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The Diocese of St Edmundsbury and Ipswich



**SOLE⁺BAY
CHURCHES**

BLYTHBURGH • REYDON • SOUTH COVE
SOTHERTON • SOUTHWOLD • UGGESHALL
WALBERSWICK • WANGFORD CUM HENHAM



Annual Report and Financial Statements
Parochial Church Council of Holy Trinity Church
Blythburgh, Suffolk
for the year ended 31 December 2024

Front cover photograph:

**Dr Mike Harrison, then Bishop of Dunwich, after dedication of a
new nave altar table, June 2024**

AIMS AND PURPOSES

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) of Holy Trinity Blythburgh has the responsibility of cooperating with the Team Rector and Team Vicar in promoting the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical, in the ecclesiastical parish of Blythburgh.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

The PCC is committed to enabling as many people as possible to share in worship and parish life at Holy Trinity – we aim to be a fully inclusive church. Our services and worship try to put faith into practice through prayer, sacrament, scripture and music.

In line with the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit, and in particular the supplementary guidance on charities for the advancement of religion, we try to help people to live out their faith 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
- Missionary and outreach work, including a very important ministry to visitors to the church (estimated at 12-15,000 per year)

We are part of the Sole Bay Team Ministry, a group of 8 parishes sharing two full time clergy, and so we work with our friends across these parishes to pursue these objectives.

Our magnificent Grade I listed church building has a vital role to play in our ministry, being generally acknowledged as an exceptional holy space. It is therefore important that we maintain its fabric in a responsible and sensitive way, acknowledging its history while ensuring its continued relevance in the 21st century.

We take safeguarding seriously and the Parochial Church Council has adopted the Church of England's national policy 'Promoting a Safer Church'. There was one safeguarding disclosure made to a member of the clergy in the church building during 2024 which was reported to the Diocesan authorities.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

This report sets out our activities during 2024 and our plans for the future. We are fortunate in so many ways; 2024 was the first full year of Revd Russ Gant's ministry and leadership among us; we are blessed with a faithful and committed church community and reasonably sound finances. We try to use these blessings to share the Good News of the Gospel in our corner of Suffolk. Underpinning our activities and plans are the Diocesan 'Growing in God' themes: Growing in Depth; Growing in Influence; Growing in Number; and Growing Younger.

Worship and prayer: growing the spiritual life of our members and visitors

Our pattern of worship remained unchanged during 2024. We try to offer a variety of traditions and styles; Book of Common Prayer as well as Common Worship, lay led as well as clergy led, online as well as face to face. Our congregation at Sunday morning services averages around 24 but this swells to over 100 at the major festivals and also in September 2024 when we hosted a very successful service for the Sole Bay Team as a whole. Of our 'routine' services, choral evensong on the first Sunday of the month led by the Blythburgh Singers under their director Ellis Bell attracts the largest congregation, usually around 60 plus the choir, drawn from across the Team and further afield. Our service for the Blessing of Animals in August continues to attract a large congregation, many of whom are not regular worshippers. Each summer, we offer a simple service in the ruins of Blythburgh Priory as a curtain raiser to the village's Blythburgh Day, and this also attracts many who are not regular worshippers.

One positive legacy of the pandemic was the introduction of a service of Compline via Zoom each Thursday evening. This has continued without a break ever since. Attendance has understandably fallen since the end of the pandemic but still averages 12-15 people, not just from the Team but from as far afield as Brighton. People have joined us not just from their homes but from their holidays too – even once from the shores of the Sea of Galilee.

The resident school-age population of the village is very small, and we do not have a Sunday School or any other regular youth work. But we are very aware of the need to share the Good News among young people. In recent years our annual crib service and Easter Garden activity on Good Friday struggled to attract many children, but they both saw an increase in numbers taking part in 2024. The PCC discussed various possible initiatives to bring local schools into the church, which we hope might bear fruit in 2025.

We are very grateful not only to our Team Rector but also to the many retired clergy and also lay people who enable us to offer such an extensive range of opportunities for worship.

Holy Trinity's worshipping community looks for opportunities to learn more about their faith and to grow spiritually. We have now established an annual Quiet Day, an opportunity for teaching and reflection. In February 2024 this was led by Bishop Tim Stevens, who took as his theme a number of 20th century martyrs. We also have a house group of about a dozen people who meet from time to time – for example in January/February 2024 to explore how music can give us insights into aspects of our faith.

Pastoral care: being a caring presence in the village and beyond

Holy Trinity has a strong presence and established connections with our wider community. For example, our monthly community café and mini-market and our Christmas Market attract people from our village and the wider area, not just as customers but as helpers too. We also host the Blythburgh Horticultural Society's annual show.

Although we have no formal system for visiting the housebound and others in need, many of our congregation do carry out this ministry. We ensure that our monthly Team newsletter, Heart & Sole, is delivered to every home in the village, and that people feel welcomed when they enter the church whether for services, for events, or just to visit.

One of our duties of care to those who visit us is to pay due attention to their bodily comforts. We know that our church can be very cold in the depths of winter, but to improve the heating itself would be prohibitively expensive. However, during 2024 we purchased blankets and cushions which we hope will help those who feel the cold particularly keenly. Over the last few years, we have also been looking at the possibilities for providing accessible toilets – at present ours are on the edge of the churchyard down a flight of steps.

We are greatly indebted to Colin Huggins, a good friend to the church, who leads a free tour for visitors every Thursday, come rain or shine – also his able understudies Sonia Boggis and Meryl Doney.

The PCC considers that an important part of Holy Trinity's mission is to support charities in the UK and overseas and maintained its policy of donating 10 per cent of general income to charity. Thus, based on our income in 2023, donations of £1,700 each were made in 2024 to the Red Cross, Missions to Seafarers, and Home Start Suffolk. We also continued our tradition of donating our collections at the additional services over Christmas to charity; our 2024 accounts include payments made to Children of Peace and Crisis as a result of the collections at Christmas 2023. The collection at our Blessing of Animals service was given to 'Santa Paws', the charity run by our local veterinary practice to help people on low incomes with their vets' bills. The church's collection point for The Lowestoft Food Bank continued to be well supported.

Sharing the Good News of Christ: mission and outreach

We try to do this most obviously through offering opportunities for regular worship and through special services which appeal to those on the edge of the church community. But there are a range of other ways in which we look to share the good news.

The first is through the way in which our church building speaks of the spiritual dimension of life to those who enter it. It has often been described as a 'thin place', where we can feel very close to the presence of God. So for those whose main motivation for visiting may be for the heritage of a Grade 1 listed building but who may then find that it speaks to them in more profound ways, we try to provide Christian interpretation of what they find; a prayer walk to follow through the building; a place for quiet prayer in the Hopton Chapel, and the provision of Christian literature and merchandise on our bookstall. Our prayer board in the Hopton Chapel is well used, and we ensure that the prayers which are left there are included in the intercessions at one of our regular services.

We try to ensure that the artworks and other artefacts within the building enhance its spirituality and are in keeping with its simplicity and sense of light. In 2024, we made a very significant acquisition, pictured on the cover of this report, of a new altar table, designed by Charles Morris, a member of our PCC and financed through a generous donation from one of the Friends of Holy Trinity supplemented with a grant from the Friends. The materials were also gifted to the church – local oak, and for the inlays local bog oak, over 3,000 years old.

Even the way in which our church stands within the landscape, standing high above the valley of the River Blyth, acting as a beacon to those travelling through the village on the A12, particularly at night when it is floodlit, speaks of the Good News of Christ.

Most of those who marry in the church have few links with the area, but during 2024 our Team Rector has strengthened the expectation that they will become part of our worshipping community in the months before their weddings. This has enriched our fellowship and, we hope, has reached out to them too.

The church can also speak to people attending concerts and other events in the building. Another significant event in 2024 was the performance in the church of 'Curlew River' by Benjamin Britten as part of the Aldeburgh Festival. He describes it as a 'Parable for Church Performance' and it speaks very profoundly of the power of redemptive love. Although in many ways the production, and the fact that it was filmed for the BBC, caused a good deal of disruption to the church and to the village, it attracted great critical acclaim. There seems no doubt that this was a significant spiritual experience for many, and that this was considerably enhanced by the setting in Holy Trinity.

Looking after our buildings and land

The most recent Quinquennial Inspection of the church building was carried out by Philip Orchard, our church architect, in October 2023. There were no major problems identified, though the report drew attention to a large number of maintenance issues. We try to keep abreast of these but find it increasingly difficult to find contractors willing to take on maintenance tasks. We continue to be very grateful to all those volunteers who help to clean the church, mow the churchyard, provide and arrange flowers, polish the brass and silver, lock and unlock the building each day.

One issue identified in the QI was the need for repair and reglazing to window SAS3 in the south aisle. Peter Coghill, a longstanding member of our PCC and a former Fabric Officer for the church, offered to finance this in memory of his wife Diana who died in 2023. Sadly, he died before he could put his wishes into action, but his family have generously offered to pay for the work in memory of both Peter and Diana. Plans were made to carry out the work in 2025.

A number of other new fabric projects were taken forward during 2024, in particular improving the provision of toilets and kitchen facilities. After an exhaustive exploration of possible locations for an accessible toilet, the base of the church tower was identified as the most feasible option. As a result,

plans have been drawn up for two toilets and a galley kitchen, and a new first floor ringing chamber. We are hugely indebted to Charles Morris for his work in preparing plans for this project, which was handed over to our Church Architect to take forward to a full faculty application. The Faculty was granted in late 2024, and the work is planned to be carried out in 2025. This will be funded mainly by the designated Fabric II fund, though there is likely to be a shortfall given the rise in building costs and the cutting back of the Listed Places of Worship Scheme.

During 2023, the need for major maintenance work to the bell frame was identified. Three bell foundries were invited to advise on the work needed and to quote for carrying it out. The PCC agreed to accept the quotation from Nicholson Engineering and a deposit of a third of the cost was paid in August 2024 to secure the work's place in their schedule. It will be carried out in May 2025.

The digital organ installed by Viscount at the end of 2023 was trialled over Christmas and the New Year. It proved unsatisfactory and was removed in spring 2024. Discussions continue on a digital solution to the issues with the pipe organ.

During the year, Holy Trinity sought and obtained accreditation at the Bronze Award level under the A-Rocha Eco-Church scheme, and thanks are due to Matthew Sullivan for his work in bringing this to fruition. A small group was set up to consider what more needs to be done in order to gain a Silver Award.

Financial Review

The financial accounts for 2024 are on a receipts and payments basis rather than accruals. They were moved onto an accruals basis in 2008 when our income that year was above the threshold at which accruals accounting became compulsory. (This was due to a major appeal for funds to re-lead the south aisle roof and carry out other repairs.) The threshold has since been raised to a level which we are very unlikely to exceed in the future, so the decision was taken to make the move back to receipts and payments. This involved re-working of the 2023 accounts in order to provide valid year on year comparisons, so the figures in this year's report are not necessarily the same as those published for 2023 last year. However, the move will simplify the compilation of the accounts in the future and also means that we no longer need to call on professional accountants to carry out the Independent Examination. We are grateful to Mrs Eunice Crook for carrying out the Independent Examination of the 2024 accounts.

General Fund

Receipts totalled £59,839. Planned giving and collections, including gift aid, formed about a quarter of this total – this would have been greater but for the fact that gift aid was over-claimed in 2023 and the overpayment repaid to HMRC in 2024, reducing the gift aid received that year by some £4,000 (taken over all income sources, not just planned giving and collections). (This is a downside of the use of receipts and payments as the basis of the accounts: had they continued to be on an accruals basis this anomaly would have been removed.)

Visitors to the church contribute to our income both through donations, including gift aid, and through purchases from our bookstall. Together, these accounted for a further quarter of our income in 2024. The next largest source of income was interest on the Church Farmhouse endowment fund, £9,375, the highest level recorded since 2020 and 16 per cent of total income.

Income from concerts and exhibitions and from church fees are largely outside our control and can fluctuate a lot from year to year. Income from concerts and exhibitions at £6,400 was boosted substantially by the use of the church for nationally acclaimed performances of Benjamin Britten's *Curlew River* and included filming fees. Due mainly to the continued popularity of the church for weddings, church fees were also considerably greater than in previous years (£6,066).

Expenditure from the General Fund was largely routine, totalling £51,852. The largest item is our parish share (£14,902), which rose by 2.8 per cent compared with the previous year, less than inflation, and was paid in full in April of the year. Donations to charities (£5,100) from our tithe

increased compared with the previous year (£4,500) in line with the level of receipts into the General Fund. Church running costs – mainly electricity – totalled £6,291. The pattern of other expenditure was much the same as in recent years.

The overall result was a surplus of £7,987 which resulted in an accumulated balance in the General Fund at the end of the year of just over £35,000. This will help to offset the rising costs of the building work planned for 2025.

Reserves Policy

The PCC's reserves policy is to maintain a reserve of 50 per cent of annual expenditure in the General Fund, in line with Charity Commission guidelines. This policy is more than fulfilled taking into account unrestricted and designated fund balances. However, the PCC considers it to be prudent to carry this level of reserves, given the plans to install new toilets and kitchen facilities in the tower. It is likely to reduce considerably over the course of 2025.

Restricted, Designated and Endowment Funds

The restricted Fabric I fund is currently only used for donations for a specific purpose in relation to the fabric of the church, for example donations for the reglazing of windows. In 2024, a donation of £3,600 was received from the Friends of Holy Trinity for the purchase of a new nave altar table for the church.

The other main restricted fund is the Bells Fund. This benefits from donations from visiting ringers (£122 in 2024) and fees payable when the bells are rung for weddings (£1,000 in 2024). The closing balance of the fund was £6,232.

Our scheme for sponsorship of the church floodlights continued to be popular. The scheme raised £675: this restricted fund is then used to offset the cost of electricity. (Note that the apparent fall in receipts into this fund is due to the issue of gift aid overpayment/reimbursement mentioned above.)

The majority of the designated Fabric II Fund continued to be invested in a Hargreaves-Lansdown managed portfolio. In 2024 it generated income of £6,206, a slight increase compared with 2023 (£6,063) and only slightly lower than the peak in 2019 (£6,717). Its value (as at January 2024) increased substantially compared with the previous year, though this is unlikely to be maintained because of turbulence in markets following events in the USA in early 2025. Expenditure from this fund totalled £12,429 during the year, mainly on preparatory work for the tower project and a deposit on work to be carried out on the bell frame in 2025. The closing balance was £197,364.

The main movement in our endowment funds was an increase in value (as at October 2024) of £21,579 in the Church Farm House Fund, again reflecting market buoyancy at that time. The value of this Fund stood at £236,346 compared with the original investment value of £203,358 in 2011.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The PCC is a corporate body established by the Church of England. Members of the PCC are either ex officio or elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting in accordance with the Church Representation Rules. The PCC held 7 meetings during the year, with an average attendance level of 82 per cent. Discussions concerned the planning and implementation of the life of the Church, finance, and the maintenance of the fabric of the church building. During its meetings in 2024 the PCC was aware of its responsibility to comply with and to have due regard to the House of Bishops guidance on safeguarding and vulnerable adults. It has been agreed by the PCC that those elected to its membership will not be permitted to take their place on the PCC until the persons concerned have completed the necessary safeguarding training, this training being the Church of England Basic and Foundation courses.

Committees of the Parochial Church Council:

Standing Committee: The only committee required by law. It has the power to transact the business of the PCC between its meetings, subject to any directions given by the Council.

Membership: PCC Chairman, Wardens, Secretary/Treasurer, one additional PCC member.

Meeting of the Standing Committee: The committee did not need to meet during the year.

Fabric Committee: This committee has a remit in respect of the church building, churchyard, church car park and the associated fixed facilities (eg lighting, toilets, organ) to:

- Develop proposals to bring to the PCC for repair and enhancement
- Ensure that PCC decisions for repair and enhancement are carried out efficiently and effectively
- Have delegated authority from the PCC to commission minor maintenance works required (below the value of £1,000 including VAT)
- Review relevant risk assessments and to draw the attention of the PCC to any issues arising.

Membership: Fabric Officer (chair), Churchwardens, Treasurer, 1 additional member of PCC

Meeting of the Fabric Committee: The committee met 5 times during the year, each time reporting back to the PCC.

Deanery Synod and Team Council

Arthur Pooley and Jenny Allen are our representatives on Deanery Synod. Charles Morris and Sue Powell represent Holy Trinity on the Sole Bay Team Council and Jenny Allen is also on the Team Council ex officio as Team Treasurer. These provide the PCC with important links to the wider structures of the church.

Administrative information

Holy Trinity Church is situated in Church Lane, Blythburgh (IP19 9LL). It is part of the Diocese of St Edmundsbury and Ipswich, and a parish within the Sole Bay Team Ministry. The address for correspondence is The Vicarage, Gardner Road, Southwold, IP18 6HJ. The PCC operates under the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure and is exempted by order from registering with the Charity Commission. PCC members who served during 2024 were:

Ex Officio members:

- Revd Russ Gant (Team Rector and Chair)
- Churchwarden and lay vice chair: Meryl Doney (*until 21 May*)
- Churchwarden: Matthew Sullivan (*lay vice chair from 21 May*)
- Churchwarden: Rachael Wilks (*from 21 May*)
- Deanery Synod Representative: Jenny Allen (also Treasurer and Secretary)

Elected members:

- Peter Coghill (*died 21 October*)
- Roselyn Crane
- Meryl Doney (*from 21 May*)
- Sally East
- Charles Morris
- Janine Norris (*until 21 May*)
- Sue Powell
- Paul Simmons (also Fabric Officer)



Approved by the PCC on 7th May 2025

Team Rector/PCC Chair



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees

BLYTHBURGH PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

On accounts for the year
ended

31 December 2024

Charity no
(if any) n/a

Set out on pages

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31 December 2024

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

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.

Signed:

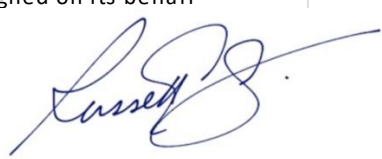
Date: 12 April 2025

Name:

Eunice C Crook BSc MBA OBE

Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF HOLY TRINITY CHURCH BLYTHBURGH									
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES									
For the year ending 31 December 2024									
				Unrestricted	Restricted	Designated	Endowment	Total	Total
				Funds	Funds	Funds	Funds	2024	2023
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS				£	£	£	£	£	£
Voluntary income				23,720	7,259	-	-	30,979	38,143
Activities for generating funds				16,608	-	-	-	16,608	13,409
Income from investments				9,386	-	6,206	203	15,795	14,682
Church activities				6,316	1,000	-	-	7,316	6,211
Other incoming resources				3,809	-	-	-	3,809	1,162
TOTAL				59,839	8,259	6,206	203	74,507	73,607
EXPENDITURE									
Cost of generating voluntary income									
Church activities				46,506	7,108	12,429	-	66,043	44,852
Fundraising trading costs				5,345	-	-		5,345	4,818
TOTAL				51,852	7,108	12,429	-	71,388	49,670
NET INCOMING RESOURCES				7,987	1,151	(6,223)	203	3,119	23,937
Gains/(Loss) on investments						26,511	21,755	48,266	(6,087)
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS				7,987	1,151	20,288	21,959	51,385	17,850
Balances brought forward									
As at 1 January 2024 (2023)				27,145	7,934	177,076	226,560	438,715	420,866
Balances carried forward									
As at 31 December 2024 (2023)				35,132	9,085	197,364	248,518	490,100	438,716

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF HOLY TRINITY CHURCH BLYTHBURGH							
BALANCE SHEET							
For the year ending 31 December 2024							
						2024	2023
FIXED ASSETS						£	£
Investments							
	Endowment Funds - Thistley Meadow					7,492	7,324
	Endowment Funds - Crofts					393	384
	Investment account - Hargreaves Lansdown					189,335	162,824
						197,220	170,532
CURRENT ASSETS							
Hargreaves Lansdown Managed Portfolio (Church Farmhouse)						236,346	214,767
Bank						56,534	53,415
						292,880	268,182
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS						490,101	438,714
REPRESENTED BY							
FUNDS							
Unrestricted						35,132	27,145
Restricted						9,086	7,934
Designated						197,364	177,076
Endowment						248,519	226,560
						490,101	438,715
Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 08-Apr-25							
and signed on its behalf							
							
.....							
Chairman							

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF HOLY TRINITY CHURCH BLYTHBURGH								
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS								
For the year ending 31 December 2024								
			Unrestricted	Restricted	Designated	Endowment	Total	Total
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS			Funds	Funds	Funds	Funds	2024	2023
Voluntary income			£	£	£	£	£	£
Planned giving								
	Gift aided donations		9,773				9,773	11,324
	Other		1,000				1,000	106
Collections								
	Plate - gift aided		970				970	
	Plate - other		2,569	43			2,612	4,184
	Missions			2,638			2,638	1,756
	Funerals		429				429	404
Tax recovered on planned giving and collections			625	180			805	6,065
Grants				3,600			3,600	2,500
Donations			2,003	122			2,125	3,376
Donations - South box/Goodbox								
	Gift aided donations		825				825	}
	Tax recovered		944				944	}
	Other		4,583				4,583	} 7344
Floodlighting (incl gift aid)				675			675	1,085
Legacies							0	0
			23,720	7,259	0	0	30,979	30,800
Activities for generating funds								
Concerts and exhibitions			6,400				6,400	1,050
Postcards etc			7,656				7,656	8,190
Traidcraft stall							0	353
Cafe & mini market/Christmas			2,552				2,552	3,816
			16,608	0	0	0	16,608	13,409
Income from investments								
Interest - Church Farm House			9,375				9,375	8,408
Interest - H-L Vantage					6,206		6,206	6,063
Dividend - Crofts			11				11	11
Dividend - Thistley Meadow						203	203	200
			9,386	0	6,206	203	15,795	14,682
Income from church activities								
Church fees			6,066				6,066	3,860
Tower fees				1,000			1,000	500
Other			250				250	
			6,316	1,000	0	0	7,316	6,211
Other incoming resources								
Rent of Wenhaston Road land			50				50	1,162
Reimbursements			3,759				3,759	1,851
			3,809	0	0	0	3,809	1,162
Total			59,839	8,259	6,206	203	74,507	73,608

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF HOLY TRINITY CHURCH BLYTHBURGH									
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS									
For the year ending 31 December 2024									
				Unrestricted	Restricted	Designated	Endowment	Total	Total
				Funds	Funds	Funds	Funds	2024	2023
EXPENDITURE				£	£	£	£	£	£
Church activities									
Missionary and charitable giving									
Overseas:									
	Red Cross Emergencies Fund			1,700				1,700	
	Children of Peace				658			658	
	Save the Children				505			505	
	Farm Africa							-	1,500
	UNICEF							-	630
	Missions to Seafarers			1,700				1,700	75
	Kagera							-	120
Home:									
	Royal British Legion			20				20	44
	Walter Storch Ltd (Santa Paws)				274			274	
	A-Rocha			221				221	
	Home-start in Suffolk			1,700				1,700	
	Lowestoft Foodbank							-	137
	Farming Community Network				245			245	
	SHCT			50				50	50
	SSAFA				133			133	
	Young Minds							-	1,500
	Citizens Advice							-	1,500
	The Children's Society								630
	Crisis				658			658	
Charitable collections at Funerals								-	
Ministry: Parish Share				14,902				14,902	14,491
Team expenses				1,867				1,867	1,803
Church running expenses				6,291	675			6,966	7,258
Church service costs				3,365				3,365	3,500
Church maintenance				5,853				5,853	4,992
Capital expenditure on fabric						12,429		12,429	-
Purchase of fixtures and fittings				489	3,960			4,449	2,135
Churchyard upkeep				2,801				2,801	2,134
Refreshments								-	235
Miscellaneous				5,548				5,548	2,093
Gifts								-	25
				46,506	7,108	12,429	-	66,043	44,852
Fundraising costs									
Postcards etc				4,989				4,989	4,447
Christmas Market				356				356	371
								-	
				5,345	-	-	-	5,345	4,818
TOTAL				51,852	7,108	12,429	-	71,388	49,670

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF HOLY TRINITY CHURCH BLYTHBURGH		
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS for the year ending 31 December 2024		

GENERAL REMARKS							
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In 2008, the accounts of Blythburgh Parochial Church Council moved from a receipts and payments basis to accruals, because the level of income received that year exceeded the threshold for receipts and payments, due to a major repairs appeal. Income again exceeded the threshold in 2015, due to receipt of a large legacy. However, the threshold is now so high that the PCC considers it highly unlikely that it will be exceeded again in the near future. Therefore for the 2024 accounts, they agreed to revert to the basis of receipts and payments. This makes no difference to the balances carried forward from 2023 on the designated and endowment funds, but there are some differences in both the restricted and unrestricted funds. In particular, the value of the bookstall stock is no longer valued as an asset, but sales and purchases of stock are valued as running costs/income.						
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STAFF COSTS							
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None in 2024							
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2024

INVESTMENTS						£	
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Market value 1 January 2024					7,708	
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7,708	
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Market value - H-L Vantage (Oct 2023)				162,824	
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162,824	
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Gain/(Loss) (Endowment Funds)					176	
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176

Gain/(Loss) (H-L account, Jan 2025)					26,511	
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26.511	
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197.220

197.220

The market value at 31 December represents investments for				
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Endowment Funds - Thistley Meadow	7,492				
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Endowment Funds - Crofts		393				
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Investment account - Hargreaves Lansdown	189,335				
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FUNDS								
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The PCC has two Fabric Funds: the first, Fabric I, is restricted and consists of donations made specifically to maintain the fabric of the church. Up to and including 2020, the proceeds from the bookstall and visitor donations went into Fabric I, but from the beginning of 2021, the rubric inviting visitor donations was changed in order to de-restrict them. This income now benefits the General Fund. At the end of 2024, Fabric I contained the balance of the grant made by the Inspired by Becker Society, intended to fund a permanent memorial to Harry Becker.

The second, Fabric II, is a designated fund into which the PCC has transferred General funds to meet repair costs.

The PCC has two further restricted funds: one for donations made towards floodlighting the church, which are used to offset the costs of electricity (£675 in 2024, including gift aid). The second is the Bells Fund which benefits from payments of wedding fees and donations from visiting ringers. The balance on this fund at the end of 2024

was £6,232.								
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LEGACIES								
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None received in 2024							
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