

MINUTES of a meeting of the Parochial Church Council of the Parish of St Paul's, New Beckenham, held in the church hall on 7th April 2025.

2024 / 2025 No. 10

Present: Rev'd Rachel Winn (in the chair), Sarah Butler, David Charlesworth, Wesley Guy, Anne Harkness, Sandra Horner, Anne Howick, Keith Howick, Paul Lashmar, Anthea Prendergast, Roger Wells.

Apologies for absence had been received from Andrew Griffiths, Clari Harrington, Ian Johnson, Nomsa Moldovan.

11181 Preparation for the Annual Parochial Church Meeting, 11th May 2025

A copy of the agenda for the two meetings had been circulated. These were agreed.

11182 Draft Annual reports

David Charlesworth was asked to ask Alison Charlesworth to prepare a paragraph regarding Sunday Squad. Some word corrections were requested. Information regarding the Knit & Natter group should be added. The vicar would be checking the team reports and suggesting an amended layout. The reports from teams should include their terms of reference.

11183 Annual Accounts

The report had been received from Ernest Kabera, the Independent Examiner. Keith Howick and David Charlesworth were asked to prepare the report from the Finance Team. There would be an overview to highlight important issues and trends. Hopefully it would be possible to have a Pi chart of expenditure. Income is currently not matching expenditure on a day to day basis. It would be important to concentrate on increasing regular income to match our outgoings. There had been some generous legacies last year. There are restricted funds available to spend when appropriate. With regard to the giving programme, looking forward overall the picture is that income is not matching expenditure. This should be a good starting point for the giving programme. We rely on day to day income, which is why there is a shortfall. Mention should be made that St Paul's has restricted and designated funds which we have not spent to date, and which are depreciating in value; we should look to steward these monies more wisely and consider projects for their spend in 2025. The PCC Away day should guide us with this plan. Following discussions Keith Howick proposed, seconded Anthea Prendergast, that the Annual Accounts for the year ended 31st December 2024 should be approved. **Agreed.** Rosemary Dear and the Finance Team were thanked for their work.

11184 Report of fabric, goods and ornaments

A report had been received from the churchwardens. Some spelling corrections were requested. It was suggested that mention should be made of the flower team and those who do the church brass polishing.

11185 Deanery Synod report

A report had been received. In November 2024 Father Jeremy had stepped down as Area Dean after five years. Rev Richard Jones had replaced him in March 2025.

11186 PCC membership

It was noted that Anne Howick was the only member required to step down at the APCM. She had served for three years and so was eligible to stand for election.

1187 Appointment of Presiding Officer

Wesley Guy offered to take on the role if necessary. Members agreed that it would not be possible to make nominations for the PCC on the day.

1188 Postal voting

It was agreed that postal voting would not be permitted and the relevant paragraph on the notice of the APCM meetings should be deleted.

1189 Electoral Roll

Suzanne Guy would be speaking to Rufus Ballaster regarding a few queries. Currently 104 people had signed up.

1190 Date of next meetings

The vicar proposed that the PCC should meet on Thursday 26th June, Wednesday 16th July, Thursday 11th September, Wednesday 29th October and Thursday 4th December.

11191 Mission Team

The Mission Team had requested that £500 be sent from Contingencies to the Tearfund appeal for Myanmar. Sarah Butler proposed, seconded by the vicar, that this request be approved. **Agreed.**

There being no further business the meeting closed with the Grace at 9.15 pm.