

# St Paul's Parish Church, Shipley

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Paul, Shipley  
Registered charity no 1169596

## Annual Trustees Report for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2025



# **Annual Trustees Report for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2025**

The PCC is jointly responsible for writing and producing this report.

## **AIM AND PURPOSES**

St Paul's Parochial Church Council (PCC) has the responsibility of cooperating with the priest in charge, the Reverend Brian Greenfield, to promote in the ecclesiastical parish, the whole mission of the church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. The PCC has a specific duty to maintain our historic grade 2 listed church building. In addition, it has a responsibility to support the Church of England primary schools located within the parish boundaries. Shipley C of E Primary School (aided) and Wycliffe C of E Primary School (controlled) are our local church schools. Both of these schools are BDAT (Bradford Diocesan Academies Trust) Primary Academies.

## **OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES**

The PCC is committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship at St Paul's and to be part of the church community. Our services and worship, through prayer and scripture, music and sacrament, encourage and foster faith in practice. When planning our activities and services for the year, the PCC is mindful of the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and in particular, the supplementary guidance on charities for the advancement of religion.

St Paul's Church vision statement is:

We are a welcoming and inclusive Christian community who:

- Worship the living God
- Love our neighbours and our world
- Share the good news

All our activities and services are guided and inspired by our faith in Jesus who we believe calls us to put our faith into practice in our daily lives. As a church community, we offer prayer and worship, pastoral care, mission and outreach, hospitality and a variety of activities which help people of all ages in our parish to flourish. To facilitate this work, it is important that the church grounds and the fabric of the church building are continually maintained and developed.

## **ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE**

### **Ministry Team**

During 2025, the St Paul's Ministry Team was led by our Priest in Charge, Brian Greenfield (who is also Priest in Charge at Christ Church, Windhill, Minister at the Eldwick Church and Assistant Priest at St Peter's Church, Shipley), who was ably assisted by curate – Emma Wilkinson and by assistant priest Natasha Thomas, Churchwardens - Anne Luxton and Mike Wragg.

Our Licensed Lay Ministers (Readers) - Chris Clough and Susan Lawrence, Lay Worship Leader - Mark Allison, and Lay Pastoral Ministers - Susan Wood and Sheila Cudmore, are valuable members of the Ministry Team.

Jenny Titchmarsh is our excellent Church Administrator, who provides essential support to the ministry team and enables the church to communicate effectively with both the congregation and the wider community.

Thanks also go to the members of the PCC for all their hard work throughout the year.

### **Volunteers**

Before we list our activities, which express our vision and strategy, and show what church life looks like in Shipley and how it benefits the community, we publicly thank all the church members who work very hard to support St Paul's mission and ministry. Many people contribute hugely to the life of the church in seen and unseen ways.

### **Worship & Prayer**

#### **Worship Services**

Throughout 2025, we held regular 10am Sunday worship services comprising Holy Communion on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays of the month, Family Worship on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the month and Morning Worship on the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month. These services were also live streamed via our YouTube channel, for those watching from home. Taizé and Evensong services took place on a bi-month rotation on the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month at 7pm. Wednesday Holy Communion has continued to take place at 10am on Wednesday mornings throughout the year.

## **Messy Church**

This alternative church service is an important way to connect with local families with young children, who might not feel comfortable or confident to come to more traditional church on Sunday. It generally includes games, activities including crafts, storytelling, songs and a picnic tea. The Messy Church Team is small but dedicated, we worked very hard to offer a Messy Easter in 2025, unfortunately not well attended. However, our Messy Christmas event attracted a significant number of families, including some new to the event, which had been planned in all aspects by year 6 children at Wycliffe School who attended the lunchtime Listening Group. They were active in getting the message out to all years at Wycliffe. Thank you to Mark and the Listening Group!

## **Occasional Services**

As well as our regular services, we enable our community to celebrate and thank God at the milestones of the journey through life. This year, we celebrated three baptisms but no weddings. We conducted three funerals. In November, we held both our annual Memorial Service and our Remembrance Sunday Service, which was attended by civic representatives and uniformed organisations.

## **Music and singing group**

The music and singing group has been meeting on the first Thursday of most months for tea and chocolate biscuits and to play and sing. We are a small band of instrumentalists and singers who assist in worship once a month (usually on the second Sunday in the Family Service). We met weekly in the run up to Christmas and were joined by members of Shipley Baptist Church to play and sing for the Carol Service at St Paul's. We have more recently been joined by musicians from St Peter's.

Anyone interested in contributing will be made welcomed. Please have a word with Mark.

## **Prayer**

The weekly Tuesday Morning Prayer Group continues to meet at 10am in the Narthex for approximately one hour. (During winter months, on Zoom.) We encourage and welcome new attendees to join with us as they are able. We commence each meeting with a passage of Scripture and are encouraged to consider what the passage is suggesting to us and how it can support the way we pray. We then move into a quiet time of prayer for global, national, local and church needs.

## **Pastoral Care**

Pastoral care continues to be provided by the Ministry Team at St Pauls on an “as needed or requested” basis. We have been reviewing how this works, and where we can improve to ensure our response is both appropriate and seamless. Our Lay Pastoral Ministers, Susan Wood and Sheila Cudmore support and assist clergy as and when appropriate, within their individual areas of knowledge and experience, providing pastoral support in the form of a visits or phone calls, with sensitivity and care at the forefront of all they do. Pastoral activity includes visits to take Holy Communion to the housebound and to nursing homes. Pastoral prayer requests are responded to according to the level of confidentiality requested.

## **Safeguarding**

The PCC continues in its commitment to the safeguarding of all vulnerable or potentially vulnerable people. Safeguarding is a standing item on the PCC agenda, and PCC continues to comply with its duty to have ‘due regard’ to the House of Bishops’ Safeguarding Policy and Practice guidance. This commitment was confirmed at a PCC meeting in the autumn. The PCC has adopted the Church of England Safeguarding Policy Statement for Children, Young People and Adults, ‘Promoting a Safer Church’, as our safeguarding policy

To assist in monitoring compliance with both statutory requirements and Church of England policies we are using ‘Parish Dashboards’ ; an online system that lists the actions that need to be taken to meet the required standards, and which generates an action plan to highlight areas that need updating. The requirements on the dashboard are updated as national guidance changes to ensure parishes can remain compliant. Our safeguarding action plan was reviewed in the autumn of 2025 and the PCC is updated with progress during the year.

If safeguarding concerns are raised our safeguarding procedures will be followed, concerns escalated to the diocesan safeguarding team and any advice or recommendations that they make will be followed.

Alison Haigh  
March 2026

## **Work with Children**

### **Schools**

We have responsibility for two church schools within our parish, Shipley C of E Primary School and Wycliffe C of E Primary School. Both schools became academies in 2018 and joined the Bradford Diocesan Academy Trust (BDAT).

Clergy lead collective worship at both schools as well as attending other events in school such as celebrations and exhibitions. Revd Emma has been a governor at Wycliffe for a couple of years now, and has particular responsibility for Christian Distinctiveness and Behaviour, as well as supporting staff as the school has been in a time of transition.

At Shipley CE, Revd Brian also takes part in prayer group at the school.

Both schools regularly visits church to learn about worship and come to church at Easter and Christmas for their services, with Wycliffe also holding their Harvest and End of Year services at Church.

We are continuing to build a relationship with Wycliffe through our Children and Families Project, and this year partnered with the local Christian youth charity Missional Generation to provide lunch time engagement with KS2, leading to the creation of a listening group. And are thankful to our link worker, Mark Wheeler, for his work with us.

We are also particularly grateful for the ongoing ministry of The Open the Book, Tell me the Story, team of Chris and Jane Clough, Carolyn Rhodes, Jean Titchmarsh and Mike Wragg who have had a particular focus on KS1 assemblies at Wycliffe, approximately fortnightly during the school year. The basis for the assembly is one of the stories from the Lion Storyteller Bible which are delivered through narration, costumed acting and audience participation. They operate under the auspices of the Zephaniah Trust and deliver both Old and New Testament Bible stories operating on an approximately two-year cycle. Both phase 1 and 2 have 34 stories available to them with associated boxes of costumes and props.

### **Toddler Group**

An outreach activity provided on a weekly basis during term-time, the Toddler Group meets at 9.30-11.15am on Monday mornings. We provide space for play, a craft activity, and the opportunity for toddlers to explore friendship, whilst parents, grandparents and childminders are able to encourage their children, and each other through chatting together. We serve drinks along with cake, biscuits and fruit. We finish with a much enjoyed sing song. During the year we have continued to hold Toddler Church at the end of each term with appropriate seasonal content (Easter, Harvest and Christmas) these have been popular with children, parents and carers alike. Our numbers have sustained this year, as while some children have moved onto nursery and school, we have welcomed newcomers.

## **Uniformed Groups – Rainbows, Brownies & Guides**

St Paul's offers hospitality and leadership to the 1<sup>st</sup> Shipley Rainbows, Brownies and Guides.

### **1<sup>st</sup> Shipley Rainbows**

Rainbows meets on a Monday evening and caters for girls aged between 4 and 7 years old. Please contact Rachel Hesselwood for further details.

### **1<sup>st</sup> Shipley Brownies**

We have 12 Brownies on our register and a healthy waiting list. Brownies have regularly moved up to Guides at the age of 10 and we have a good feed of 7-year-olds from our Rainbows unit. We have had a change in leadership this year. Our two regular adult leaders have been joined by a new external volunteer, Thea, and then recently a mum of one of our Brownies, Kim. Our Guide helper has moved on, but our D of E volunteer has become a leader in training.

The Brownies have done the themes of "Know Myself" and "Have Adventures" They have earned the "Collecting" and "Holiday" Interest badge. We have been given a new selection of Interest badges this year and the Holiday Badge was the first one that the Brownies wanted to try. They attended a sleepover and camp with other members of Girlguiding, Brownies Guides and Rainbows from Shipley and Baildon at Blackhills near Cottingley. This included fun activities such as climbing and forest bathing. They shared a bunkhouse with Brownies from St. Peter's Church.

We had a Division Guide, Brownie and Rainbow trip to the cinema to see Zootopia 2. We learned to use air dry clay, painting and varnishing crafts to decorate a tree for the Christmas tree festival. This will go towards earning the Craft badge.

Elaine Griffiths, Brownie Guider

### **1<sup>st</sup> Shipley Guides**

We have a growing group of 16 Guides and three adult leaders. We have had a temporary leader who has been working in Bradford, but who was looking for work elsewhere, but thankfully, she has just got a job with Bradford Council. We have lost a leader, Cathy, who has moved to a different area to retire to, she has been with us for almost 24 years, and will be sadly missed. We would welcome anyone who wants to volunteer with us, either adult or young helper, flexible or permanent.

We have had our usual Remembrance sleepover at St Peter's with 2nd Shipley Guides before parading at St Paul's. We have joined in a large-scale camp in Blackhills, staying in tents for two nights, and joining in some great activities on a beautiful weekend in May. The Guides have

been following the programme and earning badges such as interest badges “Mixology”, “Food Critic” and “Book Lover” They have done unofficial badges “Funfest” and “Christmas Traditions”, where they learned about traditions around the world. They decorated a Christmas tree with some hand sewn New Zealand Christmas tree flowers, Pōhutukawa. We joined a trip to the cinema to see Zootopia 2 with other Guides, Brownies and Rainbows from Shipley. They have enjoyed learning camp and cooking skills, cooking on barbeques and cooking potatoes in three different ways.

Elaine Griffiths, Guide Guider.

## **Mission and Outreach**

Mission and outreach are high on the agenda of St Paul’s Church as we try to be a blessing to both the local community and the world.

### **Saturday Café**

Our café is as popular as ever with five tables holding six on each table these are usually all full with some of our patrons coming and going and others who enjoy staying all morning. Some arrive at or near our opening time of 10am and some later in the morning.

As a PLACE OF WELCOME we serve tea and coffee free of charge, and our menu consists of toasted teacakes and crumpets with all our cakes and scones home-made and donated by our volunteer café staff. Donations towards the running of the café are at everyone’s discretion and a suggested figure of £1.50 per item of food remains as it has for some time.

We have very sadly lost dear Mike who died suddenly and to whom we owe a great deal of appreciation, he was a great asset to the café. Sheila Cudmore was feeling it very hard working at the café whilst suffering ill health and has had to relinquish her position, many thanks Sheila for all she has done to make the café the success it is. We also thank Saby and Diane who have also reigned as reserves. However, we now only have four volunteers for each café team - Anne, Sheila Parkin, Dee and Kate working on the first Saturday in the month and Jane, Chris, Elaine and myself on the third. We manage very well but occasionally this leaves café patrons waiting longer for their orders to be served and ideally a couple of new volunteers would be very helpful if only as reserves for the odd occasion when a team member is unable to work. I am extremely grateful to Shona who took over my role recently following my fall resulting in a very bad break to the wrist and who has very graciously agreed to act as a reserve. I unfortunately will be out of action for a while.

Until we receive further offers of help the café cannot look to opening more than twice a month. We really need more volunteers because there is nothing we would like more than to open our very popular café every Saturday morning.

Judith Morris

### **Thursday Lunch Club (TLC)**

We have this every third Thursday of the month. The numbers vary between 20 and 25 and it would be nice to have a few more. Susan Wood, Judith Morris, Mike Wragg, Elaine Griffiths and Anne Luxton assist Dee O'Rourke every month in preparing and serving the meals.

We had a celebration for St Patrick's Day and Christmas.

### **Active Seniors**

Active Seniors meet on the first Thursday afternoon of every month. Our varied activities include quizzes, maybe a board game, some crafting, an entertainment and always plenty of friendly chat. Tea, coffee, home-made scones, as well as home baking are provided at some point during the afternoon. All seniors are welcome, either regularly or on an occasional basis.

### **Mothers' Union**

Individuals participated in the Wave of Prayer in January.

The annual meeting, chaired by Rev Greenfield, was held in February. There was no decision about officers so the meeting was postponed. In May the meeting continued at Afternoon Tea held at the much missed, Interlude Tea Room. Barbara agreed to do the essential tasks of leadership while the Branch is an abeyance until 2026 /2027 when the branch is 100 years old. In June members were invited to tour the Kirkgate Centre and the Hive where many of the original features have been preserved and incorporated.

In July Shona provided Afternoon Tea in the Narthex for 25 people from the church. Evelyn Haigh, the Mothers' Union Chair of Bradford Episcopal Area of Leeds Diocese, helped and explained that the donations [totalling £162.72] would go to provide quick growing seeds for refugee women in DCR Congo.

Mothers' Union provided the flowers in August.

In October we filled 12 bags with toiletries for new arrivals at the Asian Women's Refuge.

Mothers' Union decorated a tree for the Christmas Tree Festival.

The tombola at TLC Christmas lunch raised £44 for Mothers' Union projects.

Members assist the clergy in services and home communions;

they help at Saturday Cafe, TLC and other refreshments.

We knit for the Neo-natal department of the BRI and blankets for the Baby Bank.

In 2025 the Branch had 13 members including Bishop Toby and Henriette.

All our members have health issues and are caring for other family members. Thank you for all your help I think what we have achieved is remarkable.

Barbara Judd

### **Community Events**

For the fifth year running, we held a Christmas Tree Festival at St Paul's, which was an incredibly successful event involving the wider local community, who came along to the church to vote for their favourite Christmas trees. This year 32 organisations took part and around 650 people attended the event.

### **Communications & Enquiries**

St Paul's hosts three websites: the main St Paul's Parish Church website, the St Paul's History website and the St Paul's Virtual Tour website. Our social media platforms include Facebook, Instagram and YouTube. We have a public Facebook page with 697 followers, an Instagram account with 395 followers and a YouTube channel with 208 subscribers, which we use to live stream our weekly 10am Sunday services. Our main website advertises our upcoming worship services, prayer meetings, church groups and key events. These are also detailed in our monthly edition of Church News, which is available via our mailing list or to collect from church. Weekly emails advertising Sunday services and key notices are also sent out to our mailing list. Noticeboards, both inside and outside the church, also advertise our services, groups and events. The majority of our enquiries (for church hire and life events) come through our main website or email. Occasionally, we receive enquiries via Facebook or telephone.

### **Ecumenical Relationships: Shipley Christians Together**

The year started with Shipley Baptist Church again hosting Inn Churches, providing accommodation, food, friendship and warmth to 12 homeless people for a week in January. The remodelling of the Market Place meant a pause in the operation of the Bible Stall as it continued to dispense free bibles and offer prayer in all weathers. This also meant that the Walk of Witness changed from its traditional route to finish in Central Park. This annual event is always well-attended and is a true witness of our faith. We then offered a series of Lenten suppers and short reflections in various churches. Live@Costa evolved into Live@AvondaleClub as we moved to a welcoming new home and we continued to offer a varied programme, including a Christmas Carols evening, which raised funds for Christian Aid.

We had one of our busiest ever weekends in October. As a fitting contribution to the City of Culture programme, Saltaire United Reform Church hosted the Big Sing – nine hours of Bradford related music and stories. The following day we celebrated the fifth anniversary of the Shipley

CAP Debt Centre with a look back at the transformational work bringing many out of debt and we looked ahead to a sustainable future as we approach the end of the current funding cycle in October 2026.

In November we held the AGM Service and were pleased to welcome new trustees, including Shaun Craig from Christchurch. However, we urgently need more trustees if we are to continue our work to share the love of Jesus with the people of Shipley.

We were pleased to be part of the Christmas Lights Switch-on in the new Market Place, providing a short reflection on the true meaning of Christmas and distributing fliers with details of Christmas services taking place in the Shipley churches. As usual, the year was rounded off with our Christmas dinner for homeless, vulnerable and lonely people with well over 100 meals provided. The online newsletter, which shares good news and information, was regularly produced and circulated (available from [info@shipleychristianstogether.org.uk](mailto:info@shipleychristianstogether.org.uk)). We are extremely grateful for the prayers, support and funding from the member churches, including St Paul's, and the work of the many volunteers from the churches.

Hugh Firman (Chair, SCT)

### **Global Mission**

We continue to be a Fairtrade church and seek ways to encourage our congregation to support Fairtrade. We support the Diocese of Khartoum, Christian Aid, and Tear Fund. We also support Andy and Kati Walsh from the Church Mission Society (CMS), who currently work in Brazil.

### **Deanery Synod**

The Deanery Synod provides a channel of communication between the parish and the Diocesan Synod and brings together the views and experiences of all the parishes in the deanery. These meetings provide a great opportunity to meet and network with representatives from other churches in the Aire and Worth Deanery which includes the parishes of Steeton, Keighley, Riddlesden and Morton, Bingley (which includes Gilstead and Eldwick), the Shipley churches, Baildon, and the parishes in the Hewenden benefice (Harden, Wilsden and Denholme). Synod membership comprises clergy, parish representatives and ex officio members who have been elected to Diocesan or General Synod. Each parish is allocated a number of representatives that reflects their electoral roll: St Paul's has been allocated three representatives.

The Deanery Synod is a statutory body with legally defined responsibilities. Deanery Synod representatives responsible for the election of members to Diocesan and General Synod; elections to General Synod will take place later in 2026.

The Aire and Worth Deanery Synod planned to meet three times in 2025 however one of these meetings was cancelled due to unexpected events. The meeting in February was held remotely via Zoom where we learned more about the Diocesan Digital Learning Platform from a member

of the Lay Training team. Synod members were encouraged to log on, create an account and to explore the platform for themselves as well as encouraging members of their congregations to look at what is available. The Digital learning platform is available at [www.learning.leeds.anglican.org](http://www.learning.leeds.anglican.org)

In June Synod met at Keighley Parish Church where Rev Duncan Milwain spoke about the life and work of Bradford Cathedral as a place of witness and worship, and civic cultural and intercultural engagement and all the activities they are carrying out in their work to fulfil their current vision statement, which is 'To weave Jesus into the rich fabric of the city and beyond. Synod meetings are open to all whether you are an elected representative or interested in the topic under discussion; if you would like to attend a meeting to find out a little more about how Synod works please speak to any one of our representatives.

Alison Haigh

## **Church Building**

The Buildings and Grounds Group (BGG) met three times in 2025. Three members (Johanna Hirst, Saby Halli and Meredith Woode) resigned in 2025.

**Quinquennial Inspection:** The 5-yearly quinquennial inspection was due in 2024, but for various reasons was done in early 2025. The inspection was carried out by Overton Architects. Their report covers basically the condition of the building and highlights the work to be carried out to maintain the fabric. The report says that "*The church appears to be generally in good condition and to be well looked after.*" (p.1). A major concern is the completion of the project to re-slate the roof (chancel, -office, vestry and tower). Other issues will be attended to over the next few years.

### **O2 Equipment replacement:**

The O2 contractor, NetCS, started work towards the end of May on the removal and replacement of the mobile phone equipment in the tower and above the kitchen, upgrading it to process the G5 signals. This involved installing new steel platforms in the bell chamber, replacing the equipment cabinets and rewiring. New aerials were installed behind the louvres in the bell chamber, with the stone louvres replaced with fibreglass imitations (the signals are affected by the stonework). The existing stone louvres have been stored in the bell chamber and can be re-instated when the equipment is finally removed. The steelwork and mast on top of the tower were removed and the roof made good.

A health and safety leaflet providing advice about the care needed if working in the vicinity of the network mast has been obtained. This principally applies to external activities on the tower near to transmitter aerials.

**Insurance:** The premises were inspected by a representative of Ecclesiastical Insurance (the church insurers) in August 2025. Various recommendations were made, which are being attended to within the timescales allowed.

**Electrical:** The lightning conductors have been inspected and tested. The report has been accepted by the insurers.

**Electrical Installation Condition Report (EICR):** is an inspection of the electrical system (wiring, plugs, lighting, etc.) in the building. It is required by the insurers and the quinquennial. Quotes were received from two electrical contractors for work to be done in early 2026.

**Other Interior:**

The two main heating boilers and the heating/hot water boiler in the kitchen were inspected. Fire extinguishers are tested annually.

The clock is currently not working. It is the property of the local council (Bradford Met) and they are responsible for running and maintenance.

**Church Grounds:** These continue to be maintained by Bradford Council. Wooden crosses: A set of wooden boxes has been put into the ground in front of the church to take the wooden crosses put there for the Easter period. Neighbourhood Action brought a group to St Paul's in November to do some weeding and tidying up in the churchyard.

**Organ:** The organ, an 1892 3-manual by J. J. Binns of Leeds, is generally well maintained and was last tuned in November 2024. It is still played regularly for services.

### **Hirstwood Burial Ground**

During 2025, there were no burials of ashes in the Garden of Remembrance, which is maintained by our part-time gardener, Matt Stoney. Enquiries from people searching for the graves of ancestors also continue to be few and far between.

The final phase of planned tree work took place in March, June and September 2025, as authorised by Bradford Council in July 2023. There is approximately one more day of tree work still to take place.

Japanese knotweed was discovered by a member of the public along the public footpath between the Garden of Remembrance and Hirst Wood Burial Ground in September 2025. This was reported to Bradford Council for their attention. During the same month, two sprigs of knotweed were also found in the burial ground itself. These were both in areas previously treated for knotweed. The knotweed was in a stunted bonsai state. We were advised to monitor the knotweed until it grows larger and becomes treatable with herbicide.

Hirst Wood Regeneration Group has organised regular volunteer working parties at the burial ground this year. Volunteers work to clear vegetation from pathways and from in and around graves.

The Hirst Wood Burial Board, which is a sub-committee of the PCC, has a legal duty to maintain the burial ground in a safe state. During 2025, our church administrator has overseen the basic administration of the Hirst Wood Burial Board.

Hirst Wood Burial Board

## **FINANCIAL REVIEW 2025**

2025 has been a year of consolidation and understanding exactly where St Paul's stands financially but in financial terms has been reasonably successful. A number of new processes have been implemented including revised monthly cash counting processes, improving expense payments, moving to an online accounting system rather than managing a complex spreadsheet that was difficult to maintain and understand, using the church deposit accounts effectively to generate interest income.

At the end of the year we managed to pay £25,000 to the diocesan share against a request in excess of £40,000.

Our income for 2025 is showing as £108,952 as compared to last year £92,701 but that difference is almost all accounted for by bringing the Hirst Wood Burial Ground accounts into the overall PCC accounts. Our expenditure was also higher at £94,718 as against £72,642 in 2024.

As of 1<sup>st</sup> January 2026 there was about £8,500 in the HSBC bank accounts, £42,000 in CCLA deposit accounts and about £15,000 in CCLA accounts controlled by the diocese for the Hirst Wood Burial Ground.

## **RESERVES POLICY**

The PCC policy is that we would maintain a buffer of approximately three months necessary expenditure. Previously that was set at £20,000 but having reviewed the figures salaries account for £1,250 per month, organist fees at about £300 a month and Electricity and Gas standing charges about £100 a month. A more realistic figure to maintain is £5000. We have on deposit designated funds of over £11,000 so are more than covered.

## **STRUCTURE, GOVERNMENT AND MANAGEMENT**

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Paul, Shipley is a corporate body established by the Church of England, operating under the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure. The PCC is a registered charity and members of the PCC are Trustees of the Charity. The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. All members of the congregation are given the opportunity to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC. The PCC members are responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance to the parish including deciding on how the funds of the PCC are to be spent.

## PCC Membership

### Ex Officio

Priest in Charge:	Reverend Brian Greenfield (Chair)
Curate:	Reverend Emma Wilkinson
Assistant Priest:	Reverend Natasha Thomas
Churchwarden:	Anne Luxton (Vice chair)
Churchwarden:	Mike Wragg
Deanery Synod:	Sheila Cudmore (re-elected 2023) Alison Haigh (re-elected 2023) Susan Wood (re-elected 2023)

### Elected Members (Trustees) at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2025

Susan Lawrence	Elected 22/05/22	
Jonathan Hall	Re-elected 14/05/23	
Johanna Hirst	Elected 14/05/23	
Jean Titchmarsh	Elected 14/05/23	PCC Secretary
Mark Allison	Elected 14/05/23	
John Hirst	Elected 28/04/24	
Barbara Downes	Elected 04/05/25	

### Elected Members serving at 1<sup>st</sup> January 2025 who have since left:

Sabhyata Halli (until 10/11/25)

Given its wide responsibilities the PCC has a number of subgroups or committees:

**Standing Committee:** Clergy, Churchwardens, Treasurer, Secretary, Mark Allison

**Buildings & Grounds:** Clergy, Churchwardens, Chris Clough (lead), Meredith Woode (resigned during year), Johanna Hirst (resigned during year), Sabhyata Halli (until 10/11/25), Rob Downes.

**Hirstwood Burial Ground Board** Clergy, Churchwardens, John Hirst.

**Worship & Music:** Mark Allison (lead), Brian Greenfield, Emma Wilkinson, Susan Lawrence, Jean Titchmarsh, Chris Clough, Elisabeth Verhoven.

**Finance and Funding:** Barbara Downes (lead), Mike Moss (interim treasurer), Alison Haigh, Rob Downes.

**Prayer, Pastoral & Discipleship:** Susan Lawrence, Susan Wood, Sheila Cudmore, Brian Greenfield, Emma Wilkinson, Alison Haigh, Anne Luxton, Mike Wragg, Jonathan Hall.

**Pathways, Growth & Mission:** Brian Greenfield, Emma Wilkinson, Natasha Thomas, Susan Lawrence, Anne Luxton, Mike Wragg.

**Other Roles of Responsibility:**

Church Administrator	Jenny Titchmarsh
Parish Electoral Roll Officer	Mike Wragg
Gift Aid Secretary	Meredith Woode
Safeguarding & Disability Officer, DBS Verifier	Alison Haigh
Health & Safety Officer	Alison Haigh
Lay Pastoral Minister	Sheila Cudmore
Lay Pastoral Minister	Susan Wood
Interim Treasurer	Mike Moss

The PCC met six times during 2025.

**Electoral Roll**

As of March 2026, there are 49 on the Electoral Roll (down from 56 in 2025), 12 are male, and 37 female. 21 are resident in the parish, 28 are non-resident.

Barbara Downes Interim Electoral Officer

## **ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION**

St Paul's Church, Shipley is part of the Church of England Diocese of Leeds in the Episcopal Area of Bradford and the Deanery of Aire and Worth.

The address is: St Paul's Church, Kirkgate, Shipley, BD18 3EH.