

St. John the Evangelist Church

Greenlands, Redditch



Reports for the Annual General Meeting

Tuesday 28th April 2026 in St. John's Church, Greenlands

Annual General Meeting
With Annual meeting of parishioners

April 28th 2026, 7:30pm
Meeting held in St. John's Church

Agenda

- 1. Welcome & Opening Prayer**
- 2. Appointment of the minute secretary**
- 3. Apologies for absence**
- 4. Receive the minutes of 2024 AGM**
- 5. Presentation of Annual Report**

Consideration of

- a. Electoral Roll
- b. Annual Reports, including
 - i. Activities of the Church in general
 - ii. Churchwarden report
 - iii. Deanery Synod
 - iv. Safeguarding
- c. Treasurer's report

6. Meeting of parishioners:

Nomination of Churchwardens to be elected at APCM

Nominations/Elections of DCC & PCC representatives

- 7. Message from Paul**
- 8. Thanks**
- 9. AOB**
- 10. Closing prayer**

AGM MINUTES FOR THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN'S, GREENLANDS

Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 13th May 2025 at 7:30pm in St. John's Church.

Present	Paul Lawlor, Dawn Wilson (minutes secretary), Mike Palfreyman, Sue Palfreyman, Elaine Whitfield, Jean Todd, Philip Humphrey, Annette Humphrey, Gerry Goddard, Abigail Humphrey, Rosemary Humphrey, Barry Humphrey, Jasper Johnston Humphrey, Judi Lawlor, Sharon Forrest, Jane Kerans, Ann Ball
Apologies 13/05 - 3	Simon and Amanda Worley, Reg & Judy Moore, Rob & Vicki Quarton, Geoff Adams, Sharon Casserley

Ref	Item	Notes
13/05 - 1	Welcome and Opening Prayer	Paul opened in prayer
13/05 - 2	Appointment of the minute secretary	Dawn Wilson was appointed as secretary for the meeting.
13/05 - 4	Minutes of previous AGM	Received as correct
13/05 - 5	Presentation of annual reports	<p>Written reports</p> <p>Electoral roll:- see report Church in general:- see report CW report:- see report</p> <p>Deanery Synod:- Paul Lawlor, meeting at Bordesley Abbey, discussed Christian life over time. Open session on safeguarding in communities, Kim Brown from new worshipping communities in an open meeting Nice to have reports generally circulated throughout the year, most meetings are open so please come along. Next meeting June 9th</p> <p>Safeguarding:- see report</p> <p>Treasurers report:- see report Lightening conductor £3,300 Thanks for donation of lawn mower Signed up to cornerstone - a grant database Possibility of a card machine for donations</p> <p>Thanks to all who work in the church and have compiled reports</p>
13/05 - 6	Meeting of Parishioners	<p>CW - duly nominated - Thanks to CW PCC nominations - duly nominated DCC nominations - duly nominated Discussed nominations, all in favour</p> <p>Nominations - see booklet</p>



13/05 - 7	Message from Paul	Written sheet circulated Thanks for use of upper room Share all communications, can we improve these? Think about where church will be in 4-5 years - what do we need to do now to get to where we want to be in 5 years? How can people move on in their journey with Jesus?
13/05 - 8	Thanks	To all people who are part of the life here. It is a privilege to be part of life here.
13/05 - 9	AOB	Small discussion groups following Paul's message and feedback. How do we create space for each other and for discipleship work?
	Confidentiality	There are no matters marked as confidential.
13 / 05 - 10	Closing prayer.	Paul closed in prayer and grace was shared.
	End	

Annual Report

St. John's DCC Secretarial Report for 2025 - 2026

The DCC met six times since the AGM last April. Topics discussed as listed below.

Safeguarding	Church Hall	Fire safety	Sofas in church/hall
Disabled access	Maintenance	Notice Board	Discovering faith course
Prayer	Finance	Church Directory	Health & Safety Documents
Charity Donations	Leadership	Worship planning	Open the Book
TearFund	Pastoral Needs	Communication	Easter/Christmas Services
Hall hiring	Discipleship	Leaflet drops	

St. John's Electoral roll report for 2026 - 2027

There have been no changes to the electoral roll so the number of members remains at forty-one.

Dawn Wilson

Afternoon Tea service

Our monthly Afternoon Tea Service continues with attendances of 25-30 people.

Each month we have a different topic to discuss around the tables, with related questions to reinvigorate the conversations should they ever lag.

Before Afternoon Tea is served there is an opportunity to reflect together as a group on the theme of the month and for members to share their thoughts and experiences. The topic is then linked to a few familiar verses from the Bible.

Attendees value the opportunity to gather in a friendly non threatening environment and appreciate the refreshments provided.

The week before an Afternoon Tea Service a small group of us meet to reflect and pray for the Afternoon Tea Service, attendees and the mission of the church.

After reflection and consultation we have decided to revert to the third Wednesday of the month starting in May.

All are welcome to join us for Afternoon Tea and extra guests are always welcome, particularly if they do not normally attend church

Rose Humphrey

Healing Ministry Team

The healing ministry team continues to meet weekly during term time, in order to pray for the needs of others and local and world situations. We also meet before each communion service to pray for the service and those coming for prayer. We are always aware of the presence and guidance of the Holy Spirit in this work.

We hope to attend a diocesan prayer training day in June and would be pleased for others, who are interested in finding out more about this ministry, to join us. Judi Lawlor has more details.

Sue Palfreyman April 2026

Finance - Attached sheet page

Thank you to all who donate to the funds of St Johns, it enables us to worship God in a suitable space and be here to support the people of this area.

During 2025 including the standard running costs we paid for Cleaning the church roof, Lightning conductor repair, Fence repair, Office carpet replacement, Fire alarm and extinguisher maintenance and The hall heating upgrade. Total cost £32,114

We also gave Gifts to other charities as 10% of our income.

The children's society to improve the lives of young people and help them deal with mental health, sexual exploitation, rights and advocacy.

Redditch Nightstop, emergency accommodation, supported lodgings, supported learning for 16 to 25s

Christian Aid, feeding families, creating a world where everyone can live a full life, free from poverty

Alzheimers Society provides vital support to help people navigate the daily challenges of life with dementia.

Tearfund, helping communities lift themselves out of poverty

At the beginning of 2025 we had £77,606 and finished the year with £60,612

In 2026 so far, we have the new signs, the Hall decoration, Hall roof repair, Total cost £4690

We started 2026 with £60,134 and at the end of April £57,970

There are a few unknowns for the future especially the cost of Electricity and Gas but we have enough reserves to be able to pay for any increases.

B. Humphrey

St John's Greenlands				
Account Summary 2025		12 months to December 2025		
	Year Budget 2026	Year Budget 2025	Budget YTD	Actual
Income				
Voluntary Income				
Total Giving	33,500	30,000	30,000	33,787
Gift Aid	4,800	4,000	4,000	4,746
Total Giving incl Gift Aid	38,300	34,000	34,000	38,533
Other Income				
Fund Raising/ Grants				
Lettings Church	1,500	1,700	1,700	2,226
Hall	8,000	8,000	8,000	9,793
Fees	100	120	120	105
Miscellaneous				180
Total Other Income	9,600	9,820	9,820	12,304
Total Income	47,900	43,820	43,820	50,837
Resources Expended				
Mission Giving & Donations	5,000	5,870	5,870	4,990
Ministry Share	21,437	20,416	20,416	20,269
Salaries Wages & Honoraria	900	980	980	811
Expenses of clergy & staff	150	150	150	0
Mission & evangelism	1,000	5,000	5,000	248
Joint Projects funding	600	500	500	600
Insurance	2,081	2,028	2,028	2,034
Office costs	1,200	1,000	1,000	1,170
Maintenance	5,000	30,500	30,500	32,114
Church Services	600	1,000	1,000	598
Fellowship events Pastoral	50	150	150	33
Youth & Children's work	500	2,500	2,500	335
Training	150	150	150	0
Gas	2,500	3,500	3,500	1,445
Electricity	5,500	6,500	6,500	3,780
Total Expenditure	46,668	80,244	80,244	68,428
Current Assets				
Bank account inc.	60,612			60,612
Agency account	545			545
Accounts Payable				0
Accounts Receivable				0
Total Funds	60,066			60,066
Net Movement in Funds	687	(36,424)	(36,424)	(17,590)
Fund Balance 1st January				77,606
Current Fund Balance	687	(36,424)	(36,424)	60,015

Hall and Church Lettings

2025 has been another busy year for our Church buildings, with a selection of hires woven into the calendars to complement our own Church activities. Overall the number of regular hires has reduced from 2024, but we have had more occasional hires from other organisations in recent times.

Hall

Here we have 5 regular hirers.

On Wednesday afternoons we have the **Wednesday Bowls Group** followed by **Kumon Educational** teaching English and Maths, and **Hale and Hearties** exercise class in the evening. Then **RND Dance (Razzle Dazzle)** children's dance classes are on Thursday evenings and Saturday mornings.

At the end of the summer the Tiny Talk leader gave up her booking, to pursue a different career. The Yoga class has also finished.

Meanwhile the Upper Room in the hall is the Redditch Mission Area Office.

Church

The hirers in the church are :-

Bel Canto choir practising on Monday evenings and
Redditch Recorders rehearsing on Tuesday mornings

The Got 2 Sing choir gave up their hire with us at the end of the summer

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The occasional bookings have included the Keralan Catholic community holding a mass on Christmas Eve, and teaching events – Catechism and a Lenten Retreat. The church is also being used for community PACT meetings, and some surgeries by MP Chris Bloor. The hall continues to be a polling station. For the last few years we have also had an annual booking for a sleepover by a Victorian Re-enactment Group in the hall!

Generally all runs smoothly, and any niggles can be resolved without too much problem. Car Parking issues is the one matter that continues to crop up from time to time – between hirers and with our neighbours.

During the past year the Church Council have also been making an assessment of the buildings from a Fire Risk perspective, and recently decided that for the present we should have 'no more than 150 people on the campus' i.e. both buildings taken together.

The hall has been closed for short periods for repairs on a couple of occasions in the past year. - for the installation of a new heating system, and for some painting. The Church maintenance team have arranged for contractors to work at or close to school holiday periods to minimise disruption to hirers, and once again we have been able to accommodate some groups who were continuing to meet in the church.

We remain open to new bookings, and indeed open to suggestions from church members of activities that they would like to have in our buildings.

Meanwhile we continue to press for improvements to the site and buildings, and to rectification of maintenance issues for the Health and Safety of existing or potential clients.

Philip & Annette

Music Group

There have been big changes to the Musical Worship Team in recent months. Barry has stepped down from leading this group, and from participating in this group for a while. After many years of being lead instrument players Geoff and Jane have changed their role in the band. Jane has joined the line up of singers, and Geoff is now supporting the band with some organ playing, when he is able to do so. We thank these guys for their dedication in their previous roles.

Since December Amanda (keyboard) and Simon (guitar) have taken up the mantle of being instrumental leads to the band. Abi has joined Philip, Jane and Annette in our team of adult singers. During this time we have also had 4 young people join us to sing on one or more occasions, at Christmas, Easter and since the beginning of this year for Morning Worship on the 3rd Sunday of the month.

The Worship Band continues to rehearse most Friday mornings. In recent times we have been beginning our sessions by reading and reflecting on a psalm (The Old Testament's hymn book) and prayer, before moving on to more technical matters concerning the music selected for us to play on the coming Sunday. These concern matters such as what is the optimal musical key to make it is easiest for the congregation to sing, and what intro to use. We also meet 45 minutes before Sunday Morning Services for a reminder of our week day rehearsal, and to enable any young people wishing to join us that week to rehearse with us.

Some new phrases have come into use for our new team. For the big band with young people we have the "multi-generational worship band". Then on one occasion when Simon and Amanda were unable to play but we had singers available, we arranged to provide vocal support to predetermined music tracks in "blended worship".

At some level we are all learning together. We are loving the enthusiasm of our young recruits. Then some of the more experienced members are able to pass on knowledge of musical arrangements that have worked well in the past.

Thank you to the Service leaders who have given us a wide range of music to rehearse. In 2022 I started compiling a spreadsheet list of all the songs we were doing, and this list is still being regularly added to, and not always with recently composed songs! We thank too our sound and vision operators, who support to us in the background. We also thank parents assisting the young people to come early for Sunday practices.

For the future we look forward to learning to work together more, learning new music, continuing to support the congregation to worship God in song, and to encouraging other adults and young people to join us.

Annette
on behalf of the Music Group

Pastoral Care Report

Our aim is to be a caring church family who look out for one another. Each member of the church family has recently been put into a small pastoral care group. In this way, it is hoped that nobody will 'slip through the net' and be forgotten about if they haven't been to church for a few weeks, or if they can't get to church anymore. (The alternative is 'everybody thought it was somebody's job and nobody did it!') We try to send a card or flowers when we know people are going through a hard time or if we know someone is celebrating a special birthday.

Amanda Worley

JAM Report

Our Young people's at St John's work is steadily evolving. At Christmas we established an intergenerational worship band, and we're delighted that some of our young people regularly help lead the singing in church on the third Sunday of each month and on special occasions.

We're establishing links with the youth workers at St Stephen's Church, and we're hoping to attend some of their future youth events. One of our young people recently attended a music workshop at St Stephen's and had a great time.

JAM continues with our older teenagers, and numbers grow during holiday times when more of them are available. We're currently looking at the words and actions of Jesus. If anyone feels God is nudging them to get involved with our youth work, do let me know, any additional support would be appreciated!

Amanda Worley

Maintenance Report

The year 25/26 was an interesting one: firstly we suffered a mechanical bereavement with the last cough and splutter of our old lawnmower after many years of faithful, if not temperamental service in its final months service.

It finally packed up with the engine almost separating itself from the chassis!!

Thanks to a generous donation we were able to purchase the "Ferrari" of all lawnmowers a bright red "Toro" with a 21 inch cutting radius it truly makes mowing grass a joy.

So you can imagine our frustration when last summer was so hot no grass would grow and we could not play with our new toy for most of the year!!!

We continue to cut grass and litter pick as often as time allows.

From a pure maintenance stance, a brand new 'state of the art' heating system in the hall (all run by mobile phone apps !!!) required the hall walls to be painted professionally. Redditch Mission area office was painted by us, and more recently, a leak in the church hall roof has hopefully been sorted.

If anyone fancies loads of fresh air and wishes to join us , please speak to the overworked Church warden's husband!!!

Simon Worley

Activity Church Report

We have had a good year in Activity Church growing in both numbers and relationships. It is a pleasure to meet the families who join us on our journey in faith, they are lovely people and the bonding between everyone young and adult is lovely to see. The older children mentor the little ones, helping them with craft activities and taking time to play with them. Two of our families have had additions this year and it is with delight that we welcomed baby Lucia and Eva after Christmas.

Since then we have been using Disney films in story time which has been very popular with children and adults alike, so we continue with them into the summer. It was really nice to see both congregations together enjoying the Lion King together at our Easter joint service. We are so lucky to have the space to offer two forms of worship at the same time so that people can choose where best meets their needs yet still be one church.

None of this would be possible without the dedication of our brilliant team who work hard together with craft coffees worship and prayers. Thank you all so much for the time you make! And thank you to those in our other building who pray for us.

God has brought us a long way from a couple of families meeting round a table reading from the Children's bible. He is always moving forward and we look forward to what the future holds!

In September we plan to start a group looking at Bear Grylls book with those interested in exploring their faith and of course continue to find ways of engaging our younger members in all that bible stories teach us.
Who knows where God will lead us.....

Eileen Vikki and Reg

Ipsley Parish Messy Church Report - April 2026

During the past year there have been some changes to the Messy Church team with some long-standing members of the team stepping down and others either joining or re-joining

the team. It remains a faithful and committed group of both young and 'not as young as they used to be' members from all three churches in the Ipsley Parish who have a real heart for working together in sharing the love of Jesus with all those who come along. We also celebrated our 13th Birthday in September so Messy Church is now officially a teenager!

The team continues to be made up of those who plan, prepare and lead activities on-site at Woodrow First School, those who prepare food beforehand, on-site or delivered and those who pray before, during and after each session both for group concerns and for those of individuals which have been posted in our prayer box. Everyone has an essential role to play and is enormously valued – indeed Messy Church could not continue to work without each person's contribution.

Since the start of this school year in September 2025 our Woodrow Messy Church programme has sometimes followed the Bible Reading Fellowship 'Get Messy' materials to aid our planning though we have more often tended to devise our own programme and activities to better meet the needs of our families.

Numbers of attendees have varied as other activities and the weather (we had to cancel in January owing to ice) have taken their toll but have ranged from a low of 19 on one occasion to a high of 70 and have averaged 40 over the 10 sessions during the last year. We have again seen consistent regular attendance by several families and new families joining us.

The Holy Spirit has continued to be at work in the deepening conversations and relationships both within the team and with the families who attend. God is good!

We continue to be grateful to Woodrow First School and especially the school caretaker for all the support we receive and to all of you for all your continuing prayers, support and for the financial underpinning of this ongoing local mission work.

Julie Harvey – Christ Church

Reg Moore – St John's

Andrea Stevens – St Peter's

Church Warden's Report

It's been another busy year in the life of St John's!

Our services continue to offer a range of worship styles, from our traditional Holy Communion service to Cafe and Activity Church, both designed for light touch, informal, inter generational worship. We have recently introduced an Intergenerational Worship Service on the third Sunday of each month, which includes an all- age worship group who lead the singing, and a youth focussed activity.

St John's also offers a weekly Bible study and zoom prayer meeting. A small group of people are currently taking part in a weekly Faith, Bible & Chat group.

We continue to be blessed to have so many gifted and talented people at St John's who can lead our worship. Earlier this year, Judi Lawlor, Eileen Trueman and Reg Moore each gained an ALM qualification, congratulations to them, and very well deserved. Judi has already successfully led several worship services, while Eileen and Reg are now formally recognised as being leaders of Activity Church, our New Worshipping Community. We are also blessed to welcome Elaine Whitfield (ALM) onto the team. She too has already led some great worship services at St John's. Each worship leader brings their own distinct style to the role, which benefits us all.

Our wide range of Christmas and Easter services were well attended and all had good feedback.

We really appreciate all the people who are willing to lead and take part in other areas of church life, such as afternoon tea, music group, toddler group, prayer ministry team, stewarding, refreshments and the grounds and maintenance team. Their time, gifts and skills are invaluable.

St John's, Greenlands has a lot to offer its local community, not least, the message that God loves us and life is better with Him! We have recently distributed over one thousand leaflets, about our church and activities to homes in the local area. A big Thank You to all who helped with this initiative!

We continue to be blessed with the leadership, encouragement, skills and support of Rev Paul Lawlor, we know we're not always an easy flock to lead!

Once again, a huge thank you to everyone for being a part of the body of Christ at St John's!

Amanda Worley and Barry Humphrey

Safeguarding

Most of the necessary safeguarding clearances were completed in 2024. There does need to be some retraining this year as it should be renewed every three years. This can be completed on the Training Portal in your own home.

During 2025 there was a data breach involving the company that dealt with the DBS applications. The Diocese has decided to use a Christian charity to complete this work called 31.8, they are highly recommended and used by many Diocese. This means that the future applications will be slightly different. I will inform you when you need a new DBS certificate and how to apply.

St Johns DCC has had due regard to the guidance issued by the House of Bishops on matters relating to the safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults.

B. Humphrey

Meeting of parishioners

Church Warden nominations

2 to be nominated

PCC nominations

5 to be nominated

DCC nominations

Up to 11 to be nominated

Deanery Synod nominations

To be nominated