

The Church of Scotland
Aberdeen St Stephen's Church

ACCRUED
(SORP COMPLIANT ACCOUNTS)

Congregation No: 311900

Charity No: SC 014120

2025

Reference and Administrative Information

Charity Name: Aberdeen St Stephen's Church

Charity Registration Number: SC 014120

Congregation Reference No: 311900

Contact Address: Mr Alan Wood
27 Corse Drive
Bridge of Don
Aberdeen, AB23 8LN

Trustees

Elders

Rev Maggie Whyte
Mrs Margaret Bandeen
Mr Charles Beaton
Mrs Vera Beaton
Mrs Bola Ejidiran
Mr Roddy Hayes
Mrs Sandra Jamieson
Mrs Dorothy McKay
Miss Lesley Mowat
Mrs Fran Scott
Mrs Eileen Simpson (trans to inactive list June 2025)
Mr Ian Sutherland
Mrs Isabelle Tough
Mr Alan Wood

Board Members

Mrs Irene Alexander
Mr Jeff Arnold
Mr Eddie Bandeen
Mrs Isobel Bruce
Mrs Jenny Dalmaine
Mrs Anne Flett (deceased during 2025)
Miss Hazel Geddes
Mr Andrew Hopwood
Mrs Helen Hopwood
Mr Eric Law
Mrs Shirley Sutherland
Miss Ruthie Whyte

Principal Office-bearers

Minister:	Rev Maggie Whyte
Session Clerk:	Mr Ian Sutherland
Clerk to the Board:	Mr Eric Law
Church Treasurer:	Mr Alan Wood

Independent Examiner

Miss Fiona Massie
26 Provost Robson Drive
Laurencékirk
Aberdeenshire
AB30 1BU

Bankers

Bank of Scotland
39 Albyn Place
Aberdeen
AB10 1YN

Trustees' Annual Report

Year ended 31 December 2025

Structure, Governance and Management

Governing Document

The Church is administered in accordance with the terms of the Model Deed of Constitution.

Recruitment and Appointment of Trustees

Members of the Kirk Session and the Congregational Board are the charity trustees. The Kirk Session members are the elders of the church and are chosen from those members of the church who are considered to have the appropriate gifts and skills. The minister, who is a member of the Kirk Session, is elected by the congregation and inducted by Presbytery. The Congregational Board is appointed from within the congregation and members of the congregation are invited to nominate individuals who are believed to have the skills and commitment to contribute to the management affairs of the Church, to become members of the Board. Board Members are then appointed at the Stated Annual Meeting and serve for a period of three years after which they must seek re-election at the next Stated Annual Meeting.

Organisational Structure

The Congregational Board is chaired by the minister and meets four (4) times in a year. Certain responsibilities are delegated to the Business Committee as appropriate. The Kirk Session which meets five (5) times a year is responsible for spiritual affairs within the church.

Objectives and Activities

The Church of Scotland is Trinitarian in doctrine, Reformed in tradition and Presbyterian in polity. It exists to glorify God and to work for the advancement of Christ's Kingdom throughout the world. As a national Church, it acknowledges a distinctive call and duty to bring the ordinances of religion to the people in every parish of Scotland through a territorial ministry. It co-operates with other Churches in various ecumenical bodies in Scotland and beyond.

Aberdeen: St Stephen's Parish Church seeks to fulfil the above objectives through its services of worship, Café Church, Sunday School, Beta Nights, Guild, Sports Activities, Chatterbox, and fundraising for the Church, Charities and school chaplaincies.

St Stephen's is also part of the Old Aberdeen Parish Grouping created under the Presbytery Plan which includes St Machar and Old Machar churches.

Trustees' Annual Report (cont)

Year ended 31 December 2025

Achievements and Performance

At 1st January, 2025 Aberdeen St Stephen's Church have one hundred and eleven (111) members on the Communion Roll. Communicants admitted during the year was two (2); zero (0) by Profession and two (2) by Certificate. Communicants removed during the year was five (5) – two (2) by death and three (3) by Certificate and zero (0) otherwise. Communicants on the Roll at 31st December 2025 one hundred and eight (108).

Sixteen (16) children under seventeen (17) years of age are involved in the Life of Congregation and sixteen (16) adults eighteen (18) years or over who are not on the Communion Roll. Elders number twelve (12) – four (4) male and eight (8) female. Members of the Congregational Board number eleven (11) – four (4) male and seven (7) female. There was one (1) baptism, zero (0) of which was an adult baptism and zero (0) Child Blessing. Zero (0) weddings were performed and two (2) funerals.

Financial Review

The principal source of income for Aberdeen St Stephens Church is through weekly offerings being £42,764, an increase of 15% from the previous year. Members have signed up to give through Gift Aid with sixteen (16) members giving through standing order. The church has actively undertaken to highlight the benefits available to the congregation by giving donations through Gift Aid. Fund raising activities are targeted for specific charities throughout the year.

Reserves Policy

At the year end the Church held unrestricted cash funds of £152,694 and this represents approximately twenty one (21) months expenditure.

The Church also held £2,509 of restricted funds. The church uses interest from the reserve fund to carry out regular repairs and refurbishments to the church, hall and manse. Our policy is to retain the capital and use the interest to maintain an ongoing programme which ensures an acceptable level of maintenance.

Trustees' Annual Report (cont)
Year ended 31 December 2025

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The members of the Kirk Session / Congregational Board must prepare financial statements which give sufficient detail to enable an appreciation of the transactions of the Church during the financial year. The members of the Kirk Session / Congregational Board are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which, on request, must reflect the financial position of the Church at that time. This must be done to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005, the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 and the Regulations Anent Congregational Finance approved by the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland in 2007. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Church and must take reasonable steps for the prevention and/or detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf,

Ian W G Sutherland



Ian Sutherland

Session Clerk

Date ...4/3/26.....

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of St Stephens Church

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31st December 2025 which are set out on these pages.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the terms of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006.

The charity trustees consider that the audit requirement of Regulation 10(1) (d) of the Accounts Regulations does not apply. It is my responsibility to examine the accounts as required under section 44(1) (c) of the Act and to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination is carried out in accordance with Regulations 11 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items of disclosures in the accounts, and seeks explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent examiner's statement

In the course of my examination, no matter has come to my attention

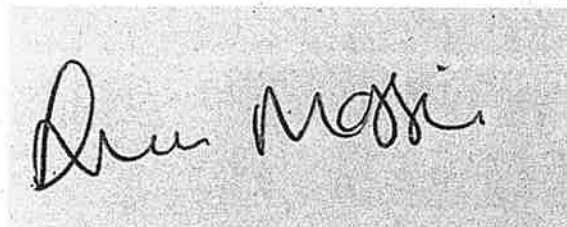
1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
 - To keep accounting records in accordance with Section 44(1) (a) of the 2005 Act and Regulation 4 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations, and
 - To prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with Regulation 9 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations have not been met or,
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Name Fiona Massie

Address 26 Provost Robson Drive
Laurencekirk
Aberdeenshire
AB30 1BU

Date 01 May 2026

Signature

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Fiona Massie', is written over a light grey rectangular background.

St Stephen's Church
Income & Expenditure Account
Year ended 31. December 2025

		Unrestricted Funds 2025 £	Restricted Funds 2025 £	Endowment Funds 2025 £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
<u>Receipts</u>	Note					
Donations	3	114,593.43	0.00		114,593.43	91,787.06
Legacies						
Activities for Generating Funds						
Bank interest					0.00	0.00
Deposit interest						
Investment income		1,332.89			1,332.89	2,560.50
		<u>115,926.32</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>115,926.32</u>	<u>94,347.56</u>
 Reserve General Purposes					0.00	0.00
Legacy Fund					0.00	0.00
		<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>
 <u>Total Receipts</u>		<u>115,926.32</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>115,926.32</u>	<u>94,347.56</u>
 <u>Payments</u>	4					
Costs of generating funds		165.00			165.00	250.00
Charitable activities		90,845.18	0.00		90,845.18	86,937.31
Governance costs						
Other						
Reserve General Purposes						
<u>Total Payments</u>		<u>91,010.18</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>91,010.18</u>	<u>87,187.31</u>
 Excess of Receipts over Payments for the year before transfers		24,916.14	0.00		24,916.14	7,160.25
 Transfers		0.00	0.00		0.00	0.00
 Excess of Receipts over Payments for the year		<u>24,916.14</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>24,916.14</u>	<u>7,160.25</u>

St Stephens's Church Aberdeen	SC014120	CC17a
Annual accounts for the period	31-Dec-25	
01/01/2020	To	
	31/12/2025	

Statement of financial activities

	Unrestricted funds £ F01	Restricted funds £ F02	Endowment funds £ F03	Total £ F04	2025 Total £ F05	2024 Total £ F05
Incoming resources (Note 2)						
Income and endowments from:						
Donations and legacies						
Charitable activities	113,238.43		-	113,238.43		91,047.06
Other trading activities			-			
Investments	1,332.89		-	1,332.89		2,560.50
Other	1,355.00	0.00	-	1,355.00		740.00
Total Income	115,926.32	0.00	-	115,926.32		94,347.56
Resources expended (Notes 3)						
Expenditure on:						
Raising funds	165.00		-	165.00		250.00
Charitable activities	90,845.18		-	90,845.18		86,937.31
Other	0.00	0.00	-	0.00		0.00
Total Expenditure	91,010.18	0.00	-	91,010.18		87,187.31
Net income/(expenditure) before gains and losses on investments	24,916.14	0.00	0.00	24,916.14		7,160.25
Gross transfers between funds	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00
Net incoming/(outgoing) resources before other recognised gains/(losses)	24,916.14	0.00	0.00	24,916.14		7,160.25
Other recognised gains/(losses)						
Net gains / (losses) on investments	(53,681.88)	0.00	0.00	(53,681.88)		(29,467.77)
Net income / expenditure	(28,765.74)	0.00	0.00	(28,765.74)		(22,307.52)
Reconciliation of funds:						
Total funds brought forward	181,460.18	2,509.15	0.00	183,969.33		206,276.85
Total funds carried forward	152,694.44	2,509.15	0.00	155,203.59		183,969.33

Section B Balance sheet at 31 December 2025
St Stephen's Church Aberdeen
SC014120

Note	Unrestricted funds £ F01	Restricted funds £ F02	Endowment funds £ F03	Total 2025 £ F04	Total 2024 £ F05
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets					
Investments					
Total fixed assets					
10	118,636.08	0.00	0.00	118,636.08	172,317.96
	118,636.08	0.00	0.00	118,636.08	172,317.96
Current assets					
Debtors					
Cash at bank and in hand					
Total current assets					
11	(119.00)	0.00	0.00	(119.00)	0.00
	39,362.25	2,509.15	0.00	41,871.40	34,199.61
	39,243.25	2,509.15	0.00	41,752.40	34,199.61
Creditors falling due within one year					
12	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	22,548.24
Net current assets					
	39,243.25	2,509.15	0.00	41,752.40	11,651.37
Creditors falling due after one year					
	5,184.89	0.00	0.00	5,184.89	0.00
Net assets					
	152,694.44	2,509.15	0.00	155,203.59	183,969.33
The funds of the Charity					
Endowment funds				0.00	0.00
Restricted income funds (Note 13)		2,509.15		2,509.15	2,509.15
Unrestricted funds			0.00	152,694.44	181,460.18
Total funds					
	152,694.44	2,509.15	0.00	155,203.59	183,969.33

Accounts approved by the trustees on
and signed on their behalf by the
Session Clerk and Treasurer

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
	IAN W. SUTHERLAND	4/3/26
	ALAN WOOD	4/3/26

St Stephen's Church
Accounting Policies
Year ended 31 December 2025

Accounting Policies

The principal accounting policies, which have been applied consistently in the current and preceding year in dealing with items which are considered material to the accounts, are set out below.

Basis of Preparation

These accounts have been prepared on the basis of historic cost (except that investments are shown at market value) in accordance with:

Accounting and Reporting by Charities – Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP 2005);

Fund accounting

The Funds of the Church consist of the following:

- (i) Unrestricted Funds
Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the Board in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity.
- (ii) Restricted Funds
Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions on their expenditure imposed by the donor.
- (iii) Endowment Funds
There are no endowment funds.

Incoming Resources

All incoming resources are included in the statement of financial activities when the charity is entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

- (i) Incoming resources from grants, where related to performance and specific deliverables, are accounted for as the charity earns the right to consideration by its performance.
- (ii) Unless incapable of financial measurement, legacies are credited as income in the year in which they are receivable. The Trustees have determined that they do not regard a legacy as receivable until probate has been granted in respect of the legatee's estate.
- (iii) The value of services provided by volunteers has not been included in these accounts.
- (iv) Interest received is included when receivable.

Resources Expended

Expenditure is recognised on an accrual basis as a liability is incurred.

- (i) Any staff costs, governance costs and the majority of exhibition costs and support costs are items of expenditure allocated solely to unrestricted funds.
- (ii) Governance costs include those costs associated with meeting the constitutional and statutory requirements of the charity.
- (iii) Support costs include all property and administration costs. The Board has taken the view not to allocate these costs between restricted and unrestricted funds.

Fixed Assets

The charity has the right to occupy and use for its charitable objectives certain tangible fixed assets, including the Church, hall and manse, vested in the Church of Scotland General Trustees. No consideration is payable for the use of these assets. Expenditure incurred on the repair and maintenance of these assets is charged as resources expended in the Statement of Financial Activities in the period in which the liability arises.

Investments

Fixed asset investments are stated at market value at the balance sheet date. Unrealised gains and losses represent the difference between the market value at the beginning and end of the financial year or, if purchased in the year, the difference between cost and market value at the end of the year. Realised gains and losses represent the difference between the proceeds and disposal and the market value at the start of the year or cost if purchased in the year.

Taxation

St Stephen's Church is recognised as a charity for the purposes of applicable taxation legislation and is therefore not subject to taxation on its charitable activities. The charity is not registered for VAT and resources expended therefore include irrecoverable input VAT.

St Stephen's Church
Notes forming part of the financial statements
Year ended 31 December 2025

	Unrestricted Funds 2025 £	Restricted Funds 2025 £	Endowment Funds 2025 £	Total 2025 £	2024 £
1 Donations and Legacies					
Offerings	42,764.54	0.00	0.00	42,764.54	38,000.49
Tax recovered on Gift Aid	8,747.42	0.00	0.00	8,747.42	7,990.68
Return of Investment	60,912.47	0.00	0.00	60,912.47	45,055.89
Other	814.00	0.00	0.00	814.00	0.00
	<u>113,238.43</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>113,238.43</u>	<u>107,028.42</u>
2 Income from charitable activities					
	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>
3 Income from other trading activities					
Rent received	1,355.00	0.00	0.00	1,355.00	740.00
	<u>1,355.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>1,355.00</u>	<u>740.00</u>
4 Investment income					
Dividends received	1,332.89	0.00	0.00	1,332.89	2,560.50
	<u>1,332.89</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>1,332.89</u>	<u>2,560.50</u>
5 Other Income					
	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>
Total	<u>115,926.32</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>115,926.32</u>	<u>110,328.92</u>
6 Analysis of Expenditure					
Offering Envelopes	165.00	0.00	0.00	165.00	250.00
	<u>165.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>165.00</u>	<u>250.00</u>
Charitable activities:					
Ministries & Mission allocation	24,940.00	0.00	0.00	24,940.00	35,426.00
Presbytery dues	1,421.00	0.00	0.00	1,421.00	2,710.00
Minister's expenses	3,448.29	0.00	0.00	3,448.29	3,274.86
Pulpit supply	1,120.24	0.00	0.00	1,120.24	1,355.00
Fabric repairs & maintenance	36,721.05	0.00	0.00	36,721.05	23,986.46
Council Tax	4,167.01	0.00	0.00	4,167.01	3,819.69
Heat and light	5,451.97	0.00	0.00	5,451.97	4,639.32
Insurance	5,718.78	0.00	0.00	5,718.78	4,869.29
Organ & music	2,685.00	0.00	0.00	2,685.00	2,680.00
Printing, stationery and postage	443.54	0.00	0.00	443.54	495.90
Other expenses	4,728.30	0.00	0.00	4,728.30	3,680.79
	<u>90,845.18</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>90,845.18</u>	<u>86,937.31</u>
Total	<u>91,010.18</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>91,010.18</u>	<u>87,187.31</u>

7 Staff costs and numbers

Salaries and wages	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Social security costs	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

The average number of employees during the year was as follows:

	2025 Number	2024 Number
Ministerial support	0	0
Administration	0	0
Music staff	0	0
Premises maintenance	0	0
	0	0

All Church of Scotland congregations contribute to the National Stipend Fund which bears the costs of all ministers' stipends and employer's contributions for national insurance, pension and housing and loan fund. Ministers' stipends are paid in accordance with the national stipend scale, which is related to years of service. For the year under review the minimum stipend was £32,433 and the maximum stipend (in the fifth and subsequent years of service) £39,856.

8 Trustee Remuneration and Related Party Transactions

During the year one (1) trustees received reimbursement of expenses incurred totalling:

£ 7,615.30

9 Tangible Fixed Assets

	Buildings	Office Equipment	Total
Cost			
At 1 January 2025	0.00	0.00	0.00
Additions	0.00	0.00	0.00
Disposals	0.00	0.00	0.00
As at 31 December 2025	0.00	0.00	0.00
Accumulated Depreciation			
At 1 January 2025	0.00	0.00	0.00
Charge for year	0.00	0.00	0.00
Eliminated on disposals	0.00	0.00	0.00
At 31 December 2025	0.00	0.00	0.00
Net Book Value			
At 31 December 2024	0.00	0.00	0.00
At 31 December 2025	0.00	0.00	0.00

10 Investments

		2025	2024
Market value at 31 December 2024	£6.38	59,972.00	69,377.00
Sale of Units			
Unrealised gain / (loss) on investments		4,700.00	(9,405.00)
Market value at 31 December 2025	£6.88	64,672.00	59,972.00
Cash Deposit at Church Office		114.04	98.81
Bank of Scotland (G Trussler)		53,850.04	112,247.15
Total Investments		118,636.08	172,317.96
Investments at cost		31,323.59	31,323.59
Bank of Scotland Treasurers ac		41,871.40	34,199.61

11 Debtors

HMRC Charities Gift Aid			0.00
Overpayment of M & M (Giving to Grow)		-119.00	0.00
		-119.00	0.00

12 Creditors

Much Loved		5,184.89	5,184.89
Leprosy Mission			812.55
C of S M&M			15,307.00
Ministers Travel			480.00
JOR Property			763.80
		5,184.89	22,548.24

13 Analysis of Net Assets Among Funds

	General £	Designated £	Restricted £	Total £
Fixed Assets	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Investments	118,636.08	0.00	0.00	118,636.08
Current Assets	39,243.25	2,509.15	0.00	41,752.40
Current Liabilities	-5,184.89	0.00	0.00	-5,184.89
Net Assets at 31 December 2025	152,694.44	2,509.15	0.00	155,203.59

There are no Endowment Funds

14 Volunteers

In common with all congregations of the Church of Scotland the congregation benefits from the contribution made by volunteers who give their time and talents willingly for the benefit of the Church. The areas of congregational life which rely on the contribution of volunteers are many and varied and much of the activity would be unable to continue were it not for the commitment shown.

15 Movement in Funds

	At 1 January 2025 £	Incoming Resources £	Outgoing Resources £	Transfers £	At 31 December 2025 £
Endowment funds					
None	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Restricted Funds					
Youth Work Fund	98.80	0.00	0.00	0.00	98.80
Gratuity Fund	1,157.72	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,157.72
Fabric Fund	503.40	0.00	0.00	0.00	503.40
Plant Pot	32.57	0.00	0.00	0.00	32.57
Drop In Centre	636.43	0.00	0.00	0.00	636.43
Starter Packs	80.23	0.00	0.00	0.00	80.23
	2,509.15	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,509.15
Unrestricted funds					
General Fund	181,460.18	115,926.32	91,010.18	-53,681.88	152,694.44
Total funds	183,969.33	115,926.32	91,010.18	-53,681.88	155,203.59

Purposes of Endowment Funds

There are no funds held.

Purposes of Restricted Funds

For the furtherance of spiritual support and fellowship within the parish.

Purposes of Unrestricted Funds

For the furtherance of spiritual support and fellowship within the parish.

APPENDIX

FUNDS HELD ON BEHALF OF THE CONGREGATION BY THE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND GENERAL TRUSTEES

	2025 £	2024 £
<u>CAPITAL ACCOUNT</u>		
Credit Balances held at 31 December at cost	<u>31,437.63</u>	<u>31,422.40</u>
Market Value of Balances at 31 December	<u>64,672.00</u>	<u>59,972.00</u>

