

The Parochial Church Council
of the
Ecclesiastical Parish
of
St. Leonard's Lexden
Annual Report
and
Financial Statements
for the year ending 31st December 2025
Priest in Charge
Rev'd Matthew Simpkins (until July 2025)
Vacant (from August 2025)
Parish Office
St Leonard's Church,
Lexden Road,
Colchester,
CO3 4BL
Registered Charity number 1128302

Administrative information

The parish of St Leonard's, Lexden is part of the Diocese of Chelmsford, within the Church of England. The correspondence address is St Leonard's Church, Lexden Road, Colchester, CO3 4BL. The PCC is a body corporate (PCC Powers Measure 1956 and Church Representation Rules 2017 and 2020). The charity number is 1128302.

Aims and purposes

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) of St Leonard's, Lexden is responsible for promoting within the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church. The PCC is specifically responsible for the church building and the church hall and manages the day-to-day life of the buildings and congregation. The PCC employs a Parish Administrator. The parish serves a population of approximately 6,700 and is mainly residential with three care/nursing homes, four schools, and some retail outlets.

Objectives and activities

We put Jesus at the centre of everything that we do; we try to be a force for good in the world and we believe nothing is impossible with God. Our vision is to serve the community, to proclaim and teach the Gospel through worship and prayer and to be a welcoming and inclusive church where anyone and everyone can feel welcome and accepted. This PCC is committed to living out our faith, both corporately and individually, in ways which serve the local community practically and pastorally.

REVIEW OF THE YEAR

Mission and evangelism

St Leonard's strives to encourage every member to contribute to mission and evangelism. During 2025 congregation members were actively involved across Lexden and Colchester through their everyday lives as well as initiatives such as Colchester CMA Debt Centre (CCDC), Colchester Foodbank, St Cedd's Community Café, and school governance.

The PCC remains committed to supporting mission to young people in the parish. During 2025, Junior Church took place on alternate Sundays at Parish Eucharists, and All-Age Eucharists were usually held once a month. Young people were encouraged to take an active part in services. The serving team and choir welcomed young members. Messy Church remained very significant to St Leonard's outreach and was attended by an average of 35 children and 31 adults at each service. It was on average, therefore, the best attended regular act of worship during the year. Many of those attending Messy Church are not yet regular members of our other congregations and it continues to be an excellent bridge to our Baby & Toddler Group, schools work, and Brick Club. Our SLYC youth group continues to meet twice a term and allows our older children to take advantage of the opportunities we are providing to continue their involvement with the Church.

The Baby & Toddler group continued to flourish with approximately 30-40 babies and toddlers and their carers attending each week. The group remains popular with the community of Lexden and beyond, and is of substantial missional importance, attracting many people from beyond the church. This group held services at major festivals and continued to connect people with Messy Church, Junior Church, and baptism.

The clergy team remained engaged in three of the parish's schools through assemblies, visits, and carol services. Our very popular Brick Club continued on Tuesdays during school holidays and

remained an excellent way of encouraging the non-churched to spend time in our buildings and among our community.

Friendship Lunch, a communal meal intended to help the isolated and to build relationships, took place in church during the year and was increasingly attended by people from beyond the congregation. We also run a monthly pop-up Café in Church which is well attended with the majority of attendees being non-Church goers.

Our buildings were used by local community groups for gatherings, rehearsals, concerts, carol services and other events in 2025. We hosted 5 regular groups, which formed a key aspect of our community engagement. St Leonard's offered active support to the neighbouring Parish of Shrub End in continuing the St Cedd's Community Café – a community hub which meets twice a month.

Our much-loved Summer Fayre was enjoyed by many people from across Colchester, as was our Christmas Market; both of these events contributed to PCC funds. Our Remembrance Day service and Act of Remembrance was well attended by the community, though there was no representation from Colchester Garrison. The City Council were represented by Roger Buston who laid a wreath. Men's and Women's breakfasts continued to attract people from the congregation and beyond. St Leonard's continued to reach out using social media, primarily Facebook, with the main Sunday service being live-streamed.

Other charitable service to the wider community involved church members in, and fundraising for, charities including Colchester Food Bank, Colchester CMA Debt Centre, Christian Aid, OMF international, Colchester YES, CYO, Colchester Refugee Action, English for Women, the Next Chapter, the Children's Society, The Sheepfold Centre (ABCD), Essex Integration, Beacon House, Colchester Korban Project, Operation Christmas Child, MacMillan Cancer Care, the Royal Marsden Hospital, St Helena Hospice and the New Hythe. The PCC aims to give a proportion of its income to charities. £6,400 was directly donated by the PCC, while other fundraising for external charities raised approximately £4,650.

Worship and prayer

Our pattern of worship is shaped by the Priest in Charge in consultation with the PCC. We are committed to enabling worship which resources those who share in it to live lives of faithfulness and service, is welcoming and attractive to newcomers, and helps to make God known to those on the fringes of faith. We strive to offer a variety of inclusive, thoughtful and high-quality services. The music group continued alongside the choir at our All-Age Services until July and proved a valuable way of engaging children in our worship.

St Leonard's worship centres on the Eucharist, and we aim to provide engaging and relevant preaching and maintain a living tradition of choral music. In 2025 this continued to draw people from beyond the parish. Our main act of worship each Sunday was either the Parish Eucharist or an All-Age Eucharist (usually on the first Sunday of the month), with 8am Book of Common Prayer Holy Communion twice a month, and Evensong and a Eucharist for Wholeness and Healing held once a month. Eucharists also held at 10am on Wednesday, and at 8am on Thursday.

Our average Sunday attendance was 68 adults with 5 children and young people. This does not take into account the number joining us online. By the end of 2025, usually 2 or 3 people would watch the service live online, with many more being engaged after the service. During 2025 there were 11 baptisms, and 1 confirmation. 17 funerals were conducted either in church or at local crematoria. The provision of baptisms, weddings and funerals for the parish and community remains a critical aspect of the parish's mission, with new relationships being established and nurtured. Many of those families who approach us for baptism are not yet regular members of our congregations and we are

delighted to be able to respond to their desire to bring new family members into the Church. We offer opportunity for further nurturing into the St Leonard's community through our many other activities and fresh expressions including Baby & Toddler Group, Messy Church, Brick Club, and our annual Commemoration of the Departed. Each month a team of lay people from St Leonard's helps to maintain worship at the Royal Anglian Regiment Chapel in Warley.

The Rev'd Viv Mendham, Rev'd Jacquie Messinger and the Rev'd Maggie Whiteman continued to serve as SSM Associate Priests. Retired priests with PTO, the Rev'd Canon Hugh Beavan and the Rev'd Canon Martin Wood, and LLMs with PTO Rosemary Elden and Phyll Wood, also contributed to St Leonard's ministry. St Leonard's ministry team continued to support ministry at All Saints Shrub End by presiding at both regular services and occasional offices during their vacancy.

Pastoral Care

Much pastoral care within our congregation is informal and mutual. Members of the Ministry team of Pastoral Visitors support a growing number of individuals in need or with mobility difficulties, and has been increasingly involved in offering home communion, and- with others- in visits and monthly services in our two local care homes. We continue to run our Friendship line to provide telephone pastoral care for the housebound.

Buildings

This year has presented a couple of ongoing challenges which has resulted in a faculty application to carry out the maintenance work on the roof of the main church body as highlighted in the Quinquennial report.

The underfloor heating in the annex has been attended to due to part of the system not working correctly, this has now been fixed and adjusted to assist in a more comfortable working temperature and more efficient use of fuel costs.

During the year an external leak on the guttering area of the Church Hall has been identified and quotes invited for repair.

There have been many smaller routines works carried out to the fabric and electrics and mandatory tests carried out.

Deanery Synod

Deanery Synod met three times during the year. St Leonard's was represented on Deanery Synod by three lay representatives.

A separate fuller report is to be made available.

Safeguarding

The care and protection of children, young people and adults involved in Church activities is the responsibility of everyone who participates in the life of the Church. At St Leonards we are committed to promoting a safer environment and culture and supporting all those who come into our church.

We ensure anyone who has a particular responsibility related to children and vulnerable adults are safely recruited and are supported in their role.

Safeguarding information including contact numbers are clearly displayed in the church and the church hall.

The annual review of the Parish safeguarding Policy has been completed, a copy of which is available in the Parish folders (held in church and the church hall). These folders also contain, the 'Promoting a Safer Church' booklet, the Parish Safeguarding Handbook, and we have added this year, Guidelines for the Safeguarding of Refugees. There are also copies of reporting forms available to all.

The Parish Safeguarding officer and Deputy ensure that all DBS checks are up to date, and support all those requiring training, to fulfil their role, in its completion. They also ensure all Confidential declarations are completed and stored in line with Data Protection.

Risk assessments have been reviewed and revised for all church activities involving children and vulnerable adult members, undertaken in the church and the Hall.

The Diocesan 'Safeguarding Dashboard' has been populated with all the parish information, and this demonstrates the parishes full compliance. As the above measures and ongoing practices and policies make clear, the PCC has complied with their duty under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure, to have regard to the House of Bishops' guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults,

<https://www.churchofengland.org/safeguarding/safeguarding-e-manual>

Financial review

The accounts this year show income of £146,867 compared to a higher £154,395 from last year. This decrease is partly due to an inflated figure in 2024 due to a delayed insurance settlement for the church floor. However, this was partly offset by grants and legacies. Claiming Gift Aid on donations continues to provide a significant income, in 2025 amounting to £17,687.

Expenditure for 2025 was £154,447 down from £195,763 in the previous year. The decreased expenditure was due to a reduction in maintenance costs, reduced utility bills and a reduction in Parish share.

Additional expenditure also included PCC donations to charities of £7800.

On 31 December 2025, the principal balances were £211,895 (excluding the £684,319 value of the church hall) and £176,248 in the restricted and endowment funds. This year the accounts show a deficit balance of £7580 which is significant reduction on previous years.

Structure, Governance and Management

PCC members are elected and appointed according to the Church Representation Rules 2017. All members of our congregations are encouraged to register on the electoral roll and to participate in the annual elections. As of 31st December 2025, there were 120 names on the Electoral Roll. PCC members are responsible for all matters of general concern and importance to the parish, including decisions about its finances. The PCC met six times in 2025. The PCC has a number of subcommittees (Standing Committee, Finance, Fabric and Hall, and Children and Young Peoples' Group) which report to the main Council for decisions and approval of major issues. The Priest in Charge and Churchwardens are ex-officio members of all committees.

During the year ending 31st December 2025 the following served on the Parochial Church Council:

Ex-Officio Members

Priest in Charge The Rev'd Matthew Simpkins (until July 2025)

Associate Priest The Rev'd Viv Mendham

Associate Priest The Rev'd Jacquie Messinger

Associate Priest The Rev'd Maggie Whiteman

Churchwardens David Watkins (until April 2025)

Michael Firth (from April 2025)

Nick Allston

Parish Safeguarding Officer Mrs Julie Hinchcliffe

Deputy Parish Safeguarding Officer Mrs Amanda Allston

Treasury Team Clare Cleverdon

David Burrows

Adrian Steward

Representatives to Deanery Synod

Mrs Maureen Watkins (until April 2025)

Mrs Julie Hinchcliffe

Mrs Linda Firth

Miss Deirdre Fordham

Elected members:

Judith Steele (Secretary)

Yvonne Romain

Deirdre Fordham

Alex Ramzan (from November 2025)

The Standing Committee members are: Priest in Charge, Churchwardens, PCC Treasurer and Secretary.

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST. LEONARD'S, LEXDEN

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

	Notes	General Fund	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	TOTAL FUNDS 2025 £	TOTAL FUNDS 2024
Incoming resources						
<i>Voluntary income</i>	2a	£114,556			£114,556	£105,964
<i>Activities for generating funds</i>	2b	£12,820			£12,820	£11,922
<i>Income from Investments</i>	2c	£16,967			£16,967	£13,249
<i>Church Activities</i>	2d	£2,524			£2,524	£4,305
<i>Other incoming resources</i>	2e					£18,955
Total incoming resources		<u>£146,867</u>			<u>£146,867</u>	<u>£154,395</u>
Resources expended						
<i>Costs of generating voluntary income</i>	3a	£298			£298	£160
<i>Fund raising trading costs</i>	3b	£7,293			£7,293	£10,903
<i>Church Activities</i>	3c	£143,162	£2,805		£145,967	£183,686
<i>Governance costs</i>		£889			£889	£1,014
Total resources expended		<u>£151,642</u>	<u>£2,805</u>		<u>£154,447</u>	<u>£195,763</u>
Net incoming/(outgoing) resources						
Revaluation gains/losses on investments		-£4,775	-£2,805		-£7,580	-£41,368
Net movement in funds		<u>-£9,596</u>	<u>-£2,805</u>		<u>-£12,401</u>	<u>-£38,426</u>
<i>Transfers between funds</i>	8					
Net movement in funds		<u>-£9,596</u>	<u>-£2,805</u>		<u>-£12,401</u>	<u>-£38,426</u>
Total funds brought forward at 1 January 2025		£905,810	£168,762	£10,292	£1,084,863	£1,123,289
Total funds carried forward at 31 December 2025		<u>£896,214</u>	<u>£165,957</u>	<u>£10,292</u>	<u>£1,072,462</u>	<u>£1,084,863</u>

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST. LEONARD'S, LEXDEN

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2025

	Notes	2025	2024
		£	£
Fixed assets			
Tangible fixed assets	5	£684,319	£684,319
Investments	6	£115,781	£120,603
Total fixed assets		<u>£800,100</u>	£804,922
Current assets			
6510	CCLA Fabric Endowment		
6511	CCLA Fabric Rest		
6512	CCLA General		
6513	NS&I Papillon Trust		
6515	Shawbrook		
6516	United Trust 1 yr bond	£35,222	£82,168
6517	Cambridge & Counties	£35,843	£85,843
6518	Monmouthshire BS	£84,799	£21,309
6519	Redwood Bank	£33,698	£80,932
6520	United Trust Bank A/C 10041458 Eas	£52,697	
Short term deposits		£242,259	£270,252
Debtors (Accounts Receivable)			£72
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>£39,699</u>	£15,480
		£281,958	£285,804
Liabilities			
Agency collections		£312	£574
Accounts payable		£9,284	£5,288
Total Liabilities		<u>£9,596</u>	£5,862
Total assets		£1,072,462	£1,084,863
Parish Funds			
Endowment funds	7		
	8	£10,292	£10,292
Restricted funds	8	£165,957	£168,762
Unrestricted funds	8	£896,214	£905,810
		<u>£1,072,462</u>	£1,084,863

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 12th May 2026 and signed on its behalf by

Nicholas Allston, Chair, PCC


Nicholas Allston
 Chairman



Nicholas Allston and Michael Firth
 Treasurer



The accompanying notes form a part of these financial statements.

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST. LEONARD'S, LEXDEN

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

1. Accounting policies

a Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 together with applicable accounting standards and the Charities SORP 2005.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention as modified by the inclusion of investments at market value and the revaluation of fixed assets. The financial statements include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible in law. They do not include the accounts of church groups that owe their affiliation to another body, nor those which are informal gatherings of church members.

b Parish funds

Unrestricted funds are general funds which can be used for PCC ordinary purposes

Designated funds represent monies set aside by the PCC out of unrestricted funds for specific future purposes or projects.

Restricted funds represent (a) income from trusts or endowments which may be expended only on those restricted objects provided in the terms of the trust or bequest, and (b) donations or grants received for a specific object or invited by the PCC for a specific object. The funds may only be expended on the specific object for which they were given. Any balance remaining unspent at the end of the year is carried forward as a balance on that fund.

Endowment funds are funds the capital of which must be maintained; only income arising from the investment of the endowment may be used, either as restricted or unrestricted funds, depending on the purpose set out in the terms of the original endowment.

c Incoming resources

Planned giving, collections and donations are recognised when received. Tax refunds are recognised when the incoming resource to which they relate is received. Grants and legacies are accounted for when the PCC is legally entitled to the amounts due. Dividends are accounted for when receivable, interest is accrued. All other income is recognised when receivable. All incoming resources are accounted for gross.

d Resources expended

Grants and donations are accounted for when paid over, or when awarded, if that award creates a binding or constructive obligation to the PCC. The diocesan parish share is accounted for when due. All other expenditure is generally recognised when it is incurred and is accounted for gross.

e Fixed assets

Consecrated and beneficed property of any kind is excluded from the accounts by s.96(2) of the Charities Act 1993.

Movable church furnishing held by the Rector and Churchwardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal, are accounted as inalienable property unless consecrated. They are listed in the church's inventory which can be inspected. For inalienable property acquired prior to 2003 there is insufficient cost information available and therefore such assets are not valued in the accounts. Subsequently all expenditure on consecrated or beneficed buildings and individual items costing under £1,000 are written off in the year in which they were incurred.

Investments are stated at market value at the balance sheet date.

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST. LEONARD'S, LEXDEN

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

2 Income & Endowments

	General Fund	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	FUNDS 2025	FUNDS 2024
a Voluntary income					
Planned giving	£82,538			£82,538	£80,088
Collections at all services	£4,247			£4,247	£3,077
Sundry donations and appeals giving through church boxes	£1,489			£1,489	£2,074
Grants					
Stewardship Cheques					
Other funds generated	£2,094			£2,094	£2,604
Income Tax recovered	£17,687			£17,687	£13,705
Legacies	£5,001			£5,001	£0
Non-recurring one-off grants	£1,500			£1,500	£4,416
	<u>£114,556</u>			<u>£114,556</u>	£105,964
b Activities for generating funds					
Church Hall and Church rooms lettings	£6,363			£6,363	£7,584
Fundraising events	£6,457			£6,457	£4,338
Fundraising other					
	<u>£12,820</u>			<u>£12,820</u>	£11,922
c Investment income					
Dividends and Interest	£16,967			£16,967	£13,249
	<u>£16,967</u>			<u>£16,967</u>	£13,249
d Income from Church activities					
Wedding and funerals fees	£1,223			£1,223	£3,024
Refunds					
Parish magazine (adverts)	£140			£140	
Parish magazine (sales)	£187			£187	£236
Toddler Group	£974			£974	£1,045
	<u>£2,524</u>			<u>£2,524</u>	£4,305
e Other incoming resources					
Insurance claims					£18,955
Refunds					
Parish magazine (adverts)					
					<u>£18,955</u>
Total income & Endowments	<u>£146,867</u>			<u>£146,867</u>	<u>£154,395</u>

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST. LEONARD'S, LEXDEN

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

3 Resources expended

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	TOTAL FUNDS 2025 £	Total funds 2024 £
a Costs of generating voluntary income					
Fees paid to fund raisers	£298			£298	£160
Stewardship costs					
Investment management costs					
	<u>£298</u>			<u>£298</u>	£160
b Fund raising trading costs					
Church Hall running costs	£6,931			£6,931	£10,735
Fund raising events:	£362			£362	£168
Hall running - electricity	£4,707			£4,707	£6,630
Hall running - insurance					
Hall running - maintenance	£1,382			£1,382	£3,380
Hall running - telephone	£841			£841	£726
	<u>£7,293</u>			<u>£7,293</u>	£10,903
c Church activities					
Missionary and charitable giving:					
Overseas:					
Church Overseas					
Relief & Development agencies					
Home:					
Home missions					
Secular charities	£180			£180	£180
Colchester CMA Debt Centre (CAP)	£360			£360	£359
Charities	£7,880			£7,880	£9,070
	<u>£8,420</u>			<u>£8,420</u>	£9,609
Ministry Costs:					
Diocesan Parish contribution	£91,683			£91,683	£100,980
Other clergy costs					
Church running expenses and administration:					
Church fabric and maintenance	£30,639			£30,639	£33,284
	£6,877			£6,877	£12,453
Upkeep of services	£4,958			£4,958	£4,312
Training and Education					£253
Mission & Outreach	£284			£284	£266
Parish magazine & bookstall					
Junior Church and Youth Ministry	£99			£99	£132
Toddler Group	£202			£202	£465
Church Major Repairs - Structural		£2,805		£2,805	£6,156
Church Major Repairs - Installation					
Church Major Repairs - Decorating					£78
Hall Major Repairs - Structural					
Church Interior and Exterior Decorating					
Church Hall Major Repairs - Installation					£15,698
Church Hall Major Repairs - Decoration					
New Build - Church kitchen					
Governance	£889			£889	£1,014
Total resources expended	<u>£151,642</u>	<u>£2,805</u>		<u>£154,447</u>	<u>£195,763</u>

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST. LEONARD'S, LEXDEN

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

4 Staff costs

2025	2024
£	£
<u>£16,974</u>	<u>£16,475</u>

During the year the PCC made payments to a choir director, organists, Church Hall cleaner and parish administrator; all part time. These amounts are included in the charge for "Church running and administration". See Note 3c on Page 9

5 Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold land and buildings	Total Fixed Assets
	£	£
Cost or valuation		
At 1 January 2025	<u>£684,319</u>	<u>£684,319</u>
At 31 December 2025	<u>£684,319</u>	<u>£684,319</u>
Depreciation		
At 1 January 2025	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
At 31 December 2025	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Net book amounts		
At 31 December 2025	<u>£684,319</u>	<u>£684,319</u>
At 31 December 2025	<u>£684,319</u>	<u>£684,319</u>

The freehold land and buildings comprise the parish hall in Lexden Road, Colchester. For accounting purposes the historical cost of this property is unknown and was valued in March 2007 for insurance purposes at £684,319. The property has now been included in the accounts in order to comply with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006.

6 Investments	CBF of C of E Investment Fund £	Sir Percy Sanders Trust £	Total Investments £
Market value 1 January 2025	£120,603		£120,603
Sale of shares			
Purchase of shares			
Gain (loss) on revaluation	-£4,821		-£4,821
Market value 31 December 2025	<u>£115,781</u>		<u>£115,781</u>

7 Parish Funds

Analysis of net assets by fund

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total funds 2025 £
Fixed assets for Church use	£684,319			£684,319
Investment fixed assets	£85,085	£20,404	£10,292	£115,781
Current assets	£126,810	£145,552		£272,362
Total funds 31 December 2025	<u>£896,214</u>	<u>£165,957</u>	<u>£10,292</u>	<u>£1,072,462</u>

7a Current Assets - Debtors

Total debtors (Accounts receivable)

7b Liabilities - Agency accounts

£312

7c Liabilities - Creditors (Accounts payable)

£9,284

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST. LEONARD'S, LEXDEN

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

8 Statement of funds

	Bal b/fwd 1 Jan 2025	Income	Expenditure	Other gains and losses	Bal c/fwd 31 Dec 2025
	£	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted Fund					
General Fund	£208,022	£139,660	-£143,330	-£4,821	£199,530
Designated funds					
Hall Building	£684,319				£684,319
Church Hall	£2,309	£5,906	-£8,109		£105
Choir Robes	£285				£285
Parish Magazine	£1,652	£327			£1,979
Toddler Group	£1,594	£974	-£202		£2,366
Former Lexden Sunday School	£7,631				£7,631
Restricted Fund					
Fabric Fund	£20,404				£20,404
ChurchWM - Bequest MB	£143,357		-£2,805		£140,552
Religious and other charities	£5,000				£5,000
Endowment Fund					
Fabric Endowment	£10,292				£10,292
Total funds	£1,084,863	£146,867	-£154,447	-£4,821	£1,072,462

The Restricted Funds e.g. the Fabric Fund, may only be expended on the specific object for which they are given.

The Endowment Fund is a permanent endowment which requires the income to be spent on the church fabric.

The Hall buildings have been separated from the General Fund to give a clearer indication of funds available for running the Parish.

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St. Leonard's, Lexden

Independent Examiner's Report to the Members of St Leonard's PCC Lexden

Year Ended 31st December 2025

We report on the financial statements for the year ended 31st December 2025.

Respective Responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an Independent examination is needed.

It is our responsibility to

- Examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- Follow procedures laid down in the general directions given by the Charity Commissioners section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- State whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiner's Report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the next statement.

Independent Examiner's Statement

In connection with my examination, no material matters have come to my attention which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 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.

We 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.

Peyton Tyler Mears

PEYTON TYLER MEARS
Chartered accountant
Middleborough House
16 Middleborough
Colchester
Essex CO1 1QT

7th May 2026