



APCM BOOKLET

2026



**VESTRY MEETING AND ANNUAL PAROCHIAL
CHURCH MEETING**

to be held on

**Sunday 26th April 2026 at 11.00am
after the 9.30 am Morning Service.**

AGENDA

Annual Meeting of Parishioners 2026

- a) Prayers
- b) Minutes of the Vestry meeting held on 11th May 2025
- c) Election of Churchwarden(s) for 2026 - 2027

Annual Parochial Church Meeting 2026

- 1) Apologies for absence.
- 2) Notification of items for Any Other Business.
- 3) Minutes of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting held on 11th May 2025
- 4) Parochial Church Council report for 2025
- 5) Treasurer's Report for the year ended 31 December 2025 (separate document)
- 6) Report on Fabric, Goods and Ornaments for 2025
- 7) Report from the Deanery Synod for 2025
- 8) Electoral Roll Report for 2026
- 9) Reports from other Church Groups for 2025
- 10) Church Warden's Report for 2025
- 11) Election of new PCC members for 2026-2029
- 12) Re-appointment of HTP's Independent Financial Examiner
- 13) Any other business
- 14) Closing Prayers

Sandra Rolfe-Dickinson
Secretary, Parochial Church Council
Holy Trinity Church, Prestwood
09.04.2026

**Meeting Minutes of the Vestry Meeting of Holy Trinity Church
Prestwood (HTP) in the Deanery of Wendover held on**

Sunday 11th May 2025 @ 11:00am

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| | Present: Rev Deiniol Heywood, Rector & Chair, the PCC secretary, Sandra Rolfe-Dickinson and 30 members of congregation |
| | ITEM |
| | The meeting opened in prayer |
| 1 | Apologies for absence |
| | Apologies were received from Lesley & David Wickham, Rev Nigel Spoor, Colin & Judith McBride, Susanne Baker, Chris Jolly, Diana Smith and Beryl Doran. |
| 2 | Vote of thanks |
| | A vote of thanks was given to Robert Hart and Barbara Paterson for all their hard work as church wardens serving in the last year. |
| 3 | Minutes of the last Vestry meeting |
| | The minutes were approved & signed |
| 4 | Appointment of Church Wardens |
| | Barbara Paterson was elected as Church Warden for 2025-2026 (proposed: Lesley Mes, seconded Gill Hart, vote unanimous). |
| | Robert Hart was elected as Church Warden for 2025-2026 (proposed: Lesley Wickham, seconded Jean Green, vote unanimous). |
| 5 | Meeting Closed |
| | The meeting closed at 11:05am |

Signed.....
Robert Hart, Church Warden and Lay Chair

Dated:.....

Meeting Minutes of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) of Holy Trinity Church Prestwood (HTP) in the Deanery of Wendover held on

Sunday 11th May 2025 @ 11:05am

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| | Present: Rev Deiniol Heywood, Rector & Chair, the PCC secretary, Sandra Rolfe-Dickinson and 30 members of congregation |
| | ITEM |
| 1. | Apologies for absence |
| | Apologies were received from Lesley & David Wickham, Rev Nigel Spoor, Colin & Judith McBride, Susanne Baker, Chris Jolly, Diana Smith and Beryl Doran |
| 2. | Notification of AOB |
| | None |
| 3. | Minutes of last year's APCM |
| | The minutes were approved & signed |
| 4. | Annual Report of PCC |
| | The report was provided in the booklet. No questions arising. |
| 5. | Financial Report for calendar year 2024 |
| | <p>Nigel Bicknell provided an overview of the finances of the last year, outlined in the budget document.</p> <p>In 2024, we budgeted for loss of £7k. Our actual out-turn deficit was £5k. The reason the loss wasn't as great as predicted was due to not having a secretary for 3 months (so a salary saving), and a reduction in Parish Share due to Deiniol's increased diocesan duties. Without these one-offs, our loss would have been £11k.</p> <p>For 2025 a loss of £14k is budgeted. To give context, our income over the last 5 years or so has been remarkably constant, whereas our expenditure has risen significantly. There were three main reasons for this – utility bills have risen by £9k with the increase in energy prices, staff salaries have increased by approximately £9k, and other costs have edged upwards. We</p> |

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| | <p>have been somewhat cushioned from these increases by a number of one-off events, but in 2025 we will see the full effect of these price rises with no cushion. We are very grateful for our loyal band of regular givers, who enable the finance team to have some degree of confidence in our income, and we encourage newcomers to consider regular giving as a way of helping the church. However, going forward, we will need to increase income, and we need to be able to rely upon a broader giving base. We want to become the preferred local charity that people would choose to support.</p> <p>We are also incredibly grateful to our volunteers who give their time (meaning we don't have to pay for everything).</p> <p>Nigel thanked Gill Bicknell for all her help with the book-keeping, the Finance Committee for all their hard work, and the regular givers who enable so much of our work & activities at HTP.</p> <p>There were no questions on the Financial Report. Deiniol proposed a vote of thanks to Nigel, Gill & the Finance Committee.</p> |
| 6. | Fabric, Goods & Ornaments Report |
| | The report was provided in the booklet. No questions arising. |
| 7. | Deanery Synod Report |
| | The report was provided in the booklet. No questions arising. |
| 8. | Electoral roll report |
| | <p>This year we had to do a new Electoral Roll (this happens every 6 years). Gill Hart reported that there are 88 people on the new Electoral Roll this year (likely to increase to 93 with 5 new people). There were 105 on the Electoral Roll last year.</p> <p>When the Electoral Roll number drops below 100, the laity places on PCC drops from 12 to 9. There are still a couple of PCC vacancies, and a Deanery Synod vacancy.</p> |
| 9. | Other Reports |
| | Other reports in the booklet included the following: |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Family Outreach Worker Report • Marketing Manager Report • Fundraising Report • Annual Buildings Report • Grounds Report • Health & Safety Report • Safeguarding Report • SEARCH Report • Servers’ Report • Wardens’ Report • Worship & Outreach Group Report <p>Deiniol proposed a vote of thanks to all involved in supporting the church in these very important areas.</p> |
| 10. | Rector’s Report |
| | <p>Deiniol began his report by offering huge thanks to everyone for all that they do for the life of the church. In particular, Robert Hart & Barbara Paterson, our two church wardens, and Gill & Nigel Bicknell for undertaking the finances. The financial running of the church is effectively running a medium sized charity, which is cash light and resource heavy. The responsibilities of following the Charity Commission policies should not be underestimated. They are supported by an excellent Finance committee, who put in a lot of effort in managing our funds.</p> <p>Thanks to Dick Rivett, for his overseeing of the churchyard upkeep. The churchyard is huge, and requires a lot of ongoing work to keep it looking neat and tidy.</p> <p>Thanks to Sandra Rolfe-Dickinson in her role as PCC secretary, and to the whole PCC for working so well together. We have a good PCC structure which works very effectively. Beryl Doran is stepping back as Deanery Synod rep, a role she has held for 6 years – thanks to her and Jean for their service in this role.</p> |

Thanks to Rev Nigel Spoor, for his steadfast support. He has a very strong pastoral presence, and we are lucky to have him. Rev Kayleigh Lucas has brought much energy and enthusiasm to her role as Curate, and is growing into responsibilities. We are really lucky to have curate like Kayleigh.

Frances Pauls is building on Fran McLean's work as Family Support Worker. She has shown herself to be innovative, creative and effective in growing the children's ministry. 10% of the congregation are under 16 years of age at the 9:30am service. Resources are vital, but Frances does a lot on a shoestring.

Lesley Nichol has worked hard in ensuring that the letting of our buildings generates much needed income. She has nurtured a lot of goodwill in the community, and we are lucky to have her. Lorna Crook stepped into role as office secretary, and has developed well in the role. She really understands how the charity works.

We are fortunate to have great musical support for the church, and are very grateful for the talents of Sam Laughton, along with Adrian and Mappleby. We are also grateful to have support from the SEARCH, Ministry and Serving teams.

As Deiniol prepares to move on from the parish, he reflected on his 17 years as incumbent, and all the changes he has seen. He reminded us all of how prayer should be at the centre of all we do, regardless of whether things are going badly, or things are going well. Prayer should not be an activity we start and end meetings with, but rather should be an attitude of mind, guiding all that we do.

As we move forward into the process of recruitment, we should evaluate what we've had and what we need for the future. We had a taste of this process during 2018 when we were part of PMC, and this enabled us to see more clearly the opportunities we had. The pandemic forced changes upon us, but we responded well. More recently the PCC structure has been

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| | <p>reorganised, and our Mission Statement updated. It is always valuable to spend time in review, reflecting on ourselves and God’s purpose for us.</p> <p>Priests are like gatekeepers, some keeping the gate closed, and others holding it open. In 2016, HTP signed up to the Inclusive Church, which was a door opening, but the challenge is to remain inclusively open. We have to be mindful of not inadvertently developing barriers between those perceived as outside and those inside.</p> <p>Our biggest challenge going forward is financial. We have asked for money many times, always endeavouring to use other avenues before coming back to congregation. There will be a Giving Initiative, and we will be seeking more support from the wider community.</p> <p>The decision to leave was a difficult one, and the challenge is to let go, and continue working out his purpose going forward. Deiniol’s greatest strength is getting good people to do good things, and to bridge gaps that looked unbridgeable. He hopes to be remembered as fondly as some of the past clergy.</p> <p>Deiniol concluded by saying his 20th anniversary of ordination is coming up, and he was reminded of being a new priest in London, being shouted at by passing van drivers “Say one for me!” His response was “I’ll say one for you, and you say one for me”. The power of prayer should never be overlooked, as it is the most important tool we have.</p> |
| <p>11.</p> | <p>Election of new PCC members</p> |
| | <p>There are currently 2 vacancies on the PCC. PCC members finishing a three year term and eligible for re-election are Sandra Rolfe-Dickinson, Hannah Goldsmith & Alex Fallon. All are standing for a second three year term.</p> <p>Others wishing to join the PCC must be members of the church on the Electoral Roll, after which they can be elected onto PCC.</p> <p>There is also one space on Deanery Synod.</p> |

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| 12. | Reappointment of HTP independent financial adviser |
| | Nigel Bicknell stated that Independent Financial Examiner Lyn Williams would be happy to continue in this role. This was agreed unanimously. |
| 13. | AOB |
| | Barbara Paterson gave a vote of thanks to Deiniol for all his hard work in the past year, and commented that the process of finding a new incumbent has made us realise how much Deiniol does for us and the parish. The search for a new incumbent is likely to start in August. Barbara thanked the congregation for their support of herself and fellow Church Warden Robert Hart, and stated that she will be stepping down as a Church Warden next year. She encouraged everyone to think about whether they could serve in this important role. |
| | The meeting concluded with prayer. The meeting closed at 11:32 |

Signed.....
Robert Hart, Church Warden and Lay Chair

Date.....

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL REPORT FOR 2025

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is the Executive Committee of The Ecclesiastical Parish of Holy Trinity Prestwood (HTP). The PCC has a number of (legally defined) duties and responsibilities:

- to promote the mission of the Church [of England] in the parish in co-operation with the Rector
- to be responsible for the financial affairs of HTP
- to be responsible for the care, maintenance and security of the fabric of HTP and its contents
- similar responsibilities apply to the rest of HTP's Estate including 28 Peters Close
- to appoint a church electoral roll officer with defined duties

The PCC has a voice in the forms of service used at HTP and may also make representation to the presiding bishop and deanery synod on matters which may affect the welfare and pastoral care of the parish.

HTP is a registered charity (Number 1129233) and members of the PCC are trustees of the charity.

Members of the PCC from 11th May 2025 are:

Clergy: The Reverend Deiniol Heywood BA MPhil, Rector + (until 20th July 2025)
The Reverend Nigel Spoor MA, Assistant Curate
The Reverend Kayleigh Lucas, Assistant Curate

Churchwardens: Barbara Paterson^
Robert Hart^

Deanery Synod Representatives: Jean Green^
Rebekah Elliott (from 11th November 2025)

Members: Gill Bicknell **
Nigel Bicknell**^^
Sandra Rolfe-Dickinson (Secretary)^
Alex Fallon
Hannah Goldsmith
Chris Jolly
Fran McLean
Lesley Wickham

** Co-opted member

^ Member of Standing Committee

PCC Meetings and Membership.

The Church Year runs from April to March; however, the Financial Year is from January 1st to December 31st (for the purposes of this report we are looking at the calendar year 2025).

The main yearly meeting structure of the PCC is meetings being held “termly”, in addition to a welcome meeting for the new PCC after the APCM, and a PCC away day, where a strategic topic is discussed in detail. The Standing Committee meets in the month prior to each PCC meeting.

The PCC receives regular reports on Finance and Worship & Outreach from the two sub-groups, as well as a Buildings report and a Safeguarding report. The Family Outreach Worker and Marketing Manager also provide a regular update on all their work as the PCC is their employer.

All the PCC members have undergone safeguarding training.

Some PCC highlights of 2024

In February a discussion was held on the HT finances, and the management of the budget for the year. We also discussed the potential for a Prestwood Partnership, which is intended to be a light touch Friends organisation,

enabling those with a looser connection to the church to financially support if they wish. The fact that grave spaces in the churchyard are now very limited was also discussed.

The PCC meeting in May welcomed the new PCC members, and appointed the key PCC roles of Lay Chair, PCC Secretary, Standing Committee, Treasurer, Safeguarding Officer, Health & Safety Officer and Electoral Roll Officer.

The main item of business for the meeting in July was the forthcoming vacancy. The main steps in the recruitment process were outlined and discussed, as well as how the day to day running of the church would be managed after Deiniol's departure (such as building locking and unlocking, staff management and technical issues).

In September, the PCC had an away day morning held at in the church. Present were the PCCs of both Prestwood and Great Hampden, as well as Rev Sally Moring (Area Dean) and Rev Asa Humphries (Diocesan Parish Development Officer). The vacancy process was explained in detail. We then brainstormed what we can offer, what our challenges are, and discussed the role description and the person specification.

Our meeting in November also focussed on the vacancy, where we discussed the excellent work the Parish Profile Development team had done in developing a draft Parish Profile for our review.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the PCC for all their hard work and support over the last 12 months.

Sandra Rolfe-Dickinson
PCC Secretary
February 2026

FABRIC AND ORNAMENTS REPORT

Our Church, the Hall, Annexe and Cottage form Holy Trinity Prestwood's campus. All have been routinely maintained, the specifics of which can be found in the Fabric & Buildings report. Maintenance work and costs associated are rising – a consequence of mature buildings and age of equipment.

The Church Inventory is up to date with no additions, disposals or temporarily removals during the year.

Barbara Paterson and Robert Hart (Church Wardens)

February 2026

WENDOVER DEANERY SYNOD 2025-2026

The Deanery Synod has met twice since the last round of APCMs in 2025. Unfortunately the attendance at both these meetings was not high and PCCs might like to consider what would attract people to serve as representatives and the topics in which they would be interested.

The September meeting dealt with the way in which the deanery would apportion the Share from the Diocese. Two methods had been put forward by the Diocese; one that is used by the majority of deaneries, the second being a relatively small variation. (It would in both cases be up to benefices to allocate the share between their parishes.) Key to both methodologies is the Cost of Ministry with the other diocesan costs being allocated either according to various metrics including an ability to pay, or by proportion of the 4 year average Electoral Roll. The detail of the methods had already been distributed to all parishes and had been outlined previously by Sir Hector Sant. It is also important to note that for a number of years Wendover Deanery has been a recipient of support from the diocese; although it is true to say that as a deanery we have always believed that we were contributing our share and supporting other deaneries albeit to a

small extent. In the discussion that followed points were made that either allocation would result in many parishes/benefices failing to meet the share, that share was a gift from the parish and not a tax from the diocese, the cost of ministry was different in the methodologies, the inability to pay share could result in non replacement of a full time priest in the event of a vacancy, and that parishes would like more support from the central church to meet the ever rising costs. Although one of the parishes, Little Missenden, expressed the view that we did not have to accept either method, it was reiterated that this was not an option and that synod had to vote for one of the methods. A vote was taken with the majority voting to adopt the Diocesan method.

The November meeting was held to gather information on work with children and young people throughout the deanery and reports were presented by 5 of the parishes. The reports included work with families and on mental health issues, together with youth orientated activities. The meeting noted a number of Diocesan initiatives.

The meeting scheduled for February 2026 had to be postponed for a number of logistical reasons.

Gareth Beynon
Wendover Deanery Synod Secretary

ELECTORAL ROLL REPORT 2025

Verbal report to be given at the meeting.

FAMILY OUTREACH WORKER ANNUAL REPORT

Family Life at Holy Trinity Prestwood has gone from strength to strength during the 2025 year.

2025

Once again, in a similar light to our 2024 Nativity Play, the 2025 Nativity Play saw a lovely finale to another year working with Families and Children of Holy Trinity Prestwood and the Prestwood Community. Participants of the Nativity Play came from across all spheres of family life at HTP; from Sparks and Lights Club at the Prestwood Village Schools, Fusion, Children's Church regulars, Make Lunch, Toddlers and even Bumps and Babies. During our 2025 Christingle Services, we also reached out to a broader selection of children to do readings, I remembered families who regularly attended Christingles together in previous years, who were not otherwise regular church goers, and approached them to read at the services, this resulted in three groups of new families and children doing readings, they loved reading and I am now consistently engaging with them to come back to do a reading at our regular family services.

A big focus of our 2025 year for Children and Families, was the announcing of Deiniol's resignation, and then his farewell lunch and last service at the end of the summer term. This saw children across all clubs and groups create a farewell book for Deiniol filled with messages, prayers and portraits, and spoke of a lovely sense of community & family that we have built at HTP. This also saw us then enter a period of Vacancy, which on review I think I can say that we should all be very proud of ourselves that most clubs and groups have been business as usual thank you to Kayleigh, Nigel, a solid office team and an incredible team of Wardens and Volunteers, I feel that because of all of the support we had, we could sometimes forget that we were even in a period of vacancy at all, which shone through in how Christmas, Christingles and the Nativity Play all came together. I do however, look forward to our new Rector starting in the future, and being there to build new relationships between them and our

Children and Families. This will be an exciting focus to use for outreach in the near future, inviting the community to come and meet our new Rector.

The 175th Anniversary Year Flower Festival saw all clubs and groups contribute towards the creation of a large 'Flower Arch', including huge blooms made from tissue paper and backed by a rainbow display of over 100 crocheted flowers made by the Wool Gatherers!

2025 saw us run three Children's Church Mini Series; Spring Gardeners, Summer Gardeners and Autumn Harvesters, these sessions were well attended by both regulars and newcomers and created a great outreach platform via which to promote Children's Church and capture the interest and imagination of families and children who had not yet come along to Children's Church. From our Harvest Family Service onwards, Sacha Tomkins has played keyboard and lead the singing of Hymns, replacing the guitar, this has been well received, Sacha has a lovely kind way and has been a delight to work with. Fusion youth group continues on a Sunday under the successful leadership of Kayleigh.

Craft and Praise Events have gone from strength to strength. There were five Craft and Praise events across the year. 1. Feb – Love 2. April – Easter 3. July – Under the Sea 4. October – Harvest 5. End November – Advent. Craft and Praise events are well attended, they have a strong community following of their own and always welcome new families and families from other groups like Toddlers who have not yet started to coming to Sunday Services, ie. It is a lovely event to encourage new families to come to.

Prestwood Village Schools: Sparks & Lights Clubs are both well supported clubs and continue to help Children grow on their journey of faith while building relationships with new year groups each year. Bettina spoke in Church about the lovely Prestwood Village Schools Uniform donation project which saw the donation of the school's previous school uniform to Siyabulela in South Africa.

Toddlers and Bumps & Babies continues as is, they have both seen recent equipment improvements in the form of bright new mats and rugs. Parents always comment on how well kept, clean, new and bright our Toddlers toys and equipment seem which is a lovely compliment. Both are well known events within the community and are so well attended, that I have at some points over the year almost needed to put a cap on how many people can attend, but luckily attendance seems to even out so I have not had to turn anyone away.

Toy Library was successfully restarted and run this this year by Sam and Rebecca, it now runs every second Thursday during term times from 11am-12pm, this has worked well

TLG Make Lunch Club has had an interesting year, as at the beginning of 2025 we were really struggling to outreach to new families, then after about 6 months of really doing all we could to outreach to new families with no success, we all at once had 4 new regular families which was exactly the boost we needed to know that we are reaching families who need this Lunch Club within the Prestwood Community. The club goes from strength to strength and has an incredibly warm family feel. We do need to expand the volunteer team on both the activities and kitchen side. Instead of an October Light Party for the community, we did a Light Party Neon Disco run by Clover for Make Lunch during October Half term which worked brilliantly. We remain a distributor for the Chiltern Foodbank, Helen Emerson continues to do a brilliant job of running this along with her dedicated drivers.

Wool Gatherers continues on a Tuesday morning successfully under the leadership of Barbara. The 12 dedicated members created the below amazing offering within the 2025 year! 16 Teddies – to hospices and hospitals in Bucks, 15 Baby blankets – to Stoke Manderville, 45 Seamen hats – to The Seamen Mission, 400 Baby hats – to Wrexham Park, 4 Bed Blankets – to homeless in London and Oxfam, 21 Jumpers to South Africa, 200+ items for Christmas, 100+ Smoothie Tops for Age UK, 100+ Easter Eggs, Chick and

Bunnies and 100+ Flowers for the 175th Year anniversary Flower Festival Display.

I would like to again thank all of our volunteers and everyone who supports any of the family events at Holy Trinity Prestwood in any way, without all of our amazing volunteers and supporters these groups would not be possible! Thank you!

Frances Pauls

MARKETING MANAGER REPORT

Despite a slight dip in revenue, booking numbers have remained steady over the past year and we continue to receive many positive comments about our facilities and the warm welcome our hirers receive.

Supporting our hirers still makes up a significant part of my role. This includes monthly invoicing, hosting site visits for prospective bookings, managing and adjusting the diary where needed (and monitoring the impact on revenue), ensuring all booking documentation is completed and responding to a steady stream of enquiries.

One of the most rewarding aspects of my role, now in my ninth year, continues to be my connection with the local community. As the main point of contact for bookings, I've had the privilege of getting to know many individuals and community organisations—supporting them as they celebrate important occasions or providing a space for small businesses to grow.

I have also greatly valued the opportunity to contribute to the Parish Profile, alongside colleagues from both churches and hope it will encourage a strong pool of candidates as we seek to appoint our new Rector.

Income for 2025

Income from lettings and events totalled just under £14,000 for the year to 31st December 2025, a decrease of approximately £830 from £14,756 for the equivalent period last year. Our 2025 figure includes £330 from a performance of Macbeth in July.

A split of this year's income by building and comparison versus 2024 is shown below.

| | | 2025 | 2024 |
|---------|---------|----------|----------|
| Hall | £7,680 | £9,187 | -£1,5071 |
| Church | £4,485 | £3,499 | £986 |
| Cottage | £253 | £520 | £267 |
| Events | £330 | - | £330 |
| Marquee | £144 | £7.00 | £137 |
| Annexe | £1,032 | £1,543 | £511 |
| Total | £13,924 | £14,756* | -£832 |
| | | | |

* This figure may differ from appears in the published accounts due to timing differences in accounting for income from bookings that occur at year end and 'perpetual deposits'

The drop in income in the hall can be attributed to a continuing reduction in short one-off bookings, a move in some bookings from the hall to the church such and by the fact that in December 2024, we hired the church out for a series of wreath making workshops which, including a donation, generated nearly £600. These workshops didn't take place in 2025.

Lettings

Over the past year, income generated through the hire of our buildings has remained an important contribution to our overall financial position. The hall continues to be our largest income generator contributing to 58% of lettings revenue, followed by the church at 34% then the Annexe at 8%.

We have seen a continued rise in demand for wellbeing-focused activities, particularly sound baths and meditation sessions, which has helped to attract new groups into our spaces. A notable example is Alex Care of Mind Care Inspiration, who delivered a series of six-day sound bath training workshops in 2025, utilising both the hall and the church. Whilst there have been some operational challenges to address, including managing building temperatures and minimising interruptions, the value of this partnership is clear, with each course generating more than £700. It is therefore important that we continue to support and nurture this relationship and I would like to thank everyone who has helped with this! Encouragingly, Alex has booked further courses in 2026.

Alongside this, we are pleased to maintain a strong core of regular hirers— including Taylor-Made Education, Bassett Tutoring, Clubbercise and Stephanie dCH Yoga, along with the HTP Table Tennis group—who have been with us for several years and continue to provide both reliable income and a consistent presence.

At the same time however, we have experienced some changes in our regular bookings. After six years of consistent use, the NHS Health Visiting Team made the difficult decision to close their Monday developmental clinics due to funding constraints at the end of January 2026. Not only is this a loss of a valuable community service provision, it also will result in a drop of income of nearly £3,200 for us in 2026 vs 2025. This type of booking will be difficult to replicate as there aren't many organisations who require a building for an entire day on a weekly basis but I'm hopeful we may be able to fill this gap in some other way.

One-off lettings have seen a slight decline over the past year, continuing a trend noted in last year's report. As before, this reduction is largely attributable to a decrease in short children's party bookings, which have traditionally formed a significant proportion of our one-off lettings income.

Despite this, we have been encouraged by opportunities to widen our reach in other ways. The church has been used for a number of Diocese training days, as well as hosting a Quiet Day for a visiting church group from Maidenhead. It is particularly rewarding to be able to open our facilities to other churches and I hope to build on this in the coming year whilst continuing to balance community access with income generation.

Parish Profile

Towards the latter half of last year, I dedicated a significant amount of time to supporting the development of the Parish Profile. Whilst I was not directly involved in shaping the majority of the written content, it was a rewarding project to get my teeth into, bringing together contributions from both churches into what is hopefully a clear, engaging and professional document and I am pleased to have been able to play a part in presenting the parish in the best possible light. It is hoped that the final profile will help to attract a strong field of candidates as we seek to appoint our new Rector.

Events

Flower Festival as part of Prestwood's Big Week

We launched Prestwood's Big Week with our Flower Festival on 15th–16th June. It was a great success, with the church transformed by stunning floral displays created by our team of volunteer arrangers, led by Anne, each reflecting aspects of church life. Across the weekend, we welcomed over 200 visitors who enjoyed the vibrant colours, fragrant blooms, creative designs and homemade cakes and refreshments provided by Search. Marketing elements included Wye event boards, an outdoor banner (paid

for by the PCA), signage, posters, website activity and social media. The event was made possible thanks to the generous support of local businesses, whose financial contributions in the form of sponsorship totalling £500 were key to its success and much appreciated.

QPAC's Performance of Shakespeare's Macbeth

We hosted Aylesbury's Queen's Park Arts Centre for their performance of Macbeth in May. The performance was well attended and the performance, despite some acoustic issues, went very well and showcased some strong acting skills. We raised £330 for the church through ticket sales and a bar during the interval.

Google Ads Grant

Early on in 2025, I applied for and was awarded a Google Ad Grant. This programme offers eligible charities and nonprofit organisations up to \$10,000 (approx. £7,500) per month in free Google Search advertising. This allows Holy Trinity, Prestwood to appear in Google search results when people look for topics related to our work and is a valuable way for us to boost online presence without using our own budget.

Benefits include:

- Greater visibility for our mission, events and services
- Increased website traffic from those searching for related issues
- Improved outreach to potential donors, volunteers and supporters
- Free online advertising to help raise awareness and grow our impact

It's been very tricky getting this grant up and running. There is so much technical jargon to decipher, processes to figure out and rules to adhere to and of course, trying to get any sort of help or guidance from an organisation like Google is impossible! I've had to put it to one side over the

last few months whilst work on the Parish Profile takes priority, but I will be picking this back up in 2026!

Buildings

I have continued to work closely with staff members and volunteers to ensure that our facilities are maintained to a high standard, allowing us to confidently offer them for private hire. As in previous years, the hall remains the area requiring the most consistent attention! During the year, we have addressed a small number of maintenance concerns, including the appearance of glis glis during the summer and the ongoing challenge of managing ambient temperature. I am very grateful to Colin and Robert for their continued support and willingness to investigate and resolve issues as they arise.

Cleaning

I continue to oversee our relationship with Pat Chambers and her daughter Amanda, who consistently deliver a high standard of cleaning across all our buildings on a weekly basis. The monthly cost remains in the region of £250 (rising slightly in months with five weeks), representing an essential investment given the frequency with which our buildings—particularly the hall—are used. Maintaining clean and tidy buildings is key to justifying our hire fees and supporting repeat bookings. As always, cleaning schedules often need to be adapted around church activities and external hirers and I am grateful to Pat and Amanda for their continued flexibility and reliability.

Focus for 2026

- Dedicate more time to proactively marketing our buildings
- Attempt to fill any gaps in capacity in our buildings to maximise our revenue from lettings
- Get Google Ad Grants up and running!

- Continue to maintain strong relationships with all hirers and offer a flexible, reliable, timely and accommodating service and be the public face of the church

Finally....

It continues to be a pleasure working with all of you and it's hard to believe that I've now been in this role for nine years! As always, I truly value your ongoing support and take great pride in being part of our wider church community.

I'm always looking for ways to grow what we offer and to find new opportunities to connect and engage with our community. If you have any questions about our marketing activity or ideas for events you'd like us to host or future initiatives you'd love to see, please do get in touch. You're always welcome to pop into the office or email me at marketing@htprestwood.org.uk.

Lesley Nicholl

FINANCE COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT FOR APCM

The most significant events to report in 2025 were as follows:

- We recorded a surplus in the General Fund of £6k (versus a deficit of £5k in 2024).
- Reserves at Year End were £2k higher than the balances held at December 2024
- Our Budget for 2026 shows a break-even in the General Fund. Reserves are budgeted to fall by £5k with a number of non-routine Repairs/Projects budgeted to be funded from existing Reserves.
- We have been informed that we have been left £20k in Dick Rivett's will. This will probably be received some time in 2026

The key features in the 2025 Accounts were:

- Regular Giving was £4k higher than in 2024, aided by the mid-year Financial Initiative.
- Fund raising activities at £11k were boosted by the agreement to sell jams, marmalade and preserves through Hildreth's. Jean Green and her team responded amazingly to the challenge of meeting this increased demand.
- In 2025 the £6k bank interest on our investments was credited to the General Fund rather than to the Legacy Fund as in previous years.
- Salaries were £3k higher than in 2024, when we were without a Parish Administrator for a number of months.
- We received a £3k reduction in our allocated Parish Share partly because of Deiniol's increased duties in the Diocese from Jan-July and partly because of a 10% reduction in the interregnum after Deiniol left.

A big thank you to all who have contributed to achieving this 2025 outcome. In particular a big thank you to our committed band of regular

givers, whose regular monthly donations have given us stability and confidence over many years.

In 2026 our financial performance will be cushioned by a continuing 10% reduction in Parish Share for the period until a new incumbent is appointed, and a £2k saving in Salary costs while we were without a Parish Administrator in Jan-March. Without these one-off benefits our Budget would be for a deficit. Keeping our heads above water financially going forward will be a significant challenge.

Nigel Bicknell

FUNDRAISING REPORT

This fundraising report is closely aligned with the accounts so is for the year 2025. Anything done so far this year of 2026 will be reported on in 2027. Funds are raised in many ways. In 2025 there were again contributions from men's breakfasts, SEARCH events, selling cakes, jams etc. at various locations, the charity bazaar, Prestmas and Easy Fundraising among others. We also had the Flower Festival, which was a great success, a performance of Macbeth, a tombola at the event concluding Prestwood Big Week, not to mention the tremendous success of Christine Jolly's parachute jump. Some of these events are reported on by the various groups giving more detail of the events themselves and how to get more involved.

After a better year last year, the donations for the coffee and biscuits enjoyed in church on a Sunday morning were much depleted during 2025, barely covering costs!

Easyfundraising continues to raise some funds. For those of you unsure as to what Easyfundraising is I will try to explain. Easyfundraising is, as its name implies, a very easy way of raising funds. If you shop on-line many retailers who are part of the scheme (John Lewis, Ebay, Expedia, Tui, Sainsbury,

Tesco, M & S, Next, Viking, to name just a few) will give a percentage of the purchase price to a charity of your choice, at no extra cost to you. It is a well-worth exercise. If you are not yet registered under this scheme and would like to be then please go to

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk>

and register with Holy Trinity – Prestwood. It could well be that you Easyfundraise for other good causes, but if not, and you shop online, please do consider this.

The annual Charities Bazaar took place again, on site, in November. Some local charities were absent this year, but their place was taken up by other local causes The charities who did attend were once again grateful for the chance to showcase their cause with some raising funds for themselves. As far as HT were concerned the event was hugely successful raising well over £800 and drawing large numbers of people into the buildings.

HTP had a presence at Prestmas in the Village Hall just before Christmas and again did well selling craft items.

In 2025 Missenden Abbey held a Summer Fair in the grounds where HTP had a stall selling home baked items, home-made craft items and some preserves. My thanks to all the people who made, baked, set up and served. It was slightly disappointing that there was only one person from HTP who came to buy from the stall, but it was a productive day where we raised almost £250. Unfortunately, Missenden Abbey closed at the end of November, so their Christmas Fair never happened, and this stream of fundraising is now lost.

Jam, marmalade and other preserve sales went through the roof at Hildreth's, and this, combined with sales via church members, raised over £5,000. I have to say a huge thank you to my band of preserve makers who made and donated over 1,400 jars of marmalade, jam, chutney etc over the course of the year. As you can imagine, this is not sustainable with such a

small group of makers so, if you make any kind of preserve yourself, please consider joining the team. You don't have to make large batches. If you have even just 1 odd jar surplus to your requirements it will be gratefully received. Please speak to Jean. Thanks this year also go to those people who have donated surplus fruit, and contributed toward the cost of sugar. As prices continue to spiral this financial support does help greatly. Also a massive Thank You to Martin and the team at Hildreth's for selling on our behalf.

Thank you, everybody!

Jean Green

FABRIC & BUILDINGS REPORT FOR 2025

Throughout the year we have inspected and maintained the Church Building, Hall, Annexe and Cottage. With the overall property encompassing these buildings, two car parks and an active Churchyard, much work is required both routinely, carried out in accordance with a maintenance schedule, and in response to issues which require one-off repairs or replacements. Much of this work goes on unseen by many.

The FABG was set up to oversee these matters. With the sad demise of Dick Rivett, the group has assumed responsibility for the Churchyard.

The FABG has been joined by Phillip Wilson who brings with him a wealth of skill & experience. Thanks go to Philip, Robert Hart, Colin Holmes and John Latchford for their support of the group.

Major items of maintenance and repair in the past year have included the repair of the glass entrance doors to the Church, the installation of chimney flashings to the Cottage roof, the installation of new floats to the main sewage pump, the replacement of the defective glass door in the Annexe and repairs to the boilers in both the Cottage & Hall. Externally, the vegetation in the overflow carpark has been cut back to provide additional space.

We continue to be frustrated by the Hall Turret repairs. We are currently unable to find a contractor prepared to take on the job and any advice or details of known contacts would be appreciated.

We are grateful to the many church members who magnificently cleaned the church in the lead up to our 175th Celebrations. We would also thank those who joined Prestwood Nature for a clear-up of the northern area of the Churchyard in the autumn and all the volunteers that cut the grass and look after the flower beds.

Dave Paterson

HEALTH & SAFETY INCLUDING RISK ASSESSMENT

At an event in early 2025, an incident occurred which resulted in a robe catching fire. Fortunately, prompt action doused the flame and there were no injuries arising from this occurrence.

However, it drew attention to the fact that the current version of Part 02 Services with Congregational Candles of the Health and Safety Policy needed to be reviewed. The, then, policy, was intended to cover services within the Church and, upon review, it was recognised that the required actions did not adequately cover the event where the incident had occurred.

As a consequence, it was decided to add to the existing policy Required Actions an event specific risk assessment in order to identify any particular additional safety requirements. Part 02 was also renamed Services with Congregational Candles and/or Other Naked Flames.

It was also agreed to add a similar additional requirement into Part 01 Normal Services of the Health and Safety Policy.

These amendments required some “housekeeping” on two other parts of the H and S policy.

All 4 amended parts – Parts 00, 01, 02 and 11 have now replaced the originals on the HTP Website.

John Rolfe-Dickinson

SAFEGUARDING REPORT FOR 2025

All new volunteers were Safer Recruited. We also ensured that all volunteers who had completed three years reapplied for Enhanced DBS checks where appropriate. All new PCC members completed a confidential declaration form and undertook safeguarding training.

Enhanced DBS Checks

DBS checks must be renewed every **three** years.

We had 5 new DBS applications and 4 DBS renewals for new and existing PCC members and volunteers.

During the year the Agency used by the Diocese for DBS applications had a data breach through the software company it uses. As a consequence of this the Diocese advised that all Churches stop using the Agency. The 2 people whose applications had been processed before the event had their data compromised. They were informed and the Diocese gave help where needed. The Diocese put in place an interim arrangement while looking to appoint a new DBS provider which was to happen in 2026. Unfortunately, the interim arrangement was difficult to use and 2 people were unable to complete their applications. They are to try again when permanent arrangements have been made with the new provision in 2026.

Safeguarding Learning Pathways

Safeguarding Training must be renewed every **three** years online. Once a higher level of training has been attained, the Basic Awareness need not be repeated. Current volunteers are up to date with their training. Any new

volunteers are asked to complete both the on-line Basic Awareness and Foundation trainings as part of the Safer Recruitment process.

We had 13 people repeat their Foundation training; 3 completed both Basic Awareness and Foundation for the first time; 2 people repeated their Domestic Abuse pathway and 1 repeated the Safer Recruitment training.

Parish Safeguarding Dashboards

The Parish Safeguarding Dashboard was set up to ensure that parishes understand the safeguarding requirements of the Church of England and the Charity Commission. The Parish Safeguarding Dashboard is updated on a regular basis. Regular updating of the Parish Safeguarding Dashboard helps with setting and implementing the Safeguarding Action Plan.

The Safeguarding Hub section of the Dashboard keeps us up to date with any DBS or training requirements which need completing or updating. The Hub has allowed us to develop role descriptions and person specifications. These are available to give to anyone considering volunteering for a specific role to inform them of what the role involves. Due to staffing changes in the office the tracking of Safer Recruitment section of the Hub has not yet been implemented.

During 2025 there were no incidents of concern reported, but we continued to seek advice from the Diocesan Safeguarding Team when and where clarification was needed and the appropriate action taken.

To ensure the successful implementation of safeguarding processes I am helped by Gill Hart and Sandra Rolfe-Dickinson (DBS verifiers), Su Mace (Safer Recruitment interviewer), Frances Pauls and Lorna Crook and Lesley Wickham (former PSO), giving her continued support and advice. I would like to take this opportunity to thank them all for the work that they do. I would also like to thank the Rector, Clergy and the PCC for their support and guidance and for their understanding of the importance of Safeguarding.

To quote Lesley Wickham: “Safeguarding is everyone’s responsibility, and we must continue to be vigilant and respond to safeguarding concerns”.

Jean Green

Safeguarding Officer

SEARCH REPORT 2025

As usual SEARCH has enjoyed catering for HTP events this year. Some are regular annual events, including our very popular Pancake Party, our Easter Eve Celebration, Trinity Sunday, Christmas mince pies and mulled wine, Craft and Praise events, Seniors Tea, Chapter lunch, HT Charities Bazaar, our Church Social and First Sunday of the Month Breakfasts and more. As well as our ‘regular occasions’ we had our Special Events which this year included saying a very heartfelt thank you and farewell to Deiniol and our cafe for the beautiful Flower Festival which took place on the weekend of our Patronal Festival and joyfully celebrated the end of our 175th Anniversary Year.

Our breakfasts are on the 1st Sunday of the month, timed from 8.40 to 9.20am to welcome you either after the 8am or before 9.30am service, please come along to this friendly get together.

This year we were delighted that our events enabled us to make a contribution of £582.15 HT funds.

SEARCH is a fairly small team of regular helpers, some of whom meet to plan events and others who prefer to come along on a more ad hoc basis. We’d be delighted if you could join us either as a regular helper, you would be very welcome to help with pre-event cooking or other preparation and we only help at the events that fit with our diaries...and... we do enjoy ourselves! Please speak with any of our team if you’d like to know more.

(contact susannebakerfe@gmail.com)

Susanne Baker/Betty Byrne on behalf of The SEARCH Team

SERVERS REPORT 2025

Servers assisted at most services during the year helping to set up and clear away the equipment used such as candles, silverware, wine and wafers etc. Our job is to support the clergy as they celebrate the Eucharist and to do this efficiently and reverently.

This last year we welcomed Charlotte Brightman, Sophia Goldsmith, Connie and Sophie McClean to our team. It's lovely to have new recruits!

Being a Server is not just a 'rite of passage' for the young but personally rewarding at any age. So if you value our tradition at 9:30 of having a serving team and would like to try it out, please speak to me.

I wish to thank all our servers for their dedicated work in the Servers' Ministry at Holy Trinity.

Special thanks are also due to Su Mace who keeps the altar cloths and Servers' Cassocks and Cottas clean, well pressed and repaired.

Robert Hart

WARDENS REPORT 2025

To be given verbally at the APCM meeting

WORSHIP AND OUTREACH GROUP (W&O GROUP)

The W&O Group is a subgroup of the PCC and its remit is to support our Clergy, Wardens, PCC, staff and others in:

- providing the best worship we can to promote and resource church life
- contributing to the development of HTP's Worship
- contributing to the development of discipleship growth and confidence

- forging missional and resourced outreach within the church, village and wider.

Our current membership is Alex Fallon, Hannah Goldsmith, Jean Green, Robert Hart, Kayleigh Lucas, Barbara Paterson, Frances Paul, and Lesley Wickham. Deiniol Heywood retired on leaving the Parish. Enormous thanks are owed to the group for its energy and creativity and to everyone at HTP for their participation in Church life.

Highlights through 2025 included:

- Successful Lent appeal – supporting St Matthew’s Burnley, Siyabulela Pre-school South Africa and Baby Unit Relatives and Parents Support (BURPS) and planning for 2026 for Siyabulela and Bucks Mind (Peer Support group in Great Missenden).
- Over 80s Tea Party in the summer
- Flower Festival launching Prestwood Big Week on the weekend of Trinity Sunday.
- Bishop Stephen preached on Trinity Sunday.
- Bottle stall at the Big Week Picnic.
- September Parish social evening.
- November Charities Fair – a forum to promote local charities.
- Prestmas stall in December
- Continuing partnership with Acts 435 helping those in need in our Parish.
- Support for the 2025 ‘Why? A programme of exploration’ series.
- Reviews of Family Services
- Agreed Lent Course material.

We are looking forward to supporting Rev Michelle Fotherby as she takes up the post of Rector.

For us all, we pray that in belonging, Sunday by Sunday and throughout each week, HTP is seen as a warm, friendly and lovely place to be. We would like to invite anyone who is interested in Church growth to speak to us to hear more and possibly join the group too.

Robert Hart and Barbara Paterson