

Halvergate with Tunstall Parochial Church Council

ANNUAL REPORT 2025

The Rector, Rev. Canon Martin Greenland, and members of Halvergate with Tunstall Parochial Church Council were responsible for the Church activities in Halvergate and Tunstall and for the maintenance of the building of St Peter and St Paul, Halvergate.

MEMBERSHIP

INCUMBENT	Rev. Canon Martin Greenland	
CHURCHWARDEN	Mr. Nick Butcher	Vice Chairman
DEANERY SYNOD	Mrs. P Butcher	
ELECTED MEMBERS	Mrs. S. Blake	Electoral Roll Secretary
	Mrs. P. Butcher	Treasurer, Secretary
	Mrs N. Cann	Minute Secretary
	Mrs F. Collins	
	Mrs S More	safeguarding, gift aid, sidesman, clergy wellbeing rep
	Mr. C. Reader	sidesman
FABRIC OFFICER	Mr Robert More -	not a PCC member

SERVICES:

1st Sunday 9-30am - Morning Prayer

3rd Sunday 9-30am - Holy Communion

4th Sunday 9-30am - Matins

Morning Prayer has usually been led by Nicholas Cowen, Lay Reader, Holy Communion by the Rector, and Matins by the Churchwarden.

The Book of Common Prayer has again been used for services with readings from the New Revised Standard Version of the Bible except for Christmas when the King James Version was used.

Two services were held at Tunstall: Holy Communion for Lammas (which was also the Churches Together service) led by the Rector; and Easter Eve (Easter Fire and the renewal of Baptism vows.) The Easter Eve service was preceded by refreshments at the home of Robert and Sally More.

The Annual Covenant Service at Freethorpe Methodist Chapel was shared with members of the Anglican Churches in the area.

Other Special Services were Remembrance Sunday, attended by Rainbows, Brownies and Guides and their families following the Act of Remembrance at the Village Memorial and a Service of Lessons and Carols, preceded by refreshments, held on the Friday before Christmas.

A Benefice Service was held on the Feast of St Peter and St Paul in June

World Day of Prayer was held at Freethorpe Methodist Chapel.

A Christmas Leaflet was distributed to all houses in the village.

Average attendances at Sunday services was slightly higher than in 2024 but some weeks, attendance was very low at 5 or 6. Attendance at the Remembrance Sunday Service was 50 (33 adults and 17 Children) and on Easter Sunday, we attracted regular worshipers from other Churches who did not have a Holy Communion Service. There were 33 people at the Carol Service.

Organists have been a member of the congregation for Morning Prayer, Brenda Pawsey for Matins and from May, Marion Small for Holy Communion. Michael Nicholas played on Remembrance Sunday and Barry Holdstock from Lingwood for the Benefice Service in June.

Occasional Offices: There was one wedding service led by the Rector for a couple living in Caister who had attended services regularly. Banns were also read for another couple residing in the village. There were no funerals and one burial of ashes.

ELECTORAL ROLL

There were 12 people on the Electoral Roll in 2025.

OTHER EVENTS

The Church has been open daily for visitors from 10am to 4pm. John and Frances Collins have been responsible for unlocking and locking the Church.

The Churches Trust organised a tour of Churches in the area in April and visited Halvergate followed by a service at Tunstall.

The refreshments were provided at the March, September and October sessions of the Acle Farmers' Market

John Collins cycled in the Churches Bike Ride and raised £130 for the Churches Trust from which Halvergate Church, will receive half plus gift aid in 2026.

The Benefice Christian Link group met in the Summer months at the home of Linda Boyle and was attended by ladies from the Parish. In April they were invited by the Sisters of Bethany to the Barns at Moulton St Mary.

Members of Halvergate Church have continued to be involved with 'Open the Book', dramatizing Bible stories, undertaken by an Ecumenical Benefice Group, Sadly our services were not required in Freethorpe School after the Summer break but the group continued to visit Reedham. Freethorpe School held their Christmas Carol Concert in the Church.

P.C.C.

Three P.C.C. meetings were held, plus a short one straight after the joint Annual Parochial Church meeting. The election of Churchwardens was held after Matins in February and the joint Annual Parochial Church Meeting in May at Reedham Parish Church.

Halvergate was represented at Benefice and Deanery meetings and on the Clergy and Well-being initiative.

SAFEGUARDING

The PCC has complied with its duty under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016. A report was given at P.C.C. meetings. Sally More was our Safeguarding Officer and communicates with the other Benefice Safeguarding officers regularly. At the end of the year some safeguarding training remained outstanding.

FINANCE

The Parish Share for the Benefice in 2025 was increased to £72,595 and Halvergate's share was £8164. We paid £3237 (40%). £200 was paid monthly with one additional payment. Insurance was paid monthly.

We received no Gift Aid as there had been an overpayment in 2024. The small donation scheme was outstanding at the end of the year.

£125 was credited to us from the 2024 Bike ride and our only other fundraising was from serving teas at the Farmers' market.

As in 2024, the Parish Council gave us a grant for grass cutting in the Churchyards at Halvergate and Tunstall, which was deposited in the Hewitt Fund. The PCC is grateful to the PC for this contribution.

The sale of the Village Hall to a private purchaser in the sum of £100,000 was completed at the end of June. The PCC received its agreed share in the sum of

£30,168.70, having released the restrictive covenant previously limiting the use of the property to that of a Village Hall.

The year opened with a balance of £2952.31 in the **Current account** and closed with £58.06. The high opening balance was due to the over payment of Gift Aid in 2024 and the non transference of money back to the Fabric fund following reimbursement from the Church Commissioners.

The **Capital** account opened with a balance of £6438.26 and after the payment from the sale of the village hall, closed with a balance of £35843.61

The **Fabric Fund** opened with a balance of £1551.06 and closed with a balance of £1820.23. After the payment for Electrical work there was little left of the money that had been received back from the Church Commissioners for Chancel bills. A donation from the Churches Trust following and during the Tour was designated to Church fabric.

The Hewitt Fund (Graveyard) remained at £1153.79.

The Organ Fund increased by £11.74 to £1193.76.

Doug Blake was the Independent Examiner of the Church books. The PCC much appreciates the time he gives in examining the books.

FABRIC

Freya Jennings, a teenager in the village, cleaned the Church weekly. until June when the task was handed over to Arron Church.

The Quinquennial Report from the Church Architects, Whitworth, received in August 2024 confirmed that the Church was "generally in fair order with defects in discrete areas". **The Chancel re-roofing** was the most urgent matter together with repairs to the tower roof, and an electrical and heating survey was due.

Nocturnal surveys were undertaken by specialist consultants to determine whether and when further progress can be made to replace the Chancel roof. The cost of the work is the responsibility of the Church Commissioners.

An electrical and heating survey was received, and the contractors asked to quote for the cost of carrying out essential recommended work. Despite repeated follow up requests and assurances that this would be forthcoming, no such quotation was forthcoming, and this issue remains outstanding.

Boundary Wall

In August an application for Full Planning permission to remove the remains of the East and Southern boundary wall and replace with supporting soil embankments was submitted to Broadland District Council, validated, and assigned reference 2025/2190.

The Council stipulated

(a) that an Arboricultural Method Statement was required to ensure the adequate protection of the trees throughout the works; and

(b) that there was a Biodiversity Net Gain Requirement necessitating a small site metric.

A specialist consultancy (Greenlight) was instructed to deal with these reports, and their conclusions are expected to be available early in the New Year.

Testing of fire extinguishers took place, and gutters were cleaned. The noticeboard was refurbished and the lock changed, and the lock to the main door in the porch was replaced. Pointing around one of the windows on the North side of the Church was undertaken.



On behalf of the P.C.C.
Lay Vice Chairman

20th April 2026