

Mulbarton Annual Finance Report 2025

In 2025 we were able to pay the Parish share of £46,524 in full for the first time in many years. As usual, the PCC had committed to pay the Parish Proportion of the share in monthly instalments of approx £2,600. The PCC agreed in December to pay the remaining £15,000 due to the Diocese.

The Parish Share request for 2026 is £48,377.

Unrestricted receipts for the year were approximately £65,700 and unrestricted payments were approximately £70,400. A deficit of approximately £4,700. (Unrestricted in this context includes the funds that the PCC has designated for particular projects) Unrestricted giving and Harvest House income were up and expenses, not including share payments, were down.

Total receipts for the year, including restricted funds, were approximately £88,300 and payments were £94,900 . A deficit of approximately £6,600.

The 'General fund' is where the money for the day-to-day running of most aspects of the church life is held. It was discovered in early 2026 that some money had been entered in the General fund in late 2025 by mistake. In addition, money received in 2025 but not paid into the Bank of Scotland until 2026 was moved from the 2025 accounts to the 2026 accounts. These corrections meant the General fund dropped to just over £2,000 at the end of 2025. As the General fund had been £8,000 at the start of the year, unfortunately, £6,000 of the share top up payment effectively came from there. (There was an outstanding claim of £2,100 for Gift aid and Gift Aid on Small Donations (GASDS) to the end of December in early 2026 which partially rectified this).

In 2025, the PCC looked again at spending priorities and the majority felt that we should pay as much as possible to the full Parish Share before tithing our unrestricted income. PCC would welcome any views on this decision from Electoral Roll members.

Adrian continued to work with South Norfolk Help Hub, the local school, the surgery, the community connector and members of the local community and 36 grants totalling £5,400 were paid to local households in need. We also gave out 11 hampers at Christmas to a mix of families, couples and individuals. We did not have grants from Norfolk Community Foundation this year. We received £4,750 donations (including gift aid received) towards this plus

interest of £205 from endowments, a total of £4955, so the fund has reduced by approx. £450 this year. Looking forward into the interregnum we have paused the scheme temporarily and are putting together a team and looking at the strategy for management.

We continued to support Nepal and Bukavu with annual donations. Tearfund and Embrace the Middle East received donations from the collections at our Harvest and Christmas services. Many other charities at home and abroad received donations from restricted giving as seen on the Financial Statements. Church at Hanover gave to six different charities over the year, including the Community pantry via the 'Food Bank' restricted fund.

The Parish Council changed grant requirements in 2024 so we haven't received the usual grant for general churchyard maintenance from them for 2 years as we navigate this process. We applied and received a grant of £1,000 in November. Increased revenue from Harvest house enabled us to set up a designated fund in 2024 from burial fees for churchyard maintenance, which has helped to cover the lack of grant income so far.

We have continued the process of re-ordering the church. So far, in 2025 we have spent £4,500 from the restricted 'Proj(Reordering) fund' on architect's fees and surveys. Once we have the plans from our architect Dennis Tuttle we will begin to look for grants and should be able to access the support that is available from the local renewable energy projects.

The 'Listed Places of Worship' Grant scheme run by the Dept for Culture, Media and Sport has enabled us to reclaim VAT on repairs for the church building, including architects fees, plus servicing for heating, organ etc . The LPoW scheme has been running since 2001 and has been very helpful when we have considered any larger project. Unfortunately the scheme closed at the end of the 2025/26 tax year. This is rather bad timing for us as we have commenced the reordering project in the church. However 'The Places of Worship Renewal Fund' delivered by Historic England will open to applications starting in 2026/27. Further details will be announced by DCMS in due course and we hope that this will be similar to the original scheme.

(Note about following accounts: minus figures are shown in brackets for ease of reading)