

MINUTES OF THE ST MARTIN'S PCC MEETING

Tuesday 21st January 2025

8pm at St Martin's Church, Bec room

Chaired by Fr Robert Chapman (FR)

<p>Present: Jacqueline Alderton (JA) Peter Golby (PG)</p> <p>Diane Bell (DB) Ruth Bitok (RB) Mary Coulthurst (MC) Gill Dargue (GD) Danny Dartnaill (DD) Mervyn Hogg (MH) Sarah Jacob (SJ) Judith Kaplan (JK) Rowland Linder (RL) Vivien Morris (VM) Deborah Nicholes (DN) Peter Trott (PT) Catherine Tugnait (CT) Ken Wild (KW)</p>	<p>Apologies: Sue Hammond (SH) Miranda Reading (MR) Chris White (CW)</p> <p>Absent Nicola Brazier (NB) Zoe Lambourne (ZL)</p>
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	Fr Robert opened the meeting with a prayer Apologies were noted	Action Points
25.32	<u>Review/Approval of Minutes of 26th November 2024</u> Minutes were approved with one correction that Deborah sent apologies. All present agreed	
25.33	<u>Matters arising</u> We have the next meeting date scheduled for 25 th Feb to sign off last years accounts but they may not be Independently examined by then . FR suggested that we would monitor progress and if necessary call an extraordinary meeting on Zoom to approve them .	
25.34	<u>Report from Rowland Linder – Parish Intern.</u>	

She arrived on 1st September and her work has been youth focused. She has established a young adults group 18-35 and they have had a film evening.

She has started a mailing list newsletter to the electoral roll.

Ensured website is up to date

Organised youth masses- next one in Lent.

Tots group helper

Thursday lunch group helper.

Planning holiday club for May half term.

Organising Young church for 11.15am Mass

BWI assemblies

Hospital and pastoral visits.

Advent prayer group

Confirmation group

Supporting FR with cover.

The young adults group is 6 in number as there are not many in the parish.

The 11-18 youth group has between 8-25 attendees to events.

Built collaborations with other churches.

Confirmation numbers this year are 3-4 children and 2-3 adults.

Young church numbers are 7-8 children for each service. The children in the choir join in during their break.

Toddler group attracts a diverse range of parents.

Morning prayer numbers have increased following an advert aimed at BWI parents.

PG and DD asked Rowland how her internship was developing compared to her initial expectations.

She said that she was thoroughly enjoying her time in the parish and was delighted with how well she had been received. She was working more than her 25 hours but was getting great opportunities to broaden her experience, more than she had anticipated. She said we were a lovely welcoming and helpful community.

FR thanked Rowland for all her support and said that she had been invaluable to him in easing his workload. The PCC all thanked her for her hard and fruitful work.

25.35

Updates from Sub Committees

Standing Committee minutes

No specific items noted and the minutes were approved.

Mission Committee

Meeting tomorrow

Fabric and Hall Committee

Rat problem- GD met with council pest control. Derek showed them the problems. They said that they are focusing on the duck pond and shops to clear rubbish or get a fine. He said there is no funding for additional help for the graveyard but Cllr Philip Corthorne thinks there is some funding available and will look into it. There is a community rat and bird feeder who has been warned by police to cease as she is causing problems throughout the borough.

Public are also dumping rubbish behind the shops and people are also

	<p>sleeping there. Rats are using hairdressers waste to build their nests. We need to keep the glass doors in the porch closed to keep them out . One seen peering through the door last Sunday.</p> <p>Received a letter from No1 High St about pruning our tree. It is in a conservation area so cannot be randomly lopped. We have permission for limited pruning and the tree surgeon attended today with conservation officer. We have asked the neighbour for a contribution but have not heard back from him yet.</p> <p>Curtains in the hall are coming off the track. JA/PG to speak to the company.</p> <p>Social Committee</p> <p>An update was given on the quiz on 25.1.2025. 84 tickets have been sold. There was discussion about support required for setting up and clearing up after events and the importance of the social committee being supplemented by the wider PCC to help.It was suggested that each table would be asked to help with table/chairs and rubbish.</p> <p>Carol service was very successful with 150 attendees. Social committee will be considering publicity, management of refreshments and location of these in the church for 2025.</p> <p>Need an inventory of chairs and tables for future planning of events in the Hall.</p> <p>Next event is 14th June – race night to encourage family participation. These events have been successful previously here and at BWI. The plan is to start early and social committee will discuss the planning at their next meeting.</p> <p>DD suggested that we buy a package for Wacky Races.</p> <p>Finance</p> <p>Thanks to DD for his useful circular for meeting.</p> <p>Siobhan Thomas is going to be the project manager for raising funds for the Chancel roof repairs. There is a Diocesan resource available with links to grant websites. £80-90K needed. Who does she report to ? Decided it is churchwardens. PG to chat to her and agree timings.</p> <p>DD says there are 40 different funds in the accounts and he is trying to simplify them . The restricted/endowment funds are more complex. Lady Franklin Fund is 200 years old and has £260 in it. The PCC are the trustees of that Charity. Set up to help the poor of Ruislip. Need to dissolve it. The value of the Charity is £6. Gossling fund is for graveyards. EH Gunn Fund is for the almshouses who transferred shares to us. £500k of property under the Ruislip Village Trust. DD to write summary and propose reducing funds to 6 or 7.</p> <p>There are some restricted funds of £9k for youth ministry. Friends of St Martin’s £15k for restoration and fabric of church.</p> <p>Thank you to the Finance team and propose to give a bottle of wine to David and Matthew. PCC agreed and MH offered to donate them.</p>	<p>JA/PG</p> <p>GD</p> <p>DD</p>
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	<p>We are showing a £47k profit last year, but we are not covering costs of our ministry and Common fund contributions. We should give a substantial chunk of this to the Diocese. We will wait for final numbers once they are signed off and make a decision then. DD is preparing a budget for this year.</p> <p>JA has been invited by the Archdeacon to join the Willesden area finance committee as a lay rep and has attended her first meeting Grants and extensions were discussed. She was privy to Common Fund contributions from all parishes and was concerned that parishes half our size are contributing twice as much as we are. We have always been generous givers to the fund. Also financing our new curate is going to be taking more from the Diocese. The committee reminded everyone that we need to give sacrificially not just surpluses. Our additional £10k contribution for last year was well received.</p> <p>We need to think hard about our level of giving. Plus we may need another extension to the time to spend our roof grant, whilst we fundraise. A very reasoned argument is needed. JA has good insight into requirements. We should give as soon as we can. Need to look at pledges for next year. Need a one-off payment and an increase in pledge going forward.</p> <p>Thanks to Danny and his team for all their excellent work.</p> <p>Deanery Synod</p> <p>The next meeting is 12th Feb at St Lawrences with a talk from the Area President of the Mother's Union.</p> <p>Further meetings on 30 April, 10 June and 25 June</p> <p>No venues yet agreed.</p> <p>Diocesan Synod</p> <p>MH is now representing St Martin's on this – thanks to him. Meeting at the end of the month, so please read his informal report and send any questions to him by email.</p>	
25.36	<p><u>Safeguarding</u></p> <p>DBS checks and training almost compliant. Work to do for Holiday club. SH has recommended a Paediatric First aid training and RL and Louise have agreed to do it. GD suggested that we need a defibrillator but we do not qualify are there are local ones available in Bury St and outside the Methodist Church. Need to be cautious as if we have our own and we have a failure to act properly then we may get sued. Viktoria has to complete the Leadership safeguarding training. Churchwardens need to complete the Diocesan training.</p>	
25.37	<p><u>AOB</u></p> <p>Christmas trees need to be taken down after Candlemass on 2nd February. Take them down at 12.30pm. Derek will do it but needs 3 more strong people to help. Put request in bulletin . The star has been turned off and PG will take it down when the weather improves.</p>	GD

Police request for CCTV coverage of a bag snatch on the High St. She contacted Gill on her personal mobile. JA asked if this was genuine and maybe she was scoping out our security ? ID badge may be fake ? Going to wait and see if she contacts us again.

RB says thanks for the new coffee machine, it has really improved the refreshment service on a Sunday.

Closing Prayer.

Meeting finished at 9.35pm.

Next meeting 25th February 2025 at 8pm in BEC room.