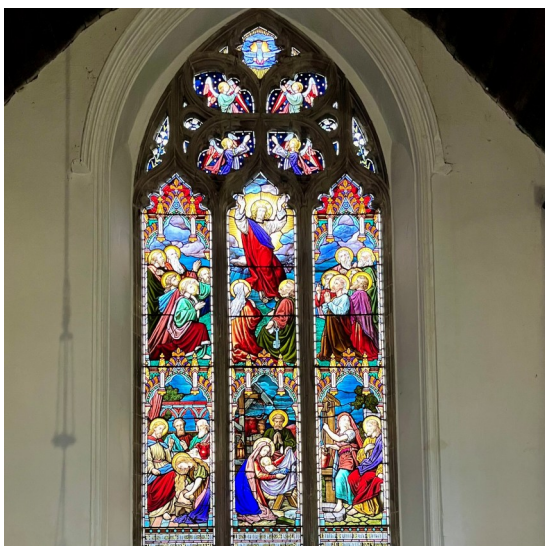


# St. Edmund's Taverham



## Minutes and Officers' Reports to the 2026 Annual Parishioners' Meeting and 2026 Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM)



# St. Edmund's Church, Taverham

Registered Charity Number: 1185420

## Annual Report and Financial Statements of the Parochial Church Council (PCC) for the year ended 31st December 2025

For more information about St. Edmund's Taverham visit:

- our Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/St.EdmundsChurch](http://www.facebook.com/St.EdmundsChurch) or
- our website at <https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/2640/> or
- our Instagram page at <https://www.instagram.com/churchstedmunds/> or
- @steds9567 on YouTube

Since 1st October 2008, PCCs with gross income over £100,000 have been required to register with the Charity Commission. St. Edmund's PCC therefore registered with the Charity Commission on 20<sup>th</sup> September 2019. Our registration number is 1185420.

To meet the Charities Commission requirements the trustees for the financial period of this annual report (January to December 2024) are listed below :

### Ex officio Trustees

Revd Paul Seabrook Incumbent  
Revd Philip Charlesworth (to November 2025) Assistant Priest  
Revd Val Hooker Assistant Priest  
David Osborne Churchwarden  
Sue Beevor (from May 2025) Churchwarden

### Elected Trustees

Susan Beevor (to May 2025)  
Paul Beverley (to May 2025)  
Susan Charnock (to May 2025)  
Ann Coker  
Sue Elmes  
Dan Gentle (Lay Chair)  
Julie Horrobin (from May 2025 to September 2025)  
David Howard  
Tim Larkman  
Granville Routledge (Treasurer)  
Rachel Seabrook (from May 2025)

### Co-opted members:

Rachel Seabrook (to January 2025)

### Representatives on the Deanery Synod

Stella Noons  
Deidre Porter  
Alex Durrant

### Incumbent: from June 2007

The Revd Paul Seabrook,  
The Rectory, Taverham Road,  
Taverham, Norwich, NR8 6SY

### Bank:

Barclays Bank plc  
Leicester  
LE87 2BB

# **St. Edmund's Church, Taverham Parochial Church Council (PCC) Annual Report for 2025**

## **Background to PCC**

St. Edmund's PCC accepts the responsibility of cooperating with the incumbent in promoting the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, ecclesiastical, social and ecumenical.

The PCC is also responsible for the maintenance of the St. Edmund's Church building and facilities.

## **Objectives and Activities**

The PCC is committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship at our church and to become part of the parish community at St. Edmund's. Our services and worship put faith into practice through prayer and scripture, music and sacrament.

When planning our activities for the year, the incumbent and the PCC have considered the Commission's guidance on public benefit and the guidance on charities for the advancement of religion. In particular, we try to enable ordinary people to live out their faith as part of our parish community through:

- Worship and prayer, learning about the Gospel, and developing their knowledge and trust in Jesus
- Provision of pastoral care for people living in the parish
- Community and outreach work.

To facilitate this work it is important that we maintain the fabric of the Church.

## **Structure, governance and management**

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules.

At St. Edmund's the membership of the PCC consists of the incumbent, assistant priest(s), churchwardens, and members elected by those members of the congregation who are on the electoral roll of the church.

The PCC members are responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance in the parish including deciding on how the funds of the PCC are spent.

The PCC, in accordance with the Churchwarden's Handbook, delegates some activities to the Standing Committee. The Standing Committee handles urgent matters between main meetings, and is accountable to the PCC.

As part of considering arrangements for the Standing Committee to deal with church business whilst PCC meetings could not be held due to Covid restrictions, on 14<sup>th</sup> July 2020, the PCC, (re-) confirmed membership of the Standing Committee. That is, the Standing Committee is limited to the following roles: the Incumbent, Churchwardens and assistant (if there is one), PCC Secretary, Treasurer, PCC Lay Chair.

As the Covid restrictions were relaxed, in July 2021 we resumed our normal cycle of PCC meetings.

Since then the Standing Committee has met as and when there have been specific matters to address between PCC meetings, rather than meeting monthly.

## Membership of PCC for 2025

Members of the PCC are either ex officio or elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) in accordance with the Church Representation rules.

### During the year the following served as members of the PCC:

Incumbent (Chairman)	Revd Paul Seabrook
Assistant Priest	Revd Philip Charlesworth (to November 2025)
Assistant Priest	Revd Val Hooker
Churchwardens	David Osborne Sue Beevor (from May 2025)

### Elected members:

Dan Gentle - Lay Chair of PCC  
Sue Beevor (to May 2025)  
Paul Beverley (to May 2025)  
Sue Charnock (to May 2025)  
Ann Coker  
Sue Elmes  
Julie Horrobin (from May 2025 to September 2025)  
David Howard  
Tim Larkman  
Granville Routledge - Treasurer  
Rachel Seabrook (from May 2025) - PCC Secretary

### Co-opted members:

Rachel Seabrook (to January 2025)

### Representatives on the Deanery Synod

Stella Noons  
Deidre Porter  
Alex Durrant

### Trinity Church Observer

John Morgan (to November 2025)  
Peter Thacker (from November 2025)

### Attending for specific items

Ben Knights (Ecology Adviser)  
Paul Scarff (Fabric Officer)  
Sue Charnock (from May 2025 as an observer plus links to St Peter's Ringland)

### Standing committee (SC) 2025

- the Incumbent: Revd Paul Seabrook
- Churchwardens: David Osborne, Sue Beevor (from May 2025)
- Treasurer: Granville Routledge
- PCC Lay Chair: Dan Gentle
- PCC Secretary: Rachel Seabrook

Note, other people may be invited to attend SC meetings to provide expertise so issues under consideration can be addressed in a timely manner.

## Agenda

### St. Edmund's Taverham 2026 Parishioners' meeting to be held Monday 18<sup>th</sup> May 2026 7pm in St. Edmund's Church

1. Prayer and Welcome
2. Apologies for absence
3. Minutes of the previous meeting (held in 2025, see below)
4. Election of Churchwardens

### Minutes of the 2025 Parishioners' Meeting of St. Edmund's Taverham

The 2024 Vestry meeting was held on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> May 2025 at 7.00 pm in St. Edmund's Church Taverham

#### Prayer and welcome

Revd. Paul Seabrook read from Psalm 145 "One generation shall hand your works to another", asking that we will faithfully harvest for the generation to come.

He thanked everyone for attending and opened the meeting with prayer.

#### Apologies for absence

Jill and Peter Duffield, Dan and Pat Gentle, Maggie Goodchild, Julie and Tim Horrobin, Valerie and Roger Morriss, Deidre Porter, Pat Routledge

#### Present

Revd. Paul Seabrook, Rachel Seabrook, Sue Beevor, Revd Phil Charlesworth, Sue Charnock, Ann Coker, Keith Denny, Alex Durrant, Sue Elmes, Revd Val Hooker, Gwendolyn Horn, David Howard, David and Linda Johnson, Tim Larkman, Catherine Marchionne, Molly Mason, Margaret Miller, Stella Noons, David and Revd Gill Osborne, Granville Routledge, David and Ann Scarff, Paul Scarff, Anne Taylor.

#### Previous meeting minutes

The minutes of the 2024 Vestry Meeting were approved as being correct.

#### Election of churchwardens

There were two nominations –

- Sue Beevor nominated by Linda Johnson and Jane Dryden
- David Osborne nominated by Linda Johnson and Jane Dryden

They were elected and Revd Paul thanked them for their willingness to stand.

David Osborne thanked David Howard for his work as Deputy Warden.

The meeting closed at 7.20 pm

## Agenda

### St. Edmund's Taverham 2026 Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM)

The 2026 APCM to be held on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> May 2026 at 7.30pm in St. Edmund's Church Taverham

1. Apologies for absence
2. Minutes of previous meeting 2025—see pages 6 and 7
3. Matters arising from 2025 APCM
4. Update from 2026 Parishioners' meeting (if held on different date to APCM)
5. Rector's Report and Vision—see pages 8 to 10
6. Finance / Treasurer's Report—starts on page 10
7. Reports—see page 18 onwards
  - 7.1 confirm current Electoral Roll figures—see page 19
  - 7.2 answer any questions raised on the Annual Report for 2025 (this document)
8. Elections to Deanery Synod (*for 2026 to 2029*)
9. Election to PCC

### Minutes of St. Edmund's Taverham 2025 Annual Parochial Church Meeting (2025 APCM)

The 2025 APCM was held on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> May 2025 at 7.30pm in St. Edmund's Taverham

#### Prayers and welcome

Revd Paul Seabrook thanked everyone for attending and opened the meeting with prayer.

**Apologies for absence** - Jill and Peter Duffield, Dan and Pat Gentle, Maggie Goodchild, Julie and Tim Horrobin, Valerie and Roger Morriss, Deidre Porter, Pat Routledge

**Present** - Revd. Paul Seabrook, Rachel Seabrook, Sue Beevor, Revd Phil Charlesworth, Sue Charnock, Ann Coker, Keith Denny, Alex Durrant, Sue Elmes, Maggie Goodchild, Revd Val Hooker, Gwendolyn Horn, David Howard, David and Linda Johnson, Tim Larkman, Catherine Marchionne, Molly Mason, Margaret Miller, Stella Noons, David and Revd Gill Osborne, Granville Routledge, David and Ann Scarff, Paul Scarff, Anne Taylor.

**Previous meeting** -See pages 6-7 of the Annual Report for 2024

The minutes of the APCM held on 20<sup>th</sup> May 2024 were approved as being a correct record.

**Matters Arising** - None

**Rector's Report** – See pages 8-10 of the Annual Report for 2024

Revd Paul thanked –

- Fran Scarff for the excellent and informative Annual Report;
- Dan Gentle for stepping in as the Electoral Roll Officer;
- Ann Coker as Safeguarding Officer in both St. Edmund's and St. Peter's;
- David Osborne for managing the grant applications for the Three Projects, the thatch and the east window having been completed and the organ work starting on 16<sup>th</sup> June.

*Minutes of 2025 APCM continue on page 7*

### **Rector's Report continues– Revd Paul thanked –**

- The Ministry Team, churchwardens and PCC and all who have worked hard to support the Parish and community.

Paul spoke of this special time when it feels that the Holy Spirit is at work in people's hearts opening them to God's love. People are looking to God for hope. He highlighted –

- The deepening of our worship;
- Times of silence and reflection;
- Prayer after the fourth Sunday service;
- Relaunch of Tiny Tunes and planned Holy Communion at the Mustard Tree service;
- Partnerships with other churches especially Ringland;
- The call to think bigger, a bigger vision of what God is calling us to be.

### **Finance/Treasurer's Report**

Revd Paul thanked Granville for his hard work and commitment.. We continue to pray for his successor.

There has been an incredible response to the Three Projects Fund but our income generally is a cause for concern.

### **Reports**

1, Following the 5 year revision of the Electoral Roll, it was confirmed as 109 people with 24 joining it and 17 who did not respond to the revision.

2, Questions on the Report – none.

### **Elections to Deanery Synod for 2023 to 2026**

Revd Paul explained that the appointments are to 2026 but we have one more space if anyone wishes to stand.

### **Elections to PCC**

Paul Beverley stands down after 6 years' service and he was thanked for his faithfulness.

There were 3 nominations for 5 spaces available –

- Julie Horrobin – nominated by Sue Beevor and David Scarff
- Granville Routledge – nominated by Sue Beevor and David Osborne
- Rachel Seabrook – nominated by David Scarff and Tim Larkman

They were duly elected.

The meeting closed at 7:45pm

After the meeting we had refreshments, followed by a talk.

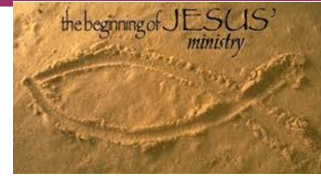
Paul Scarff gave an interesting presentation - complete with an old Singer sewing machine prop! - about the work of Tools with a Mission (TWAM). It was fascinating to hear about:

- the expansion of the repair/refurbishment work done at its main base in Ipswich and in Rugby
- the people helped by the charity, both in the UK and in Africa.

## Reports for 2025-2026

### Rector's Report

We always write these reports in the weeks leading to Holy Week and Easter. As we come to reflect again on Jesus' sacrifice for us, and the most testing as well as the most triumphant time of Jesus' complete faithfulness to us, these reports come in a time of ever increasing turmoil in the world. The Lord is so good to us, even if we are surrounded by confusion. Even when turmoil, the unexpected and the unknown becomes part of our daily lives. The Lord's love is steadfast.



In Isaiah 43 : 19 the Lord says, "I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?" Jesus Resurrection is the fulfilment of these words, overcoming the slavery of sin and the finality of death. Jesus has the victory through love. Through His sheer commitment to us. Through His incredible grace.

The Lord's words are echoed in Revelation 21 : 5, "Behold I am making all things new". Fulfilled in Jesus. Our Saviour. Our redeemer. Our hope and our Friend.

I believe in our life as the Christian church today we are seeing the Lord's words becoming reality. That Jesus is making all things new. Us as His believers are being made new. In the churches and gatherings where we meet and worship together. In our witness as the church across the world. All that burdens and is not fit for the Kingdom is being left behind. All that is not of sincere faith is becoming transparent. I believe prayer, Bible reading, witness are being rediscovered, often unselfconsciously, by the young.



In our life together in our churches and fellowships I believe we are experiencing this across our nation, and in our own communities, with deep undercurrents, and a move of the Holy Spirit.



For this past year we can give thanks for:

- children being welcomed to Holy Communion at Mustard Tree
- adults wanting to be baptised
- a deepening of our worship in all its forms
- a growing sense of the Lord's work and presence in the Care Homes
- an increasing number of people opening their lives to the Lord
- people turning to Christ and receiving Him as Saviour
- Confirmations
- children and young people acknowledging their faith in Jesus to their friends
- working together amongst the churches and with other Christians in our area.

*Rector's report continues on page 9*

*Rector's Report continued from page 8*

I am always so grateful to our wonderful team of Churchwardens, ministers, preachers, lay leaders, practical assistants, intercessors, gardeners, cleaners, live – streamers, musicians and all those who contribute in any way.



A huge thank you to David Osborne and Sue Beevor for all they do, especially taking on many of the difficult and unseen tasks that need to be done. And to Granville, Dan Gentle, and Rachel on Standing Committee, and then so many others. I want to thank you and congratulate you in all you do so faithfully and in service to the Lord.

Thank you so much to Revds Stella, Val, Phil and Gill and others in leading our worship week by week, and all those who contribute in so many ways.

2025 saw the Licensing of Frances Sanderson – Bates, who now joins Jane Dryden and Ben Fiaz as Licensed Lay Ministers. Many congratulations to Frances.

It has been so heart – warming to see the completion of our three building projects – the Chancel thatch, the east Window and the organ restoration. The completion of these projects so quickly has, in my view, been miraculous.



There has been sadness this year as always. We have marked the deaths of Janet Ransom, Brenda Aldred, Margaret and Brian Smith, Sondra Cummins, Dorothy Bruce and Janis Philips, all faithful to Christ in their own calling.

As we go forward, I believe we should be encouraged. I also believe we should hold each other up in prayer and encourage one another. There are some times when we might feel down - hearted. When numbers are small, or resources tight. There will always be challenges and discouragements. Yet these are the growing times, when we are called to trust in Jesus' faithfulness. When we look to His Cross and Resurrection, we know His love will never fail. To know that the Lord who has begun a good work will bring it to completion.

Thank you for your faith, your encouragement, and for persevering, especially when the ground is hard – going. I believe our witness today will lay foundations for generations to come.

With every blessing

*Revd Paul Seabrook Incumbent*

## **Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals**

In 2025 we held the Baptism of two adults and six children. We conducted five weddings and one wedding blessing.



There is now a marked change in the pattern of Baptisms, with very few families bringing their children for Baptism, and more adult baptisms than ever before. The majority of those families bringing children for Baptism are now regularly attending church, as are the adults asking to be baptised.

In 2025 we led eleven funerals in church, and three services at the Crematoria. We conducted seven internments of ashes, one funeral at another church, and one at the Norwich City Cemetery. For the first time we led a funeral at an alternative venue (Roundwood Bowls Club).

All these figures mark a huge change in the pattern of our funeral ministry compared to before Covid, when we regularly conducted sixty or more funerals each year, most of them at the Crematoria.

*Revd Paul Seabrook Incumbent*

## Our vision

I would like to offer these suggested pointers towards discerning the Lord's vision for our churches. These are, I believe, all features that have emerged during the past year.

- To sustain faithful witness, including visiting
- To encourage one another in a time of transition
- To persevere in our faith, our prayer and our witness
- To 'look' and 'see' the new things the Lord is doing
- To be faithful in 'Sowing and Growing'
- To be welcoming, accepting and affirming of all
- To hear the testimonies of those who are new to faith in Jesus
- To pray and work towards deepening our worship, our passion for the Bible, and grow in our times of prayer
- To grow as a church in the Fruit of the Spirit.



*Revd Paul Seabrook Incumbent*

## Treasurer's report for 2025

The main purpose of Taverham PCC and St Edmund's Church is to proclaim the Good News of Jesus and the role of finance is to support and facilitate this objective.



The Accounts for 2025 include substantial donations and grants towards the Three Projects started in 2023. We acknowledge those with grateful thanks and praise to God who supplies all our needs.

During 2025 the East Window and the Church Organ were repaired and restored.

The 2025 Accounts include the remaining donations and payments relating to the completion of the repairs mentioned above. Here, then, is a simplified table showing the impact of the Three Projects on the PCC finances

January to December 2025		
<b>Total Income</b>	157,371.67	
<b>Less Three Projects donations and grants</b>	(59,474.00)	
<b>Net Income</b>	97,897.67	97,897.67
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	196,943.29	
<b>Less Three Projects payments</b>	(95,704.29)	
<b>Net Expenditure</b>	101,239.00	101,239.00
<b>Net increase of income or loss of reserves</b>	(3,341.33)	(3,341.33)

*Treasurer's report continues on page 11*

*Treasurer's report for 2025 continued from page 10*

Although we spent £3,341 more than our income, it would have been much worse if we had not drawn down a further £3000 from the CCLA Deposit Fund, and used the £3,814 of reserves held in Barclays. So in effect we over spent by over six thousand pounds.

A brighter spot was that our General Project Fund benefited from a surplus of £4,841 from the Three Projects Fund VAT reclaim.

The main reason for another year of losses is the increase in Parish share of £2,000 pa, and a broadly static giving profile, as well as costs such as electricity, broadband, water and Charitable Giving were also higher. Looking into 2026 it will probably see a reduction in giving as people die or stop giving and new church members are not encouraged to give Biblically.

We did receive almost £1800 in interest in 2025, but that will decline as rates move down and if we continue to see similar levels of reserve reduction we will inevitably see those reserves disappear altogether.

At the current rate of decline we have around four years before reserves are gone.

The following Pie Charts (see pages 13 and 14) show the main sources of income and expenditure.

As I will be 80 on 3 June 2027 (DV) I am not willing, nor think it right to go beyond that date as Treasurer. Ideally an "Apprentice" needs to go through at least a year with my guidance before taking full responsibility for the Accounts. Please pray one in!

*Granville Routledge, Treasurer*

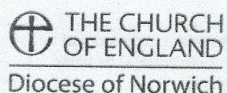
February 2026

The detailed finance information is provided as follows:

- Independent Examiner's Report see page 12
- Income and expenditure charts see pages 13 and 14
- Statement of Assets and Liabilities (by fund) see page 15
- Analysis of Income and Expenditure see pages 16 and 17



# Independent Examiner's Report



## Independent Examiners Certificate

Report to the trustees/ members of:	TAVERHAM PCC
On accounts for the year ended:	31 DECEMBER 2025
Charity no (if any):	1185420

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/12/25.

### Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

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

### Independent examiner's statement

[The charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of [ ]]. Delete [ ] if not applicable.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination (other than that disclosed below\*) which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

\* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.

Signed:		Date:	21/2/26
Name:	CHRISTOPHER GUMS		

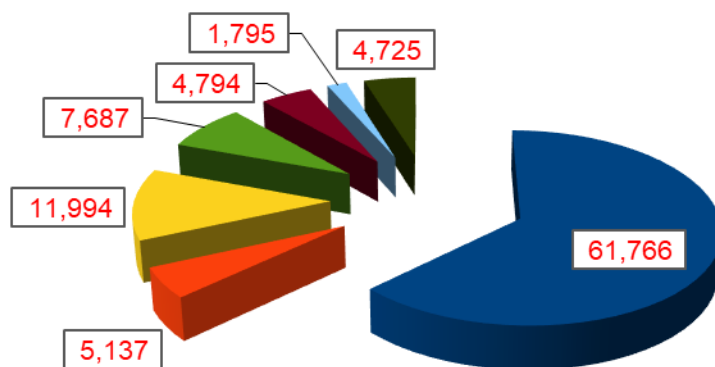
# Finance table 1: Income charts for 2025

## Income in pounds

Standing order & deposits	61,766
Cash	5,137
Gift Aid	11,994
Fees	7,687
General donations	4,794
Interest	1,795
Fayres and Other income	4,725
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>97,898</b>

### Income of £97,898

- Standing order & deposits
- Cash
- Gift Aid
- Fees
- General donations
- Interest
- Fayres and Other income



## Finance table 2: Expenditure charts for 2025

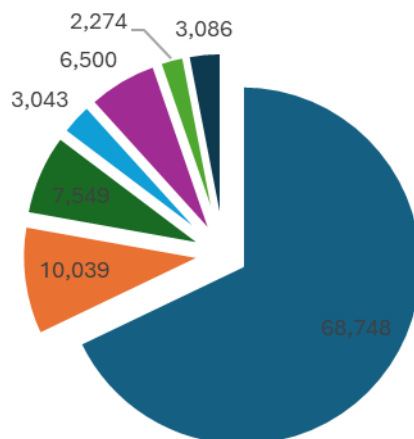
### Expenditure in pounds

Parish Share	68,748
Clergy Salaries & Expenses	10,039
Utilities	7,549
Church Services	3,043
Charitable Giving	6,500
Church & Churchyard Maintenance	2,274
Sundry other costs*	3,086
<b>Total</b>	<b>101,239</b>

\*Includes £1181 Photocopies and lease

### Expenditure of £101,239

- Parish Share
- Clergy Salaries & Expenses
- Utilities
- Church Services
- Charitable Giving
- Church & Churchyard Maintenance
- Sundry other costs\*



## Finance table 3: Statement of Assets and Liabilities (by fund)

<b>Taverham PCC</b>				
<b>Statement of Assets and Liabilities (by fund)</b>				
<b>As at: 31 December 2025</b>				
			<b>Balance</b>	<b>Previous balance</b>
<hr/>				
<b>Cash At Bank And In Hand</b>				
<b>2000: Current Account</b>				
Bibles for Junior School	Designated		911.65	1.65
Deposit Fund	Designated		-	3,814.33
Growing in Faith Bursary Fund	Restricted		369.00	369.00
Outreach Fund (Donation Of £5k)	Designated		4,920.05	4,920.05
General Projects	Designated		8,685.18	7,692.32
RSpace	Designated		75.75	75.75
St.Edmunds Training	Designated		794.35	794.35
Charitable Giving Fund (10% Of Ordinary Giving)	Designated		109.00	-
Three Project Fund 2023	Designated		4,840.90	11,709.30
Verger Fund	Designated		630.70	857.34
Youthworker Fund	Designated		7,785.38	7,785.38
General fund	Unrestricted		2,298.27	1,767.98
Agency collection	Restricted		3,476.05	2,986.05
			<b>34,896.28</b>	<b>42,773.50</b>
<hr/>				
<b>2040: Deposit Fund</b>				
Deposit Fund	Designated		20,834.12	22,038.52
Three Project Fund 2023	Designated		-	30,000.00
			<b>20,834.12</b>	<b>52,038.52</b>
			<hr/>	<hr/>
		<b>Cash At Bank And In Hand</b>	<b>55,730.40</b>	<b>94,812.02</b>
<hr/>				
<b>Agency Accounts</b>				
<b>6699: Agency collections</b>				
Agency collection	Restricted		3,476.05	2,986.05
			<b>3,476.05</b>	<b>2,986.05</b>
			<hr/>	<hr/>
		<b>Agency Accounts</b>	<b>3,476.05</b>	<b>2,986.05</b>
			<hr/>	<hr/>
		<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>52,254.35</b>	<b>91,825.97</b>

(3 January 2026 12:50 pm) Page 1 of 1

# Analysis of Income and Expenditure - page 1

**Taverham PCC**  
**Analysis of income and expenditure**  
**Selected period: 01 January 2025 to 31 December 2025**

	General	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	Total	
					This year	Last year
<b>Income and endowments from:</b>						
<b>Donations and legacies</b>						
0102 - Standing Order Giving - Gift Aid	38,245.00	-	-	-	38,245.00	37,564.99
0103 - Envelope Giving - planned and Gift Aid	910.00	-	-	-	910.00	900.00
0104 - Envelope giving - Gift Aid - Occasional	-	-	-	-	-	(30.00)
0110 - Envelope Giving non Gift Aid	100.00	-	-	-	100.00	-
0121 - Loose Cash Offering - All Services	5,036.98	-	-	-	5,036.98	4,582.19
0123 - Giving direct to Barclays Bank -non Gift Aid	1,768.00	-	-	-	1,768.00	3,946.87
0125 - EasyFund Raising	29.59	-	-	-	29.59	64.58
0126 - Just Giving donations No Gift Aid	873.50	-	-	-	873.50	29.75
0127 - Just Giving Donations - Gift Aid	-	-	-	-	-	24.74
0137 - Donations to Three Projects Fund 2023	-	46,795.00	-	-	46,795.00	44,864.87
0140 - Donations - General	3,890.07	-	-	-	3,890.07	4,430.29
0141 - Donations - Weddings	367.00	-	-	-	367.00	-
0142 - Donations - Funerals	195.00	-	-	-	195.00	50.00
0144 - Junior School Bible Donations	-	660.00	-	-	660.00	55.00
0170 - Funds incoming from Heritage Fund	-	-	-	-	-	30,000.00
0700 - Organist Fees given from offerings	(60.00)	-	-	-	(60.00)	(300.00)
<b>Donations and legacies Totals</b>	<b>51,355.14</b>	<b>47,455.00</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>98,810.14</b>	<b>126,183.28</b>
<b>Income from charitable activities</b>						
0143 - Donations - Baptisms	65.00	-	-	-	65.00	100.00
0300 - Fees - Wedding	1,669.00	-	-	-	1,669.00	760.00
0310 - Fees - Funerals in Church	3,179.00	-	-	-	3,179.00	1,810.00
0314 - Fees - Ashes	1,163.00	-	-	-	1,163.00	1,069.00
0320 - Fees - Funeral at Crematorium	395.00	-	-	-	395.00	1,067.00
0330 - Fees - Churchyard - Burial	15.00	-	-	-	15.00	349.00
0340 - Fees - Churchyard - Memorials	1,086.00	-	-	-	1,086.00	354.00
0350 - Fees - vergers	-	180.00	-	-	180.00	255.00
<b>Income from charitable activities Totals</b>	<b>7,572.00</b>	<b>180.00</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>7,752.00</b>	<b>5,764.00</b>
<b>Other trading activities</b>						
0147 - Christmas Fair	-	1,627.04	-	-	1,627.04	1,675.67
1161 - Church services inc. hospitality	26.00	26.00	-	-	52.00	-
<b>Other trading activities Totals</b>	<b>26.00</b>	<b>1,653.04</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,679.04</b>	<b>1,675.67</b>
<b>Other income</b>						
0101 - Standing Order - Non Gift Aid	15,931.00	-	-	-	15,931.00	16,095.00
0124 - Direct deposit to PCC Barclays Account - Gift Aided	3,973.50	-	-	-	3,973.50	5,370.00
0150 - Outreach contributions/income	275.00	-	-	-	275.00	182.00
0200 - Gift Aid Tax Refunds	11,993.84	-	-	-	11,993.84	17,082.02
0210 - VAT Refunds	-	12,679.00	-	-	12,679.00	-
0400 - Interest received	-	1,795.60	-	-	1,795.60	1,738.82
0600 - Churchyard Maintenance	534.11	-	-	-	534.11	-

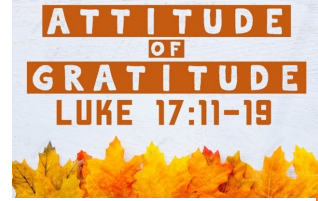
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## Analysis of Income and Expenditure—page 2

	General	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	Total	
					This year	Last year
0810 - May Fayre proceeds	1,948.44	-	-	-	1,948.44	2,459.32
<b>Other income Totals</b>	<b>34,655.89</b>	<b>14,474.60</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>49,130.49</b>	<b>42,927.16</b>
<b>Income and endowments Grand totals</b>	<b>93,609.03</b>	<b>63,762.64</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>157,371.67</b>	<b>176,550.11</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>						
<b>Raising funds</b>						
1410 - Fund Raising Expenses	-	-	-	-	-	525.80
<b>Raising funds Totals</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>525.80</b>
<b>Expenditure on charitable activities</b>						
1000 - Parish Share	68,748.00	-	-	-	68,748.00	66,702.84
1010 - Clergy Expenses - Rectors	444.09	-	-	-	444.09	262.87
1011 - Clergy Expenses - Non Stipendiary- Phil Charlesworth	638.88	-	-	-	638.88	842.65
1012 - Clergy Expenses - Non Stipendiary - Val Hooker	241.00	-	-	-	241.00	491.85
1015 - Clergy Expenses Stella Green	-	-	-	-	-	25.39
1025 - Verger's Fund Expenditure	-	406.64	-	-	406.64	-
1100 - Electricity	3,534.20	-	-	-	3,534.20	2,966.71
1101 - Water	340.50	-	-	-	340.50	307.11
1102 - Insurance	2,935.52	-	-	-	2,935.52	2,881.79
1110 - Church Maintenance	394.11	96,223.40	-	-	96,617.51	41,834.13
1120 - Churchyard Maintenance	521.25	-	-	-	521.25	432.17
1125 - Bins	579.76	-	-	-	579.76	449.76
1130 - Photocopier - Lease	513.19	-	-	-	513.19	480.00
1131 - Photocopier - Copies	668.13	-	-	-	668.13	1,167.38
1140 - Printing & Stationery	31.00	-	-	-	31.00	81.36
1151 - Payroll and Accounts Software	180.00	-	-	-	180.00	180.00
1154 - Parish Evangelist Salary	8,308.63	-	-	-	8,308.63	8,106.36
1160 - Church Services - including hospitality	2,563.91	-	-	-	2,563.91	3,151.79
1162 - BT Broadband wifi	739.44	-	-	-	739.44	711.84
1200 - Outreach	480.00	-	-	-	480.00	170.52
1210 - Junior School Bibles	-	-	-	-	-	1,166.20
1300 - Children and Young People	938.46	-	-	-	938.46	591.67
1400 - Sundry expenses	175.00	-	-	-	175.00	130.00
1500 - Charitable Giving	-	6,500.00	-	-	6,500.00	5,600.00
1900 - Due Diligence fees	24.00	-	-	-	24.00	134.00
3100 - Audit Fee	35.00	-	-	-	35.00	-
<b>Expenditure on charitable activities Totals</b>	<b>93,034.07</b>	<b>103,130.04</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>196,164.11</b>	<b>138,868.39</b>
<b>Other expenditure</b>						
1115 - Projects and improvements	-	779.18	-	-	779.18	773.40
3520 - Training costs	-	-	-	-	-	205.65
<b>Other expenditure Totals</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>779.18</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>779.18</b>	<b>979.05</b>
<b>Expenditure Grand totals</b>	<b>93,034.07</b>	<b>103,909.22</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>196,943.29</b>	<b>140,373.24</b>

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## Churchwardens' Report for 2025



Once again 2025 has been a busy but successful year, with inevitable challenges, both immediate and for the future. But as always, they are met with our usual positive spirit, by congregation and ministry team alike.

Church attendance has remained good, with typically 85 people attending our regular Sunday services, higher numbers at times of festival or celebration, as well as joining our regular Livestream services. Mustard Tree Church remains popular with all ages, with some preparing to take Communion and Confirmation in 2026.

This and wider work in schools, care homes and home pastoral visiting is all made possible by the increasing number of people called to help. Thank you to them and to David Howard who assists us week in and week out.

2025 saw the licensing of Frances Sanderson - Bates as a Licensed Lay Minister, enabling a wider ministry in the community, as well as at other churches in the Deanery.



Our 'Three Projects' were completed, with the return of our cleaned and repaired Chancel East Window, followed by the renovated Holdich organ. Our thanks go to the skilled people that carried out this work, and for the generosity of the grant giving bodies and the friends and congregation of the church that made it possible.

(Note: the front cover shows pictures of the restored window and organ)



Like the Forth Bridge, there is always more to do. Much of this is achieved wherever possible by the dedicated work of our Fabric Officer and the Gardening team. However, vital safety work carried out by a tree surgeon was necessary to our two Trees of Heaven and five Yew trees in the churchyard. The deteriorating state of the access drive also became a priority. A Faculty was obtained in the summer, but this identified the need for local authority Planning Consent. This process was ongoing into the new year, with works finally anticipated to take place in May 2026.



Inside the church we are grateful to the flower arrangers and cleaning team for their hard work in maintaining the building in such an attractive condition.

Every year, we are required to check the state of the church's furniture and ornaments and can report all is well, with the exception of a silver communion wine flagon that requires repairs to its lid. This will be arranged once a suitable silversmith has been identified.

*Churchwarden report for 2025 continues on page 19*

*Churchwardens' Report for 2025 continued from page 18*

For the future, payment of the Parish Share is becoming a challenge. While St Edmunds is one of a small number of churches that in recent years has been able to pay it in full, this has only been possible by drawing on our diminishing reserves. We will not only need to recruit a new Treasurer on the retirement of Granville Routledge, who has given excellent service, but also investigate new ways of increasing our income.

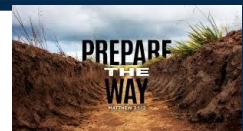


Also, the churchyard is almost full, with perhaps enough space for burials for the next 2-3 years. In anticipation of this, informal notice of impending closure will need to be sent to both Taverham Parish and Broadland District Councils, as they have legal responsibility for providing future burial grounds.

However, we know that God has been faithful to our worshipping community in the past and we can be sure that He has great things planned for us for the future.

*David Osborne and Sue Beevor* **Churchwardens**

## **Norwich North Deanery Synod Report 2025-6**



Meetings include a short worship, a speaker, updates and discussion, reports from Diocesan and General Synod.

- 29<sup>th</sup> May 2025 – Deanery Ascension Day Service at St Mary and St Margaret's, Sprowston
- 15<sup>th</sup> July 2025 – Visit to Diocesan House Departments and meeting Diocesan Secretary Tim Sweeting. Alex and Deidre enjoyed this opportunity.
- 16<sup>th</sup> October 2025 – Prophetic Inclusion at Horsford Church Room
- 5<sup>th</sup> February 2026 – Eco Church Roadshow with speakers Barbara Bryant and Ed Cotteril held at St Ed's. This was a very interesting evening and left us with the challenge of identifying one thing we each could do over the next year to improve our carbon footprint.

### **Meetings for 2026-27**

- 14<sup>th</sup> May 2026 – Ascension Day Service 7pm at St Mary and St Andrew Church Horsham St Faith. All are welcome.
- July 2026 – Visit to the Julian Shrine. Date tbc

NB St Ed's is entitled to 4 places on Deanery Synod and Stella has decided not to renew her place after many years of service including as Lay Secretary. We send her our grateful thanks for all her support as a very valued member. Deidre and Alex will continue and would welcome anyone else who would like to join us.

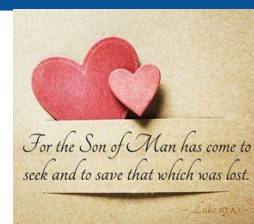
*Stella Noons, Deidre Porter, Alex Durrant* **St Ed's Lay Members**

## **St. Edmund's Electoral Roll Report March 2026**

Every six years our electoral roll is renewed—requiring everyone to reapply. This happened in 2025.

As of March 2026, the Nominal Roll has 109 members.

*Dan Gentle* **Electoral Roll Officer**



## Safeguarding Report



The PCC at St Edmund's Church continues to be committed to providing a safe environment for all who attend services and activities and to the support of victims of abuse.

PCC members and those leading activities have up-to-date DBS checks and have completed the relevant safeguarding training which is required.

Promoting a Safer Church, The House of Bishops Safeguarding Policy was re-adopted by the PCC on 8<sup>th</sup> September 2025 and is prominently displayed on our church noticeboard together with guidance in the event of a safeguarding concern. Safeguarding contact details for the Diocese are on the board and also on the newsheet each week.

There is a safeguarding report at every PCC meeting and we are using the Dashboard, an on-line tool, to guide our safeguarding planning and ensure it is up-to-date.

We have been without a Parish Safeguarding Officer since May 2025 and it is of vital importance that we appoint someone to this role as soon as possible. The person appointed will have the support of a Safeguarding Team who were approved by the PCC in June 2024. Please consider carefully if that person could be you.

The team is not aware of any safeguarding concerns since the last APCM but it is the responsibility of all members of St Edmund's church to remain vigilant and continue to ensure a safe environment. People must feel that if they raise a concern, it will be taken seriously and dealt with in a prompt and respectful manner.

### Parish Safeguarding Team

## Contemplative/Prayer Stream



Lots of prayer is happening at St Ed's and we are seeking more ways in which to pray and to encourage people to pray. Primarily prayer is about relationship with the Lord and we try to create space for people to grow in this.

On Sundays, aside from our times of intercession there are often opportunities for times of quiet reflection before and/or during the service where there is a chance to silently come before the Lord in a posture of openness and love.

There is also prayer after many of the 11.15 services for people to come and in a quiet and gentle way receive prayer for the things that are on their hearts and minds.

Mondays are our 5pm times of joining with one another to pray for our church and the world. We would love to see more people come to this as it is so vital for the life of our church.

Our Thursday evening times of Compline are really special as we gather together at 7pm to pray together to hear and dwell on the words of scripture. We also spend some time sharing our faith journey together. These are truly precious times and again we would love to see more people come along.

On Holy Saturday this year we will be having a time for people to come to church and spend as long as they would like to reflecting on the theme of waiting before and with God as we await the celebration of the resurrection of Jesus.

Please join us!

*Rachel Seabrook*

## Bible Groups and Home Groups



It is wonderful that people want to get together to study scripture. Many topics have been covered this year in the various groups.

I want to thank all those who lead Bible studies and home groups at St Ed's, and everyone who contributes in this way.

Not only are they are opportunity to study and pray together but are also a great source of encouragement to our faith as we encourage one another and build deeper friendships.

The groups meet on various days and at various times so hopefully there is a group for everyone who would like to be part of one. If you are interested in joining a group please ask.

*Revd Paul Seabrook*

## Livestreaming report

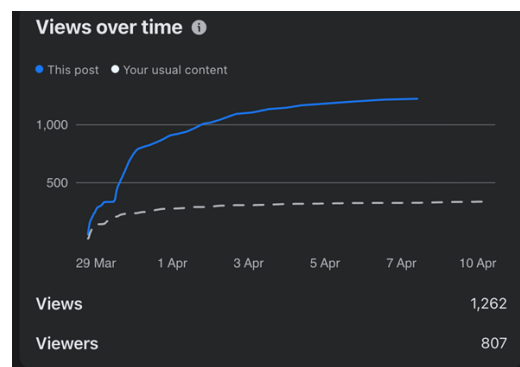


Writing this it has just occurred to me that we have just gone through the sixth anniversary of Livestreaming services for St Edmunds, the image below is one of a very early one, with The Rev Paul, Rachel and myself, in the corner of a field near the Marriotts way in the pouring rain.



Whilst during this past year we have now reduced down the number of services to 2 or 3 per month, it is still very much part of the Christian Ministry of St Edmunds. Not everyone is able to get to a church on a Sunday morning through health, work or family commitments so being able to watch a service from your local church led by people local to you is a vital part of the church's work. We do also have a following from outside our own parish area with viewers in different parts of the UK and also overseas. Over 70% of our viewers fall into the age range of 45 to 54 years, and a 20 / 80% split between male and female.

Due to changes that Facebook have made in the past year, uploaded Livestream Videos only remain on the site for a 30 day period now. So compiling data over a longer time frame is now no longer possible, so it tends to be more on a service by service basis. The screenshot on the right gives a typical interaction that a service has.



It just remains to say on behalf of all who engage with our Livestreams thank you to Rachel, Nick, Andy, Steve, Nathaniel, Kerry, Jacob, Tim and Abe for ensuring that we can still take part in Christian worship, where ever we may be

*Graham Harris* on behalf of the Livestream Team

## Outreach and Wider Community

We make every effort to ensure both our church buildings, St Edmund's and St Peter's, are open each day for anyone that would like to come inside. This is more than a routine, but more a statement of who we are as Christians. We are here to welcome everyone, to be available for everyone, and to share our life, and Jesus' love, with everyone.

Our worshipping life is vital in our ministry and mission, both on Sundays and the times we gather on weekdays also. Yet we also make every effort and say 'yes' to every opportunity to bring the Good News of Jesus into our community.

A large part of our ministry midweek is visiting those who are more isolated or housebound. This includes bringing services of Holy communion into people's homes, which are very special times.

We also visit our Care Homes with monthly services and we are available at other times when needed. These include Two Acres, Sunnycroft, and now Taverham Grove.

Further afield, Revd Val is involved with the Day Centre, and we are also involved in leading regular assemblies at Nightingale and Ghost Hill (Rev Gill), and Taverham Junior School and Langley Pre - Prep and Prep (Rev Paul).

We also have a team who run Prayer Spaces in the Junior School on Thursday lunchtimes, where children choose to come along and engage with the Biblical themes and hear about Jesus at a level that suits them.

Sadly the Taverham and Drayton Foodbank closed at the end of 2025. This initiative was instigated by Sarah – Jane Douglas and Gerry Munday from the community support provided during Covid. It was a very effective and much appreciated safety - net for many people which we were pleased to support with donations and in other ways whenever we could.

We now support the Norwich foodbank (David Osborne is a Trustee), and we have a 'bin' in church for donations. We also have an 'emergency box' of food in church for anyone in urgent need.



We also seek to support our wider community in other ways. Our Tuesday mornings draws people from a wide spectrum of ages and circumstances. We have continued Rspace for a small number of teenagers who appreciate it.

Go and Do Likewise  
Luke 10:25-37



Once again, I have worked with Nightingale Infant & Nursery & Ghost Hill Infant & Nursery Schools, visiting each of them once a month during Collective Worship.

### Nightingale

Years 1 & 2 performed their Nativity Play at the Church. Parents came to watch.

At the end of March, the Reception Classes visited the Church for an Easter Story.

### Ghost Hill

December – I visited school to watch the Reception Classes nativity Play

We have very good contacts with both schools. It is easier for Nightingale to visit the Church because it is nearer and they have fewer children. It is a joy to visit the children in school, to sometimes be recognised by children in the street and to hear them talk about 'Our Church'.

*Revd Gill*

*Outreach and Wider Community continues on page 23*

Many other activities serve to support our community and bring people together, following the way Jesus brought people together and showed His love and compassion for them.

The walking group, the arts group, the May Fair, the Pancake Party, the Christmas fair, Plant Stall, Tiny Tunes are all ways we seek to meet with people and offer community.



May and Christmas Fairs have evolved over the years. Recently all crafts and musical entertainment has been provided by "locally grown" members of St Ed's.

*Sue Elmes*

We also seek to serve the wider, international community by supporting the work of Christian Aid, the Blythwood Shoebox Appeal, the Children's Society (through Christingle services), soup lunches and other appeals when needed.

During 2025, St Edmund's raised £965 for Christian Aid, with £257 towards the Christmas Appeal, £138 to the Myanmar Earthquake appeal, and £570 during Christian Aid Week,



Many thanks to all who organised activities and contributed!

*Paul Scarff*

All these activities help to remind us we are called to serve and minister to everyone as we have opportunity with the love of Jesus and as the Holy Spirit leads.

*Revd Paul Seabrook*

## Churches together

Our relationships with the other churches in our area remain strong and are developing.

Claire Gunn of The Way has taken on organising publicity for the Churches at Christmas and Easter in the Just Drayton and Taverham magazine.

Revd Phil continues to lead services at Trinity Church, Thorpe Marriott

The Good Friday service was held at Trinity and involved all of the churches.

We repeated the Churches Together stall at the Taverham Fair in July, with joint gazebos, some games and craft activities, to which each of the Churches contributed.

Rachel Ward from TEC church has now joined our team for Prayer Spaces, and also helped with our Year Group visits at Easter this year.

We continue to find opportunities to work together as we witness to our faith in Jesus Christ.

*Revd Paul Seabrook*



