

Cambuslang Parish Church

Parish Profile 2026



We are a warm and welcoming Church who seek to help all people experience and share the love and teachings of Jesus Christ In our worship and community involvement. We affirm the dignity of all people through compassion and kindness.

The congregation of Cambuslang Parish Church is seeking a new Minister to lead us into the future. The congregation has been granted the right to call on the basis of Reviewable Tenure.

The Kirk Session have decided to depart from the traditional view with regard to Ministers in Civil Partnerships and Same-Sex Marriages, and so applications are invited from all.

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Our Congregation



Our Congregation

Ours is an active and lively congregation of over 400 members, with various church groups meeting almost every day of the week, and very many community organisations using our premises.

The main building, which includes the Sanctuary and a suite of halls, is in Arnott Way (just off Cambuslang Main Street). This building was refurbished and extended a few years ago with the addition of a new Welcome Area with offices etc. A recent decision was taken to refurbish the Sanctuary including the removal of pews and replacement with flexible seating. It is expected that this work will be undertaken in the near future. There are additional halls in the Kirkhill area, which are also well used.

All of the many groups using our premises and meeting in them help to raise the profile of our Church within the wider community as well as strengthening bonds of friendship and love between all those who participate.

We believe ourselves to be both forward looking and outward looking, founded on our shared faith, lively worship, and our commitment to love, serve, and witness in our parish.



Tea in the Large Hall

And, we rejoice in the growth of our worshipping congregation in recent times, and by a number of professions of faith.

Our congregation aspires to build on existing initiatives and also to find new and effective ways of spreading the love of God.

Our History

Cambuslang has a strong Christian tradition stretching back to St Cadoc in the 6th century. In 1742 there was a great Christian revivalist movement culminating in 30,000 people from far and wide attending Communion at the Preaching Braes, a natural amphitheatre where the great Methodist preacher George Whitefield delivered the sermons.

Today Cambuslang Parish Church stands proudly in the heart of the community of Cambuslang, having been formed in 2008 following the union of three former congregations – Trinity St Paul's, Cambuslang Old and St Andrew's Parishes. Our first 10 years as a united congregation were with Rev Leslie Milton as our minister, and this was very much a time of coming together, sharing our former traditions and developing our new identity as a single congregation.

Leslie Milton left us in March 2019 and the subsequent vacancy in 2019/2020, coincided with the outbreak of Covid, a challenging few years for all congregations. Unfortunately, the minister appointed at that time, experienced several prolonged episodes of ill health and sickness absence, and because of this had to step down on health grounds in May 2024.

During those years, although we were supported by a number of excellent locums and our Deacon, there was a sense of a loss of direction and leadership within the congregation and amongst the Elders. To address this the Kirk Session began work on Initiative 24/25. The aim of this project was to review Eldership, committee structures and governance, and how the church communicated with the congregation and wider community. This process led to a decision to apply for a period of Interim Ministry to help us better address these issues.



The Cambuslang Miner's Memorial

We have been in a 12 month period of Interim Ministry since August 2025, with a job share arrangement of two Interim Ministers leading us. During the Interim Ministry, we have together addressed issues of governance, communication, and congregational administration, renewing and reforming various teams to take forward the work and mission of the congregation, re-introducing a regular newsletter/magazine, improving communication in general, and exploring what it means to be a parish church and how we might engage missionally with our community.

Our Deacon left in December 2025, as her post was made redundant as part of the Presbytery Plan

Our Interim Ministers have also sought to enable and encourage a lively, engaging, and inclusive approach to Sunday worship which involves all ages. During this year we have seen attendance at worship increase and there have been a number of Professions of Faith adding to our numbers.

Towards the end of the Interim Ministry time, several new elders were ordained and admitted to the Kirk Session.



Our Worship

Sunday morning worship begins at 10:30am, attended by around 120 people of all ages, with a balance of traditional and contemporary styles. The praise is led by our enthusiastic and talented organist, keyboard player and choir leader, who is supported by a dedicated choir, and a small praise band.

Our services are enhanced by modern audio visual facilities, and the first part of worship is 'all age' in style, attended by our 'Sunday Club' youngsters who share a Bible Reading from a Children's' version of the Bible. Following that opening period, 'Sunday Club' depart for their own activities and Bible learning, but they return on a monthly basis towards the end of the service to share in the closing part of worship. On appropriate occasions, the service takes the form of 'all age' worship.

Four times a year, communion is celebrated, and – in addition to these occasions – communion is also celebrated following the main service, on those months when the quarterly service of communion is not scheduled. These extra celebrations of Communion, introduced during the Interim Ministry period, have proved very popular and are well attended.

Bible readings (from the Good News Bible) are usually read by members of the congregation, and frequently the prayers of intercession are also led by congregational members.

The congregation are used to creative innovation and active involvement in worship, with occasional short discussions or symbolic actions in the course of a service.

For some years now, a small Tuesday morning service has also been held. More recently this has developed into a 'coffee and chat' time, concluding with a short time of worship conducted by a variety of people. The midweek fellowship and worship is appreciated by those who attend and remains under review as we consider how best to develop this time of worship and fellowship for the future.



A typical Communion Service

The Kirk Session's 'Worship, Education, and Prayer Team' offer assistance in planning worship, and suggesting and supporting new ideas and creative engagement.

Worship is followed by tea and coffee, providing an opportunity for further fellowship and socialising.

Sunday services are live-streamed, with members unable to attend on a Sunday able to engage with worship by this means.



Our Music Group

Our Sunday Club

Children and young people are a valued and visible part of the life and worship of Cambuslang Parish Church. On Sundays, a children's Bible is brought into church alongside the adult Bible, and carried out again at the end of the service by a child Bible Bearer, reflecting our commitments to including children fully in our worship. Older children also take part in the service by reading from the children's Bible, helping them to grow in confidence and participation too.

Sunday Club is available for children from pre-school, right through secondary school age, with a good number of regular children attending each week. There are currently 30 children in total on our register. The children meet in two groups: a junior group, which follows a more traditional Sunday Club format with Bible stories, songs, games and crafts, and a senior group which offers a more discussion based setting where children can explore their faith and life more deeply. The children regularly share with the congregation their learning at the end of the service which is a window into what is happening in Sunday Club. This is often refreshingly honest, simple and meaningful...it can even challenge adult to think differently about familiar ideas. We have an enthusiastic team of dedicated leaders, all of whom have undergone Safeguarding Training and have been PVG checked.

We are also keen to encourage wider friendships and connections for our young people in Sunday Club, and recently welcomed the Senior ReachOut leader for Cambuslang and Rutherglen to speak with the older children about a Youth Club running in another Church locally. We see this as an important part of helping our children and young people grow in faith and Christian fellowship.



The Sunday Kids playing games



Our Kids Nativity



*Banner designed by Parishoners Linda Neeson, Margaret Pringle, and Shona Jenkins.
Displayed on our Chancel.*

Adult Christian Education

In the last couple of years a new group has been started, entitled 'Bible Blethers'. In February 2025, this group of about 11 people, began, engaging in a Lent course "Not a Tame Lion" which was based on the life and work of C.S. Lewis. Since then they have continued to meet throughout the year and in 2026, also undertook a Lent course "Christ and the Chocolaterie" before moving onto further themes.

Also in recent times, several 'Discovery Group' series, exploring the basics of the Christian faith, have been held, attended by those inquiring about the Christian Faith, those preparing for Profession of Faith and Confirmation, and existing members seeking to explore the basics of their faith or renew their spiritual lives. This group has led to a number of professions of faith, including adult baptisms.

Our Pastoral Care



While we look to our Minister to lead in the pastoral care of our congregation and parish, we also recognise that one Minister cannot reasonably be expected to single-handedly undertake all the pastoral care required in a busy congregation and very large parish.

In 2024 a Pastoral Care Visiting Team was established, following suitable training. This team visits the housebound, those in care homes, and those who, through illness or other circumstances, cannot get to church. Most visits take place every 4 to 6 weeks which enables the visitors to get to know the members and for the visited members to feel that they are valued and cared for by the church.

The team leader coordinates the visiting team and liaises with the visitors and the Minister, ensuring that any matters of concern or need can be passed on. Those who visit find it a most rewarding role, while those who are visited get much out of the visits.

The Pastoral Care Visiting Team is under the auspices of the 'Hospitality and Pastoral Care Team' of the Kirk Session. All the Pastoral Care Visitors undergo training, including in Safeguarding, and are PVG checked before commencing their role.

In the course of 2025, 22 funerals were conducted by one of the Ministry Team, with several of these including a service held in the church.

Use of Our Buildings



An evening of Celebration in the Hall

Cambuslang parish church halls are situated over two distinct sites, and are very well utilised. With two employed hall keepers everything usually operates smoothly.

We have a multitude of children's classes and groups including martial arts and drama but also adult keep fit clubs. There is also long term after school care for primary school kids with the 'High Flyers'.

The baby sensory class runs twice a week and has their own specially modified hall to do sensory lights and activities with the babies in comforting darkness.

In addition to the Church Mother and Toddler group there is Baby Cafe on Fridays where new parents can come and meet in a relaxed environment.

Our resident theatre group (when they aren't on stage in the Kings) run the CPC Pantomime every year in our recently refurbished large hall that converts to a fully kitted out theatre, which is also hired out regularly by other theatre/dance clubs for performances.



The Glasgow Phoenix Choir in our Sanctuary

We have a number of support groups such as AA at various times through the week and month, and our calendar is always full to capacity. Our local MP even does a surgery quite regularly from the building.

A Voluntary Care Club (not a congregational organisation, but led and supported by congregational members amongst others) meets weekly. This long-standing organisation, which celebrated its Diamond Anniversary in 2023, supports the community by providing care, social engagement, and outings for adults with varying disabilities. Our halls are busy and vibrant with something always going on.



TSP performing their annual Panto in the Church halls

There is a Courtyard Garden at our main building (Arnot Way) which provides a safe place to invite community groups. Over the past few years we have been welcoming the Rutherglen Carers, usually about twice a year. This is a group of people within the area who suffer from dementia and it has been wonderful to welcome them and encourage all their members to take part in various garden activities.

A defibrillator (funded by the congregation) is mounted on the external church wall for community use.

Our Organisations

There are several **uniformed youth organisations** affiliated or associated with our congregation meeting in both of our sets of buildings.

- The **229th Boys Brigade** meet on a Thursday evening and have sections for Anchors, Juniors and Company.
- The **2nd Cambuslang Girls' Brigade** have 16 girls – 3 Explorers, 8 juniors and 5 Brigaders, and meet on Monday evenings.
- The **150th Scout Troop** meet in the Kirkhill Halls – Beavers and Cubs on a Thursday and Scouts and Explorers on a Friday night.
- The **138th Scout Troop** meet in the Church Halls in Arnott Way on a Friday night. They have Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and Explorers.
- The **4th Cambuslang Girl Guides** meet on a Tuesday Night at the Kirkhill Halls, accommodating Rainbows, Brownies, Guides and Explorer.



The Cambuslang Parish Church Pipe Band



The 229th Boys Brigade



The Men's Breakfast group



The Walking Group enjoying a ramble

All of the organisations are led by enthusiastic leaders and their teams.

The members of these organisations are made welcome to come to Church and are invited to attend for a Dedication Service, Remembrance Day Service and The Gift Service. The Church have given money to these organisations from the Quentin Muir Trust to help children experience camps, for example.

Other church organisations include the well-supported and enthusiastic **Guild**, and a **Pipe Band** which celebrated its 10th anniversary in 2026, and which offers tuition to young people to play the bagpipes and perform at local events. There are also **Bible Discussion Groups**, a **Walking Group** and an informal **Men's Breakfast** (a joint group with Flemington Hallside Parish Church) which meets monthly on a Saturday.

Governance, Communication, and Administration

During the period of Interim Ministry, a review took place of our Governance, Communication, and Administration, in order to enable greater effectiveness, efficiency, and co-ordination etc.

The Kirk Session operates under the Unitary Constitution and consists of 19 serving elders (with more soon to be ordained or admitted). There are currently 10 men and 9 women who are active and serving elders. The Kirk Session currently meets monthly. The Session Clerk is supported by a team of three Depute Clerks who together help to facilitate the work of the Kirk Session and connect with the various teams.

The teams that have been recently established or re-established are **Communications, Community Involvement, Finance & Fabric, Fundraising & Events, Hospitality & Pastoral Care, Worship, Education & Prayer, and Youth**. The Kirk Session have overall responsibility for Mission, and it is understood that all the teams should undertake their work and planning giving due consideration to the missional aspects of their remit.



Our Kirk Session



*Our Session Clerk,
Scott Hamilton*

At this time, the 'Community Involvement' team has yet to be established, and we would look to our new Minister to help us shape what such a team might look like as they assists us in developing our vision for deeper engagement with our community and our plans for mission.

The previous Church Magazine ceased to be published some years ago, However, in the course of the period of Interim Ministry, a Newsletter was re-established and it is intended that a regular Newsletter or Magazine be continued in the future to enable better communication within the congregation and beyond.

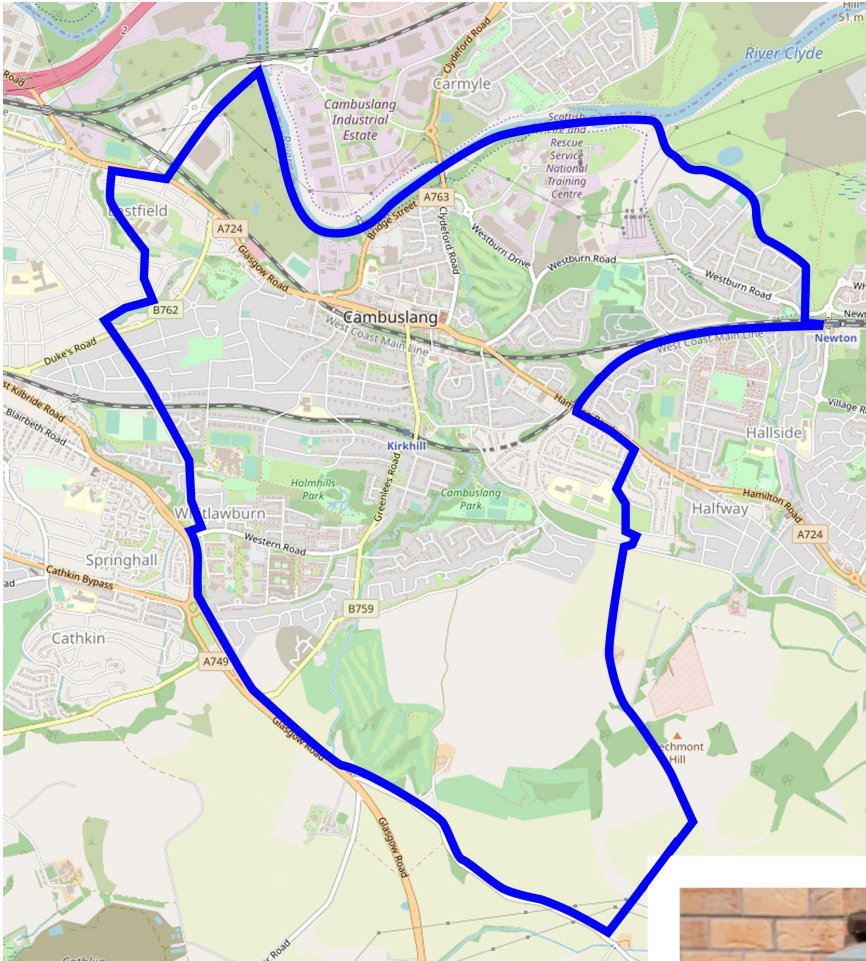
There is a **Congregational Website** (<https://cambuslangparishchurch.org.uk/>) and a **Facebook page** ([https://](https://facebook.com/CambuslangParishChurch)

facebook.com/CambuslangParishChurch).

There is a **Church Office** which is fully equipped. Over recent years, this has been staffed on one day a week. However, the intention is to have this staffed on most week days going forward, and work on enabling this is currently underway.

Our Safeguarding Coordinator, supported by a Safeguarding Panel, helps to make our congregation a safe place for all by ensuring that those in relevant positions and roles undergo required Safeguarding Training, and are 'PVG' checked. We also take Data Protection seriously, and, with the guidance of our Data Protection Coordinator, work to ensure compliance with all necessary requirements.

Our Community



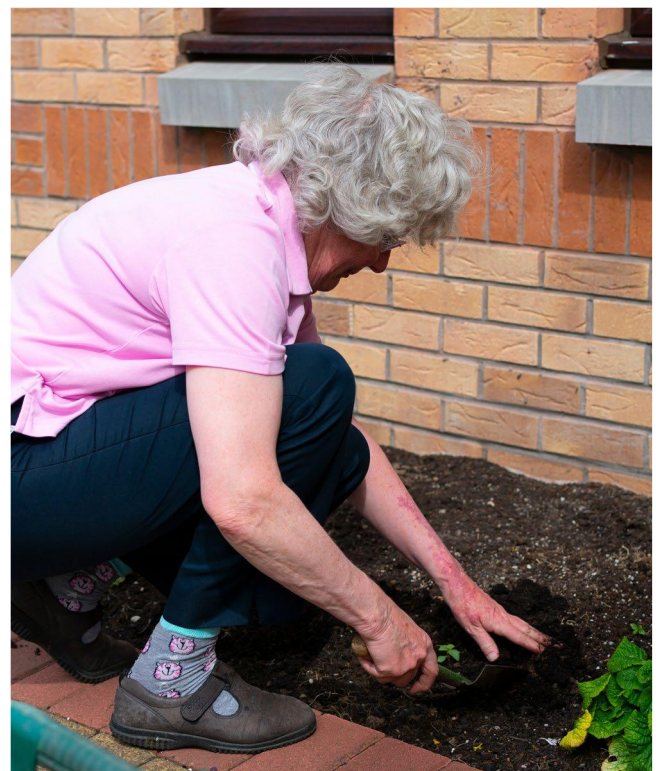
Cambuslang with a population of around 25,000, is situated within South Lanarkshire, approximately five miles south east of Glasgow city centre, existing within a complex and diverse social environment.

The parish includes the areas of Central Cambuslang, Eastfield, Whitlawburn, Westburn and Kirkhill, which encompasses the area ranked within the poorest 1% in Scotland, as well as within the wealthiest 2% in Scotland.

Cambuslang offers excellent transport links with two train stations, regular bus services, a cycle path along the River Clyde into Glasgow and easy access to the M74 motorway leading to the M8, M73 and beyond.

Map of the Parish Boundaries

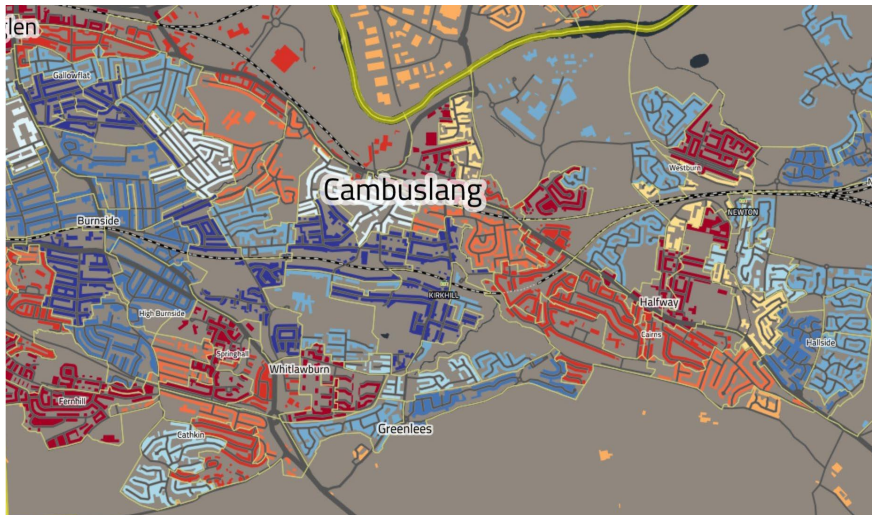
One of our Members, Fiona Brown, tending to the Garden.



There are three non-denominational primary schools within the Parish (James Aiton, West Coats and Cairns). The area is also served by three non-denominational secondary schools (Cathkin, Stonelaw and Uddingston).

Local facilities include various local shops and supermarkets in Cambuslang, Burnside and Rutherglen, two public parks, three local golf courses, two local bowling greens, two local tennis clubs, Cathkin Braes mountain bike trail and quick access to the surrounding countryside.

Our Parish Mission



Recently, as part of the Interim Ministry period, we have been working with Faith in Community Scotland to understand our parish better, so that we can define what mission in our local context might look like.

The Headlines From Our Work Tell Us the Following:

- We have a young parish but our congregation does not reflect this demographic.
- In the recent 2022 census over half of the parish population report having no religious affiliation.
- On the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation map, 5 of the small communities within the parish are ranked as some of the most deprived areas in Scotland, while the area where a significant number of our congregation live, is considered to be affluent.
- Our parish is richly resourced by Council services, NHS provision and charities providing support for the most vulnerable members of the community.
- Our building hosts a large number of organisations and groups throughout the week which brings healthy revenue to the church, but we have little engagement with these groups.

Other than our existing organisations, and the various user groups in our building, our current community outreach is limited primarily to **'Meet and 2 Veg'**, a partnership with a local charity and an initiative which collects food from supermarkets at the end of a day and distributes it from the church building to whoever comes along. This initiative reaches approximately 40–50 people weekly and while we are providing for physical and social need, spiritual engagement remains limited.

The Action Point from our work with Faith in Community

Scotland is to contact the Presbytery's Mission, Pioneering and Planting Co-ordinator to schedule a full day/half day conference on mission.

We are looking for a minister with a missional heart who will teach us and work with us so that we can live out our mission statement in our community.

Within the community of Cambuslang we enjoy good relationships with our fellow Christian Communities, with occasional shared worship (especially in Holy Week) with **St Bride's Roman Catholic Church**, and **St Cuthbert's Episcopal Church**. For some months we also hosted the **Romanian Pentecost Church** while their building underwent renovation.

We are in a Parish Grouping with **Flemington Hallside Parish Church**, with who we share in joint services on occasion.

Along with several other local churches, Cambuslang Parish Church actively supports and partners with ReachOut Trust (<https://crrt.org.uk>) in their outreach to schools in the Rutherglen and Cambuslang areas.

Our Wider Mission

In the past, Cambuslang Parish Church has taken an interest in the world church and supported the wider mission of the church in several ways. In more recent times our connection to wider mission has focussed on our support of Christian Aid, and of the Lodging House Mission, with occasional events and offerings for other Christian work (most recently a retiral offering in aid of Tabeetha School). As part of our hope to develop a greater missional focus, we would look to a new Minister to lead us into wider mission engagement.

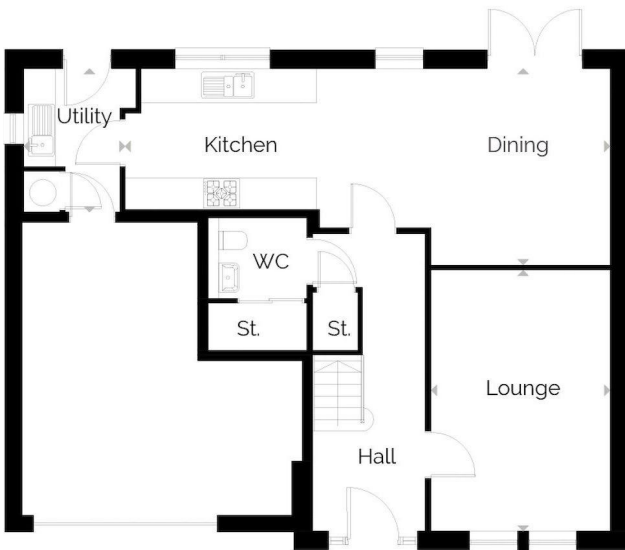
Our Manse

The congregation have purchased a new-build Manse for our new Minister. It is a five bedroom house in the Gilbertfield Woods Estate of Cambuslang. The floorplan below gives an indication of the design and layout of the Manse, albeit the actual house is reversed in layout, with the garage on the right. The Manse (including fittings and floor coverings) will be ready for occupancy from August 2026



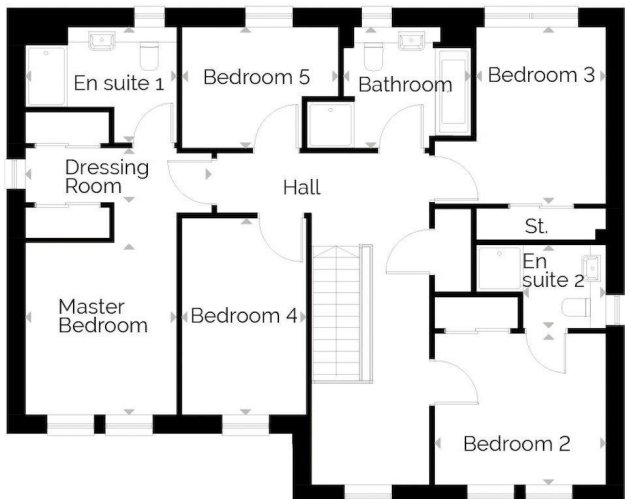
Rendering from developer

GROUND FLOOR



Site plan, with plot (71) circled

FIRST FLOOR



Congregational Finances

In the year to December 2025 CPC had a small deficit of £1,234 and was the first time since 2018 that a deficit has been incurred. The 2025 deficit could have easily been eliminated if we had chosen to draw down from Revenue Fabric Reserves. However, the congregation have been asked to review their offering with the aim of trying to minimise if not avoid a deficit in 2026.

At the end of 2025, CPC had Unrestricted Revenue Reserves totalling £115,879. In addition, CPC also had Endowment Funds totalling £141,615, of which £123,517 relates to the Quintin Muir Fund which is restricted to youth work and assisting persons within the Parish facing difficult financial circumstances.

At the end of 2025, CPC also had £283,326 of Fabric Reserves (£51,336 Revenue plus £231,990 Capital), which represents an increase of £25,881 in the year.

In summary, CPC has Unrestricted Reserves of £115,879, Endowment Funds of £141,615 and Fabric Reserves of £283,326, providing a reasonably healthy financial position from which to take the Church forward.



| *Our Church Office*

Our New Minister



These 'Word Clouds' express something of these hopes.

Our congregation and our young people were asked to suggest words that described what they hoped for in our new Minister.

As these 'word clouds' indicate, the congregation are looking for a Minister who is warm and welcoming, loving and caring, a strong and visionary leader, and a good communicator, who is approachable and empathetic.

We believe that our active and enthusiastic congregation will provide a warm welcome and willing support for a new Minister. We are seeking a Minister who can build on the

progress of the period of Interim Ministry, has a focus on future and on our engagement with the local community, and who can lead us in the fulfilment of our vision and our mission.

We recognise the challenges and opportunities of our diverse parish, our strategic position in the centre of Cambuslang, and the considerable and varied use of our buildings, and we look for a Minister who will encourage and enable our engagement with this 'mission field'.

Invitation to Apply

We would like to thank you for taking the time to consider this opportunity. If you feel that God is calling you to lead the people of Cambuslang Parish Church on their journey to develop and build God's community in the heart of Cambuslang, please feel free to contact our Interim Minister Rev. David Denniston for an informal chat.

Interim Minister
Rev. David Denniston:
denniston.david@gmail.com

A letter of application should be submitted, with an accompanying CV. We would be grateful if your application could set out your reasons for applying for this opportunity.

Nominating Committee Clerk:
Alison Paterson
alison.patersoncpc@hotmail.com

Applications should be clearly marked "confidential" and should be sent to the Clerk of the Nominating Committee.



Our Young People's Vision for our New Minister