The Friends of the Parish Church of St. Mary's Old Basing
Registered Charity Number 1051202

INVESTING CHARITY FUNDS POLICY

11th June 2026

1. Purpose of the Policy

This Policy sets out the principles and procedures for investing the funds of The Friends of the Parish Church of St. Mary's Old Basing Registered Charity 1051202 (the Charity). It ensures that investments are managed responsibly and in line with the Charity's objectives, safeguarding funds while aiming for appropriate returns to support the Charity's work.

2. Scope

This Policy applies to all funds of the Charity that are not immediately required for operational purposes. It excludes restricted funds unless specified by the donor or funder that they may be invested.

3. Objectives

The primary objectives of this Policy are to:

- Preserve the capital value of the Charity's funds.
- Ensure sufficient liquidity to meet short- and medium-term operational needs.
- Achieve a return on investments that aligns with the Charity's risk tolerance and financial goals.
- Ensure compliance with legal, regulatory, and ethical considerations.

4. Legal and Ethical Considerations

4.1. Legal Framework:

- Investments must comply with the Trustee Act 2000 and any other relevant legislation or guidance.
- Members of the Executive Committee (Trustees) have a duty to act prudently, exercising care, skill, and diligence in managing the Charity's investments.

4.2. Ethical Principles:

- Investments will align with the Charity's values and not conflict with its objectives.
- The Charity will avoid investments in industries or activities that are inconsistent with its mission (e.g. tobacco, arms, gambling).

5. Investment Strategy

5.1. Liquidity Requirements:

- Funds required for operational purposes within 12 months will be held in readily accessible accounts.
- The Charity's objectives are focused on funding the maintenance of the fabric of the church building and requests for this funding from the Parochial Church Council (PCC) may arise at any time. Consequently funds will be held in guaranteed bank deposit accounts.

5.2 Risk Management:

- Investments will be made in low risk assets to preserve capital.
- The balance of funds held any one institution will not exceed the maximum limit for FSCS bank guarantee protection (currently £120,000).

5.3. Permitted Investments:

- Cash deposits in bank accounts or money market funds.
- Fixed-interest securities, such as government or corporate bonds.

5.4. Prohibited Investments:

- High-risk investments, including speculative or volatile assets.
- Any investments inconsistent with the Charity's ethical principles.

6. Decision-Making and Governance

6.1. Responsibilities:

- The Executive Committee is responsible for approving the investment Policy and monitoring its implementation.
- The Committee will seek advice from a qualified financial adviser if required to ensure informed decision-making.

6.2. Monitoring and Review:

- Investment performance will be reviewed biannually against benchmarks and targets by the Treasurer (e.g. bank interest rates compared to BoE base rate)

7. Reporting and Transparency

7.1. The Charity's investments and related income will be disclosed in the annual accounts.

7.2. The annual report will include a statement on how the Charity’s investments align with its objectives and ethical principles.

9. Review of Policy

This Policy will be reviewed annually by the Executive Committee or when there are significant changes in the Charity’s financial position, objectives, or external conditions. Any amendments must be approved by the Executive Committee and communicated to relevant stakeholders.

This Policy has been approved and authorised by the Executive Committee on 11th June 2026.

Name: Matthew Jarrett
Position: Chair of the Executive Committee

Date: 11th June 2026

Signature: