

St Leonard's Episcopal Church, Lasswade

Accounts for the year ended 30 September 2025

CHARITY TRUSTEES – Members of the Vestry (during year ended 30/9/2025)

Rev. Peter Harris	Rector and Chairman
Vicki Clark	Lay Representative
Alison Bruce	People's Warden
Martin Johnson	Rector's Warden
Vacant	Alternate Lay Representative
Vicki Clark	Secretary
William Ferris	Treasurer

John (Ben) Devaney
Jan Brooks
Ian Bolan

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

Mrs Trish Rae
45c Hunterfield Road
Gorebridge
Midlothian
EH23 4TP

BANKERS

Bank of Scotland
Dalkeith High St (800629) Branch
PO Box 1000
BX2 1LB

CHURCH ADDRESS

Dobbies Road
Lasswade
EH18 1LR

PRINCIPAL OFFICE

c/o Vicki Clark
19 Kingsfield Drive
Newtongrange
Midlothian
EH22 4FN

REPORT OF THE VESTRY**YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2025**

The members of the Vestry present their annual report together with the financial statements for the year ended 30 September 2025

Structure and Governance

In terms of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006, the Vestry reports to the congregation as follows:

1. St. Leonard's Episcopal Church, Lasswade is a registered Scottish Charity (SC014151).
2. All of its affairs are governed by the Vestry.
3. It is a member of the Diocese of Edinburgh of the Scottish Episcopal Church and is in full communion with the Anglican Church.
4. The superior authority is the Bishop of Edinburgh.

Appointment of Vestry Members

Vestry members are elected or appointed by Annual General Meeting established by constitution and under Canon law of the Scottish Episcopal Church. There is no formal induction programme, but ongoing guidance is given to ensure that Vestry members are familiar with the Church's values, aims and responsibilities as the designated trustees of a charity.

Administrative Structure

It is the duty of the Vestry to manage the temporal affairs of the Church and its congregation with responsibility to keep the fabric and property of the church and other buildings in good working order and to look after the finances of the Church.

Statement of Risk

The Vestry keeps under review the major risks to which the Church is exposed. The height of the Covid pandemic has now passed but we still retain hand sanitisers for those wishing to use them.

Charitable Objectives and Activities

The Church's principal activities include public worship in sacrament and prayer, Christian education, charitable work and fundraising for local, national and international needs and social meetings. Our community hall continues to support a wide range of activities by and for the local community as well as for our own members.

Volunteers

Lay members of our Vestry and other members of our congregation who fulfil many functions to do with worship and secular matters, all voluntarily give of their time to do so. We are fortunate that our members, who come from many different backgrounds, willingly use their abilities to ensure the wellbeing of the Church and its members and in support of the local community. Without their service, the Church would be unable to fulfil its desired role in the community.

REPORT OF THE VESTRY (continued)**Achievements and performance**

The Church not only exists to provide worship for the whole community, but also draws in the local community to participate in church organised events and activities and our community hall continues to serve both the church and the surrounding community. Charging a lower hiring fee than others in the area, it is now used almost daily by many hirers, offering a wide range of activities from dance classes, yoga, puppy training and the local Civic Society, to name but a few, as well as for birthday parties and other celebrations.

We have been fortunate to have acquired several grants and donations (see financial report) to make our church more carbon neutral (and warmer). This includes air source heat pumps, infrared heaters, a new accessible toilet and a servery. There are plans to insulate the church as much as possible given the limited access to some of the roof spaces. Significant renovations have also recently been completed in the church hall.

Financial Review

This year, two major initiatives were undertaken involving both the Church and the Church Hall. These included installing a new heating system and insulating the Church, as well as reordering the Church and providing an accessible toilet and servery. The Church Hall also underwent a full refurbishment. Last year's AGM agreed to reassign part of the Hall Fund, originally set up to finance the building of a new hall, to renovate the current hall. This would ensure its useability during Church closures and maximise its' earnings potential from rental income. By the end of the financial year we spent a total of £5,869 on renovations, together with a very generous donation from a member of the congregation supporting the project.

We received a grant of £43,500 from the Benefact Trust to install Air Source Heat Pumps and £20,000 from Asda Community Trust to build an accessible toilet and servery. In addition, several very generous donations from members of the congregation will allow us to insulate the Church and install infrared heaters to complement the air source heat pumps. New carpeting in the nave, replacement seating and a comprehensive upgrade of the Church's electrics will complete the reordering of the Church. The total cost is estimated to be £107,000 of which we have over £90,000 available to us in the bank.

All capital raised from grants and donations for the Church and Hall projects are maintained in 'Restricted Funds', which may only be utilised for their designated purposes. The Church's 'General Fund', which supports its daily operations, remains distinct and independent from the Restricted Funds.

The Church's General Fund reflected a modest rise in income, while overall expenditure remained almost unchanged. Despite a substantial investment in a new sound system for the Church, the General Fund recorded a modest deficit of £260 for the year.

Overall, the accounts show a surplus of £48,411 for the year attributable to the substantial grants and donations received throughout the year. As previously noted, this capital is currently held in Restricted Funds until it is needed. Over the upcoming financial year, the Church Restricted Fund is expected to be fully allocated and expended. The Hall Restricted Fund will remain in place, supporting maintenance of the hall in the near future and, over time, helping to finance the construction of an entirely new hall.

REPORT OF THE VESTRY (continued)**Plans for future periods**

The Vestry will continue its range of present activities for the foreseeable future.

Although the local authority planners have approved the plan and design for a new church hall, the Vestry has determined that installing a new heating system in the Church is a higher priority. As a result, plans for the new hall have been put on hold.

The Rector also proposed re-ordering the church so that it can be a more community space. To this end, we have removed several of the church pews and replaced them with single use chairs. In addition, work is ongoing to build a new accessible toilet and kitchen servery at the back of the church.

Reserves

The Vestry has adopted a policy of trying to maintain a level of unrestricted reserves such that, in the event of a significant drop in income, the church would be able to maintain its current level of activities for a reasonable period until replacement funding is obtained.

Statement of the Vestry Members' Responsibilities

The members of the Vestry 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 Vestry are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which reflect the current financial position of the Church at any time. This must be done to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006. 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.

On behalf of the Vestry

Vicki Clark
V Clark
Secretary

Date 12 / 11 / 25

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2025****Respective responsibilities of Vestry Members and examiner**

The Church's vestry members 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 Church's members of the vestry 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 Regulation 11 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 and includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with these records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeks explanations from the trustees concerning 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 other than any specific disclosures detailed below,

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.

Specific Disclosures

None.

Trish Rae
45c Hunterfield Road
Gorebridge
Midlothian
EH23 4TP

Signed *Patricia G Rae* Date *26/10/25*

**Receipts & Payments Account - St Leonards, Lasswade SC014151
year ending 30th September 2025**

RECEIPTS	Notes	2025	2025	2025	2024	2024
		Unrestricted £	Restricted (Hall Refurb) £	Restricted (Church Dev) £	Unrestricted £	Restricted £
Donations						
Pledged giving		19,795			19,705	
Open Plate		4,141			2,755	
Donations		5,695			3,269	
Tax reclaimed (Gift Aid)		5,523	0	500	7,687	
Other		746			1,098	
Receipts from investments other than land & buildings						
Investment income		4,055	746	0	3,564	656
Bank Interest		2,016	347	419	1,659	432
Gross receipts from other charitable activities						
Miscellaneous		13,560			13,040	
Grants and Donations for Church and Hall Projects		0	34	85,519	240	
Total receipts		<u>55,531</u>	<u>1,128</u>	<u>86,437</u>	<u>53,017</u>	<u>1,088</u>
PAYMENTS						
Payments for charitable activities						
Stipend & Pension		21,147			21,410	
Quota		4,420			3,929	
Trustees expenses	3	0			203	
Property expenses	4	15,124			19,618	
Administrative expenses	5	11,780			6,878	
Garden expenses		780			926	
Altar expenses		0			0	
Total payments for charitable activities		<u>53,251</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>52,963</u>	<u>0</u>
Total Payments for Church and Hall Projects			5,869	33,025		
Donations to						
Action Aid, Compassion, St Davids, Mission Aviation & ACAT	6	2,540			2,458	
Sub Total		<u>55,792</u>	<u>5,869</u>	<u>33,025</u>	<u>55,422</u>	<u>0</u>
Purchase of additional units in SEC Unit Trust Pool		0	0	0	0	0
Total Payments		<u>55,792</u>	<u>5,869</u>	<u>33,025</u>	<u>55,422</u>	<u>0</u>
Surplus (Deficit) for the year		<u>(260)</u>	<u>(4,741)</u>	<u>53,412</u>	<u>(2,405)</u>	<u>1,088</u>
Overall Surplus (Deficit) for the year			<u>£48,411</u>		<u>(£1,317)</u>	

**Notes to the Accounts St.Leonard Lasswade SC014151
year ending 30th September 2025**

1 PROPERTY

The Church, Hall and Rectory are not shown in the statement of balances as the Vestry believes that it is not possible to place a market value on them . The Church and Hall and Rectory are insured at a cost of £2,270

2 FUNDS

The various funds are held for the following purposes:

Unrestricted Funds

General Fund – to support the work of the Church.

Restricted Funds

Church Fund - to fund new heating system, insulation and re-ordering of the Church

Hall Fund - to fund the updating and refurbishment of the Church Hall

3 TRUSTEE EXPENSES

None of the Vestry members received remuneration in respect of their position as Vestry members. However the Rector received a stipend, pension contributions and occupies the rectory on a rent-free basis with the Council Tax and telephone paid by the Church. Heating and lighting are also subsidised. (These are all shared expenses with the linked charge of St.Mary's, Dalkeith.)

	2025	2024
	£	£
Expenses paid to members of the Vestry		
Revd. P.Harris Rector and Chairman Mileage Allowance	-	203
(no longer applies - replaced by Church's Electric car)	-	203
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
4 PROPERTY EXPENSES		
Premises costs(heat,light and repairs)	6,717	10,039
Insurance	1,648	1,583
Music and Organ	1,759	1,923
50% Rectory heat and light, council tax	2,433	2,357
Rectory maintenance fund	840	840
50% Lease of Electric Car	1,726	2,877
	<u>15,124</u>	<u>19,618</u>
5 ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES		
50% Other joint costs	1,500	1,021
50% Telephone	314	407
50% Printing and stationery	1,619	1,818
St Leonard's sundry costs	8,347	3,631
	<u>11,780</u>	<u>6,878</u>
6 CHARITABLE GIVING		
Action Aid, Compassion, St Davids & Mission Aviation	2,490	2,408
ACAT	50	50
	<u>2,540</u>	<u>2,458</u>

Not shown in these accounts but included here for information

Donations to special causes raised the following sums:

Bishop's Lent Appeal £431.74

Christian Aid £10.87

Storehouse £89.00

Gaza Appeal £45.00

Statement of Balances - St Leonards, Lasswade SC014151 for year ending 30th September 2025

	2025		2025		2025		2024		2024	
	General Unrestricted	Hall Fund Restricted	Church Fund Restricted	Total	General Unrestricted	Hall Fund Restricted	Total	General Unrestricted	Hall Fund Restricted	Total
BANK OF SCOTLAND										
Opening Balances	11,330.07	-	-	11,330.07	19,080.28	-	19,080.28	19,080.28	-	19,080.28
Current Account	-	17,243.58	-	17,243.58	-	16,155.59	16,155.59	-	16,155.59	16,155.59
32 Day Notice Acc (Hall Fund)	20,412.68	-	-	20,412.68	40,000.00	-	40,000.00	-	-	40,000.00
95 Day Notice Acc (General Fund)	20,000.00	-	-	20,000.00	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 Year Fixed Bond (General Fund)	20,000.00	-	-	20,000.00	-	-	-	-	-	-
	<u>51,742.75</u>	<u>17,243.58</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>68,986.33</u>	<u>59,080.28</u>	<u>16,155.59</u>	<u>75,235.87</u>	<u>59,080.28</u>	<u>16,155.59</u>	<u>75,235.87</u>
Surplus(Deficit) for the year	(260.29)	(4,740.77)	53,412.39	48,411.33	(2,404.71)	1,087.99	(1,316.72)	(2,404.71)	1,087.99	(1,316.72)
Closing Balances										
Current Account	46,419.89	-	-	46,419.89	11,330.07	-	11,330.07	11,330.07	-	11,330.07
32 Day Notice Acc (General Fund)	30,000.00	-	-	30,000.00	-	17,243.58	17,243.58	-	17,243.58	17,243.58
32 Day Notice Acc (Hall Fund)	-	-	-	-	20,412.68	-	20,000.00	20,412.68	-	20,000.00
32 Day Notice Acc (Church Fund)	-	-	42,433.63	42,433.63	20,000.00	-	20,000.00	20,000.00	-	20,412.68
Restricted Funds in Current Acc	(23,068.89)	12,502.81	10,978.76	412.68	20,000.00	-	20,000.00	20,000.00	-	20,412.68
	<u>53,351.00</u>	<u>12,502.81</u>	<u>53,412.39</u>	<u>119,266.20</u>	<u>51,742.75</u>	<u>17,243.58</u>	<u>68,986.33</u>	<u>51,742.75</u>	<u>17,243.58</u>	<u>68,986.33</u>
Adj for Other Funds Held (Special Collections, St Marys, etc)	(1,868.54)	-	-	(1,868.54)	4,932.82	-	4,932.82	4,932.82	-	4,932.82
	<u>51,482.46</u>	<u>12,502.81</u>	<u>53,412.39</u>	<u>117,397.66</u>	<u>56,675.57</u>	<u>17,243.58</u>	<u>73,919.15</u>	<u>56,675.57</u>	<u>17,243.58</u>	<u>73,919.15</u>
INVESTMENTS										
SEC Unit Trust Pool	4096	754	4850	£33,3139	4096	754	4850	4096	754	4850
Number of Units Held				per unit						per unit
Market Value on 1 Oct 24 (£)	124,951.35	23,001.30	147,952.65	30-Sep-25	102,830.49	18,929.25	121,759.74	102,830.49	18,929.25	121,759.74
Unrealised gain (loss) in year (£)	11,502.38	2,117.38	13,619.77		22,120.86	4,072.05	26,192.91	22,120.86	4,072.05	26,192.91
Additional Units Purchased	-	-	-		-	-	-	-	-	-
Purchased Cost (£)	-	-	-		-	-	-	-	-	-
Unrealised gain (loss) in year (£)	-	-	-		-	-	-	-	-	-
Closing Market Value (£)	<u>136,453.73</u>	<u>25,118.68</u>	<u>161,572.42</u>		<u>124,951.35</u>	<u>23,001.30</u>	<u>147,952.65</u>	<u>124,951.35</u>	<u>23,001.30</u>	<u>147,952.65</u>

Approved by the Vestry and signed on their behalf

Treasurer


William Ferris

Date

12-11-25

Chairman



Rev. Peter S Harris

Date

12/11/25