

The Bishop of Guildford's Foundation

The Bishop of Guildford's Foundation (the Charity)
is also known by its working name
The Bishop of Guildford's Communities Fund

Trustees' Report, Independent Examiner's Report and Accounts

For the year ended 31 December 2025

Charitable incorporated organisation

Registered Charity No. 1017385

Registered office: Willow Grange, Woking Road, Guildford GU4 7QS

Trustees' report

For the year ended 31 December 2025

Rt Revd Andrew Watson, Bishop of Guildford

We begin our report with the very sad news of the death of the Right Reverend Andrew Watson, Bishop of Guildford and Chair of Trustees, shortly after the end of the year to which this report relates.

Bishop Andrew died peacefully on Tuesday 3 March 2026 surrounded by family, less than a month after receiving a terminal diagnosis of pancreatic cancer. Prior to his death, he shared his prognosis with the Diocese and reflected that his faith in “the resurrection of the body and the life everlasting” had only grown stronger. He also spoke of being blessed with a loving family and the opportunity to fulfil a series of ministries within his “beloved Church of England”.

We mourn the loss of our Chair and give thanks for Bishop Andrew’s leadership, faith, encouragement, and support for the Charity and its work.

Trustees

The Charity’s Trustees during the year were:

Rt Revd Andrew Watson	Bishop of Guildford and Chair of Trustees
Andrew Carvell	Treasurer
Louise Kenyon	Secretary
Jane Cacouris	Appointed as a Trustee on 12 June 2025
Revd Claire Isherwood	
Richard Peters	Retired as a Trustee on 18 April 2025
Ebert Spreeth	

Since the year end there have been the following changes:

Rt Revd Andrew Watson	Died 3 March 2026
Rt Revd Richard Paul Davies	Bishop of Dorking and Chair of Trustees Appointed as a Trustee on 28 April 2026
Gillian Fernandes	Appointed as a Trustee on 29 January 2026

Structure and management

The Charity is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) governed by a Constitution based on the Charity Commission’s Foundation model constitution.

The Trustees act in accordance with the Constitution, the Charities Act 2011, and relevant Charity Commission guidance. The Constitution governs the eligibility, appointment, retirement, and removal of Trustees. There must be between three and twelve Trustees.

Decisions are taken either at Trustee meetings when a quorum is present with the Trustee chairing the meeting having a casting vote, or by resolution in written or electronic form approved by a majority of all Trustees. Trustees meet as required, typically three times per year.

The members of the Charity are its Trustees and the only persons eligible to be members of the Charity are its Trustees. The members meet from time to time or agree by resolution in writing to make those decisions which must be made by the members of the CIO.

Charitable objects and activities

The Charity advances such charitable purposes as the Trustees see fit from time to time, in particular, but not limited to, relieving poverty, advancing education and advancing the Christian religion, for the benefit of people in the Diocese of Guildford. The Charity makes grants for activities initiated by Church of England churches in the Diocese or for activities initiated by persons and entities in partnership with those churches. The Charity receives donations from parishes in the Diocese and from individuals. It raises funds by carrying out fundraising activities.

The Charity provides benefit to the general public through its grant-making. The Trustees confirm that they have consulted the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the objects and activities of the Charity, and when planning future activities and making grants.

Grant making

The Charity awards grants in furtherance of its charitable purposes. Grant applications are reviewed by Trustees taking account of eligibility, alignment with the Charity's purposes, available funds, safeguarding considerations where relevant, and risk considerations generally. Trustees with conflicts of interest do not participate in related discussions or decisions.

During the year the Charity made 10 grants totalling £17,500 (previous year 16 grants totalling £26,270). These were 5 larger grants totalling £14,000 and 5 small grants totalling £3,500. These grants were to support community projects. There are more details about projects supported by the Charity at www.cofeguildford.org.uk/how-the-money-has-helped/

Policies and risk management

During the year, the Trustees reviewed the Charity's governance arrangements, considered Charity Commission guidance, and developed a set of policies and procedures appropriate to the Charity's size and activities. These policies were formally adopted after the year end.

The policies cover Trustees' code of conduct, conflicts of interest and expenses. They also cover grant-making, reserves, investments, internal financial controls, risk management, safeguarding, serious incident reporting, complaints, communications, and data protection.

The Trustees recognise the importance of maintaining effective internal financial controls. The Charity maintains accounting records, Trustee oversight of financial reporting, payment authorisation controls and other procedures designed to safeguard its funds and assets.

Risks relating to governance, financial management, grant-making, regulatory compliance, safeguarding, reputation and data protection are reviewed regularly, together with the effectiveness of the Charity's controls and procedures.

The Charity is a grant-giving organisation and does not directly deliver services involving children or vulnerable adults. The Trustees nevertheless consider safeguarding risks and include safeguarding considerations in grant applications.

The Trustees recognise the importance of maintaining the Charity's independence and non-party political status. Limited personal data is processed in connection with grant applications, governance, and administration and is handled lawfully, securely, and proportionately.

Receipts and payments

Receipts in the current year were £27,500 (previous year £29,600). These receipts included donations of £20,907 (previous year £22,737), Lent Appeal £6,006 (previous year £4,876) and interest receipts of £587 (previous year £655). The Bishops' Camino (previous year £1,332) did not take place in 2025.

Payments in the current year were £17,704 (previous year £26,809) comprising grants of £17,500 (previous year £26,270) and fundraising and administration costs of £204 (previous year £539).

Cash funds

Cash funds at the end of the year were £46,886 (previous year £37,090). The increase of £9,796 was due to receipts exceeding payments. This was because grant-making in the year was lower than the previous year due primarily to the number of applications received and approved during the year.

Investment policy

The Trustees manage the Charity's funds in accordance with a low-risk investment approach. The Trustees' priorities are protecting the Charity's capital, maintaining sufficient liquidity to meet grant commitments and operating costs, and achieving modest returns without taking undue risk.

Funds required for short-term grant-making and operating activities are held in readily accessible accounts. Surplus funds not immediately required may be placed in low-risk deposit or investment arrangements consistent with the investment policy.

The Trustees review the Charity's investments regularly, taking account of liquidity requirements, risk, suitability, and the Charity's overall financial position.

Reserves policy and reserves

The Reserves policy is that the Charity maintains reserves so that it should be able to carry on its charitable activities, meeting requests for grants and its costs, both expected and unforeseen, for a 12 month period even if donations to the Charity are significantly reduced or it is not successful in carrying out fundraising activities.

The Trustees regularly monitor the level of reserves and the reserves policy. They consider whether the level of reserves is supporting the Charity to operate effectively; whether the level of reserves is in line with the policy; and whether to update the reserves policy.

The Charity's reserves at 31 December 2025 were £38,336. The reserves are the Charity's cash funds less the Charity's liabilities. Its liabilities are £8,550 of grants committed by the Trustees that are unpaid at the current year end. At the previous year end, the Charity's reserves were £29,090. The Trustees consider the level of reserves at the year end to be appropriate in light of the reserves policy and planned activities.

Community Foundation for Surrey

In 2018, when the Charity ceased its partnership with the Community Foundation for Surrey (CFS), the Community First Endowment Fund held by CFS in the name of the Charity could not legally be transferred to the Charity. The Endowment Fund continues to be managed by the CFS trustees. Income from the Endowment Fund less a contribution to CFS costs is accumulated in a Bishop of

Guildford’s Foundation Grants Fund held by CFS. The CFS trustees make grants from this fund. CFS seeks input from the Charity about grants from this fund.

At 31 December 2025, the Endowment Fund had a balance of £115,326 (previous year £120,446) and the Grants Fund had a balance of £6,959 (previous year £1,068). During the year no grants were made by CFS (previous year, 1 grant of £2,500).

Declaration

The Trustees declare that they have approved the Trustees’ Report and accounts.

Signed on behalf of the Charity’s Trustees

Signature	SIGNED BY	SIGNED BY
Name	Paul Davies	Andrew Carvell
Position	Bishop of Dorking Chair of Trustees	Honorary Treasurer
Date	4 June 2026	4 June 2026

Independent examiner's report

to the Trustees of The Bishop of Guildford's Foundation (Registered Charity No. 1017385) on the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2025

I report to the Trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Charity for the year ended 31 December 2025 as set out on pages 7 to 9.

As the Trustees of the Charity, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- Accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- The accounts do not accord with the accounting records

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signature

SIGNED BY

Name

Ian Durrant

Relevant professional qualifications

Chartered Accountant, CA(SA)

Address

ADDRESS

Date

4 June 2026

Receipts and payments accounts

For the year ended 31 December 2025

Receipts and payments

	Note	Current year 1 Jan 2025 to 31 Dec 2025 £s	Previous year 1 Jan 2024 to 31 Dec 2024 £s
Receipts	1	27,500	29,600
Payments	3	(17,704)	(26,809)
Net of receipts and payments		9,796	2,791
Cash funds previous year end		37,090	34,299
Cash funds current year end	5	46,886	37,090

Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the year

	Current year end 31 Dec 2025 £s	Previous year end 31 Dec 2024 £s
Assets		
Cash funds		
Lloyds bank	33,317	24,108
CCLA	13,569	12,982
Total cash funds	46,886	37,090
Liabilities		
Grants not yet paid	(8,550)	(8,000)
Total liabilities	(8,550)	(8,000)

Notes to the accounts

	Note	Current year 1 Jan 2025 to 31 Dec 2025	Previous year 1 Jan 2024 to 31 Dec 2024
		£s	£s
Note 1: Receipts			
Donations, including gift aid		20,907	22,737
Fundraising	2	6,006	6,208
Interest		587	655
Total receipts		27,500	29,600
Note 2: Fundraising			
Lent appeal		6,006	4,876
The Bishops' Camino / Walk the Wey			1,332
		6,006	6,208
Note 3: Payments			
Grants paid	4	(17,500)	(26,270)
Fundraising costs		(180)	(439)
Administration		(24)	(100)
Total payments		(17,704)	(26,809)
Note 4: Grants paid			
Cove		(3,000)	(4,500)
St John's Stoke		(3,000)	(2,000)
St Mary's Fetcham		(3,000)	
St Paul's Addlestone		(3,000)	(4,000)
St Peter's Woking		(2,000)	
St Mary's East Molesey			(3,500)
St John the Baptist Egham			(3,000)
MASCOT Sheerwater			(2,500)
St Paul's Dorking			(2,000)
St Francis Westborough			(1,000)
Small grants			
Christchurch Woking		(750)	

Holy Trinity Aldershot	(750)	
St James Elstead	(750)	
St Nicolas Guildford	(750)	
St Mark's Bordon	(500)	
Badshot Lea & Hale Friday Night Games Club		(500)
Leatherhead, Play Café		(500)
St John's Merrow		(500)
St Mary the Virgin, Chessington		(500)
St Mary's East Molesey		(500)
St Mary's Holmwood		(500)
St Mary's Camberley		(500)
Bisley Hear Here		(270)
Total grants	<u>(17,500)</u>	<u>(26,270)</u>

Note 5: Cash funds

Cash funds at the year end are:

- The cash balance of the Charity's bank accounts on the last day of the year
- Plus any money received before the end of the year but banked in the following year;
- Less any cheques written or other payments made before the end of the year but not cleared through the bank until the following year.

Note 6: Reserves

The Charity's reserves are its unrestricted funds that are freely available to spend on the Charity's purposes. The Charity's funds are its cash funds, together with its other monetary assets and investments less any liabilities, for example, grants committed by the Trustees that are unpaid at the year end. All the Charity's funds are unrestricted.

	Current year end 31 Dec 2025 £s	Previous year end 31 Dec 2024 £s
Cash funds	<u>46,886</u>	<u>37,090</u>
Grants not yet paid	(8,550)	(8,000)
Reserves	<u>38,336</u>	<u>29,090</u>