



# Agenda, Minutes and Reports for The Annual Parochial Church Meeting 2026

Agenda	2
Minutes of 2025 APCM	3
Annual Fabric Report	6
Deanery Synod Report	10
Secretary's Report	12
Electoral Roll Report	13
Treasurer's Report	14
Financial Summary for 2025	16
Administration Informal Working Group Report	18
Outreach and Growth Informal Working Group Report	19
Safeguarding Report	20
Eco Church Report	21
Dementia Friendly Church Report	22
Youth Group Report	23
Open The Book Report	24
Organist and Choir Leader's Report	25
Flower Guild Report	26
Brass Group Report	27
Ringers' Report	28



Sunday the 31st day of May 2026  
at 11.30 am

## **MEETING FOR THE ELECTION OF CHURCHWARDENS AGENDA**

1. Opening Prayers
2. Statement of Electoral Roll
3. Election of Churchwardens

## **ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING AGENDA**

1. Record of those present and apologies for absence
2. Minutes of the meeting held on 11th May 2025.
3. Matters Arising
4. Reports
  - a) The Annual Report and Financial Statements of the PCC
  - b) Annual Fabric Report
  - c) Deanery Synod Report
  - d) Secretary's Report
  - e) Electoral Roll Report
  - f) Vicar's Report
  - g) Treasurer's Report
  - h) Administration Informal Working Group Report
  - i) Outreach and Growth Informal Working Group Report
  - j) Spiritual Leadership Informal Working Group Report
  - k) Safeguarding Report
  - l) Eco Church Report
  - m) Dementia Friendly Church Report
  - n) Youth Group Report
  - o) Open the Book Report
  - p) Organist and Choir Leader's Report
  - q) Flower Guild Report
  - r) Brass Group Report
  - s) Ringers Report
5. Election of representatives to the Deanery Synod
6. Election of representatives to the Parochial Church Council
7. Appointment of Deputy Churchwardens
8. Appointment of Independent Examiner
9. Any Other Business – given to the secretary before the meeting.
10. Closing Prayers

**There will be a brief meeting of the PCC immediately after this meeting to fix dates, elect officers, etc.**



## St Chad's Church, Pattingham with Patshull

# MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF PARISHIONERS AND ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING held in St. Chad's Church, Pattingham on Sunday 11th May 2025

### ANNUAL MEETING OF PARISHIONERS

1. **Opening Prayers**

The meeting, chaired by the Vice Chair of the PCC, Philip Sims, opened with prayers at 11.35 am. A record of those attending and apologies for absence was completed. 38 parishioners were in attendance and apologies were received from 10 parishioners.

2. **Statement of Electoral Roll**

There are currently 128 residents and 34 non-residents on the roll, a total of 162.

3. **Election of Churchwardens**

Nominations had been received before the meeting for **Clive Pendrell** and **Dorothy Steel**. There were no other nominations and they were **declared elected**.

### ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

1. **Minutes of the meetings held on 12th May 2024.**

The minutes of the annual meeting held on 12th May 2024 were **agreed** and signed as a true record.

2. **Matters Arising**

There were no matters arising.

3. **Reports**

a) **The Annual Report and Financial Statements of the PCC**

This report had been approved by the PCC and had been available at the back of the church (and on the church website) for 8 days. It was **agreed unanimously that the Report and Financial Statements be received**.

b) **Other reports**

The following written reports were received:

- i) The Annual Fabric Report;
- ii) Deanery Synod Report;
- iii) Secretary's Report;
- iv) Electoral Roll Report;
- v) Chairman's Report;
- vi) Treasurer's Report;

- vii) Administration Informal Working Group Report;
- viii) Outreach and Growth Informal Working Group Report;
- ix) Spiritual Leadership Informal Working Group Report;
- x) Safeguarding Report;
- xi) Eco Church Report;
- xii) Dementia Friendly Church Report;
- xiii) Youth Group Report;
- xiv) Open the Book Report;
- xv) Organist and Choir Leader's Report;
- xvi) Flower Guild Report;
- xvii) Ringers Report.

The chairman said that a lot of work had gone into writing those reports and that they contained a lot of information about the various aspects of church life. He encouraged anyone who had not yet read them to do so.

4. **Election of representatives to the Parochial Church Council**

There were four vacancies until the APCM in 2028, two vacancies until the APCM in 2027 and one vacancy until the APCM in 2026. Written nominations had been received for Milly Colin-Stokes and Barbara Dias. Oral nominations were received for Tony Ainsworth and Tracey Williams. A written nomination had been received for Stephen Jones but he was ineligible for election as he had not been on the electoral roll for six months preceding the meeting. The secretary said that he could be co-opted by the PCC at the meeting immediately following this meeting.

**Tony Ainsworth, Milly Colin-Stokes, Barbara Dias and Tracey Williams were declared elected** and the other vacancies were not filled.

5. **Appointment of Deputy Churchwardens**

Gena Richards (administration of churchyard), Henry Ibberson and Philip Sims were **re-appointed**.

6. **Appointment of Independent Examiner**

It was **agreed unanimously** that Muras Baker Jones LLP continue to be our independent examiners.

7. **Any Other Business**

a) **Stained glass**

Dave Sampson asked about the stained glass and in particular whether the PCC was intending to have any restoration work carried out. The chairman said a stained glass expert had attended in connection with the North Aisle project and he had inspected all the stained glass windows. He said that overall they were in excellent condition and the only improvement needed would be cleaning. There was some fading in some windows which was due to inadequate firing when they were made. He said that while it would be possible to address this with new glass it would be very expensive and would change the appearance of the window. The two windows either side of the reredos show signs of buckling which is not a problem at the moment but they should be monitored periodically.

b) **Heating in Church**

Dave Sampson asked about the heating in church and in particular whether the thermostat was working correctly. The chairman said that it has become clear that although the thermostat the position in which it is located is a cold spot. A better location has been identified and we are waiting for a quotation for the work to be done.

**c) Interfaith Wolverhampton**

Jill Parker reminded members that this church is a member of Interfaith Wolverhampton and gave a brief summary of its activities.

**d) Thanks**

The Dorothy Steel said that she has attended every PCC meeting in the interregnum and wished to place on record thanks to all PCC members for their work but especially the secretary and chairman.

**e) North Aisle**

The chairman gave a presentation on the proposals for the North Aisle which have been submitted to the Diocesan Advisory Committee for advice. It included images showing what it will look like. Members expressed general approval of the proposals and look forward to receiving the outcome of the application.

**8. Closing Prayers**

The meeting closed with the grace at 12.11 pm.

# St. Chad's Church Pattingham Annual Fabric Report 2025

## Fabric Committee

The Fabric Committee has formal oversight of fabric issues and reports to the PCC via one of the churchwardens. The committee is chaired by C. Pendrell, and membership is M. Coope, M Richards, C. Ringrose and I. Coleman. Any members of the Standing Committee may attend.

## Chancel Cross on North-East Apex

A quote has been accepted by PCC for the repair of the Chancel Cross.

## Church Lighting – new system

Several bulbs have been replaced with LED options, and a survey has been done with a view to improving the lighting in the Lady Chapel. This will be completed once the faculty is granted and a planned maintenance programme<sup>o</sup> for all bulbs within the church will be instigated at the same time.

## Churchyard Maintenance

Riverwood Commercial Ltd has been appointed to maintain the churchyards at Pattingham and Patshull for the coming year. An 'Eco area' at Pattingham created to the right-hand side of the new churchyard beyond the retaining wall will be refurbished to remove weeds etc.

## Churchyard Noticeboard

A new noticeboard for St. Chad's Pattingham has been ordered and is awaiting installation by the Lychgate shortly.

## Clock

The clock received its annual service from The Cumbria Clock Company. Sometime after the service it developed a fault which caused erratic stopping of the clock. The fault was diagnosed by Cumbria Clock Company, and part of the escapement was taken away for repair.

New automatic clock winding equipment was installed in accordance with the faculty obtained and at the same time the repaired escapement part was fitted.

The clock needs to run successfully for a period before the automatic time correction equipment is installed.

### **Drain outside the West Door**

The drain outside the West Door is getting blocked and causing flooding during heavy rain so it will be monitored on a regular basis going forward.

### **External lighting to the West Door.**

A specification and quote to install two PIR floodlights in the area leading to the West Door has been agreed by PCC and are awaiting List B approval before placing the order.

### **Floor Tiles**

A quote has been accepted by the PCC to repair the floor tiles including a steel edge to hold the tiles in place and the result will be reviewed as part of the next quinquennial inspection. The work will also include the installation of a duct below the tiles to assist with the new WiFi system.

### **Heating**

The existing thermostats have been relocated to a position above the archway near the lectern where there is a more representative sample of the church temperature than their previous position.

The practice of maintaining the church temperature at a minimum of 10° C (including the loft area) continues in keeping with the architect's advice and protection of the fabric of the building.

### **Ladders and Stepladders**

Following inspection by the Health and Safety Officer (Peter Nicholls) the existing Aluminum Extension Ladders, the Wooden Stepladder and large Aluminum Stepladders were deemed unsuitable and taken out of use. The architect will be approached to recommend suitable replacements.

The small aluminum stepladders are acceptable.

## Lady Chapel

A quote has been accepted by PCC for replastering of a damaged area within the Lady Chapel.

## Maintenance

**Annual** – Routine maintenance and inspection was completed on the Clock, Emergency Lighting System, Lightning Conductor, Fire Alarm, Fire Extinguishers and Portable Appliances. The Gas Boilers received their annual service (Safety Certificate lodged in the Vicar's vestry).

**General** – the tap in the toilet has been changed to 'automatic cut off' to avoid water being left running. Windows in the loft are cleaned externally. The tap in the churchyard has been replaced by a lever-activated option to make it more user-friendly for older people.

- The toilet cistern was filling with hot water owing to incorrect installation of pipework and this has been fixed.
- The tower's electrical supply has been put on its own independent circuit breaker to avoid the nuisance tripping problem we experienced at last year's Christmas Tree Festival Concert
- A failed lighting unit has been replaced on the tower stairs.

## Monitoring of cracks in walls

Readings of the 'Tell Tales' installed to the church walls in 2024 were taken and revealed no structural movement to the North Clerestory or Chancel Arch. Further monitoring to continue.

## North Aisle

Philip Sims is currently dealing with a response to the DAC initial advice about this project.

## Portrait of King Charles III

The portrait has been fitted to the clock winding case to the right of the West Door.

## South Door Exit Mechanism

A new electronic 'plunger' lighting mechanism has been fitted for use when locking and exiting the South door.

## Stained Glass Windows

Nick Bayliss of Nick Bayliss Architectural Glass visited on 8/5/2025 and inspected the stained-glass windows.

Overall, they were found to be in excellent condition and very robustly constructed. The only general improvement that may be made would be cleaning and the architect will be approached for guidance on this matter.

The other issues were:

- Fading on some of the windows, this is due to inadequate firing at the time of manufacture and can be tackled by backing the faded glass with new glass appropriately painted. This requires new artwork, is very expensive, and could change the appearance of the window effected. Sometimes this is done to selected areas of a window.
- The two windows each side of the reredos, show signs of buckling. This is a normal thing and happens to panels of leaded glass under their own weight. Ours are very sturdily constructed and currently not a problem, but they should be monitored over the years (every quinquennial would be adequate). The signs to look for are cracks of light visible from the inside as glass starts to come out of the lead lining.

## Future work under consideration

- Installation of WiFi.
- Installation of Solar Panels and Heat Pump.
- Cleaning of the stained-glass windows.
- Resurfacing of church paths.
- Lighting.
- Decoration.

Clive Pendrell

10.4.26

**THE PARISH OF PATTINGHAM WITH PATSHULL  
REPORT TO THE ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING 2025  
ON THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE DEANERY SYNOD**

The Deanery Synod consists of the clergy in the deanery and lay representatives from each parish.

Our Deanery Synod Representatives are Geoffrey Dann, Clive Pendrell and Dorothy Steel. Rev Merry Smith became a member of the Synod when she was inducted as our Vicar in August. Any of them will be happy to answer any questions about the work of the synod. Dorothy Steel is also Assistant Lay Chair of the Deanery Synod, a member of the Mission Enabling Team and also a member of the Diocesan Synod.

There have been four meetings of the Deanery Synod since the APCM in May 2025.

**June 2025**

This meeting was held at St Benedict Biscop, Wombourne. A number of appointments to posts in the Deanery were announced including the fact that after 4 years and 4 months in interregnum an appointment had been made at Pattingham.

The main part of the meeting was a Question and Answer Session with Bishop Tim, the Bishop of Wolverhampton. Most of the questions were from the Rural Dean but there were also some from the floor. It covered a range of topics including his first impressions of Wolverhampton, how he came to faith, his career before the priesthood, his early ministry, the difference between being bishop in Kenya and in the UK and many other things.

**October 2025**

This meeting was held at Christ the King, Aldersley..

The meeting started with Dwelling in the Word and prayer. This is a method of engaging and reflecting on scripture of which Bishop Tim is fond. It involved reading a bible passage and then sitting quietly rereading, with time and space to see what words/phrases jump out. We then broke into small groups for discussion followed by feed back and prayer. The passage was 1 John 3:16-24, which is one of the readings set for Safeguarding Sunday.

The speaker for the main business of the meeting was Neil Spiring, Diocesan Safeguarding Officer. He gave an overview of the journey for safeguarding for the Church of England which has brought us to where we are today. He confirmed that an eManual was being produced by the national safeguarding team which would be a supportive resource for the parishes. He also spoke about the new model of working from Lichfield which was being developed with the aim of being more proactive rather than reactive and to develop relationships with the parishes.

**February 2025**

This meeting was held at The Church at Perton.

The meeting started with Dwelling in the Word and prayer. The passage was Colossians 3:12-17.

The speaker for the main business of the meeting was Helen Emery, Whole Life Discipleship Officer for the diocese.

She has been in post for about 6 months and is part of the team seeking to implement the vision of the diocese for every member of our churches to have the opportunity to go deeper in faith and following Jesus. She mentioned a number of things which are being done and others which she is

hoping to do. She provided leaflets – 10 small group resources, 10 apps to feed our faith and 10 Lent resources for 2026.

## **April 2026**

This meeting was held at St Paul's, Pendeford.

The meeting opened with 'Dwelling in the Word' and prayer. The passage was Ephesians 4:11-16.

The speaker for the main business of the meeting was Ben Care, Diocesan Officer Vocations and Training. He spoke about about 'vocation' and how this is pertinent to everyone. He asked Synod: 'What comes to mind when you think of vocation?'

There was discussion in groups about "Scarcity mentality – has God forgotten us?"

- How interconnected vocation and empowerment are – people need their voice first, otherwise they may feel disenfranchised and told 'not you'.
- Commitment - but people are afraid of commitment. Worry that you'd be taking on too much but every little helps. Some people want to get involved, whereas others want to see something done (within a service) but don't see the work in the background to make it happen.
- Worries about how the team is functioning. Have we concentrated too much on the team? What are we overlooking? Are we getting smug? We are growing, but are we welcoming and keeping people? Questions to take back to PCC.
- Way the institution takes over the vocation – administration/paperwork taking too much time. Pressures – watching your back – safeguarding/reputation/how you're being perceived.

Ben spoke about Hope.

When we use the word hope, we use it differently as Christians. 'I hope my daughter does well in her exams' is not the same as the certainty promised in Christ. It's a theological word.

Every vocation is rooted in hope. The God who calls, is still calling today.

One powerful thing you can do to encourage vocations in churches is to tell stories of what God is doing, the vocations you are involved in. If we want to encourage vocations, we need to talk about them. We act from the confidence in God's abundance.

There was discussion in groups: Where is hope now speaking into our parishes/churches? How can hope be part of our conversations?

This was the last meeting of the current triennium. The first meeting of the newly elected Synod will be at St Chad's, Pattingham on 8th July. There will be a new Rural Dean and a new Lay Chair as Julia Cody is stepping down as Rural Dean, Richard Reeve is stepping down as Assistant Rural Dean and Richard Pithers is standing down as Lay Chair after many years. They were all thanked for their service.

20th May 2026

**PATTINGHAM AND PATSHULL PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL  
SECRETARY'S REPORT TO  
THE ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING 2026**

Immediately after the APCM in 2025 the PCC consisted of 12 members – the 2 Churchwardens (both of whom were also Deanery Synod representatives), 1 other representative to the Deanery Synod and 9 other elected members. Both of the Churchwardens were also Deanery Synod representatives.

Steve Jones was co-opted as a member on 11th May 2025 at the PCC meeting immediately after the APCM so there were then 13 members. Rev Merry Smith became a member of the PCC on her induction as Vicar on 11th August 2025 bringing the membership up to 14. Steve Jones resigned prior to the PCC meeting on 17th February 2026 bringing the number of members down to 13. There have been no further changes to the PCC membership.

The PCC met on 14 occasions between the APCMs in 2025 and 2026. The average attendance at the meetings was 72%. There were also committee and working group meetings.

Clive Pendrell and Dorothy Steel come to the end of their annual terms of office as Churchwardens. As this is Clive's sixth term as Churchwarden he is not eligible for re-election. If Dorothy is re-elected this would be her sixth term of office and she would not be eligible for re-election as Churchwarden next year.

Geoffrey Dann, Clive Pendrell and Dorothy Steel come to the end of their three year terms of office as Deanery Synod Representatives this year and are all eligible for re-election. The Deanery Synod Representatives are automatically members of the PCC. Dorothy Steel is also a member of Diocesan Synod and automatically a member of Deanery Synod and the PCC.

Iain Coleman, Alan Smith and Graham Tritton come to the end of their three year terms of office as elected members of the PCC this year. They are eligible for re-election. There are other vacancies for elected members.

The elected members of the PCC who continue in office without election this year are:

Henry Ibberson	Elected member until 2027
Philip Sims	Elected member until 2027
Tony Ainsworth	Elected member until 2028
Milly Colin-Stokes	Elected member until 2028
Barbara Dias	Elected member until 2028
Tracey Williams	Elected member until 2028

The positions to be filled at this year's meeting are therefore:

- 2 Churchwardens until 2027
- 3 Deanery Synod Representatives until 2029
- 2 Elected PCC member until 2027
- 4 Elected PCC members until 2029

Geoffrey Dann  
Hon Secretary to the PCC  
20th May 2026



Parish administrator  
St Chad's Church, Pattingham with Patshull  
Church View Barn  
Westbeech Farm  
Westbeech Road  
Pattingham,  
Wolverhampton WV6 7HF

Tel: 01902 700466  
Email: parish.admin@pattinghamchurch.org.uk

## Annual Parochial Church Meeting

### Electoral Roll Report 12.05.2026

Applications were invited for a revision of the Electoral Roll between

20.04.2026 and 10.05.2026. The new roll

was published on 12.05.2026

The 2026 Electoral Roll for the Parish of Pattingham with Patshull

is made up as follows: -

Currently there are 160 people on the electoral roll register. 126 are resident and 34 are non resident.

Since the last annual meeting:

1 person has a change of surname

2 people have been added (1 non-resident and 1 resident)

4 people are deceased.

There are no other changes.

Michelle Pass

Electoral Roll Officer

Date: 12.05.2026

## ST CHAD'S CHURCH, PATTINGHAM WITH PATSHULL

Annual Parochial Church Meeting 31<sup>st</sup> May 2026

### Treasurer's Report covering the year ending 31st December 2025

Our overall financial position is strong with significant cash reserves. We are fortunate to receive substantial support from two trust funds.

Personal donations are a crucial part of our income and these covered 44% of our day-to-day expenditure in 2025. Whilst it is pleasing to report that this has increased over the previous year, it not kept pace with inflation over the last few years.

We had two well-supported fund-raising events in the church and parish: our annual church fête and the biennial Scarecrow Festival. The fête realised a record profit of over £7,000 which will be used for the church's work. The Scarecrow Festival was an all-village event. This raised a fantastic £19,300 which was distributed to village organisations as follows:

- St Chad's Church of England (VC) First School £3,500
- Pattingham Allotments Association £3,500
- Pattingham Village Hall £4,500
- Pattingham Parish Council Christmas Lights £2,500
- St Chad's Church, Pattingham with St Mary's £5,300

In addition, in we had a very successful concert given by The Much Wenlock Make Voice Choir. The profit of just over £1,000 was distributed equally to:

- The Well Foodbank, Wolverhampton £350
- Association of Ukrainians in Great Britain, Wolverhampton £350
- St Chad's Church, Pattingham with St Mary's £350

During the year we donated over £6,500 in mission giving, charities and local community support, which included a further £700 for the Well Foodbank in Wolverhampton.

There were no major building or maintenance works in the church during the year (as opposed to in excess of £100,000 in 2024).

Full details of our finances are in the **Annual Report and Accounts** and **Financial Summary** which are available at the back of church and on our website: [www.pattinghamchurch.org.uk](http://www.pattinghamchurch.org.uk).

In summary, our financial position provides a sound base from which the church can develop its mission and plans for the future.

Finally, I would like to thank the finance team for their support, i.e. Clive Pendrell, and Elaine Coleman and Irene Follos and the money counting teams.

### Outlook for 2026

I anticipate that we will achieve a balanced budget in 2026 and possibly a small surplus on our day-to-day activities.

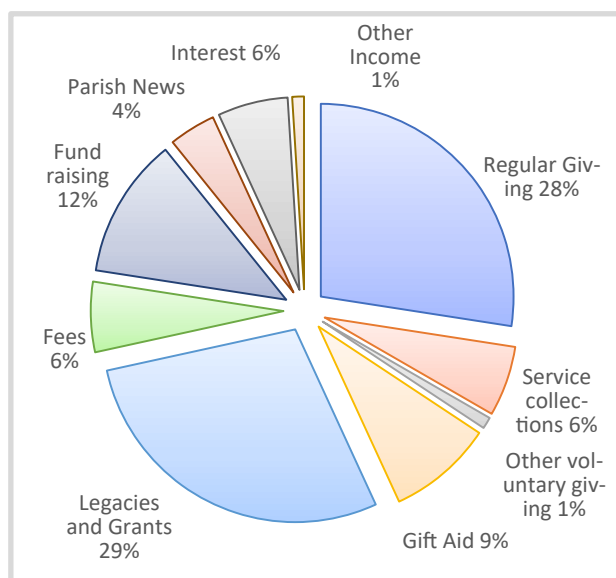
Graham Tritton  
Treasurer and Gift Aid Secretary  
16<sup>th</sup> May 2026

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES for the year ending 31 December 2025

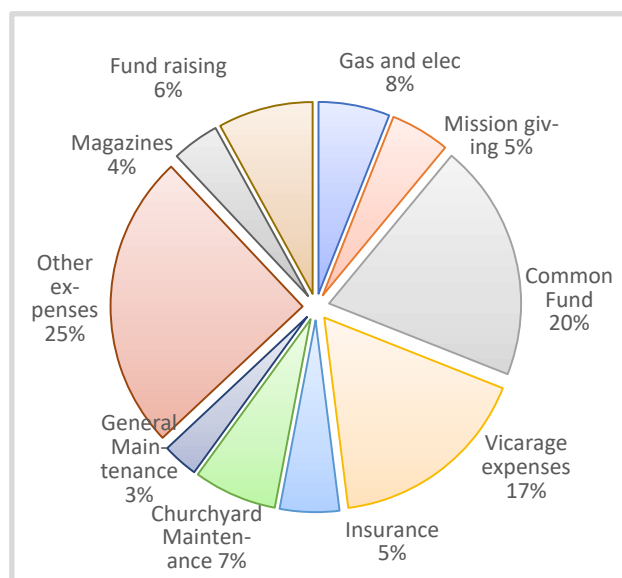
	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2025 £	Total Funds 2024 £
<b>Income and endowments from:</b>					
Donations and legacies	91,118	1,000	-	92,118	144,683
Charitable activities	21,635	22,599	420	44,654	25,412
Other trading activities	4,938	-	-	4,938	4,680
Investments	7,214	2,588	29,032	38,834	38,320
Other income	813	-	-	813	21,913
<b>Total</b>	<b>125,718</b>	<b>26,187</b>	<b>29,452</b>	<b>181,357</b>	<b>235,008</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>					
Raising funds	6,288	18,454	-	24,742	6,259
Charitable activities	94,935	1,881	6,144	102,960	186,617
Other expenditure	3,789	-	-	3,789	3,795
<b>Total</b>	<b>105,012</b>	<b>20,335</b>	<b>6,144</b>	<b>131,491</b>	<b>196,671</b>
Net income/(expenditure)	20,706	5,852	23,308	49,866	38,337
Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Net movement in funds</b>	<b>20,706</b>	<b>5,852</b>	<b>23,308</b>	<b>49,866</b>	<b>38,337</b>
<b>Reconciliation of funds:</b>					
Total funds b/fwd. 1 January	173,212	60,862	250,558	484,632	446,295
<b>Total funds c/fwd. 31 December</b>	<b>193,918</b>	<b>66,714</b>	<b>273,866</b>	<b>534,498</b>	<b>484,632</b>

### 2025 Day-to-day income and expenditure - General Fund (Unrestricted)

#### Income



#### Expenditure



# Accounts Summary

for the year ending 31 December 2025

## Statement of Financial Activities (all funds)

	2025 £	2024 £
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS</b>		
Donations, Gift Aid, Grants	92,118	144,683
Charitable activities, including fund raising	44,654	25,412
Other trading activities	4,938	4,680
Investments	38,834	38,320
Other	<u>813</u>	<u>21,913</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>181,357</b>	<b>235,008</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>		
Fund raising	24,742	6,259
Other Charitable activities	102,960	186,617
Other expenditure	<u>3,789</u>	<u>3,795</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>131,491</b>	<b>196,671</b>
Net	49,866	38,337
Balances b/fwd. 1 Jan	484,632	446,295
<b>Balances c/fwd. 31 Dec</b>	<b>534,498</b>	<b>484,632</b>

## Balance Sheet (all funds)

	2025 £	2024 £
INVESTMENT (Butler Fund)	225,217	199,228
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>		
Debtors/prepayments	1,903	3,512
Cash at bank/in hand	<u>329,303</u>	<u>288,877</u>
	331,206	292,389
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		
Creditors	(21,925)	(6,985)
<b>TOTAL NET ASSETS</b>	<b>534,498</b>	<b>484,632</b>

# Notes

- Thanks very largely to current voluntary giving, fund-raising events and the generosity of previous generations, St Chad's church is in a robust financial position.
- Our overall financial position is strong with significant cash reserves and the support of two trust funds.
- It is pleasing to report that regular giving has increased over the year. Personal donations through regular giving are a crucial part of our income.
- There were no major building or maintenance works in the church, unlike in 2024 when in excess of £100,000 was spent.
- During the year we donated over £6,500 in mission giving and local community support.
- We had many well-supported events in the church and parish including concerts and our annual church fête and the biennial Scarecrow Festival.
- The Scarecrow Festival raised a record £19,300 distributed to village organisations as follows:
  - Village Hall £4,500
  - Allotments Association £3,500
  - St Chad's First School £3,500
  - Christmas Lights £2,500
  - St Chad's Church £5,300
- Following four years of interregnum, we were delighted to welcome the Rev Merry Smith as our Vicar.
- Finally, a huge thank you to all our volunteers, without whom we would be unable to provide such a varied support to our community in Pattingham.

Further information available from:  
 Graham Tritton, Treasurer (Tel: 07718 149164)  
 Email: [treasurer@pattinghamchurch.org.uk](mailto:treasurer@pattinghamchurch.org.uk)

The full *Annual Report & Financial Statements* are on the church website: [www.pattinghamchurch.org.uk](http://www.pattinghamchurch.org.uk)

SCP 12 (2025)



**St Chad's Church**  
 Pattingham with Patshull

**Parochial Church Council  
 of  
 St. Chad's Church  
 Pattingham with Patshull**

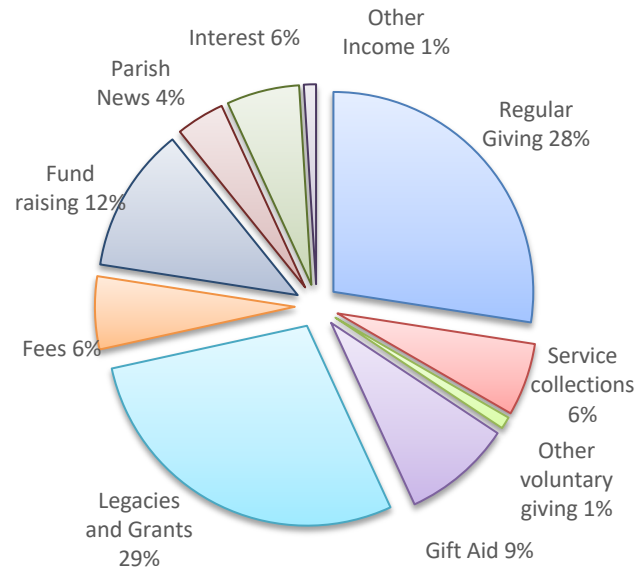
**Financial Summary**

**2025**

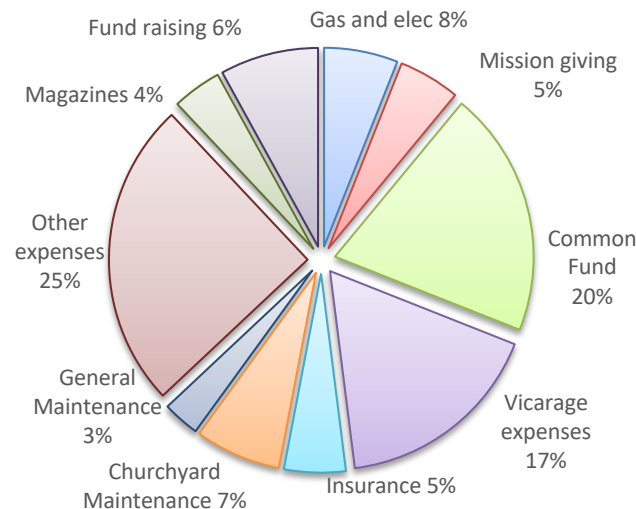
Charity Number: 1151604

## General Fund 2025 (day-to-day income and expenditure)

### Where did the money come from?



### Where did the money go?



## Income

	£
<b>Donations, Gift Aid and Grants</b>	
Regular giving	34,973
Collections at services	6,976
All other voluntary giving	1,487
Gift Aid tax recovered	10,800
Grants	<u>36,882</u>
	91,118
<b>Charitable activities</b>	
Fund raising	
- Church Fête	7,271
- Century Club	5,905
- Miscellaneous	<u>1,481</u>
	14,657
Fees	<u>6,978</u>
	21,635
<b>Other trading activities</b>	
Sales of Parish News and advertising	4,895
Other trading	<u>43</u>
	4,938
<b>Investments and other income</b>	
Interest	7,214
Other income	<u>813</u>
	8,027
<b>Total income</b>	<b>£125,718</b>

Note that income from the Scarecrow Festival is not included above. See overleaf.

## Expenditure

	£
<b>Fund raising</b>	
Church Fête	1,121
Century Club	3,600
Miscellaneous	<u>1,567</u>
	6,288
<b>Charitable activities</b>	
Mission giving and donations	5,450
Common Fund (Parish share)	20,569
Vicarage Expenses	17,592
Insurance	5,687
Churchyard Maintenance	7,718
General Maintenance	3,337
Other expenses	26,178
Utilities – gas and electricity	<u>8,404</u>
	94,935
<b>Other</b>	
Parish News and Bookstall	3,789
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<b>£105,012</b>

**Notes**

(1) £2,885 was spent on the upkeep and maintenance of the churchyard at St Mary's Patshull. This is not included in these figures.

(2) The distribution for the Scarecrow Festival proceeds is not included in these figures. See overleaf.

## **Pattingham and Patshull Parochial Church Council Administration Informal Working Group Report for 2025**

The following actions were implemented following decisions by the group during 2025:

### **Chancel step congestion**

A new practice was introduced whereby people in the outer aisles wishing to receive communion are required to approach the altar via the back of the church to avoid congestion in the nave.

### **Churchyard Maintenance**

New specifications were drawn up for the maintenance of the churchyards at Pattingham and Patshull. Tenders were invited and contracts for both churchyards were awarded to Riverwood Commercial Ltd expiring in December 2026.

### **Fire Alarm and Emergency Lighting**

A new system of documentation was introduced for the testing of the fire alarm and emergency lighting.

### **Fire, Health and Safety Policies and Procedures**

Policies, Procedures and Risk Assessments for Fire, Health and Safety Regulations have been updated and made available on the church website.

### **Ladders**

Three ladders that were no longer compliant with health and safety regulations were disposed of and contractors will now use their own ladders where required. A small stepladder has been retained for use in the church.

### **Storage**

An exercise was introduced to identify property belonging to the church that it is stored away from the main building so that arrangements can be considered for the future including insurance.

### **Volunteers**

An updated list of current volunteers was compiled for future use and is displayed on the church website. A review of the duties undertaken by volunteers is also in progress.

Clive Pendrell  
May 2026

## **Outreach & Growth IWG**

### **Report for Annual Meeting 2026**

The Outreach & Growth Informal Working Group continues to explore ways in which the church can be relevant to the community.

The post of Youth & Family Worker was advertised previously, without success. We plan to advertise again in the autumn.

Who's for Lunch? continues to satisfy a need with a monthly lunch. Upwards of 40 attend the lunch which is aimed at offering companionship to the lonely in our community.

Shower Singers continues to be very successful with more than 30 members attending regularly. Held on a Wednesday evening there is no charge for attendance, but participants are encouraged to bring a donation for the Well food bank.

An emergency first aid course was held for the older parishioners. Future courses are planned. We received a donation from the Co-Op to help defray the cost of this event.

The church fete was again a highlight of the year and attracted good support from across the village, with people working together for the good of the community and the church.

Support for the Well food bank has continued with donations of cash, food and toiletries being received. Almost £1200 has been donated by Shower Singers and the congregation in the last calendar year. The project leaders attended the Family Service in July and gave a talk about their activities.

Following the sad death of Mike Moss, Jess Robins was appointed as editor of Parish News in February.

Our close relationship with the school, including Open the Book, has continued in conjunction with Spiritual IWG. Rev Merry has now taken up the role of school governor.

There have been two musical concerts. On 12 July the Much Wenlock Male Voice Choir performed and there was a concert by the Staffordshire Band on 27 September. On 20 June there will be a concert by Shifnal and District Male Voice Choir and the Staffordshire Band will be performing at the fete.

In September, Hymns & Pimm's was a new style of worship at St Chad's, a community event to encourage people who do not attend church regularly to experience the joy of Christian hymns. It was well attended and raised £357 for the Haven Refuge. It is planned to repeat the event this year.

In December Santa at St Chad's filled the church with families. In February over 100 adults and children enjoyed Crafts & Pancakes on Shrove Tuesday.

We have had preliminary discussions with the new owners of Patshull Hotel & Golf Club. They have undertaken transformative work around St Mary's and are keen to discuss new events for the future.

## SAFEGUARDING ANNUAL REPORT MAY 2026

There are no safeguarding issues to report.

All members that require DBS checks and complete the required Safeguarding modules have been completed or in the process of being renewed. (Each need to be renewed every 3 years). Risk Assessments are completed and reviewed with regard to any events that are related to the church. The Safeguarding Team at Lichfield have been expanded and we now have a direct contact for our area Emma Allen, as well as the original team. All details can be found on the Diocesan website under the Safeguarding link. As well as our own Church website which is in accordance with the requirements of the Church of England.

The Parish Safeguarding Officer contact number is available 24/7 and checked daily for messages. If the PSO is on holiday this is passed to one of the Church Wardens.

The Parish Safeguarding Dashboard continues to be utilised. It provides excellent guidance and allows for detailed Action plans to be accessed.

Our Parish Dashboard can be accessed by the PSO, Vicar, Churchwardens and Parochial Council Secretary.

This year the Diocese has implemented extra training for the PSO to attend at webinars and held an excellent Diocese Safeguarding team meeting at Telford last September which was well attended and received. Another is planned for this year.

The PSO, Vicar and the PCC would like to reassure the congregation the work very hard to ensure all are kept safe.

However, as previously stated, Safeguarding is everyone`s responsibility.

Tracey Williams  
Parish Safeguarding Officer  
St Chad`s Church, Pattingham with Patshull

May 2026

## **Annual Report Eco-church**

Our focus is on five key areas: Worship and Teaching, Buildings, Land, Community and Global Awareness.

The church has continued to work towards achieving the standards for the Gold eco church award. We recognise for this to be achieved we need to look more closely at areas where we can reduce our 'Carbon Footprint', we have been exploring ways to address this reduction through heating and lighting use and source.

We use eco-friendly products wherever practicable.

Awareness raising of the shared responsibility to care for God's wonderful creation has been undertaken in worship.

We work for continued engagement across the community and the church organised a community Litter Pick as part of this outreach.

Our overall goal remains, to be a more caring community by understanding the impact of our behaviours on the environment and putting measures in place to reduce the impact of behaviours which damage our environment.

Thank you to all who support this work.

Dorothy Steel

## DEMENTIA FRIENDLY CHURCH ANNUAL REPORT

The three actions on last years certificate are now complete and discussions are now in progress for next year`s certificate.

The support received is immensely appreciated. To all involved in the Memory Walk on Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> April and all donations gratefully received for the Alzheimer`s Society. The total to date stands at £222.50.

A very special mention to Amelia Colin-Stokes who took part in the Bristol Half Marathon on Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> May and raised an amazing £2065.00 (to date) for the Alzheimer`s Society.

At St Chad`s we continue to endeavour to support all who are living with or caring for someone living with Dementia. Raising awareness with regard to this disease that affects so many families.

Weekly prayers continue on ChadNet. Annual Dementia Friendly Services. Notice Board. Information Box and various books of interest to borrow.

Sarah Thorpe remains the Dementia Friendly Enabler at Lichfield Diocese.

Tracey Williams

Dementia Friendly Co Ordinator

St Chad`s Church

Pattingham with Patshull

May 2026

## **Youth Group - Annual Report for 2025 (for APCM, 31<sup>st</sup> May 2026)**

I am pleased to report that our Youth Group is flourishing. The number of young people remains about the same; four families regularly take part, but we have seen the congregation, as a whole, increase, and it always a bonus to include some of them to help with the readings and drama, etc. We aim to make it a service for everyone to enjoy.

It is good to see the young people gaining in confidence, and rarely missing a service. Some of them will now take a turn at leading the service, and one of the musicians regularly plays the piano to lead the singing. Some of the young people will also help me plan the service. It is a great pleasure to sit around the kitchen table and share our ideas or write prayers together, whilst drinking tea and munching chocolate biscuits.

Music is a big part of the Youth Service, and we do thank our choir master and organist, Martin Fox, who leads this. The young people play violins, and one is a pianist. Thanks also go to Cath, Martin's wife, who plays the flute, Peter Nicholls on his guitar and Revd Merry on the violin. It is good to have an all-age band and, let me say, there is room for anyone else, young or old, to join in. If you are interested, please speak to Martin.

Very often include a short drama. It is wonderful to see the enthusiasm of the young people taking part, and I do thank those parents who help put this together and practise it.

I would like to thank all those people who have contributed to our "Pause for Thought" slot. This year we have had some new speakers, which has been encouraging. We look forward to hearing them again in future services, and if there is anyone who would like to help in this part of the service, we would be delighted to hear your thoughts. We can always plan the service around your chosen theme.

Finally, I would just like to add, that if anyone has any suggestions for future services, we would be pleased to know. Please spread the word round the village about our services on the third Sunday each month. There are so many more families we would like to reach out to.

Barbara Tritton  
May 2026

## **Open The Book Report – 2026**

Open the Book is a nationwide initiative run through The Bible Society with the aim of bringing Bible stories alive to primary school age children. There are 18,000 primary schools in the UK with 4.5 million children attending them. 3,000 of these schools have Open the Book teams reaching over 0.5 million children. We have run Open the Book now for many years now with a team of volunteers delivering stories from the Bible during assembly/ worship time to St. Chad's School children. By the end of this academic year, the team will have delivered nine Open the Book sessions.

There are many, many reasons why Open the Book is such a positive experience:

- The initiative is highly successful in forging links between the church and our village school.
- The school benefits from enriched collective worship.
- The children enjoying Open the Book gain a better understanding of the key stories of the Bible.
- Members of our community benefit from their interactions with the children in school and with each other.

The children always really enjoy Open the Book coming into school. This year, as part of my monitoring role as a foundation governor, I conducted a 'pupil voice' interview where a group of children gave their views and answered my questions about collective worship. It was just wonderful to hear how positive the children were about Open the Book and how much they look forward to the sessions and how much they enjoyed them. Children also commented that it helped them remember and understand the Bible stories.

Sarah Yeomans aims to ensure the themes she covers in her assembly planning match the Bible stories the OTB team perform. The majority of the operational work continues to be undertaken by Chrissie who co-ordinates the volunteers, delegates roles, plans costumes and props and organises a rehearsal.

If anyone else is interested in joining the team, please speak to either myself or Chrissie. You do not need an 'acting' background – some of the team do enjoy taking part in dramatizing the Bible stories but others enjoying reading the scripts and the prayers.

Thanks to Chrissie and to the team of volunteers who continue to give up their time so willingly for the children in our village and community.

Alison Colin-Stokes

## **Report of the Organist and Choir Leader to the Church Annual Meeting**

I am very pleased to present my third report as Choir Leader and Organist at St Chad's Church. Cath, Dan and I are continuing to enjoy our time in Pattingham and we are grateful for the ongoing support and friendship of all our Church family.

The Choir continues to lead the congregational singing at services and regularly sings an anthem or worship song during Communion. A Choir practice takes place in Church on a Wednesday evening at 7pm. The Choir has a few associate members who join us occasionally as well as 2/3 members from another local Choir, who attend regularly, depending on other commitments. I am grateful to all Choir members for their continuing support. The Choir makes a huge difference to the worship and they are missed whenever there is a service with no choir present for whatever reason. The aim is to keep the choir practices friendly and informal as we revise well known pieces or learn new material.

Styles of service continue to evolve at St Chad's. On the formal side, there are traditional morning Communion and Evensong services. In addition, an evening Communion service has recently been introduced. The more informal services include monthly Family and Youth Services in the mornings as well as an evening Iona service. Another recent innovation has been the introduction of a monthly All Age service. In considering music choices for services, I continue to retain traditional elements as well as slightly more contemporary forms of worship.

The informal services lend themselves to the involvement of other musicians and this developed further during the year. Cath has joined us regularly on flute (or bass guitar) and Peter on acoustic and electric guitar. Some of the young people play violin (Dominic, Oliver and Jess) at the monthly Youth Service. One of our regular violin players, Dominic, continues to offer his piano playing skills at youth services and he also played for the annual Christingle service in 2025. More recently, Malachi joined us on trumpet and percussion at the Easter All Age Service. We have also enjoyed solo vocal performances from Milly and Kearon. I am grateful to all musicians who have taken part and of others who may yet come forward.

It was wonderful to welcome our new Vicar, Rev Merry last summer and her Collation and Induction on 10 August was an uplifting service, which included lots of hymns and worship songs. We had a worship band which included drums at the service. The Choir sang an arrangement by Roger Emmerson of You Raise Me Up by Brendan Graham and Rolf Loveland and there was a solo piece from Milly (A Gaelic Blessing by John Rutter).

The build up to the Christmas season was busy as usual and the Choir worked hard in their preparations. The Service of Nine Lessons and Carols is always a highlight of the year and this was enthusiastically received and attended. As is the usual custom, carol singing led by the Choir also took place at the Pigot Arms. An additional carol singing event also took place at Pattingham Club in 2025 as in 2024 at the request of Club members. Local families as well as Church members attended and a very generous donation was made by the Club to St Chad's Church as well as seasonal refreshments on the evening. I intend to approach another local public house, the Crown, to offer them a visit from our carol singers this year.

I am grateful once again to John Fellows who took over my duties and ensured that everything continued to run smoothly when I took a couple of breaks for holidays.

I am looking forward to what lies ahead as the year unfolds.

Martin Fox

Organist and Choir Leader

May 2026

## ST.CHAD'S CHURCH FLOWER GUILD

### REPORT MAY 2026

Over the past year the Altar flowers have continued to be arranged on a weekly basis and the church fully decorated at the Easter, Harvest and Christmas Festivals. In addition, Guild members decorated the church at the Induction of the Rev. Merry Smith as the new Vicar of Pattingham with Patshull.

The flower displays arranged for Easter were outstanding and brought many compliments from Rev. Merry and the congregation.

Sadly, during the year, the Guild lost a valued member- Elaine O'Byrne who decorated the Archway window at all the Festivals. I have been able to cover this position on an interim basis, but we still remain stretched and under resourced.

As mentioned in my last report, the rota can only be maintained at this level by some members arranging flowers on at least two or three occasions during the year in addition to the Festivals. The loss of an experienced team member has further compounded this issue.

An appeal in ChadNet for new recruits has been unsuccessful, but requests for additional help will continue. In the meantime, I will endeavour to do my best to organise the rota with the available resources.

Rev. Merry has confirmed that she is satisfied with the rota and no changes are required. I have also agreed with Rev. Merry that future weddings can be personalised for the brides and, instead of white or cream, the Altar flowers will reflect the colours of the bridal party, which I'm sure will be appreciated.

I would like to express my thanks to all Flower Guild members for their dedication and commitment over the past year.

Margaret Harris

## **St Chad's Brass Group Annual Report**

For some time the Brass Group member numbers have been getting lower - at present we are one gentleman and seven ladies who look after the brasses and brass items on a regular basis. This has been important as we are aware of the fact that some brass items need to be treated with care.

As it is important to look after all the items in the church those involved with the Brass Group have worked to help maintain the items on a regular basis.

It was decided some time ago, that brass items, such as the plaque on the side of the Lectern, should not be polished, in order to preserve their 'history'. Some items had become difficult to read due to their age, but most of the mounted plaques on the walls are lacquered and just now need a wipe over with a clean cloth.

Some of the other items and those used regularly during services also need regular cleaning and we are aware of this and take the appropriate action.

Each year at the beginning of January there is a new 'flexible' calendar for the whole of that year - everyone involved receives a copy. We would welcome anyone who would like to join us.

Thank you to all those who have been involved for many years and continue to give their time, care and support.

Elizabeth Gosling

## **Report to the 2026 Annual Parochial Meeting on behalf of the Bellringers of St Chad's Church, Pattingham**

We continue to ring regularly for services on Sundays although there are occasions when there are not enough ringers available to do so. We also rang for two weddings in 2025 and at the Rogation Day service at Patshull.

The bellringers led the Family Service in May 2025, when we observed Bell Sunday, and also in February 2026.

The Lichfield and Walsall Archdeaconries Society of Change Ringers, which is the ringers' society to which towers in the area, including ours, are affiliated held its annual striking contest here in March 2026. Nine teams entered the competition and the ringing of each team was marked by a judge giving a score. We entered a team and gained a bronze certificate. Refreshments, including cakes, were provided by members of the congregation and were well received by all those attending. We were very grateful for the support which was given by the church community in making this event so successful.

Our links with the ringers at St Peter's, Wolverhampton continue. Once a month we join them at St Peter's for their practice and once a month they come here to join our practice. This gives both bands a chance to ring things they might not otherwise be able to ring.

The number of active ringers in our band is now down to six although we are regularly joined for Sunday service ringing by two St Peter's ringers and there are others who join us from time to time.

We need to recruit more ringers to ensure that ringing at Pattingham continues in the future and we are actively exploring how we can best provide training for new recruits. The practical skills involved in ringing a bell need to be taught carefully to ensure the safety of the other ringers as well as the new ringer and normally takes several sessions before a new ringer is able to ring a bell on their own. The next step is to learn to ring with others. Once that is mastered there is lots more to do as more challenging methods are learnt.

There is a wealth of information about bellringing at Pattingham and generally on the Pattingham Ringers website at [www.pattingham-ringers.org.uk](http://www.pattingham-ringers.org.uk)

Geoffrey Dann  
Ringing Master  
May 2026