpage before approaching the Church in person. The Services and Reflection pages now contain bible passages, edited sermons and a special prayer for each of our Sunday services from March 2024.

The Woodlea (primary) School PTA invited us to sell our church cards at their Christmas Fair in 2025. Good relations with other village social groups continue to flourish and our church room facilities remain popular amongst a wide range of different interest groups.

Although our choir continues to reduce in numbers the quality and content of its contributions to Sunday and other services continues to be of a very high standard. The PCC is extremely grateful to them and in particular to our choir master/organist, Mr. David Ridout, for all their hard work. We continued to pray that we can attract new members and we mourn the loss of one of most loved and able choristers, Mr. Alistair Pirie, who will be greatly missed.

Our vicar, The Reverend Catherine, continues to guide us and the church community with her combination of dedication and very hard work. We are grateful for all she does, providing special Advent and Lent courses, Lent Lunches and much more, including supporting individual members of our congregation and the village generally. This year it would be true to say that we all feel we are part of a close church family, keen to extend it to others. We look forward to the next chapter for growing our church, welcoming the Rev. Catherine Dawkins who will join us as a support for Catherine and the church generally as well as the widening of our mission to spread the good news of our faith.

Maggie Stevenson, Hon. Secretary, St Paul's and St. Agatha's Churches PCC, 13.03.2026

**\*PCC Meetings 2025/2026**

1. 23 April 2025
2. 17 June
3. 09 September
4. 04 October
5. 25 November
6. 15 January 2026
7. 17 February 2026

## **6(e) Report on Safeguarding**

### **Safeguarding Report for Annual Parochial Church Meeting 2026**

#### **A prayer for Safeguarding**

Loving God

We pray that this Church

May be a place of welcome security and compassion

Keep us watchful yet caring Trusting yet ready to question

That all who worship here may do so in safety and in the knowledge of your love. Amen.

Safeguarding is at the heart of our Christian faith, and we think of children, young people and vulnerable adults in this context. Safeguarding means protecting people's health, wellbeing and human rights and enabling them to live free from harm abuse and neglect. It is fundamental to flourishing Christian communities and shown by good pastoral care. How we treat each other means we are valuing and including one another and treating each other with respect.

Over many years the Church of England has developed policies and procedures to promote good practice and prevent harm, to reflect changes in legislation and wider Safeguarding procedures.

The Church of England has commissioned the INEQUE Safeguarding Group to carry out an independent audit of all dioceses and Cathedrals. Southwark's audit has started and we are being audited on the five National Safety standards

Culture, Leadership and Capacity

Prevention

Recognising, Assessing and Managing Risk

Victims and Survivors

Learning, Supervision and Support

There have been many changes recently and we have a new Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser. There is a significant amount of work happening across the Safeguarding team with new ways to support parishes with an online tool that enables us to see the status of our parish safeguarding activity all in one place . This includes training and appropriate recruitment of staff and volunteers

As parish safeguarding officers, Maureen Westmarland and I, together with our vicar Catherine Dowland- Pillinger are tasked with ensuring that we practise in a safe way. It is not only children and young people, we need to be aware of as many adults can be vulnerable at different times and for many reasons.

By talking about safeguarding, we are aiming to raise awareness amongst our own church family. Also, by requesting that all organisations using our facilities adhere to the policies we have in place. We have a regular item on PCC agenda and expect relevant members and others to undertake training at the appropriate level and have DBS checks renewed on a 3-year cycle this is not merely red tape but emphasising the importance of Safeguarding. The details of who to talk to are available on the website and noticeboards along with the policies.

In safeguarding practice we have the four not three Rs recognise, respond record and refer and always have in our thoughts safety value and respect. We need to be a beacon of good practice in the care and protection of children and vulnerable adults.

Any member of the Church who wishes to take part in the independent survey to be completed by 8<sup>th</sup> April please see one of us for details.

Alison Mead Parish Safeguarding Officer February 2026

## **6(f) Report on Leading Your Church into Growth programme**

### **Leading Your Church into Growth Southwark Diocesan Conference 22<sup>nd</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup> September 2025**

In September 2025 I had the opportunity of attending this 3-day LyCIG conference in London, with a gathering of church leaders, ministers and lay members, passionate about fostering spiritual vitality and community engagement. We had some very inspiring sessions, and thought-provoking discussions, all aiming at equipping churches with fresh vision and effective strategies for growth.

This report outlines the key themes, insights and reflections from the conference and the strategies I took away. LyCIG links well with our MAP and helps to reassure us and to reinforce what we are already doing here at St Paul's and St Agatha's.

#### **Session 1 Prayer and Culture**

Prayer underpins everything we do. Culture is identified as the thing we talk about most; it can be positive or negative. We can lead our church into growth by feeding into our culture to change it in a positive way.

#### **Session 2 How to effectively Invite and Welcome our community**

This session on mapping our Galilee was very engaging. It gave us additional thoughts to help us sharpen our ideas, possibly shift our focus and become more bold and more intentional. It encouraged us to look at what we are keeping and what we can let go of, it also encouraged us to be realistic with what we have now and what/how we are willing to shift to make space for youth. We considered where our church's energy and focus currently lie.

#### **Session 3 Implementing a Continual Rhythm of Growth: The 5 P's**

1. Prayer
2. Presence
3. Proclamation
4. Pathways
5. Perseverance

We were invited to look for the key area of growth for our church and focus on Numerical, Missional and Spiritual growth. Thinking about these three types of growth, how can we keep going and start growing. We must all be intentionally praying for growth.

#### **Session 4 Develop Engaging Worship**

There are several ways to develop and enrich this possibility – God has given us many gifts to enrich our service, let us use them. We were given a worship checklist with ideas for us to decide which items could be implemented soon.

### **Session 5 Evangelism and being an effective witness.**

Building relationships, sharing our story and enabling people to ask questions. Are we seeing the people who lag, waiting for an opportunity to speak to you.

We are called to be faithful, not successful. God calls the harvest, Persevere and entrust to the Lord.

### **Session 6 Building Pathways**

Look for ways to encourage children such as: Youth café, messy church, faithful perseverance.

Children need to explore, Holy chaos, they need to be able to talk about reality and engage with people. Equip them with the conversation that their friends will question them about. Where can we create space for youth?

### **Session 7 Begin a Planned Journey of Growth**

What I took away from the conference-

- Prayer underpins everything.
- We can strengthen our church's core identity by communicating a clear vision.
- It is necessary to maintain a discipleship pathway.
- Foster a culture of welcome, where hospitality is intentional.
- Engage our community more effectively by conducting community surveys to identify where we can possibly meet needs.
- Partner with local organisations, schools, charities etc.
- Host events that serve the community.
- Train members to be everyday missionaries in workplaces and neighbourhood.
- Improve Sunday experiences and follow up.
- Clear signage, friendly greeters and simple service flow to help newcomers.
- Strengthen our Online presence.
- Maintain our website.
- Use social media.
- Use livestream and recorded sermons for exploring faith.

As stated before, we have already undertaken many of these strategies, but the LyCIG conference reassured me that we are already on a growing path. We must keep focused, be bold and persevere.

### **What we have done so far following the conference-**

We are in the process of forming our Prayer Groups and have received offers from several volunteers. We were handed the LyCIG Prayer card with The Seven Steps of Church Growth and asked to give them to 10 people. Attached to this report is a copy of the Prayer Card and The Seven Steps of Church Growth.

**We are working on setting up the following Prayer Groups: -**

1. A Woldingham Community Prayer Group to include St Paul's and St Agatha's. This would be a general pray group.
2. A Heartbeat Prayer Group. This group would focus solely on the growth of the church.

We are reviewing how we could incorporate a Heartbeat Group with our existing Worship Committee Team and our PCC, and have invited Rev Charles Lamont, one of the facilitators from the LyCIG course to lunch to discuss this. As soon as we can confirm a date, Revd Catherine will be advising the congregation via the Pews News.

We are hoping to implement three of the seven steps, Steps 1, 4 and 6 from the LyCIG programme, to further accomplish our MAP. These steps are:

- Understanding and influencing our culture and content: prayer, leadership and vision
- Developing engaging worship
- Creating a pathway for explorers to become witnesses

The Heartbeat Group will work with the sub-committees of the PCC, especially the MAP Group and the Worship Committee, to progress with these steps.

Judy Fortune

## **6(g) Report on the St. Paul's Church Room**

### **Report to the ACPM 2026 on St. Paul's Church Room**

It has been another successful year for the Church Room at St. Paul's, it is a much used and popular venue for a variety of functions and is a valuable addition to the worship and services within the church itself.

Several organisations, such as the North Downs Consort, the 123 Club and Senior Women in Fellowship are regular users of the Church Room and it also hosts Scout groups, the History Society and various clubs and organisations which use the facilities on an ad hoc basis. Unfortunately, one of the regular hirers of the Church Room, the NCT, has made very few bookings over the last year, which is to do with a low take-up rater of their courses by expectant parents. It is unsure whether bookings will continue in 2026, but the loss of income will be significant.

One of the outstanding successes of the last year has been the Golden Connections Café, which meets every second and fourth Tuesday of the month. This is a meeting place for older people and provides companionship, activities and support to twenty or so regular attendees and their carers/families where appropriate. It celebrated its first birthday last November and continues to thrive as a valuable resource in the community.

In summary, the Church Room is an integral part of the life of St. Paul's and the village in general and continues to be a meeting place and focus for members of the congregation and the wider community in general. We are very lucky to have it!

Nancy Collard

23<sup>rd</sup> February 2026

## **6(h) Report on the Golden Connections Café**

### **Golden Connections Café report for APCM 2026**

Following its creation in 2025, the Golden Connections Café has continued to grow and develop. We continue to meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays 2-4pm each month. Attendance has grown steadily and we celebrated our First Birthday in November complete with Birthday cake made by one of the carers who attends, in fact we had a full afternoon tea!

We have a strong group of helpers from within the Church and village. We have a flexible programme including music and singing with David our Church organist arts and crafts, puzzles and games and chair exercises led by Anita. People come to talk and communicate as research shows isolation is a major factor in Dementia. There is a need for increased awareness and dedication to promoting brain health. Through the café we are hopefully creating a more informed, compassionate dementia aware community through practicing mindful ageing.

People attend for many reasons as well as Dementia: physical problems, loneliness and carers and helpers. We all gain connections and enjoyment. We were delighted when we were asked to nominate Dr Pallavi Nair, who came to our initial meeting, for a post graduate award for her work within communities in this field. She came in the top three academics who had been nominated. She commented on our "inclusive spirit, with Church and village involvement and the dedication of our helpers which are a testament to the power of community led care". She also stated that we have created something special and that she feels honoured to have played a small part in inspiring it. Thanks to everyone who has been involved with the Café.

Alison Mead

## **6(i) Chair's Remarks**

The reports we have already reviewed provide a comprehensive account of the activities and developments within our churches over the past year, as well as the challenges we may face in the months ahead.

We are deeply grateful to the members of the PCC and our Deanery Synod representatives for their dedication to our parish. Special thanks go to our Churchwardens, Nigel Hardy and Judy Fortune, our Hon. Secretary, Maggie Stevenson, and Hon. Treasurer, Tim Salmon, who have all taken on essential and demanding roles as parish officers. We would like to express our particular appreciation to Tim Salmon for his outstanding service over more than twenty years as our Hon. Treasurer. His tireless and excellent work on the church's finances, as well as his involvement in the fabric and grounds, will be greatly missed. We wish him and Helen every happiness in their new home in Cornwall. We are fortunate to welcome Stella Morris, who has kindly agreed to take on the role of Hon. Treasurer, and we look forward to working with her.

Many others have also played pivotal roles in supporting our work. The Churchwardens have been ably assisted by our dedicated team of sidespeople. Maureen Westmarland has once again provided invaluable help in several areas, including completing statistical returns, coordinating wedding arrangements, assisting with baptisms, and more. We are delighted that she has agreed to serve as Deputy Warden for the coming year, offering additional support to the wardens. Christopher Roberts has continued his service on the PCC and Standing Committee, and has also assisted with funeral and memorial services, for which we are most grateful.

The safety of all who participate in the life of our churches remains a top priority. We are fortunate to have Alison Mead and Maureen Westmarland serving as our Safeguarding Officers, ensuring that our services and events remain safe and welcoming for all. National changes in safeguarding practices continue to impact parish-level operations, and we are thankful for their diligent oversight in this important area and for..

We are indebted to Victoria Francis for her tireless work in organizing much of our children's ministry, and to Caroline Bell for providing the music for our Footsteps Family Services. Attendance at our major festivals has been encouraging, with particularly strong participation in the Crib Service/Nativity Tableau on Christmas Eve, as well as other Christmas and Easter services. Our non-Eucharistic All-Age services on the third Sunday of each month have become well-established, and the Footsteps Service at 11:30 am on the first Sunday remains a popular offering for young families.

Our Lent Groups have been well attended, and we have continued to offer two Bible Study groups throughout the year. The two Lent Lunches, held in the Church Room, have once again supported the Bishop of Southwark's Lent Call. A highlight of the year was the confirmation of five candidates from our parish by Bishop Christopher in a beautiful service at St. Mary's Bletchingley in December 2025. We also had the privilege of admitting two young people to Holy Communion before Confirmation earlier this year.

The music that accompanies our main services is deeply appreciated, and we are profoundly grateful to David Ridout and the Choir for their hard work and dedication. New choir members are always welcome. We also thank those who assist during services, whether by administering the chalice, reading lessons, leading intercessions, or helping behind the scenes as sacristans, cleaners, flower arrangers, refreshment providers, or through their support of special events. All of these contributions are invaluable to our parish mission.

Our engagement with the wider community continues to grow, through events such as the Village Harvest Supper, Ride and Stride, and the Breast Cancer Awareness Coffee Morning. We maintain strong connections with Woodlea and Woldingham Schools, as well as the 123 Club for babies and toddlers, which meets in the Church Room. We are also grateful to Nancy Collard for her ongoing work in organizing the bookings for the Church Room, which is regularly used by various community groups.

The Golden Connections Café, which serves older adults and their carers or relatives, continues to flourish. Meeting on the second Tuesday and Thursday afternoon of each month, it provides a space for activities such as singing, flower arranging, and chair-based exercises, as well as offering refreshments, conversation, and companionship. We are deeply thankful to Alison Mead and her team of volunteers for their dedication to this important community outreach.

In the coming months, we will begin work to repair the tower of St. Paul's and address the ongoing issue of water ingress. We are being ably advised by our Quinquennial Architect, Libby Watts, and are currently awaiting approval from the Diocese to proceed with the necessary repairs. We are deeply grateful for the generous bequest from the late Mona Marshall's estate, which will fund much of this essential work.

Judy Fortune attended the Leading Your Church into Growth course on our behalf in September 2025 and has since led a team working to implement its suggestions within our parish context. This effort will involve working closely with the PCC and its sub-committees—particularly the MAP Group and the Worship Committee—to begin implementing key proposals and develop a new Mission Action Plan for the parish.

The day after our Annual Parochial Church Meeting, we will be welcoming the Revd Catherine Dawkins to our parish. Catherine will be licensed as Associate Priest and brings a wealth of gifts and experience that will enrich our mission and ministry. In addition to presiding and preaching at services, Catherine is eager to contribute to areas such as children's and young people's ministry, introductory Christianity courses, and potentially a stewardship campaign. We look forward to her becoming an integral part of our church family.

As we enter this new church year, we are inspired by the Leading Your Church into Growth prayer for growth:

God of Mission,  
Who alone brings growth to your Church,  
Send your Holy Spirit to give  
Vision to our planning,  
Wisdom to our actions,  
And power to our witness.  
Help our church to grow  
In numbers,  
In spiritual commitment to You,  
And in service to our local community,  
Through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

The Revd Dr. Catherine Dowland-Pillinger  
March 2026



