

St Peter ad Vincula, Coveney

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
For the year ended 31 December 2025



Rector: Vacant

Bankers: Lloyds Bank, Ely and CCLA – CBF Church of England Fund, Victoria Street, London.

Independent Examiner: Lindsey Gillett, [REDACTED]

Web site: <https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/13955>
<https://www.facebook.com/StPetersCoveney>

Aims and Purposes

The Parochial Church Council (Powers) Measure 1956 defines the functions and powers of a PCC. St. Peter ad Vincula Parochial Church Council (PCC) has the responsibility of co-operating with the Team Rector and Team Vicar (both positions currently vacant) in promoting ‘the ecclesiastical parish, the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical’. The PCC is also specifically responsible for the maintenance of the Grade 1 listed building.

Objectives and Activities

The PCC is committed to enable as many people as possible to feel safe, welcome and included within and inside the Church and the Church grounds, to have the opportunity to experience a range of worship styles appropriate to its context, and to feel affirmed and encouraged to bring forward suggestions about how the Church may develop its mission and outreach.

Mindful of the Charity Commissions’ guidance on public benefit we try to enable ordinary people of faith, and those who are exploring or unsure of their faith, to feel engaged and supported by our parish community through:

- Worship and prayer, learning about the Gospel, developing knowledge and trust in God, through regular Sunday services and seasonal study groups (especially during Advent and Lent)
- Administering to the pastoral needs and concerns of the community, especially through use of occasional offices, services, and prayer requests.
- Establishing the Church building in the minds of the community as a place where daily prayer and intercessions for the community and the world are said.
- Missionary and outreach work through Forest Church and the work being done to enhance the Churchyard for visitors and wildlife, in pursuit of our responsibility to care for God's creation.

To facilitate this work, it is important that we maintain the fabric of the church of St Peter ad Vincula.

Achievements and Performance

Our context is that of a small rural church within a small rural parish, with an accordingly small PCC in terms of numbers of trustees. Yet the Church has continued to see growth not just in attendance at services but in wider community engagement and support.

Worship and Prayer

- The pattern of regular Sunday services continues to offer a sustainable level of mixed-ecology worship for this Parish/ BCP Communion acknowledges St Peter's inherited tradition; Forest Church aims to engage with those who feel more comfortable with an informal style of worship rooted in nature; Sunday Morning Worship (Service of the Word) and Contemplative, Celtic styles of worship create space for those who appreciate more traditional and meditative styles.
- The church is open daily from dawn to dusk. Weekday morning prayer has become an important activity within the spiritual life of the Church, offering the opportunity to hold the community in prayer, signalling this role with the tolling of the Church bell, and encountering parishioners during their morning routine.
- A Lent Book Club study group met at the Village Hall providing an opportunity for regular worshippers and visitors from other parishes to come together and study Biblical themes

Caring for God's Acre

'To show reverence to our forebears, provide Sanctuary to all in God's Creation, to hand on a sustainable haven to all who follow.' (mission statement adopted by the PCC)"

- The churchyard remains a much loved and visited place of sanctuary and reflection for many in the community, and from further afield. The hard work done by the Churchyard Working Group to maintain it for the benefit of humans and wildlife has a strong missional element.
- An outdoor Climate Sunday service was held in June
- Also in June, a Mammal Count organised by the Cambs Mammal Society was attended by a number of parishioners and people from outside the community.

“ The predictions about the future of life on this planet make for alarming and depressing reading and the need to repent of the past and live more sustainably is abundantly clear. Treasuring creation is an implicit part of proclaiming the Gospel. And we can give expression to this with our churchyards which can be ‘arks for vulnerable species’. I am delighted to support this Churchyard Conservation Award Scheme. ”

The Rt Revd Dr Dagmar Winter
The Bishop of Huntingdon
Currently Acting Bishop of Ely



Mission and evangelism

- The PCC has continued to look for ways to support the work of Rackham CofE school in Witchford, attended by a majority of children in this parish. Revd Becky Warner (resident of this Parish) and Chris Warner (Churchwarden and 1st year Ordinand) have been visiting the school to support them in their collective worship and services held at St Andrew’s Witchford. A second visit by Christian Theatre Company 4Front Theatre was funded by the PCC, along with year 6 leavers books.
- The community has continued to make generous donations to Ely Food Bank via the collection point in the porch. A member of the community, a non-churchgoer, has volunteered to oversee the donations and transport them to the main depot.

The Electoral Roll

At present there are 23 parishioners on the Electoral Roll. The average weekly attendance during October was 7, although this number increased at festivals, most notably Christmas.

Deanery Synod

One member of the PCC sits on the Deanery Synod. This provides the PCC with an important link between the parish and the wider structures of the Church. The work of Deanery Synod has been focussed on work to strengthen ties between parishes, notably through several Deneary Services (Candlemas and Ascension).

Fabric Report

- An Electrical inspection was conducted and advisory work was completed.
- Some of the ‘Stations of the Cross’ remain unfixed since the pew repairs in 2023. A new method for fixing them has been devised and it is hoped they will all be re-fixed and hung permanently.
- Work to improve the biodiversity in the churchyard continues, with an extension to the wild hedge and more planting in the Garden of Remembrance.
- All routine maintenance has continued, with many tasks achieved on the annual DIY day in the Autumn, and at other times as were needed throughout the year.

Safeguarding

- The PCC has complied with the requirements imposed by the code under section 5A of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016.

Structure, Governance and Management

- The Parochial Church Council is a corporate body established by the Church of England. The PCC operates under the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure. The Parochial Church Council of Coveney is a charity for the purposes of the Charities Act 2011.
- A new Team Rector was appointed following a comprehensive interview process conducted by representatives of all 11 villages within the Benefice in October. Revd. Christopher Hollingshurst will be instituted into post at a service at St Andrew's Church Sutton on 18th April 2026.
- PCC members are appointed at the APCM. The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules (latest revision 2020). Deanery Synod Members are also appointed in accordance with the said rules at the APCM.
- At St Peter ad Vincula, Coveney, the membership of the PCC consists of the incumbents (Team Rector and Team Vicar of the benefice), two churchwardens and members elected by those members of the congregation who are on the electoral roll of the church. All those who attend our services or consider themselves to be members of the congregation are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC.
- The PCC met 4 times during the period of this report with full attendance at all but one meeting.
- The PCC members are responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance to the Parish including deciding how the funds of the PCC are to be spent. Specific training provided by the Diocese is given in Safeguarding, and eligibility and DBS (Disclosure and Barring Service) checks are carried out.
- The PCC has no employees.

Administrative Information

St Peter ad Vincula Church is situated on Main Street in Coveney. It belongs to the Isle Of Ely Villages Team Benefice which is part of the Diocese of Ely in the Church of England within the Archdeaconry of Huntingdon and Wisbech.

PCC members ***who have served at any time*** from 1 January 2025 until the date which this report was approved are:

Ex Officio members

Wardens: Mr Christopher Warner (Deanery Synod Rep.), Mr David Guyer

Elected members

Mrs Julie Nix (Treasurer)

Mr David Stazicker (Secretary)

Mr Keith Tither

Mrs Madeleine Becker

Co-Opted Members

Mrs Clementine Gilmore

Approved by the PCC on

23rd March 2026

and signed on their behalf by

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a series of connected loops and curves, representing the name Christopher Warner.

Christopher Warner, Churchwarden, Vice-Chair

To:
The Treasurer and PCC of St Peter -ad- Vincula Coveney.

Independent Examiners Report on the accounts of St Peter ad Vincula Coveney for the year ended 31st December 2025

I have independently examined the accounts of the PCC as required by the Church Accounting Regulations of the Charites Act 2011

The PCC has elected both to prepare the accounts on the receipts and payments basis, and the requirement for the independent examination allows me to report under Section 145 of the Charites Act 2011

My responsibilities are to:

- 1) identify whether or not proper accounting records have been kept;
- 2) check that the PCC accounts agree with the accounting records;
- 3) look for possible significant errors in the accounts;
- 4) check that the accounts have been properly prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations in so far as these apply to the receipts and payments basis

Where matters arising from this examination that give cause for concern it is my duty to report it.

My report:

No matters have arisen during the course of my examination where I have to give an adverse report.

Signed LJG Dated 7/3/26

Name LINDSEY JANE Gillett

Address

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St Peter - ad - Vincula Coveney
Financial Statement Year ended 31st December 2025

Lloyds Bank General Fund	Unrestricted 2025	Unrestricted 2024
Receipts		
Voluntary Income		
Regular Giving PGS Gift Aid Standing Orders	2314.12	2441.65
Collections at Services	1694.37	1712.62
Legacies		500.82
All other giving	336.56	444.60
Fees Received	56.00	3721.00
Gift Aid Recovered	1767.66	459.59
Fund Raising		985.27
Mulled Wine	648.01	
Sale of Logs	100.00	
BCMY print cartridges	132.65	
Donations	282.50	1181.50
Total receipts	7331.87	11447.05
Payments		
The Ministry		
Fees and Expences	240.00	254.27
The Church Running Costs		
Electricity	535.20	269.46
Ecclesiastical Insurance	1439.78	1420.14
Upkeep of Services	1103.99	719.67
Service of Fire Extinguishers	156.00	108.00
Organ Tuning	124.00	118.00
Contactess Fees	67.14	63.38
Lock Keys		77.40
Hire of Village Hall	24.00	
Parish Share	2985.55	3377.84
Subscriptions	50.00	50.00
Fund Raising Costs	70.00	198.85
Fees Paid to EDBF (2024 fees)	598.00	292.00
Renew Church gates		1106.70
Total Payments	7393.66	8055.71
Excess(Deficit) receipts over payments	-61.79	3391.34
Lloyds Ely 1st Jan 2025	8115.90	4724.56
Transfer to CCLA building fund	-4000.00	
Transfer from Lloyds Building Fund	215.50	
Transfer from CCLA Lighting Fund	100.00	
Lloyds Ely 31st Dec 2025	4369.61	8115.90

	Restricted 2025	Restricted 2024
Lloyds Bank Building Fund		
Receipts	0.00	0.00
Payments	0.00	390.00
Excess(Deficit) receipts over payments	0.00	-390.00
Lloyds Restoration Fund 1st Jan 2025	215.50	605.50
Transfer to Lloyds General Fund	-215.50	
Lloyds Restoration Fund 31st Dec 2025 (closed)	NIL	215.50

	Restricted	Restricted
CCLA Coveney School Fund		
Receipts		
CCLA Deposit account interest	368.27	440.23
CCLA Investment Fund Dividends	1279.87	1249.98
Total receipts	1648.14	1690.21

Payments		
Advent Props	148.50	207.27
Easter Props		100.00
4Front Theatre	617.31	595.00
Bible Books for school leavers	336.09	247.69
Educational Props		164.02
Coveney Hall Hire Lent meetings	104.00	196.00
Total Payments	1205.90	1509.98

Excess(Deficit) receipts over payments	442.24	180.23
CCLA School Fund 1st January 2025	8030.41	7850.18
CCLA School Fund 31st December 2025	8472.65	8030.41

	Restricted	Restricted
CCLA - Coveney Church Lighting Fund		
Receipts		
CCLA Deposit account interest	55.85	62.19
Payments		
Lloyds Bank General fund towards light costs	100.00	0.00
Excess(Deficit) receipts over payments	-44.15	62.19
CCLA Light Fund 1st January 2025	1234.04	1171.85
CCLA Light Fund 31st December 2025	1189.89	1234.04

	Restricted	Restricted
CCLA - Building Fund		
Receipts		
CCLA - Deposit Account Interest	880.74	923.65
Payments		
Electrical Work	574.21	0.00
Excess(Deficit) receipts over payments	306.53	923.65
CCLA Building Fund 1st January 2025	18325.28	17401.63
Transfer from Lloyds General Fund	4000.00	
CCLA Building Fund 31st December 2025	22631.81	18325.28

Statement of Assets

	2025	2024
Lloyds Ely - General Fund Unrestricted	4369.61	8115.90
Lloyds Ely - Building Fund Restricted	0.00	215.50
CCLA - Building Fund Restricted	22631.81	18325.28
CCLA - School Fund Restricted	8472.65	8030.41
CCLA - Light Fund Restricted	1189.89	1234.04
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Notes about the restricted funds

Building Fund holds deposits raised/donated for the fabric of the church

School Fund receives dividends from a Permanent endowment following the sale of the C of E school house in 1990 (3/14th). Custodian Trustee EDBOF

Light Fund is a legacy given to install and run lights that illuminate the outside of the Church