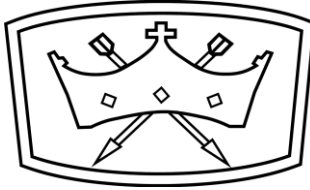


The Parish Church of
St. Edmund the King
Northwood Hills



**TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL**

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2025

INCUMBENT

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Annual Meeting of Parishioners 2026 – Agenda

1. Apologies for Absence
2. Approval of Minutes of 2025 Meeting of Parishioners
3. Election of Churchwardens for the year 2026 – 2027

Annual Parochial Church Meeting 2026 - Agenda

1. Approval of Minutes of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting held on Sunday 6th April 2025
2. Matters arising from those minutes
3. Notification of any other business
4. Vicar's report
5. Consideration of Statutory Reports:
 - Annual Report for the year ended 31st December 2025 including the revised Church Electoral Roll for 2025
 - Parish Accounts for the year ended 31st December 2025
 - Report upon the Fabric of the Church
 - Report of the proceedings of the Deanery Synod
6. Report from the Fundraising Committee
7. Election of representatives to the Parochial Church Council
8. Appointment of Sides People
9. Appointment of Independent Financial Examiner to the P.C.C.
10. Presentations from Parish organisations
11. Any other business
12. Closing Prayer followed by a brief PCC Meeting

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Parishioners

HELD IN THE CHURCH ON SUNDAY 6th APRIL 2025

Chair: Father Michael Miller

Present: 48

Apologies; Mark Hammond

Approval of Minutes of 2024 Annual Meeting of Parishioners

Proposed Sarah Parnaby, Seconded Elizabeth Wastell

Election of Churchwardens for the year 2025-2026

2 nominations

Steve Castle

Proposed Hilda Greenfield, Seconded Marjorie Pimm

Isaac Odeyemi

Proposed Andy Roberts, Seconded Amanda Roberts

Carried unanimously and duly elected

Meeting ended 11:04

Minutes of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting

HELD IN THE CHURCH ON SUNDAY 6TH APRIL 2025

Chair: Father Michael Miller

Present: 48

Apologies; Mark Hammond

1. Approval of Minutes of APCM held on Sunday 17th March 2024

Proposed Margaret Forsyth

Seconded Peter Heath

2. Matters arising from those minutes

None

3. Notification of any other business

None

4. Vicar's report

Father Michael gave a summary of Church activities over the past year and thanked everyone who had participated in the running of the Parish.

Of note:

- 2024 was our Diamond Jubilee - 60 years since our church was consecrated, some 30 years after worship began in what is now our Church Hall.
- We celebrated with a number of events; pilgrimage to Bury St Edmunds, our Patronal Festival Eucharist on the Sunday before St Edmund's Day with many guests including Canon Philip Banks our preacher, followed by a wonderful afternoon tea. On our actual anniversary we hosted the Church Choirs from all over the Harrow Deanery. Arrow Players hosted a successful Jubilee Quiz.
- We are grateful to Arrow Players for their support of St Edmund's both financially and practically.
- Our links with Community ConneX are stronger with them meeting in church once a month. Thanks to Marjorie Pimm for her enthusiastic involvement.
- Our Lent course was based on the musical The Greatest Showman which was enlightening and fun.
- Attendance at Sunday services was stable however a little fragile through the week and we haven't recovered back to pre-covid numbers.
- We said goodbye to Oscar and his mum as they returned to Lithuania. We also said goodbye to two friends who sadly died; Sylvia Swallow and Cliff Forsyth.

- Thanks to the people of St Edmund's for their support during the difficult time following my mother's death.
- Thanks also to everyone for what they have done and what they continue to do for St Edmund's.

5. **Consideration of Statutory Reports**

- Financial Report - Parish Accounts 2024
- Fabric Report
- Electoral Roll

These had previously been distributed electronically and in hard copy.

See below for a summary

Financial Report

These had previously been distributed electronically and in hard copy. James Mair gave a brief summary. No further comments or questions ensued.

Of note:

- No unusual expenditure surprises in 2024.
- The General Fund continues to increase, however, is relatively small.
- Overall financial position and resources continue to be very marginal.
- Our income is primarily underpinned by regular giving and Church Hall lettings.
- Raise the Roof shortfall was £120,000 at the end of 2024
- Thank you to Terry Diggins and Colin Kirby for their work as Stewardship Recorder and assisting the Treasurer on Sunday mornings, respectively.

Fabric Report

These had previously been distributed electronically and in hard copy. No comments or questions arose. Of note:

- The Hall and Lady Chapel pitched roofs continue to deteriorate with some rain water coming in.
- Annual inspections of central heating boilers was carried out with no issues found.
- Fire extinguishers will be serviced and emergency lighting tested later this month.
- No major works undertaken in 2024.
- Details of minor work carried out were presented.
- Thanks to everyone who has helped with maintenance particularly on the Gardening Day.
- Future projects continue to focus on addressing urgent items from the Quinquennial Inspection Report 2018.

Electoral Roll 2024

Electoral Roll report given by Electoral Roll Officer Anita Nicholas. The Electoral Roll was fully revised prior to this meeting and now stands at 85 people; 11 people have been entered who had not previously been on our roll.

No comments or questions arose from the respective reports.

6. Building & Fundraising Sub-committee Report

These had previously been distributed electronically and in hard copy. No comments or questions arose.

Of note:

- Appeal for 2 more members on the Fundraising Committee
- Appeal for a secretary for the Fundraising Committee

7. Election of Members to the PCC

There are three openings for three years each and one for one year;

Nominations for 3 years

Jade Chambers
Proposed Hilda Greenfield
Seconded Sarah Parnaby

Anita Nicholas
Proposed Connie Ambrose
Seconded Ann Hughes

Sizwe Jones
Proposed Carol Diggins
Seconded Marjorie Pimm

Nomination for 1 year

Marjorie Pimm
Proposed Steve Castle
Seconded Terry Diggins

As no further nominations, all were duly elected.

8. Appointment of Sides People

Margaret Forsyth, Colin Kirby, Carolyn Mount, Richard Mount, Marjorie Pimm and Mary Sewell were appointed as Sides People .

9. Appointment of an Independent Financial Examiner

Our current Independent Financial Examiner; Father David Green of Gowers Ltd stood down from this position after completing the Independent Examination of the 2024 Annual Accounts. An Independent Examiner for the 2025 Accounts and beyond will be sought by the PCC.

10. Reports for Parish Organisations

These had previously been distributed electronically and in hard copy.

No reports delivered in person, no further comments or questions ensued.

11. A.O.B.

None raised

12. Closing prayer led by Father Michael

Meeting closed 11:27

PCC of St Edmund the King, Northwood Hills

Trustees' Annual Report of the Parochial Church Council for the Year 2025

Aim and Purposes

St Edmund's Parochial Church Council (PCC) has the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent, the Rev'd Michael Miller, in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical, financial and practical tasks of being the parish church in this place. The PCC is also specifically responsible for the maintenance of the Church and Hall buildings and the grounds in which they are set.

Objectives and Activities

The Church of St Edmund the King, Northwood Hills, is a Christian community seeking to share the Good News of Jesus Christ in the diverse context of our parish and its surrounding areas.

First and foremost, we're a group of people committed to worship, and at the heart of our life here is our meeting with Jesus in Word and Sacrament. As we journey together, we aim to provide opportunities for growth and fellowship for people of all ages, and strive to reach out in love to the parish we serve.

Part of the Diocese of London, our Liturgy and devotional practice reflects the Anglo-Catholic tradition of the Church of England, whilst striving to offer a home to all who seek a deeper life with God in Christ Jesus.

Who we are.

The PCC is registered charity number 1169098 with the Charity Commission in England and Wales. Registration with the Charity Commission was completed in September 2016, the PCC having previously been exempted from registration. Members of the PCC are

either ex officio or are 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 The Rev'd Michael Miller

Churchwardens Steven Castle (*Vice Chair*)
Isaac Odeyemi

Representatives on Sarah Parnaby
Harrow Deanery Synod

Elected members up

up to the APCM 2025 Carol Diggins
Daniel Hansen
Mark Hammond
James Mair (Treasurer)
Anita Nicholas
Andrew Odeyemi
Marjorie Pimm
Indrani Prabhu
Amanda Roberts (PCC Secretary)

Elected members

after the APCM 2025 Jade Chambers
Carol Diggins
Mark Hammond
Sizwe Jones
James Mair (Treasurer)
Anita Nicholas
Marjorie Pimm
Indrani Prabhu
Amanda Roberts (PCC Secretary)

Sides People

We are grateful to the following Sides People who, elected at the 2025 APCM, have assisted in welcoming people to worship on Sundays and weekday festivals and who receive and assist in recording the offertory: Margaret Forsyth, Colin Kirby, Carolyn Mount, Richard Mount, Marjorie Pimm and Mary Sewell.

Recording our Membership

PCC membership is drawn from the church Electoral Roll, and all those on the roll are entitled to vote in the election to places on the PCC.

At the 2025 APCM there were 85 on the roll, compared with 91 the previous year. Average weekly attendance was 79 and average Sunday attendance was 55. During the year services were live streamed on our YouTube channel and received an average of 46 views, however, some services are regularly viewed at least 60 times.

PCC Meetings

In 2025 the PCC met on 7 occasions, including 2 Extraordinary meetings plus 1 Away Day with an average attendance of 8 for the meetings and 8 attending the Mission Action Plan Away Day at St Martin's Ruislip. The PCC receives reports from the Incumbent on pastoral matters, from the Treasurer on the accounts, from the Churchwardens on Fabric and from the Building & Fundraising Sub-Committee at each of its meetings. Safeguarding and Eco-Church are standing agenda items. In 2025 the Standing Committee met 4 times. The membership of this committee comprises the Incumbent, the Churchwardens, PCC Secretary and Treasurer. It transacts PCC business between meetings (subject to directions of the PCC) and draws up the PCC agenda.

The Year in Review

2025 began with many parishioners involved in Arrow Players' production of the St. Edmund's Pantomime, 'The Woman Who Lived In A Shoe', which raised funds for the church and provided wonderful family entertainment for the parish and beyond.

All-Age Eucharists continued on the first Sunday each month – these were well attended and provided a slightly shorter service with more contemporary music and hymns, colourful orders of service, a more visual address, different styles of prayer and were attended by the whole congregation including Sunday School.

The season of Lent began in March. Our Lent appeal raised funds for two charities, one, POPYRUS Prevention of Young Suicide, is a UK charity dedicated to the prevention of suicide and the promotion of positive mental health and emotional wellbeing in young people. The second being in support of the Diocese Lent Giving, ALMA (Angola London Mozambique Association) whose communities have suffered particularly as a result of the climate especially the cyclone and have committed to rebuild churches, priests' houses, schools, or accommodation for the elderly that were destroyed. Our Lent course, "Les Misérables - Another story must begin!" based on the movie Les Misérables and was well attended and included the showing of the film.

Our Sung Eucharist on Mothering Sunday was well attended by the regular congregation and members and families of the Brownies and Scouts.

The highpoint of the liturgical year was, as always, our celebration of Holy Week and Easter as we lived through the key events in the story of salvation. Our worship in Holy Week included the celebration of the Eucharist with an Address each day, by The Archdeacon of Northolt the Venerable Catherine Pickford. The Mass of the Lord's Supper followed by The Watch of the Passion on Maundy Thursday, Good Friday Meditation followed by the Good Friday Liturgy, The Easter Vigil on Holy Saturday and the Blessing of the Easter Garden and Sung Eucharist on Easter Day. These

were poignant and well-attended services culminating in a truly joyful celebration of the resurrection of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

In May we enjoyed St Edmund's Drama Group, Arrow Players' production of 'As Time Ghosts By' and had a successful Plant Sale in support of our Raise the Roof appeal where there was even a queue prior to its opening. Our annual Parish boundary walk with stops for prayers "Beating the Bounds" was well attended and enjoyed.

In June we enjoyed our Summer Fair which as always is a wonderful event, combining good old fashioned fair games; coconut shy and hoopla along with fabulous food and a nearly-new stall. It brings together the St Edmund's community and the wider Northwood Hills and Pinner residents in an afternoon of relaxation and joy.

October was a busy month. At the beginning we celebrated Harvest with an All-Age Eucharist which was well-attended and included the Scouts and Brownies, followed by a delicious meal in the Hall. Gifts and cash donations were given to New Hope who provide services to the homeless in Watford and the surrounding area. The following week our choir headed for St. John's, Stanmore for the Deanery Choirs' Festival. The theme was 'Heirs to the Kingdom'. The music and readings joyfully told of the glorious nature of the Kingdom of God and the amazing truth that we too are its heirs, because of Jesus' victory over death.

Also in October, Arrow Players organised and ran a wonderful and challenging Quiz Night where 3 teams found themselves in a tie breaking finish to be crowned the winners. An incredibly fun evening where everyone went home learning a thing or two.

At the end of October, pilgrims from St Anselm's in Hatch End and St Edmund's travelled together to the Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham to join other pilgrims for a weekend of prayer and devotion. Fr. Simon Cuff was our celebrant and preacher when Fr. Michael was in Walsingham. His sermon, although tantalisingly brief, gave a very valuable message: we

were urged to look in the mirror each day to remind ourselves that we are loved.

November started with a 'PCC Away Day' at St. Martin's, Ruislip, under the guidance of the incumbent, the Rev. Dr. Robert Chapman. We were aiming to revitalise our Mission Action Plan - which is actually about all of us, and those we hope will attend St. Edmund's in the future. Our Parish Prayer encourages us to 'build up the church in this parish' - and that's what we were discussing - with reference to surveys which were completed by the congregation in advance of the Away Day. Reassuringly a large number of those who filled in the questionnaire commented that St Edmund's is friendly and welcoming.

Remembrance Sunday was a solemn occasion during which we remembered the sacrifice made for our freedom today. The service was well attended by the Uniformed Organisations alongside their parents and regular congregation. That afternoon the annual Memorial Service provided a chance for both regular and occasional worshippers to join together in a friendly environment and reflect upon the loss of loved ones.

Our Patronal Festival was celebrated on Sunday 16th November when we welcomed, as our preacher, Fr. Robert Chapman (who led our PCC Away Day). We had a full set of servers - and clergy! Fr. Robert's curate, Fr. Joe Grogan deaconed the mass, and Fr. David Green from St. Anselm's, Hatch End joined in concelebration with Fr. Robert and Fr. Michael. The heart of the sermon's message was 'put God first' - as St. Edmund did, when faced with violent opposition, he refused to give up his faith. We had a delicious afternoon tea afterwards which would have rivalled, if not surpassed, any from well-known celebrated venues.

During Advent we held a successful Christmas Bazaar. The Christmas Bazaar brought in many people from the local community who don't normally come to Church. Our own Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols was a wonderful occasion which was followed by a joyful Blessing of the Crib Service on Christmas Eve, Midnight Mass and a celebration of the Eucharist with Carols on Christmas Morning.

St Edmund's continued to host and support concerts by a number of organisations, in particular Harrow Concert Band, Trinity Orchestra, Harrow Symphony Orchestra and Eastcote & Ruislip Choral Society as well as events for Community ConneX (formerly Harrow Mencap) throughout the year.

As part of our mission to the entire parish, 2 newsletters were produced, professionally printed and delivered to homes in preparation for Easter and Christmas. They included a reflection from Fr Michael and advertised forthcoming services and events at St Edmund's

During 2025 we held 2 baptisms, 1 wedding and 2 funerals.

Charitable Support and Community Involvement

- We provided financial support to Tearfund, WaterHarvest, Commonwealth Countries' League, Diocese of London's Angola London Mozambique Association, Christian Aid, POPYRUS and The Ben Kinsella Trust
- We provided a monthly meeting place for Community ConneX (formerly Harrow Mencap)
- At Christmas we helped provide presents, pack and distribute Christmas parcels for young families in need who are being supported by Home Start Hillingdon.
- We provided a tea for Home-Start Hillingdon's sponsored walk through the London Borough of Hillingdon.
- We provided a location for Harrow Symphony Orchestra and Trinity Orchestra to rehearse and perform concerts
- We provided a location for Eastcote & Ruislip Choral Society and Harrow Concert Band to perform concerts
- We provided a venue for Harrow Bereavement Care's annual conference
- We provided support and a meeting location for 2nd Northwood Squirrels, Beavers, Cubs and Scouts and 6th Northwood Brownies
- We provided Pantomime and Play entertainment for the Parish and beyond

Financial Review

Financial Review

The considerable improvement in the overall results shown on the 2025 Statement of Financial Affairs, (*on page 3 of the accompanying Financial Statements*), of Net Income of £30,847 (2024: £21,850) has to be taken in context as that page summarises all of the activities for the year. Consequently it includes the figures for the ongoing “Raise the Roof” Phase 2 project, as well as other restricted fund transactions, and therefore doesn’t just refer to the General Fund - which is in effect our ‘day to day’ activities.

2025 continued the need to allocate all fundraising events towards “Raise the Roof” and their effect on the overall 2025 results is mentioned later. The total General Fund Income for the year increased by just over £4,250 to £102,417 with our dependence upon Church Hall lettings income growing again. Fortunately, like in 2024, whilst there were the inevitable increases in our costs, 2025 was generally unremarkable with no major sudden expenditure surprises.

More detail of the year’s financial activities is to be found within the Analysis of Income and Expenditure on pages 4 and 5:-

INCOME

The first sub-total on page 4 shows that Donations (and Legacies - of which there were none in either year) shows an overall increase of around £4,600 to £56,342 for 2025. However, that increase is due to the increase in the Restricted Funds income, as the overall total for the General (unrestricted) and Designated Funds income was actually £1,840 lower.

Within those figures, Ordinary regular **Giving** (*shown over the first four lines of page 4 and which therefore excludes the many other types of donations received and Gift Aid element where appropriate*) shows a reduction in 2025 of £3,257 (or 10%) to £29,235.

Needing to continue to concentrate our fundraising for “Raise the Roof”, the difficult decision was again taken not to have a Stewardship Renewal Programme in 2025. Therefore, with the passage of time since the last ‘Stewardship Renewal’ in November 2020, this year’s decrease in Giving is more understandable.

As mentioned in the 2024 Financial Review, the need for another appraisal of our regular giving cannot be put off forever. In that respect, please remember that the ability for some to be able to sign up to allow Gift Aid to be added to their giving is of considerable benefit and much appreciated, as it increases the total St. Edmunds receives by 25%.

Donations, (*described as “Recurring grants” on line 0401*) for 2025 increased by just over £6,600 to £16,836. (*2024 had seen a reduction of around £3,600 to £10,230*). Of that increase, that for Ordinary / General Donations represented around £1,750 and that for “Raise the Roof” nearly £5,200 with a small reduction year on year for Donations into other Restricted Funds.

However, even the above ‘good news’ has to be greatly tempered as, like in 2024 also, the increases were achieved mainly through just a few very generous individual donations. This again highlights that without such generosity, the position for 2025 would have been significantly altered.

Nevertheless, it very important to record that the PCC always gratefully appreciates all Giving and Donations received, whatever size or nature, as they help St. Edmunds to fulfil its role within the Christian and local communities.

The next sub-total of income on page 4 refers to “Church activities”. These produced £55,741 with the overwhelming majority coming from **Church Hall lettings** at £53,396 (*2024: £47,115*). For 2025 this represents just over 53% of the total General / unrestricted income of £100,441. (*2024: around 50% and £96,102 respectively*). This continues to emphasize the importance of “Raise the Roof” fundraising in order to preserve this

income stream. Without the lettings income the financial position of St. Edmunds would be completely different.

The PCC also gratefully acknowledge the contribution received from The St. Edmund **Pantomime** in January 2025, courtesy of Arrow Players. This year it again provided an important amount of income; £1,662 towards our day to day / General funds, plus a further £360 from a share of the retiring collections after the performances specifically for “Raise the Roof”. (2024: £2,058 and £590 respectively).

The next sub-section is “Other trading activities”, which primarily refers to “Raise the Roof” **fundraising events**. In total they raised £9,328 in 2025 (2024: £8,850). Again, the three individual larger events all improved their net amounts raised, with the Afternoon Tea profit, the near-monthly Bring & Buy Sales and the Bonus Ball all producing very worthwhile levels of income.

After deducting the associated costs of the 2025 events of £1,755 (*line 1730’s Restricted column under the Expenditure heading at the end of page 4*), the net amounts raised in total were £7,573 (2024: £7,275) split as follows:-

	2025	2024		2025	2024
Afternoon Tea	£320	<i>n/a</i>	Christmas Tree Festival	<i>n/a</i>	£122
Bonus Ball	£250	£420	Plant Sale	£1,631	£1,229
Bring & Buy Sales	£1,074	£1,342	Summer Fair	£1,670	£1,662
Christmas Bazaar	£2,628	£2,500			

The “easyfundraising” giving scheme raised £49 for St. Edmunds. (2024: £74).

Our thanks and appreciation goes, as ever, to everyone involved in the various activities during the year - to all those whose hard work facilitated the events, as well as all those spending their money.

The total **Investment income** received in 2025 was slightly lower at £5,502 (2024: £5,665), although, as usual, the larger proportion of this belongs to Restricted Funds.

As shown towards the bottom of page 4 (*and before the heading "Expenditure"*) **Total Income** received in 2025 was £126,962 (2024: £115,775) an increase of £11,187.

EXPENDITURE

Page 5 provides details of the expenditure for "Church activities" for the year, which in total rose by £3,220 (or 3.5%) to £94,244 (2024: £91,024). As usual the largest expenditure is that for our Common Fund payments (*line 1901*) at £54,000 (2024: £52,500).

Most costs saw minor increases in 2025. The main exceptions being:- the 'planned' increase of £1,500 for Common Fund; Administration costs (*line 2360*); those for the utility costs for the Church (*lines 2401 to 2420*) and the Church Hall (*lines 2510 to 2530*) and Hall running costs (*line 2550*) which included £710 for repairs to the corrugated roof area outside the back of the hall.

On the other hand, savings were made as there was no expenditure on Organ/piano tuning (*line 2320*) and there were only two Parish Newsletters (*line 2501*) produced in 2025, compared with three in 2024. As shown towards the end of the page 5, in 2025 there was no expenditure associated with the "Raise the Roof" Phase 2 project. (2024: £1,224).

With the total of ordinary General / Unrestricted Income for 2025 being £100,441 (*see the left hand column towards the end of page 4*) (2024: £96,102), and the total ordinary General / Unrestricted Expenditure at £90,143 (*see the left hand column at the end of page 5*) (2024: £86,003), the net result for the year was to increase the surplus on our General Fund (*as opposed to funds for specific purposes*) by £10,298 (2024: £10,099).

Whilst this is again an encouraging result, as previously noted, it could so easily have been considerably lower. Consequently, it still shows that our overall financial position and resources continue to be very marginal and

therefore potentially vulnerable, should any unexpected expenditure suddenly become necessary.

As shown in the middle of page 3, the annual **revaluation of Investments** (which are shown under Fixed Assets on the Balance Sheet on page 7) to their market values at 31 December 2025 in total increased their value by £438 (2024: £638). It should be noted that these are primarily investments held for Restricted Funds, such as those for Clean Water and for Overseas Aid, rather than the General Fund.

After accounting for the gains on the revaluation of investments, the total overall Funds at 31 December 2025 increased by £31,284 to £215,779 (as shown at the end of page 3) (2024: £22,488 to £184,495).

Page 6 shows the summary of the **Balance Sheet**, together with the split of the allocation across the various Funds. The Balance Sheet on page 7 then shows the make-up of the summary figures at the year end.

Repayments to the London Diocese for their interest free loan continued throughout 2025. By the end of the year £7,500 of the original £9,000 loan received in 2023 had been repaid and there are only 6 further monthly payments due in 2026.

Of the total funds held at 31 December 2025, (as shown at the end of page 7), £34,435 is held in General (Unrestricted) Funds, with Designated Funds having £25,435 and £155,909 held in Restricted Funds. (2024: £24,137; £24,754 and £135,604 respectively). The analysis of the individual funds by category is shown on the lower half of page 8, plus one extra line appearing on page 9.

The individual Fund movements for 2025 are shown on page 10. Amongst the total funds at the 31 December 2025, it will be seen that those associated with the “Raise the Roof” Phase 2 project (the second and last lines on the summary) now total £94,176 (at the end of 2024: £74,775). Both these figures are after the payment of some preliminary project costs in earlier years totaling £8,073.

The comparative Fund movements for 2024 are on page 11.

RESERVES POLICY

In order to maintain cash flows and provide for emergency expenditure, it is PCC policy to try to maintain sufficient balance on free reserves (net current assets) to cover three months' normal unrestricted expenditure, around £25,000. At the end of 2025 the balance on the free reserves was £59,870 (2024: £48,891), being the total of the General / (Unrestricted) Funds and the Designated Funds.

Longer term major projects are subject to specific fundraising exercises as deemed appropriate.

Short-term investment fund balances are usually placed with the CBF Church of England Deposit Fund, whilst longer term investments are mainly held in CBF Church of England Fixed Interest Accounts.

In conclusion and as stated earlier, in 2025 the General Fund 'ordinary' income exceeded 'ordinary' expenditure by £10,298 (2024: £10,099) making the balance on the General Fund at the end of year £34,435 (2024: £24,137). This continues to be relatively small when put into the perspective of the inflationary times we live in and knowing that other remedial works will require funding in 2026, (see the Fabric Report), but it is certainly a considerable improvement upon earlier years.

It has also enabled the PCC to commit to increasing our 2026 Common Fund Offer by £1,500 to £55,500. This amount is still significantly lower than our payments in 2020 and before. It should also be noted that we continue to be a 'net recipient' according to the London Diocese's calculations, which for 2026 set the London Ministry Cost, (formally known as the Standard Parish Cost), at £99,980.

Meanwhile, with the ongoing fundraising for the "Raise the Roof" Phase 2 project, it is clear that there is still some way to go before a more secure overall financial position is achieved.

Finally, the PCC wish to place on record our very grateful thanks for the continuing extraordinary generosity of all of the supporters of St.

Edmunds throughout what are continuing to be financially challenging times for everybody.

James Mair, Treasurer

Fabric Report

1. Condition of Buildings

The Hall and Lady Chapel pitched roofs continue to deteriorate with some rainwater ingress occurring. Significant electrical work is required before the next inspection in August 2026. Condition of the Hall kitchen continues to deteriorate and requires refurbishment in conjunction with the electrical work.

2. Service and Maintenance

The annual inspections of all central heating boilers were carried out in May 2025 with no issues found. Gas Safe certificates were received. Fire extinguishers were serviced in May 2025 with no issues found. Emergency lighting was successfully tested in March 2025.

3. Major Works

There were no Major Works undertaken in 2025.

4. Other Activities.

Minor maintenance works during the year has included:

- Corrugated roof at rear of hall and above the nursery store replaced (many thanks to Andy Roberts for his help with this)
- Cracked glass in West Door replaced
- Garden of Remembrance wooden gate replaced
- Overgrown conifer hedge at bottom of Church carpark removed to improve access to flagpole and discourage anti-social

behaviour/crime in the carpark (many thanks to Andy, Madeline and Oscar Roberts for their help with this)

- Strawberry Tree pruned in Garden of Remembrance
- Normal grounds maintenance performed by members of the congregation including lawn mowing, weeding and hedge-cutting

More detail on all the above and other minor maintenance works is recorded in the Fabric Reports to PCC which are held electronically. These are available for inspection upon request via any member of the PCC Standing Committee.

The Churchwardens would like to thank everyone who has helped with maintenance activities and particularly on the Gardening Day. We are grateful to Colin Kirby who continued to mow the lawns, to Mike Godden for assistance with various items of maintenance work and to Jenny Jones, Mike and Peter Gant, and all who have quietly tended the grounds throughout the year.

5. Future Projects

Focus will remain on addressing the urgent items listed in the 2018 Quinquennial Inspection Report and the C3 Improvement items listed in the 2021 Electrical Inspection Report. In November the PCC conducted interviews for a new Quinquennial Inspector. The Diocesan Advisory Committee accepted the PCC's proposal to appoint Olga Vladić-Weal as our Quinquennial Inspector. The next inspection will take place in 2026 and future projects will be influenced by this new report's findings and priorities.

Steven Castle, Churchwarden

Harrow Deanery Synod

The Deanery Synod met three times in 2025.

The first meeting took place at St Peter's West Harrow on 4th February. The Revd Jon Lindsay-Scott (Vicar) welcomed synod members, guests and

led us in worship. The Rev'd Matthew Stone (Area Dean) conducted brief Synod business including welcoming the Rev'd Irene Lawrence and reviewing deanery vacancies. This was followed by updates from Diocesan and General Synods.

The main part of the meeting focused on the return of the Willesden Area Roadshow led by Bishop Lusa, Archdeacon Catherine, and the Directors of Mission and Ministry. They reminded Synod members of the Diocesan Vision and how in Willesden there is an overwhelming desire to create a culture of leaning into being intergenerational, intercultural and missional.

Our second meeting on 10th July, at St Paul's South Harrow, began with Evening prayer led by the Revd Steve Taylor (Joint Vicar), followed by an introduction to the church and worship.

The main focus of the evening was churches and disability, led by the Revd John Beauchamp, Diocesan Disability Ministry Enabler. John noted that while some churches are well equipped, there is always room for improvement. He emphasized the responsibility to ensure that buildings and services are accessible and inclusive for all. There are many things we can each do, John encouraged us to start by looking at the easy wins, and pointed those present to accessible resources to assist in this.

This was followed by a short presentation of the Ministry Experience Scheme, a review of deanery accounts, and four applications with presentations of £1000 Mission Fund Grant. All four applications were successful: St Anselm, Hatch End to improve the sound system; St Peter West Harrow towards "Bubble Church"; St Anselm Belmont for improved signage; St Mary Kenton towards the Mission Experience Scheme. Further Synod business included welcoming new clergy, celebrating the newly ordained priests, Diocesan and General Synod Reports, Confirmation of elections (Emma Webber as Honorary Secretary, Graham Hamwijk as Foundation Governor Holy Trinity School Northwood, Graham Nicholson and Marjorie Mott as foundation governors of St John's School, Stanmore. Following the meeting Mike Still was elected as a clergy representative on

the Deanery Standing Committee. And finally, Robert May was thanked for over 16 years of exemplary service as deanery secretary.

Our final meeting of the year began with refreshments and student led worship at Holy Trinity School, Northwood on 4th November. The choir were from Holy Trinity, the orchestra from St John's School Stanmore. This was followed by a welcome and introduction to the new grouping of four local CofE Schools through the Ecclesia Partnership.

This was followed by presentations by four local speakers on Embracing Interculturalism looking at welcoming, openness, diversity, learning from one another and mission. This section was concluded by a time of questions to the panel. And the meeting was then concluded with news of the Bishop of London consultation, and a request for Carollers at St Lukes Hospice.

The Rev'd Emma Webber
Honorary Secretary

Approval of the Annual Report by the Parochial Church Council

The Annual Report set out on pages 11 to 27 were approved by the Parochial Church Council of St. Edmund the King, Northwood Hills on 10th March 2026 and will be proposed for adoption by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting on 22nd March 2026.



The Rev'd Michael Miller
Chairman of the Meeting
10th March 2026 (PCC)

The Rev'd Michael Miller
Chairman of the Meeting
22nd March 2026 (APCM)

Reports from Church Organisations

2nd Northwood (St. Edmund's) Scout Group

Our relationship with St Edmund's Church is extremely important and we are very lucky in having Father Michael, Steve Castle and Marjorie Pimm on our trustee team linking in with leaders and giving the young people opportunities such as going into church and learning about the services as well as honing their gardening skills on gardening day. Regardless of faith or of none, we attend 3 Church Parades a year as a group; Mothering Sunday, Harvest and Remembrance Sunday where we walk into church with our flags.

Throughout the year our sections get involved in weekly meetings where they take part in games and activities such as craft, cooking, pioneering, first aid, hikes and map reading. Our Scouts (aged 10½-14 years) took part in several camps including a district winter camp in January called Chilly Goat which includes several challenges leading to a trophy which we won. A great feat, especially as they slept out in -5 degrees C. Additionally, the scouts get involved in water activities, archery, air rifling and climbing activities plus a district swimming gala which we also won! The Cubs (8-10½ years), in addition to their weekly meetings, they too take part in archery, air rifling and climbing activities plus district events; swimming gala, hike, sleepover at a trampoline park and a sport's day. All sections came together on a summer family camp taking part in onsite activities, sleeping in tents and learning how to wash and dry up! All these activities, hikes and camps lead towards badges and for those young people who regularly attend, the section chief scout award.

In April we said goodbye to Jo and Gareth Crockford and their daughter Abbey who had been running Beavers (6-8 years) for a number of years starting the young people on their scouting journey. I'd like to thank them for their dedicated service to scouting and 2nd Northwood both as leaders and supporters of the group. As you would expect this left a gap in leadership however, we've been fortunate to have county support from

Greater London Middlesex West. Their enthusiasm and energy radiated through Beavers not only growing the numbers of young people but encouraging parents including Glenn Smith to get involved. Katie Chamberlain joined our Beaver leadership team having been invited by one of our trustees.

We also started a Squirrel Drey (4-6 years) with GLMW support. They meet weekly and are currently supporting parents in to becoming leaders as well as providing the Squirrels with an exciting programme. It's still in its infancy as until leaders are established the Squirrels haven't been invested or grown in numbers.

Our project to build a new home for 2nd Northwood continues. Having had planning permission for a while, we agreed the Heads of Terms for the lease and instructed the solicitors to finally get the lease written.

Thanks again to our trustees and leaders who give up their time not only visibly in the weekly meetings and events but also for their time keeping up to date with training, maintaining and purchasing equipment and of course the admin that comes with it all. We are fortunate to have strong Scout and Cub leadership team however we have vacancies in our Beaver and Squirrel leader teams plus we welcome any other support including fundraising, hut building and all that entails and other committee roles should you wish to support us.

Amanda Roberts, Group Lead Volunteer

6th Northwood Brownie Unit

6th Northwood Brownies have been so warmly welcomed at St Edmund's and it's hard to believe we have already been here for a year. We have completed many badges as a unit, "Communicate Skills Builder", "In the Summer Paw Print Badge", "Live Smart Skills Builder" and the "Reindeer Challenge Badge". The Brownies have also individually completed many interest badges and in July we were delighted to be able to award two of our Brownies the Brownie Gold award. This is the highest award in Brownies and is very rarely achieved. In December we also presented 4

Brownies with their Bronze Badges, which is a lovely reward for their hard work and dedication.

We have been on many trips during the year. Our Young Leader Poppie won a “Jack Petchey” award. And with her winnings took the Brownies to “Rock Up,” in Watford. We also went on a joint Sleepover in June with other Northwood Brownie Units to Willow Tree in Breakspear. I have no idea why we call them sleepovers as very little sleep actually happened, but all the girls had great fun. To finish the year, we went on a trip to the cinema to watch Zootropolis 2.

We enjoyed being part of the church community and running a stall at the Summer Fair. Our darts board game was a hit with young and old. We were delighted to raise £28 for the church. We also had a stall at the Christmas Bazaar, “Name the Elf” which made £18.

We attended the Mother’s Day, Harvest Festival and Remembrance services and paraded our flag. For Harvest we went shopping to see how much food items cost and then chose items within our budget to buy and donate to the Church. We had Brownies and their parents attend the Remembrance service and they found Father Michael’s sermon about Scouting and Guiding in the War very interesting. The girls were delighted to see the Poppy wreath they had made in the church.

So, it’s been a very busy year with cooking, craft, outdoor fun, games, water fights, campfires, badges, gold parties and too much more to mention.

In the coming year we are hoping to increase our membership numbers to give more girls in the local area the opportunity to be a part of Girl Guiding.

Nicola Setterfield, Unit Leader

Arrow Players

Our year started with the St. Edmund's Pantomime, "The Woman Who Lived in a Shoe" a brand-new pantomime, written by Mike Warrick; it was most successful, with many satisfied customers. As in 2024, we presented a "relaxed performance", intended to make our show more accessible to younger audience members and adults that would prefer a more relaxed environment. This once again proved very successful. The show made a profit of just over £3,300, of which the customary half-share was passed to the PCC. The retiring collection at the show was shared between "Raise the Roof" and the Michael Sobell Hospice at Mount Vernon, the donation to each was £450 (including Gift Aid). The generosity of our audiences in these challenging times continues to amaze and delight us.

In May, we presented a play; "As Time Ghosts By" a new comedy by Mike Warrick. As in 2024, the audience numbers were a little disappointing, but the production was thoroughly enjoyed by those that did attend.

From September to the end of the year, our main activity was the rehearsal and preparation of the 2026 St. Edmund's Pantomime "Hickory Dickory Dock" - a new pantomime for us, written by Mike Warrick.

We held our usual Annual Dinner, at Pinner Hill Golf Club, in February, at which we celebrated our 60th Anniversary. It was good to see some former members returning for the occasion. In addition, we have enjoyed a number of social events, including a summer barbecue, some theatre visits, an Escape Room and a fascinating talk by two members about their travels in Asia.

In October, following the success of the one held in the previous year, we hosted a quiz, which was well attended and enjoyed by the wider church community.

Our participation in Church activities included running our usual side-shows at the Summer Fair, construction of stalls for the Plant Sale, Father Christmas and his Grotto at the Christmas Bazaar in November

and serving Sunday morning refreshments on each 5th Sunday of the month. We have also made a number of contributions, both practical and financial, to the running of the Church, the Hall and the grounds, including the funding of the annual Church gardening day, and we also purchased the large Christmas tree for the Church.

Mike Warrick, Chairperson

Choir

The choir's most important function continues to be in providing the music for the Sung Eucharist on Sundays, other major festivals and Holy Week services. On Good Friday the choir gave an excellent and moving performance of Vittoria's St John's Passion. The Carol Service featured The Truth from Above, Gaudete, Peter Heath's version of "O Little Town of Bethlehem", Gardner's "The Holly and the Ivy" and Rutter's "Candlelight Carol". I would like to make special mention to Helen Collier who sang the first verse of "Once in Royal" most beautifully. Many thanks to Marjorie Pimm for helping with the tea between the rehearsal and the service. I would also like to thank Peter Heath who has stepped in so ably on a number of occasions when I have been unavailable.

This year's Harrow Deanery Choirs' Festival took place at St John's Church in Stanmore in October and featured music by Archer, Stainer, Ireland and Handel. Many thanks for the church's hospitality and an excellent tea between rehearsal and service. The 2026 Festival will take place on Saturday October 10th at St Mary's Church in Harrow on the Hill and will be a Choral Evensong featuring music by Lloyd (View Me Lord), Smith (Responses), Stanford (Evening Service in A), Bainton ("And I Saw a New Heaven") and Rutter ("The Lord Bless You and Keep You"), as well as a psalm and four congregational hymns. I will be playing the organ. The service will be a tribute to Tim Smith who was my predecessor as Chairman of the Harrow Deanery Choirs' Association and Director of Music at St Mary's, who died in 2024.

The choir play an active role within the wider church and continue to run the Grand Draw stall at the Summer Fair and Christmas Bazaar. I would

like to finish by thanking the dedicated members of the choir who make such a valuable contribution to services at St Edmund's. We are all indebted to them. We are always looking for new members. There is no audition and there is no requirement to be able to read music. We generally rehearse for forty-five minutes before services – do speak to me for further information.

Mark Hammond, Director of Music

Eco-Church

The Eco Team met twice during 2025. The group includes Jenny Jones – Eco Champion, Carol Diggins, Amanda Roberts, Wendy Jones and Valerie Collier. If you are able to help in any way to enable St Edmund's to reach the Silver Award, please let the Eco Team know.

At the beginning of the year, we tried to push forward to meet the A Roche Silver Award before the closing of the original survey. We were unable to make that deadline partly because we have difficulty in getting further with the Buildings section and Community and Global Engagement. The list below shows where we were at the end date.

- Worship and teaching Gold
- Buildings and energy Bronze
- Land and nature Silver
- Community and global engagement Bronze
- Lifestyle Silver

We were a little disheartened at not making the deadline and only had one more meeting during the year, however, we did attend a deanery Eco Church Workshop at St Andrew's Church and were very encouraged by what they had managed to put in place. Carol attended Hillingdon Recycle Reuse event at the Barn in Ruislip.

We have achieved a great deal through the year with our recycling efforts. We regularly take blister packs to the chemist, soft plastic to Tesco and have three bins placed around the building for other recycled waste.

Spectacles have been taken to Lamerton's who pass them on to an organisation that distributes them at home and abroad. Gently Used Bras have also been sent for redistribution.

We have made the local community more aware of our Recycling Station through the colourful newsletter that we send out to most of the parish before Easter. Regular articles are also placed in the Orbit, our weekly pew sheet, and Eco articles have also been placed in the magazine. Thank you to Amanda for leading on this.

A big thank you to Wendy, Hilda and Valerie who run the Bring and Buy each month. This activity really helps with reusing and recycling as well as bringing in people from the local community. Thank you too to Glenda for her beautiful silk flower arrangements using eco-friendly oasis.

We have made a good start in 2026 by meeting to plan how we can begin using the new survey. We may not be able to reach the dizzy heights of a Gold Award but we hope to continue promoting the Care of God's Earth at St Edmund's and doing what we can to reduce our carbon footprint both for the church and individual members of the congregation.

Carol Diggins

Flower Guild

The 2025 floral rota was delivered, with Easter, Christmas and other Church anniversaries and Remembrance events being celebrated.

The use of fresh flowers each week was rationalised to specific services or high-profile events. This was due to the rise in cost of cut flowers and the need for midweek maintenance/refreshing of the floral tributes. Use of artificial blooms and foliage ensured colourful, seasonal displays and also larger displays have been possible throughout the year. Use of these items has the bonus of being able to recycle materials and the need for less weekly maintenance.

Unfortunately, the advert in The Orbit and Parish magazine for volunteers to assist with the floral rota had a limited response. One person attended to assist twice during the latter part of the year, and another person once in December.

Glenda Greenfield has as of February 2026 stepped down from the Flower Guild, and therefore there is currently no one taking the lead for the floral arrangement duties or the co-ordination of any would-be volunteers.

The rota for 2026, (post Lent/Easter), may not be possible to deliver as no further volunteers have been identified to undertake the duties.

The Sacred store has a good stock of floristry sundries including foam materials, vases, baskets, and floral stands. There is also a large selection of colour coordinated and seasonal artificial flowers and foliage in stock. Access to the items can be obtained via the Churchwardens.

Glenda Greenfield

Sunday School

In 2025 we had a role of 2 children who regularly attend and 4 children who visit now and again.

During this period, we followed the lectionary year C stories and lessons. We learned about how Jesus healed on the Sabath, his relationship with Mary and Martha and at Easter we talked particularly about how Peter was forgiven. Pentecost and the Trinity were also topics. Through Advent we used the wreath to talk about the prophets, the patriarchs John the Baptist and Mary. Through the year we also looked at the Ten Commandments and part of the Creed.

We ran the toy stall at the Summer Fair and Christmas Bazaar. We also help to pack and distribute the Christmas parcels that are given to Home Start Hillingdon at Christmas time. In 2025 we were again able to support Home Start by providing a tea for the end of their sponsored walk through the Borough of Hillingdon.

A big thank you to Jade and Marla who lead and help with sessions at Sunday School and are instrumental in providing pancakes on the Sunday before Shrove Tuesday. Much enjoyed by everyone.

Recently a new family have joined us and their daughter now regularly attends Sunday School.

Carol Diggins, Sunday School Leader

Youth Group

Youth Group re-started in the Hall and met 7.30pm – 9pm every fortnight during term time from January until the Easter break. The number of children attending fell below 5 during the Spring term and, as numbers were not sufficient to continue, we paused our activities. Plans are being developed for the Youth Group to restart in 2026 and I'm grateful to Carolyn and Richard Mount for volunteering to become additional leaders. We are planning some new activities alongside our usual activities include pool, air hockey, football, dodge-ball, table tennis, bomb-ball, table football, and film evenings.

I am very grateful to Fr Michael for joining us each week, and to the helpers Carol Diggins, Aline Hammond-Gilles, Sarah Parnaby and Jo Henry, without whom the group could not run. If you know of young people between the age of 10 and 16 who would like to join the waiting list please do let me know.

Steven Castle, Youth Group Leader

'The King' Parish Magazine

The magazine has been produced each month and is available on the last Sunday of the previous month on the website, within a weekly e-mail newsletter, and also as a printed booklet for those without access to the internet.

The material is received 14 days before publication by The Editor who checks it before sending it to Mike Godden. Terry Diggins also sends him a copy of the Parish Pump which is supplied to parishes which produce a monthly magazine. Mike then sends out the articles ready for printing back to The Editor who checks it in case of any errors. The material is then sent to Steve Castle for publication on the website and for printing and posting. 9 copies are hand-delivered by Peter Heath to whom we are very grateful. Approximately 55 are printed for members of the congregation to pick up from the church or foyer. 6 past members (who have moved away but like to be in touch) receive a copy by post. Thanks are also due to Mark Hammond for sending out the weekly e-newsletter which currently has 98 subscribers and contains a link to the latest edition of the magazine.

Many thanks are due to our regular contributors, Father Michael for his monthly letter, Sarah Parnaby for her 'News from the Pews' which brings us up to date with what has been happening within the activities carried out by members of the congregation. Many thanks go to Mike Godden both for deciding how the articles be placed and also for choosing and writing other articles. Remember the articles from members of the congregation are always received with thanks and short 'Thank You's' are welcome.

Finally, thanks to all who read the magazine – all our efforts go to many in this area to advertise St Edmund's and hope they will come to join us.

Jenny Jones, Honorary Editor

Women's Guild

The Women's Guild meets on the 2nd Tuesday of the month, with a few exceptions. We have a loyal membership and enjoy a varied programme including a quiz and raffle, a musical sing song and talks by Steve Castle, Carol Diggins, Mark Hammond and Sarah Parnaby followed by tea.

In April Steve Castle gave a talk on his trip to India and Nepal bringing along his mementos and souvenirs. Some great tales and stunning photography. A truly inspirational talk which left everyone planning their trip in his and Simon Wilson's footsteps.

In September Mark Hammond gave a concert on organ and piano entitled "Musical Connections". Each piece was linked to the previous one in some way and the audience was encouraged to try and guess the link. The concert featured a variety of music by such composers as Bach, Chopin, Tchaikovsky and Elton John.

Carol Diggins gave an illustrated talk on the past history of the house where her son Mark now lives for our October meeting. It all started with the finding of a photograph and through Carol's determination it led her to learn so much. It was a most interesting talk.

In November Sarah Parnaby gave a presentation entitled 'A Few of My Favourite Saints'. From an early age, Sarah became interested in the Northumbrian saints of the 7th century and her talk centred on the lives of Aidan, Oswald, and Cuthbert. Sarah's excellent talk was illustrated with some beautiful slides and we all learnt a lot.

In December, Peter Heath led us in our annual Carol Concert where we were treated to a surprise duet with Mark Hammond playing on the second piano which of course was followed by a festive tea.

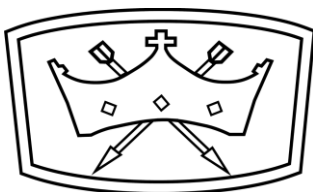
Our members are all supportive of each other and enjoy our monthly meetings.

Hilda and I are stepping down at our AGM in February 2026.

Connie Ambrose, Women's Guild

Edmund was the devout young King of the East Angles,
martyred by the Danes for his allegiance to Christ in the year 869
when he was 29 years old.

The crown and arrows of the church crest
symbolise his Kingship and Martyrdom.



The Church of St. Edmund the King has been serving
The Parish of Northwood Hills since 1934.

The Parish is in the Harrow Deanery
of the Willesden Episcopal Area of the Diocese of London.

