

CATHOLIC PARISH OF KIDLINGTON AND WOODSTOCK

Including St Thomas More Catholic Church and Primary School

And St Hugh of Lincoln

Part of the Arch Diocese of Birmingham, Registered Charity Number 234216

Parish Assembly

Minutes for the meeting held at St Thomas More church hall

On Sunday 14 June 2026

Fr Damian Nwankwo led approximately 60 parishioners in prayer at 12:50 pm following a social gathering with a buffet lunch. Apologies were received from Charles King and Julieann Exley. Fr Damian had circulated a leaflet (see ADDENDUM C) that he had prepared to accompany the agenda. Also submitted were *Churches Together* (ADDENDUM A), Finance Report (ADDENDUM B) and Maintenance Report below.

1. Margaret King agreed to chair the meeting and welcomed everyone. She explained that Fr Prem Fernando started the Parish Assembly and its support group and that the support group acted upon agreements and resolutions that arose in the assembly meetings. In the past year the support group met monthly through the Christmas and New Year period to ensure that the parish continued to function in the absence of the parish priest, and the Dean, Canon Mervyn Tower, skilfully provided coverage for the important services whilst Eucharistic ministers filled in. Fr Jijimon J Puthuveettikalam was one of the covering priests who returned to the St Hugh's hall to launch his new book.
 - 1.1. Parish Life and Churches together: MK talked about the events that have occurred in the parish over the last year, both religious and social. This included the Parish Jubilee Pilgrimage to John Henry Newman College organised by Irma Foster and MK and attended by parishioners from both our churches. She also talked about Churches Together in Kidlington and the events organised throughout the year jointly with the Anglicans, Methodist and Baptist churches. (See Addendum A for further information about Churches Together in Kidlington.)
 - 1.2. Sandra Lenagan picked up on the Jubilee Pilgrimage to the church of Blessed Dominic Barberi at Littlemore and the Newman Centre with some detail from Robin Scofield. The visit included a Mass and a lecture on the life and work of St John Henry Newman. SL also added to the Churches Together activities with five other churches in Woodstock that included conducting a service once every five weeks at the nearby care home of Spencer Court from 5:30pm for 45 minutes; also carol singing in an ecumenical group. Both SL and Charles King (in absentia) mentioned the Pastoral Group, that evolved out of St Vincent de Paul Society but lapsed during the Covid lockdown, and it is intended to resume this in some form. Eucharistic ministers played a crucial role in the absence of a parish priest by conducting weekday services.
 - 1.3. Ian Drury delivered a brief summary of the uses of the St Thomas More hall. (Interaction with the school continues with the generous availability of the school hall for the larger celebrations and fundraising events.) Ruth Fiddy followed with a summary of activities in the St Hugh's hall: particularly mindfulness and wellbeing exercises, drama school ballet, parties and society lectures; no late night use. Temporary rental of the parking facilities is evolving into possible permanent rental plus company use of the hall. SL pointed out that a St Hugh's Hall Committee will be established with its first meeting in September; initially to revive the lecture series that was so popular before Covid hit and anyone interested should contact Sandra as soon as possible.
 - 1.4. Julie Murphy tabled a report (Addendum B) from the Finance Committee, the graphics of which were included in Fr Damian's leaflet. The committee thanks the fundraising efforts of certain individuals. Additionally, special parish debt collections and income from St Hugh's hall made a significant contribution to the income of the parish. The net result for the year was a surplus of just over £16,000. The parish debt (to the diocese) stands at over £500,000 and is reducing at about £16,000 a year, which is half of the £30,000 a year target. (Interest on the loan is at a preferentially low rate.)
 - 1.5. There was no school report though Julieann Exley has submitted a request for a meeting. (The secretary notes that there is always school representation in the support group and Rania Naser was in attendance at this meeting.

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- 1.6. Louis Borucki reported on church maintenance of buildings and grounds as follows:
- 1.6.1. **St Thomas More** church and hall electrical installation Safety certified 6/25 valid until June 2030 (5 year cycle). Gas safety inspection and servicing completed on all three boilers, 2 warm air in Church and 1 combination boiler in Church hall. Thanks to Sean Calnan for his assistance with this.
 - 1.6.2. Health and Safety audit completed by Paul Malloy - no major issues identified.
 - 1.6.3. Several sound deadening panels refitted on the ceiling in the Church hall. Thanks to Ian Drury for his assistance with this.
 - 1.6.4. Defibrillator regular mandatory checks completed by Charles King.
 - 1.6.5. Several areas of water ingress in the Church and sacristy during very heavy rains. Ongoing maintenance and gutter clearance. Major works required to completely solve these ongoing issues.
 - 1.6.6. **St Hugh's** gas safety inspection and servicing completed on the Church warm air system and the hall combination boiler and underfloor heating system. Thanks to Sean Calnan for his assistance with this.
 - 1.6.7. New wireless thermostat fitted to the Church boiler system. Electrical installation safety certified until 5/29 (5 year cycle)
 - 1.6.8. Fire alarm system regular checks completed and recorded by Richard Pye.
 - 1.6.9. Health and safety audit completed by Paul Malloy - no major issues identified.
 - 1.6.10. Sewer blockage rectified and flushed through. Drain construction issues identified including a manhole cover buried in the drive. Contractor recommended septic tank clearance as becoming filled to capacity. Thanks to Sean Calnan for his assistance with this. No access for heavy vehicles requires a special solution.
 - 1.6.11. Complaints received from hall renters regarding the audio system. System checked and found to have been incorrectly adjusted at some point. System comprehensively checked and all 4 hall speakers now working and free from interference.
 - 1.6.12. Drain cover in car park refitted.
 - 1.6.13. Tree maintenance carried out after complaints from neighbouring properties. Thanks to Sandra Lenagan for arranging this.
2. Vision for the Parish by Fr Damian: He thanked everyone for attending and for accepting him as their new parish priest. He complimented the parish for doing well and is pleased to see that the component parts of a thriving community are in place. There are some things that would help it to do better and he encouraged everyone to read his leaflet (Addendum C). His introduction of Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament on the first Friday of each month (St Thomas More) and Wednesday (St Hugh of Lincoln) is a beginning and has inspired one parishioner to donate a new monstrance for St Hugh's.
- 2.1. He thanked all the volunteers in the parish and recognised that the official list needed updating and invited any suggestions for amendment. He encouraged everyone to consider carefully how they might be able to use their talents, experiences and knowledge to participate in parish life and serve the community more fully.
 - 2.2. Fr Damian called for a meeting to re-start and get a working document into people's homes. Such a document would serve as a guide, including salient aspects of Canon Law; not to restrict but to enable existing and new groups to function well.
 - 2.3. The floor was open to discussion and suggestions the strongest of which, from Ike, was the renewal of the Pastoral Group; to include befriending and an increase in Eucharistic ministers.
 - 2.4. It was agreed that this gathering should continue as the Parish Assembly with its Parish Assembly Support Group. It was also agreed that meetings should be held on Sundays after the 11 o'clock Mass in Kidlington.
3. There was no other business.

Fr Damian closed the meeting with a short prayer and blessing at 13:50.

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ADDENDUM A – CHURCHES TOGETHER

Churches Together in Kidlington (CTK) is part of the wider 'Churches Together' organisation in the UK where Christian churches work together sharing common values and fostering greater understanding. In Kidlington, clergy and representatives of the Catholic, Anglican, Methodist and Baptist churches meet four times a year and organise some joint events as well as supporting events in individual churches. This year:

January saw the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity with midday prayers being in the different churches each day. There was also a fellowship meal which was well attended, with representation from all the churches. We shared a wonderful bring and share feast and welcomed our speaker Emma Worrall from the charity Open Doors which supports persecuted Christians around the world.

The World Day of Prayer service was held in St John's church in March, and members of each church took part in the service which had been prepared by Christian women of Nigeria and told the stories of some of the joys and struggles of their lives. It is a lovely opportunity each year to take part in something that is shared on the same day with Christians throughout the world and offers a small insight into the lives of Christian people in different cultures.

On Good Friday in the morning, CTK organize a Walk of Witness where Christians walk carrying a cross from St John's Church through to the High street in Kidlington, stopping at St Thomas More and the Methodist church on route for a reading and to sing a hymn. In the high street the Passion is read in parts and further hymns are sung as witness to Jesus' death. Afterwards, the Methodist church welcomed everyone for hot cross buns.

There is always a joint Pentecost service but unfortunately timings clash with the 11 am Sunday Mass, but some who attend Saturday evening Mass do go along.

The Methodist Church, supported by members of the other churches, continue to host Holiday at Home for older folk, in the summer, and this year it will run on 13th, 14th and 15th of August

In September 2025, CTK hosted a harvest tea and service at the Methodist Church. The Church was full and all the churches were well represented. The service was quite simple, with a number of well-known harvest hymns, and the 'bring and share' tea brought a lovely range of tasty treats. It will be repeated again this year on a Sunday afternoon at the end of September.

At Christmas time there is usually a CTK presence at the switching on of the lights in the village giving out Christmas cards with the times of Christmas services and tealights, which were much appreciated.

So CTK continues to bring the work of our churches together and to celebrate the richness of the Gospel we share in so many ways. We could always do with more people to join us to continue and find new ways to come alongside one another. It is a great joy to work and share together.

Margaret King June 2026

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ADDENDUM B – FINANCE REPORT

Notes for Parish Assembly – 14 June 2026

Overall income in 2025 has decreased slightly from 2024 and overall expenses have also decreased. An in-depth analysis of the figures highlighted some key points, as follows:

- Overall income has decreased in 2025 to £116,072.15 compared to £122,814.25 in 2024. This decrease of £6742.10 is approximately the total of the following individual decreases – STH Hall hire £1039; STH car park income £4800; legacies £1000.
- Overall expenses have decreased in 2025 to £100,039.04 compared to £120,887.91 in 2024, resulting in a surplus of £16033.11.
- There is a gap between normal Offertory Income and tax rebate of approximately £78k, and the fixed costs and expenses of the parish of approximately £99k. Fund raising efforts and income from STH Hall bring a total of approximately £35k against that gap. These Parish fund raising events, special parish debt collections and income from St Hugh's Hall made a significant contribution to the income of the parish. Fund-raising activities shown under STH include activities organized at STM, such as wreath-making and Christmas Raffle. The Committee recognizes and greatly appreciates the efforts of the various groups involved in raising these funds, with special thanks to Mary Gilgunn-Jones, Mary Laina, Ian Drury and Maggie and Lou Borucki.
- Normal income of the parish has remained relatively steady over the last 8 years, ranging between £61-66k.
- Review of the income and expenditure for St Hugh's Hall shows that income from the hall fell slightly in 2025 to £35,196.47 compared to £37,044.96 in 2024 although remaining higher than earlier years. Interest payments on the loan remain steady in 2025 so that the recovery is also relatively steady at £16096.93 in 2025 but continues to fall short of the target of £30,000. At the end of 2025, 72.9% of the debt is remaining, i.e. £541,190.90. The Finance Committee recognizes the efforts of Ruth Fiddy for all her work in generating income at STH Hall.
- Running costs show a reduction in 2025 of approximately £20k on the previous year. There is no single reason for this, although a number of items saw a decrease, e.g.:
 - o Office Expenses were lower (-£4145.67) and this may be linked to photocopier rental that was finished at the end of 2024
 - o Clergy Allowance was lower as there was no parish priest from mid-October to the end of year (-£2679.77)
 - o Church Liturgical / Pastoral costs were lower (-£5371.45)
 - o Church Utilities were lower (-£545.43)
 - o STH Hall building maintenance was lower (-£1959.42)
 - o Parish levies were lower (-£1337.84)

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ADDENDUM C – VISION FOR THE PARISH BY FR DAMIAN NWANKWO

(This was produced for those at the meeting in pamphlet format.)

Welcome to our Parish General Assembly (Sunday 14th June 2026 after 11am Mass). Lunch, tea/coffee provides before, during and after the meeting. You are warmly encouraged to come; your presence is important.

1. Gratitude and Communion in Parish Ministry

My dear brothers and sisters

I would like to express my sincere thanks for the very warm welcome you have extended to me as your new parish priest. I am truly touched by your kindness, generosity, and support. It is a privilege to join this parish community, and I look forward to serving you and sharing with you in the life of faith. I wish to sincerely thank all those who continue to help to keep the church doors open and care for the house of God with such quiet faithfulness and dedication.

In a particular way, I want to acknowledge the great effort of so many of you, especially during the months when there was no resident priest in the parish. It was through your combined generosity, commitment, and teamwork that the parish continued to function, the church remained open, and the life of faith was sustained. Your willingness to give your time, talents, and support has ensured that the church remains a place of prayer, welcome, and peace for all who enter. May the Lord reward you abundantly for your service. Please keep me in your prayers as I begin this ministry among you, and be assured of my prayers for you all.

2. Starting Ministry: Envisioning the Ideal Parish Community

I did not know exactly from where to begin my ministry, so I started by asking myself a simple but important question: "What does an ideal Catholic parish community represent, or what should it look like?" I believe that reflecting on this question helps us set a vision and a direction as we journey together as a parish community. The honest answer I found through my reflection and research is that there is no such thing as a perfect parish. However, there is a shared understanding that some parish communities come very close to this ideal and have become models that many others aspire to follow. For instance,

3. The Parish We Aspire to Become: A Living Witness of Christ's Love

While no parish is perfect, the Church offers a vision of what every parish should strive to become. She states that; A flourishing parish is a visible sign of the Kingdom of God, a community where people encounter Christ, grow as His disciples, and are sent forth to bring the Gospel to the world. As Pope Francis has often reminded us, the parish

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should be "a community of communities," where people experience both the closeness of God and the warmth of Christian fellowship. An ideal parish is committed to the formation of its members through sound catechesis for children, young people, and adults. It is a place where faith is nurtured, questions are welcomed, and people are helped to grow in their relationship with Christ and His Church.

Such a parish welcomes everyone. It is an inclusive community where people know one another, care for one another, and feel that they belong to a spiritual family rather than simply attending services anonymously. Hospitality, friendship, and mutual support are essential marks of parish life. A healthy parish also sees itself as a missionary community, dedicated to making disciples. It does not exist merely for its own members but seeks to share the Good News with others and invite them into a living relationship with Jesus Christ. In such a parish, the love received in the Eucharist is expressed in practical acts of charity and service. Such parish reaches out to those in need by supporting the poor, visiting the sick, caring for prisoners, assisting the lonely, supporting food banks and charitable initiatives, and promoting the dignity of every human person.

A parish of this kind encourages every person to discover and respond to God's call in their lives. It actively fosters vocations to marriage, priesthood, religious life, and lay ministry. It also recognises the importance of young people, understanding that a parish with no place for its youth has no future. In this case, the life and mission of the parish are shared by all. While the priest provides spiritual leadership and pastoral guidance, the mission belongs to the entire community. Then, lay people participate actively according to their gifts and talents through catechesis, music ministry, administration, outreach programmes, visiting ministries, parish councils, and many other forms of service.

In such a parish, everyone recognises their responsibility for building up the Body of Christ. Together, clergy and laity work as co-responsible in the mission of the Church, creating a vibrant, welcoming, and faith-filled community that reflects the love of Christ to the world. These are our mission and vision in this parish; however, the question now is, "how can we pursue this goal"? To begin this mission, primarily, the church will have to continue to be kept open. Opening of the church is not just about unlocking the door in the morning but keeping a church open is not free from costs include; interfacing with the recommendation of the archdiocese, canon law of the church and civil laws of the state, ensuring that safety, responsibility, and hospitality are all in place.

4. St Thomas More and St Hugh of Lincoln Today: A Community of Faith, Unity and Service

Having spent some time among you, I can honestly say that our parish is already very close to the vision of an ideal parish community. I have witnessed great faith, generosity, welcome, and commitment from so many people. Like every parish, there are always small areas where we can grow and improve, but these are only minor adjustments. By continuing to work together in unity, prayer, and service, we can build on the strong foundations that already exist.

5. One Body, Many Gifts: The Beauty of Diversity in Our Parish Community

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Unity in diversity is a beautiful expression of God's work among His people. Although we come from different backgrounds, cultures, ages, and life experiences, we are united in one faith, one Lord, and one Baptism. In the Church, diversity is not a weakness but a gift. Each person brings unique talents, perspectives, and experiences which, when shared in love, enrich the whole community. Just as many parts form one body, so we are called to live and work together in harmony as the Body of Christ. True unity does not mean uniformity, but being deeply united in Christ, who is our centre and our peace. When we live in mutual love, respect, and understanding, our diversity becomes a strength that builds up the Church and reflects the beauty of God's creation. The multicultural nature of our parish is therefore a great blessing and a real advantage. Our different cultures, languages, and traditions enrich parish life and strengthen our shared witness to the Gospel. When lived in the spirit of unity in diversity, these differences do not divide us but instead help to build a stronger, more vibrant parish rooted in Christ. Together, as one family of faith, we are called to grow in mutual respect, understanding, and love, so that our parish may truly be a sign of unity for all.

6. Closing the Gap: Moving Closer to the Ideal Parish Community

How can we use these strengths and blessings within our parish to help us grow together and move closer to the vision of the parish community we hope to become? We often think of many important practical concerns, especially the challenge of keeping the church doors open. This leads us to an important question: what does it truly mean to keep the church doors open, and how can we ensure a lively and vibrant parish life? How can we, together, continue to keep the church open and also build a parish that is active, welcoming, and full of life?

7. Building Together: Sustaining an Open and Vibrant Parish Community

In the UK, keeping a parish church open requires a great deal of steady, often unseen effort. It involves not only practical organisation but also the careful management of safety, safeguarding, and financial responsibilities. An open church must be safe, clean, and welcoming, and this depends on faithful volunteers, good coordination, and the quiet commitment of many people. Without those who are willing to serve regularly, many churches would struggle to remain open. In this sense, it is a hidden ministry that allows the church to remain a place of prayer, welcome, and encounter with God for the whole community. We can continue to keep the church doors open and build a vibrant parish by working together as one family, each person contributing with faith, commitment, and a sense of responsibility for the life of the Church.

First, we need faithful volunteers who are willing to help with opening and closing the church, welcoming people, and supporting daily activities. This simple service ensures that the church remains accessible, safe, and open for prayer. Second, we need active participation in parish life, regular attendance at Mass, prayer, and involvement in ministries such as readers, music, catechesis, and outreach. A living parish is one where people not only attend but also take responsibility and share in its mission. Third, we must support the parish both financially and practically so that essential needs such as heating, lighting, maintenance, and insurance can be met. Fourth, a vibrant parish grows through hospitality and evangelisation. When people feel welcomed, valued, and spiritually nourished, they naturally become part of the mission and invite others. Finally, everything must be rooted in prayer and the Eucharist, because it is Christ Himself who builds and sustains His Church.

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8. Reviving Our Ministries: Strengthening Parish Groups for Mission and Service through collaboration.

For a parish to be truly alive, its various groups and ministries must be active, coordinated, and working together in harmony. When groups become less active, it is often not due to lack of interest, but rather fatigue, limited coordination, or a shortage of encouragement and leadership. To help our parish groups function well again, we must first focus on rebuilding communication and invitation. Many people are willing to serve but simply need to be personally encouraged, welcomed, and invited back into active involvement. Again, clear leadership and structure are essential within each group, so that responsibilities are shared fairly and no one is overburdened. Moreover, we must promote unity in our parish life, ensuring that ministries work together rather than in isolation. Each group should understand that it forms part of one shared parish mission. We also need regular meetings, guidance, and support, so that groups can plan effectively, reflect on their work, and continue to grow in service.

Above all, prayer must remain at the centre of all we do. When groups pray together, they remain rooted in Christ, who is the source of all life and strength. In addition, all parish activities should be carried out in a spirit of order and responsibility, in line with the teachings of the Church and the appropriate canonical and diocesan guidelines, so that our service remains faithful, transparent, and well-structured. With patience, encouragement, and shared commitment, our parish groups can once again become vibrant instruments of faith, service, and community life.

9. Walking in Communion: Guiding Parish Life Through Canon Law and Archdiocesan Parish handbook 2025 for running of the parish

As we continue to build a strong and vibrant parish community, it is important that the life and administration of our parish are guided not only by goodwill and pastoral care, but also by the wisdom and structure provided by the Church through Canon Law and the guidelines of the Archdiocese as in the parish handbook 2025. Canon Law provides the framework that helps ensure the sacraments are celebrated reverently and properly, that the rights and responsibilities of all members of the Church are respected, and that parish life is conducted in an orderly, fair, and transparent manner. Its purpose is not to place unnecessary restrictions on us, but rather to support the mission of the Church and promote the spiritual well-being of the faithful.

The Archdiocesan guidelines help us apply these principles in practical ways within our local context. They provide direction in areas such as safeguarding, health and safety, finance, parish administration, liturgy, governance, and pastoral planning. By following these guidelines faithfully, we strengthen unity, accountability, and trust within our parish. We also ensure that everything we do remains in communion with the wider Church and contributes to the common good of our parish community. As clergy and laity working together, we are all called to exercise our responsibilities with generosity, respect, and a spirit of collaboration, always seeking what best serves the mission of the Church and the salvation of souls. In this way, we can continue to grow as a parish that is not only welcoming and vibrant, but also well-organised, responsible, and faithful to the life of the Church

10. Achieving Our Mission Through Co-Responsibility and Inclusion

Achieving the mission of our parish is a shared responsibility. It cannot rest on the shoulders of a few individuals, but requires the participation, commitment, and gifts of the entire parish community. One of the main ways we share in this mission is through the various ministries and pastoral groups within the parish. These provide

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opportunities for everyone to contribute according to their talents, interests, and vocation. The good news is that many of these ministries and groups are already in place. Thanks be to God, and thanks to the dedication of so many parishioners, much has continued despite the challenges we have faced.

However, the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, followed by a period without a resident priest, inevitably affected parish life. While many ministries have remained active, some have become weaker, and a few have ceased to function altogether. As we look to the future, perhaps this is an opportunity to reflect on how we can restore and renew these ministries and pastoral groups. Not simply by returning to the past, but by building on what worked well, and adapting where necessary to meet the needs of the parish today. The list of ministries and groups is provided below. I invite you to study it carefully, reflect on where your gifts might be used, and consider how together we can strengthen and revitalise these areas of parish life. By working together in a spirit of co-responsibility, inclusion, and service, we can continue to build the vibrant, welcoming, and faith-filled parish community to which we all aspire.

11. Practical Confirmation of Parish Group Activity and Presence

As many ministries have not been asked to submit written reports, may they kindly confirm their continued activity by responding during the roll call. The Finance Team, which manages data, will instead provide its report in writing. Then, other who are prepared can report.

Please indicate:

1. Parish secretariat: Damian Nwankwo, Marggie, Chris, Mary May
2. Readers (Lector) Richard Pye/Garrett Nagle
3. Extraordinary Ministers in the church and to the sick – Sean, Sandra, Lou, Maggie, Michael, Verena, Ian, Mary Gilgunn, Margaret King, Mary Laina, Carol, Garrett, Rania, Tim, Jane, Robin.
4. Liturgical music and Singing -Anna, Louise team/Marcelle, Jean
5. Liturgical Music Saturday- Kidlington and Woodstock: Maria/Angela
6. Church Cleaning group -Magaret Longworth, help needed
7. Flower arranging group - Magaret Longworth/ Sandra
8. Sacristy Team -Anne Wikinson, Milagros Porte, Jane Lemon, Sandra, Robin
9. Altar serving and training – School Masses – Ian/ Tim Selwood
10. Halls management team - Ian, Ruth, Jean
11. Greeters and ushers – Marika Dimech
12. Helping with collections – Bob Wright, Laura Timms, Chris Jummum, Maurice
13. Help counting collection -Chris, Julie, Denise, Kazia, Garrett & Angela Nagle, Ian Johnson
14. Helping with looking after the gardens – Marika Dimech
15. Organizing the children's liturgy – Clare Haley/ Yaminah Pupek, Mary, Rania
16. Organizers of the youth activities – Margaret King, Rosine Heudi
17. Catechists team – Irma Foster, Mary Gilgunn-Jones, Headteacher, Rania Naiser, Help needed
18. Church together Kidlington(K) and Woodstock (W) – Margaret, Sandra, help needed
19. Kidlington and Woodstock News articles – Margaret, Sandra
20. Fund raising group – Margaret Gilgunn-Jones, Verena Brogden, help needed?
21. Website updating and maintenance- Mary Joseph
22. Parish prayer group- Bible group study – Jane Lemon, Kathleen Kelly

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23. Contemplative prayer group – Kathleen Kelly
24. Sunday coffee rota- Mary Gilgunn Jones/Sandra
25. Health and safety team- Paul Molloy, (Charles King – Defibrillator Checker) Help needed
26. Safeguarding team – Lena/Anastacia
27. Bookkeeping team – Chris Brennan/Rosine Heudi
28. IT team/ Streaming- Lou/Maggie
29. Finance committee – Kazia Kantor, Julie Murphy, Sean Calnan, Denise Upton (Bob Wright Special Adviser)
30. Children’s liturgy – Yaminah Pupek, Mary Joseph, Margaret King
31. Parish School – Juliann, Rania
32. Parish assembly and PSG organizers- Carline Johnson, Sandra, Hannah Duncan, Irma Foster, Headteacher, Margaret King, John Bellasis
33. Parish/ property maintenance team Lou, Sean, Ian
34. Food Bank Collection- Marika, Robin
35. Parish Photographer – Michael Appiah
36. Youth Ministry – Help needed
37. Bereavement team – Help needed?
38. Marriage Ministry – Help needed?

12. Financial Report

So, we now invite the Finance Committee to present their report on the parish’s financial situation. Then others.

Overall income in 2025 decreased slightly from 2024 and overall expenses also decreased. Some key points will be shared during the meeting. The charts below highlight major areas of income and expenditure with a comparison over the last 3 years, as follows:



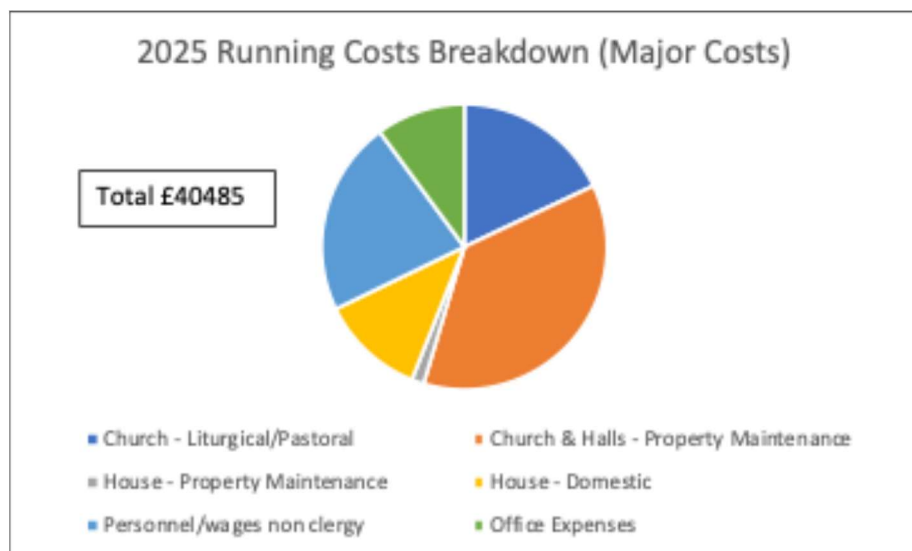
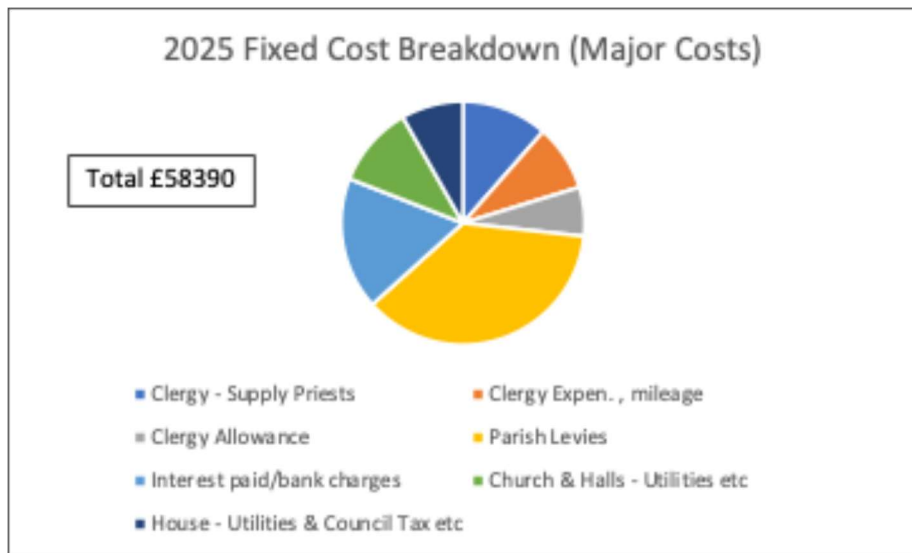
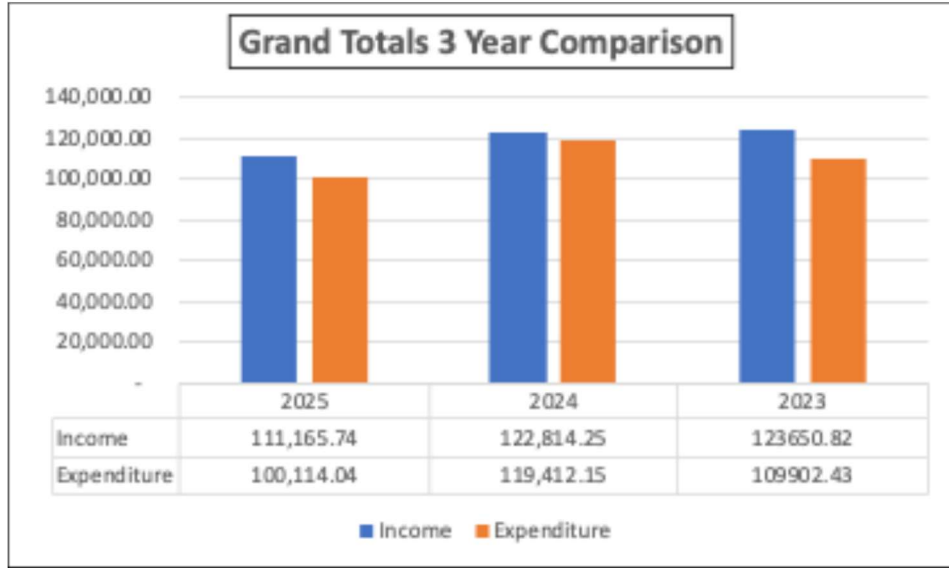
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Date:

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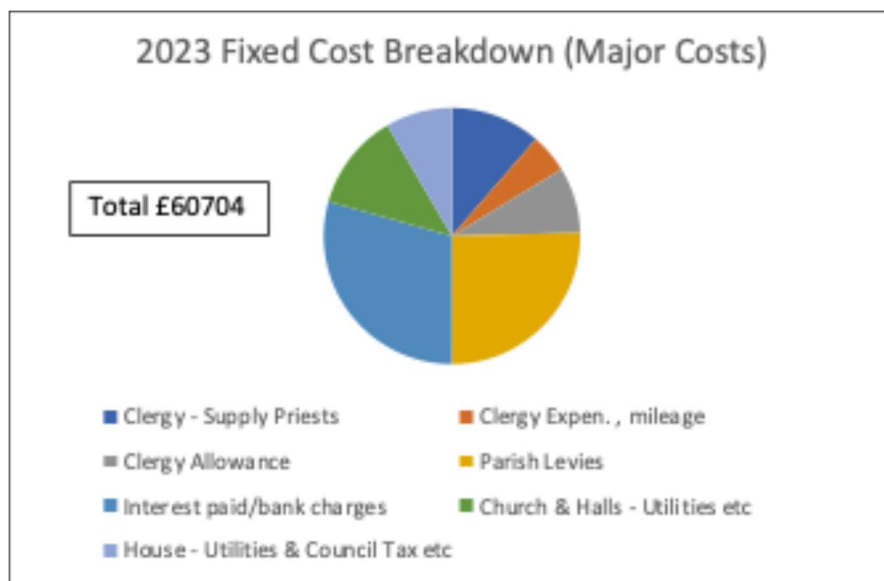
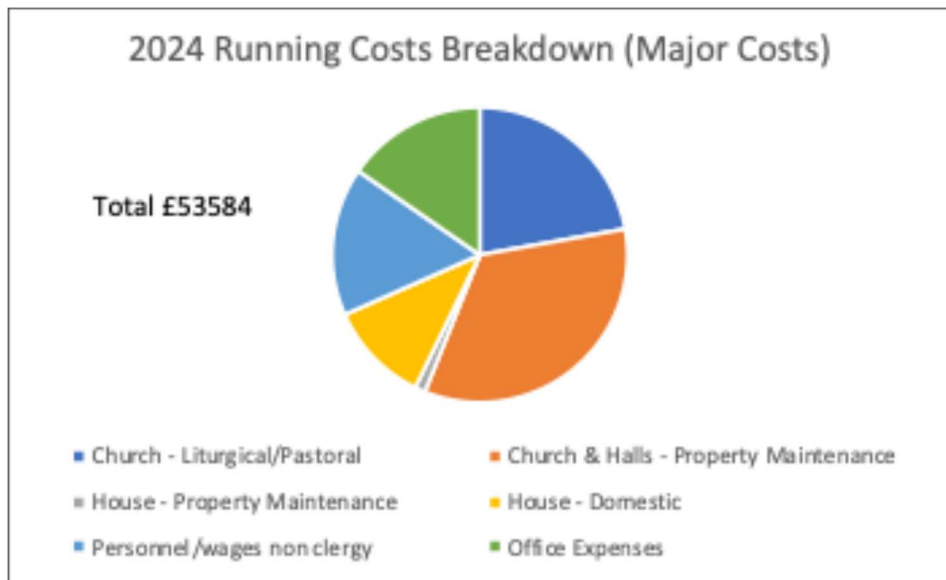
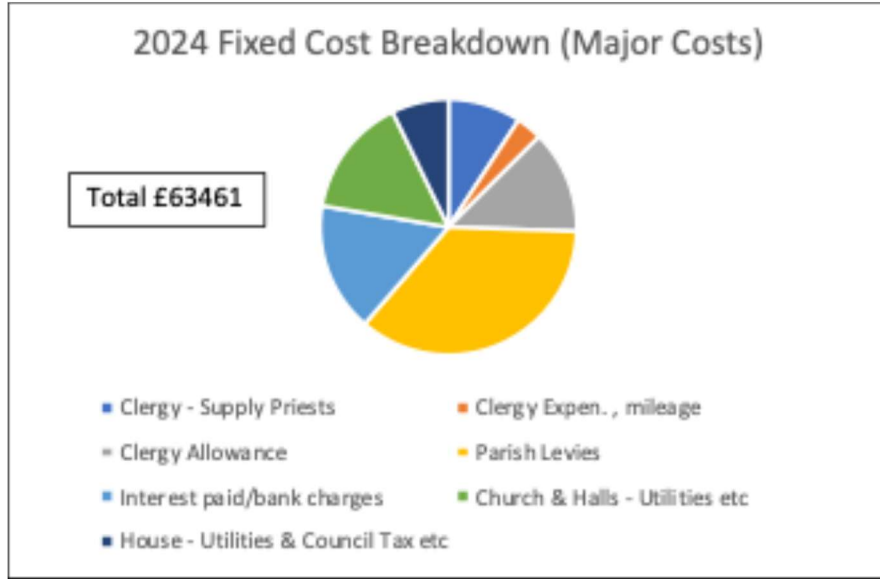
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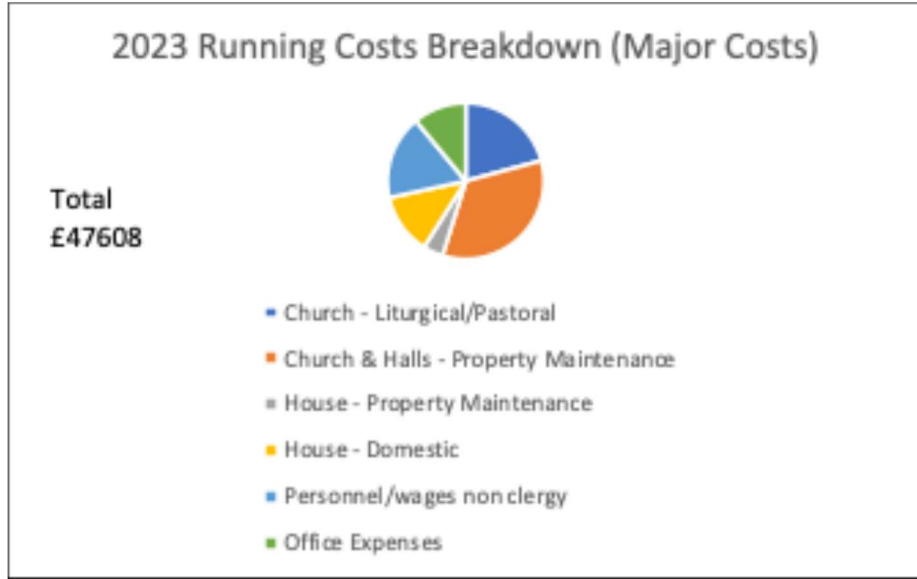
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13. Questions and answers

This session is now open for questions and clarifications. Participants are invited to raise any issues, seek clarification, or contribute comments relating to the reports presented and the matters discussed. This will help ensure clarity, shared understanding, and constructive dialogue across all groups.

14. Conclusion

We sincerely thank everyone for attending this meeting. We are truly grateful to all those who continue to serve in various ministries, as well as those who are yet to join or are still discerning their place among us.

We also extend our heartfelt gratitude to our retired parishioners who have contributed in many ways to the building and life of the parish. Some have since passed away, while others are now in care homes, where I continue to be deeply moved whenever I visit them and hear their reflections on how they helped sustain the parish in earlier years. While there is little material reward in this work, we trust in the greater reward that will be given in due time. I would therefore request even if it were a standing meeting with the leader or any representative of each group, to further discuss their roles, responsibilities, and areas for further development.

Many thanks,

Fr Damian