

I hope that you are all enjoying a little sunshine and it being a little warmer than of late.

The financial position of the church is looking healthier than budgeted this year which whilst was unplanned, it is welcome in that it allows the PCC to fund the next stage of the redevelopment of St John's properties. However, we continue to work hard to achieve our goal of recruiting the roles of an Operations Manager/Leadership Assistant and a Youth Pastor.

April was a busy month for the church with the exploration of the Narnia story for schools; Narnia themed Easter Sunday service followed on the same day with an Extravaganza. A big thank you must go out to the Children's and Families team in working so hard to put these events on.

On the subject of the financial status of the church for the period to 30 April 2026, we are carrying a surplus of £56.5k vs. planned deficit of £8k.

1. Our total income, too date, is 28% over planned forecast as a result of:
 - a. Our pledged giving is 66% ahead of or planned budgets mainly due to two large donations.
 - b. Our gift aid giving continues to run at 7% ahead of budgets.
2. Continued thanks to all our members who continue to give so generously monetarily but also in time.
3. This figure includes £10k of Sizewell monies to be assigned to the accommodation and food for the holiday.

For the sake of clarity to all members, new legislation will come into force on 1 May 2026 which grants tenants increased rights. However, it does not preclude us from increasing our rental rates but carries greater requirements relating termination of the lease agreements. To this end, we are meeting with the tenants of Andersons Way and Bury Hill the week beginning 10 May 2026 to go through our and their obligations.

Please be aware that we shall start conducting regular fire drills in the near future across all our buildings so if you find yourself in them at that time, please evacuate to the muster point as requested.

With regard to costs, ongoing costs of running the church activities are running 26% behind budget.

1. As a result of the ongoing recruitment issues, staff costs continue to run 53% under budget.
2. Our expenditure on rental properties is higher than planned due to maintenance work required.
3. Our Wholesale water utility supplier is changing from Anglian Water to Everflow on 11 May, 2026 which will result in a saving of a least 10% per annum.

Financial Briefing



If you would like a copy of the financial statement or wish to discuss any elements of the briefing, please do not hesitate to contact me at Treasurer@stjohnswoodbridge.org.uk or at the Church Office on most Mondays and Tuesdays.