

**The Parish of Chandler's Ford**  
**ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING**  
**Wednesday 30th April 2025 at 7.30 pm at St Boniface**

**AGENDA**

Welcome (D.H)

Opening prayers (D.H.)

1. Apologies (G.S)

2. Minutes of the Annual Meeting for the election of Churchwardens and Deputy

Churchwardens held on 24 April 2024

3. The Election of Churchwardens

4. The Election of Deputy Churchwardens and Assistant Wardens

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5. Minutes of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting held on 24 April 2024

6. Matters arising

7. Report on the Electoral Roll (G.S)

8. Election of one Deanery Synod member (GS)

9. Election of two Parochial Church Council members (DH/GS)

10. Reports on Ornaments and Fabric and tabling of Terriers and Inventories, and Log Books of both churches (Churchwardens). Please see pages 20 to 26 of the Annual Report 2024.

11. Report on the Deanery Synod (circulated with this agenda)- and its acceptance (A.D)

12. a. Presentation of Annual Report and Financial Statement – and its acceptance (S.M)  
(see pages 28 to 36 of the Annual Report 2024)

b. Appointment of Independent Examiner for the financial year 2025 (S.M)

13. Questions (submitted in advance to the PCC Secretary)

14. Vicar's Charge/Prayers (DH)

15. The Grace (DH)

Note: All residents of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Chandlers Ford, together with non-residents on the Church Electoral Roll, are welcome to vote on items 3 and 4; voting on all other items is restricted to those whose names are on the Church Electoral Roll.

**The Parish of Chandler's Ford**  
**ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING**  
**Wednesday 24th April 2024 at 7.30 pm at St Boniface**

**Present:** Lynne Mursell, Una Barter, Jane Keen, Christine Clark, Gill Skates (secretary), Elizabeth Pritchard, Giles Richardson, Jim Rooke, Sue Frane, Ann Brew, Elizabeth Seaman, Ewen Greenlees, Hayley Richens, Anne Davies, Barbara Dobson, Heather Blake, Pam Beecroft, Helen Smith, Hazel Bateman, Anne Addiss, Angela Bird, Penny Thatcher, Ian Thatcher, Brian Ridsdale, Anne Ridsdale, Pete Hale, Jenny Greasley, Stuart Divall, Carole Hodgson, Stacey Brook, Susan Marsland, Una Barter, Ken Smith, Linda Read, Hattie Duguid, Hugh Benham, Fiona Benham, Gloria Brown, Mary Shepherd, Michael Cooke, Jackie Hill.

**Chair:** Christine Clark

Christine welcomed everyone to the meeting and explained as vice chair of the PCC she will be chairing the meeting in the absence of an incumbent.

Penny opened the meeting in prayer and led our thoughts around 1 Corinthians 12, The Body of Christ.

**1. Apologies**

Apologies were received from Jean Nolan, Peter Alexander, Pauline Lewis, Jenny and John Caldwell, Jo Rooke, Lawson Smith, Josie Smith, Jackie Richardson, Judith & Jonathan Coppen, Liz Plummer, Pete Knight, Anita Jarman, Rob Hayter, Marion Smith.

**2. Changes to Church Representation Rules**

Christine explained that there has been a recent change in the Church of England representation rules relating to APCMs. We no longer appoint stewards, junior church leaders, 4pm service children's group leaders or the schools' team at the APCM. It is now the responsibility of the PCC to do this and this will be done at the next PCC meeting in May.

**3. Minutes of the Annual Meeting for the election of Churchwardens and Deputy Churchwardens held on Wednesday 26 April 2023.**

Christine asked if there were any comments on these minutes. There were not. She therefore proposed we accept the minutes of the meeting. These were accepted unanimously. Christine signed a copy as a correct record of the meeting.

**4. The Election of Churchwardens**

Both Lynne and Jane advised they were happy to serve for another term. There were no other nominations. Christine proposed from the chair that both Lynne and Jane be voted in as churchwardens. This was accepted unanimously.

**5. The Election of Deputy Churchwardens and Assistant Wardens**

Jane advised that at St Boniface, Anne Addiss (Deputy Churchwarden), Mary Shepherd, Stuart Divall and Linda Read (Assistant wardens) had all offered to stand again. For St Martin's, Sandy Groves (Deputy Churchwarden), Jane Bennett, Jackie Hill and Brian Ridsdale have agreed to continue as assistant wardens. Christine proposed from the chair that these people take on the roles of Deputy and Assistant Wardens. Unanimous.

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**6. Minutes of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting held on 26 April 2023**

Christine asked if there were any comments on the minutes. There were not. She therefore proposed we accept the minutes of the meeting. These were accepted unanimously.  
The minutes were then signed as a correct record of the meeting.

**7. Matters arising**

There were no matters arising.

**8. Report on the Electoral Roll**

Gill Skates gave the report on the electoral role. Since the last APCM in 2023 when there were 317 people on the electoral roll, 5 people have died and 5 people have joined. 4 people have left i.e. moved away –(including clergy). There are now 313 people on the Electoral Roll for 2024. Of these, 70 live out of the parish and 243 live in the parish.

**9. Election of one Deanery Synod member**

We currently have 4 Deanery Synod members: Lynne Mursell, Carole Hodgson, Jean Nolan and Anne Davies. We have 1 vacancy. Gloria Brown has offered to stand. Christine proposed from the chair we accept Gloria's nomination for Deanery Synod. It was accepted unanimously.

**10. Election of Parochial Church Council members**

Linda Read is standing down and nominations for Sue Marsland and Heather Blake were received. Gloria Brown has offered to stand for Deanery Synod (there were no other nominations). This means there is a further vacancy for a PCC member as Gloria is automatically a member of PCC due to her Deanery Synod membership. Lynne thanked Linda for all her work on PCC. As Linda is our Health and Safety rep, Linda has kindly agreed to stand for another year as a co-opted

member so she can continue in her role of H&S rep until someone else is found to take on the role. Christine proposed from the chair that we accept the 2 new nominations (Susan Marsland and Heather Blake) ; they will both stand for a 3 year term until 2027. Accepted unanimously.

**11. Reports on Ornaments and Fabric and tabling of Terriers and Inventories, and Log Books of both churches (Churchwardens)**

This section refers to pages 21 to 26 of the Annual Report. Lynne advised that since the Annual report was completed, we have been advised that our CollecTins for card payments at St Martin and St Boniface should be added and also the new AV screens at St Boniface as all these fall into the April 2023 to March 2024 time reporting period.

Jane advised the Quinquennial inspection is due this year and will take place sometime in the summer by Duncan McKellar, our Inspecting Architect, date TBA.

Christine proposed from the chair that we accept the reports on the ornaments and fabric of the church. They were accepted unanimously.

**12. Report on the Deanery Synod - and its acceptance**

Christine asked if there were any questions relating to the minutes of the Deanery Synod (circulated with this agenda). There were none.

**13. a. Presentation of Annual Report and Financial Statement – and its acceptance**

Sue Marsland took over the role of Treasurer approximately one year ago. Sue thanked the many others that contribute to the finance and stewardship of the church, namely: Jim Rooke (Planned Giving and Tax), Jackie Richardson (Sage and our bookkeeping), Ann Brew (invoicing), Suzie Pavitt (Parish Administrator), Linda Read and Jenny Greasley (bookings). The PCC thanked them all with a round of applause.

Sue then talked us through the accounts on pages 30-36 of the Annual Report for 2023. Last year we had a predicted deficit of £56K. We actually ended up with a surplus of £9K. Outgoings for gas and electricity were not as high as expected, and we had more interest on our money than the previous year. We were able to make large donations to various mission causes, and also met our commitments to pay the full amount of our Church Mission Fund (CMF). We also had some special collections on top of this. God was indeed faithful. We ended last year with funds of £115,458 as shown on page 31 of the Annual Report.

The PCC has agreed that the £9K surplus will be put into the fabric fund as we have our Quinquennial inspection this year and also costly work to St Boniface path.

Funds we have generated are up. For example, the plant sale and Beacon Café all generate income (page 32 of the report)

The audio visual team have been working extremely hard to win grants. So far they have received grants of £2350.

We received no legacies last year.

Ukraine Help spent £3600, giving vouchers for helping people with small household items when moving, and also giving bus passes. There is still £5K remaining in that fund.

This year (2024) we currently have a £15K deficit. We did not have a big appeal, so we will need to review our income from parish giving on a regular basis.

The examined accounts are on the website (as well as in the annual report). Sue asked if there were any questions. There were none.

Christine proposed we accept the examined accounts and the report for 2023. They were accepted unanimously. Christine thanked Sue for all her work.

#### **14 b Appointment of Independent Examiner for the financial year 2024**

Sue proposed that Margaret Atkinson be accepted as our independent examiner for next year (2024). Jim Rooke seconded the proposal. This was agreed unanimously.

#### **15. Questions (submitted in advance to the PCC Secretary)**

No questions were received.

#### **16. Update on the Vacancy**

On behalf of the Parish Representatives, Stuart Divall and Lynne Mursell, Stuart stated that we have now been in vacancy for 19 months. During this time, we have learnt a lot about ourselves as a parish. We have updated our parish profile and been through advertising procedures more than once. Due to the procedure, we have not been able to say anything. Stuart thanked Steve Mursell and Ruth Divall for all their support during this time. After interviews last week the process is now with the Bishop. There was a round of applause to demonstrate our appreciation for all the hard work that has gone into the recruitment process.

Lynne acknowledged Penny's leaving to go to Titchfield as an associate priest. Her last day with us will be 12<sup>th</sup> May. We send her out with our love and prayers. There was hearty applause for all Penny has done and been to us.

## **17. Closing prayers**

Hayley said a special thank you to our wardens. There was a round of hearty applause. Hayley then thanked everyone else for keeping us focused on God and stepping out in faith. Hayley then closed the meeting in prayer.

**The meeting closed with the Grace at 8.10pm.**



## Eastleigh Deanery Synod - 2023-2026

### AGENDA

St Francis, Valley Park

Wednesday 21st February 2024 at 7.30pm

**Present**                    **Clergy:** Phil Aindow, Sarah McClelland (Assistant Area Dean), Richard Wise (Area Dean), Tom Young  
**Laity:** Stephen Collyer, Anne Davies, David Dimmick (Treasurer), Carol Kidd, Brian King, Peter Littlejohn, David Lloyds, Lynne Mursell, Jean Nolan, John Reynolds, Peter Rhodes, Steve Williams

**Apologies**                **Clergy:** Ian Fletcher, Linda Galvin (Secretary), Jono Harvey, Jill Kells, Vicky Maunder, John Pawson  
**Laity:** Ann Brown, Steve Harding, Wendy Harris, Carol Hodgson, Sandra Kneller, Danny Stupple (Lay Chair), Thomas White,

#### 1. Opening prayer and worship

A short service of the word in the Celtic style was led by Sarah McClelland, Peter Rhodes and Steve Williams from Valley Park.

#### 2. Welcome

Richard Wise welcomed all present and thanked the Valley Park team for leading the opening worship.

He advised that there had been a serious motor accident on the M27 resulting in the closure of the motorway and heavy traffic congestion across the area, and this accounted in part for the low attendance. As the meeting would mainly be sharing of information and prayer, with no significant decisions, it was agreed that the meeting go ahead as planned, and that members unable to attend be kept up to date via the draft minutes.

Danny Stupple, Lay Chair for the past nine years, and an active member of the Synod before that, had given his apologies for absence, not being fully recovered from recent serious illness. He had resigned as Lay Chair for the same reason. Richard paid tribute to Danny's significant contribution to the life of the Synod both as a member and as Lay Chair and expressed the Synod's gratitude in his absence.

#### 3. Minutes of Synod held on 18 October 2023

The draft minutes had been circulated with the agenda and were approved *nem con* as a correct record (proposed by Sarah McClelland, seconded by Anne Davies).

#### 4. Matters arising from the minutes

There were no matters arising not already on the agenda.

#### 5. Financial matters

David Dimmick reported as follows:

- a) Eastleigh Deanery collectively had paid 96.6% of the Common Mission Fund contribution requested by Winchester Diocese for 2023. Reasons for the shortfall had been discussed in previous Synods.
- b) In 2024 the total Common Mission Fund contribution requested from parishes in Eastleigh Deanery showed a reduction over that requested in 2023 of £55,000, and it was therefore hoped that a

higher contribution rate would be achieved in 2024. The lower total figure in 2024 was in part the result of a lower diocesan budget, which recognised the reduced ability to pay across the parishes.

- c) Contributions from parishes to deanery funds. Each parish had been asked to contribute £20 in 2023, but this had been insufficient to cover expenses in the year, and reserves had been depleted. It was agreed to request £30 from each parish in 2024. Deanery funds at present were used to meet the Area Dean's and Assistant Area Dean's expenses. The Treasurer would write to PCC treasurers shortly to request the 2024 contributions.

## **6. Diocesan synod update**

Richard Wise reported that the last Diocesan Synod was last term, and the resume had been sent out to Deanery Synod members when it was received.

The new Bishop of Winchester, the Right Revd Philip Mounstephen, had been installed in the Cathedral at a beautiful service on 13 January. The service video recording, including the Bishop's sermon on heritage, healing and hope, was still available to view on the Cathedral's Youtube channel.

The diocesan clergy conference held later in January had been an opportunity for clergy to get to know their new diocesan bishop. He had preached two sermons, and had been interviewed by the Dean of Winchester. The keynote speaker had been Graham Tomlin, former Bishop of Kensington, and there had been various workshops. Conference resources were still available on the diocesan website. Those present agreed that it had been overwhelmingly positive.

Richard recommended that all synod members sign up to receive the weekly diocesan email updates.

Carol Kidd reported that there had recently been a meeting of the Diocesan Synod House of Laity to consider the General Synod booklet on THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND COVENANT FOR THE CARE AND WELLBEING OF CLERGY. *A copy of the booklet is attached to these minutes. It was hoped that every PCC would consider the discussion questions contained in the booklet.*

The meeting had also a document on lay ministry in its widest sense and this would be submitted to Bishop Philip shortly, covering the following questions. Where are we with lay ministry? How are lay people used in ministry across the diocese? How can we work more collaboratively with ordained ministers?

It had been recognised that there had been difficulties in getting people to stand for membership of deanery and diocesan synods. Deanery representation on dio synod was being questioned – could empty places be filled by other deaneries? The Lay Chair of Diocesan Synod would look into this. The main message was that we need to get diocesan synod places filled by our deanery!

## **7. Companion and ecumenical links**

Richard Wise reported that there was still no news about how our new link with the Province of the Democratic Republic of the Congo would take shape and that we were waiting for Bishop David to lead on this.

The Ecumenical - World Day of Prayer on Friday 1 March would be marked by services in Velmore Chapel, Chandlers Ford and the Catholic Church in West End.

Phil Aindow reported that there would be an ecumenical "Stop fossil fuels" climate prayer vigil at St John's Hedge End on Friday 23/2/24 at 7.30pm. Also the United Reformed Church in Hedge End had recently closed due to lack of numbers.



## 8. Across the Deanery

Sarah McClelland invited each parish present to share one item for praise/celebration and one item of challenge and for prayer.

- **Hound & Hamble**

Richard Wise advised that the new benefice was gearing up to advertise for a full-time priest to serve both parishes.

- **Bursledon** – no news received

- **West End**

Carol Kidd reported that there had been a joyful service two weeks previously with Bishop Geoff, two baptisms and seven confirmations. It was hoped that a youth group would be started soon jointly with St Luke's, Hedge End.

- **St Luke, Hedge End** – no news received

- **St John, Hedge End**

Phil Aindow reported that a few community outreach initiatives had recently started to build up connections with the parish. The church had begun brewing beer (with appropriate licences), and not only was fully selling each brew, but was making £200 profit each time. The church's 150 year celebrations had started with a Burns Night, and would also involve a cream tea, a fish and chips quiz night, a whist drive, and an outside festival with Bishop Philip. They were advertising for a part-time children's and family worker with CYM coupled with a legacy-funded masters degree.

- **Bishopstoke**

Richard Wise shared that the church was regularly welcoming new people. The challenge was in raising money for the building repairs. A further item for praise and challenge was that their Eco Church team had been asked by Bishopstoke Parish Council to take on the Greening Campaign and there would be a launch in mid-March.

- **Eastleigh** – no news received

- **Fair Oak and Horton Heath**

Tom Young reported that the Start course had recently begun with seven people taking part (a bit like Alpha). There had been some very encouraging stories, and baptisms were being planned for April. People have just been turning up at church! The main challenge was the installation of new heating in church and the need to change internal church furnishings.

- **Boyatt Wood**

Stephen Collyer reported that the first session of Youth Alpha had been run with a group of five young people earlier that week, and a new Lent course had begun that evening following the Prayer Course 2 (Unanswered prayer). A big challenge at present was some pastoral issues taking a significant amount of Jill Kells's time, in the context that her post was three days per week.

- **Chandlers Ford**

Lynne Mursell reported that the advert for an incumbent would be put out again very soon. The vacancy had lasted 17 months so far, but there was a much better understanding of the parish now on the part of the assistant clergy and lay parish officers. Messy Church numbers were growing, in excess of 100. Frequently new families attend, having come in via after school clubs run by the youth and children's team. The format was breakfast and fellowship at 10 am followed by worship in church for 25 mins, and then the activities afterwards. They were also running baptism preparation for adults and four were ready for confirmation.

- **Valley Park**

Brian King reported that the Footsteps Group, offering a gentle space for children with special needs, had recently started, initially once a month, but very quickly moving to once a week, responding to obvious need. The capacity is for seven children. It was funded by grant from Test Valley Borough Council, and people were wanting to get involved and help. Also an informal Alpha group had recently started following on from the Wednesday tea and coffee mornings. A challenge was that the Church Council was understrength, and they were missing administrative help. In particular there were gaps from partner denominations - the URC and Methodists.

Sarah McClelland led a brief time of prayer responding to all that had been shared.

## **9. Shared Mission**

Richard Wise sought to clarify whether Stuart Divall from Chandlers Ford would be willing to work with deanery churches on Eco Church projects, and the Chandlers Ford reps agreed to ask him. It was hoped that he might accept an invitation to speak at a future synod, along with the new Diocesan Environment Officer, Sam Scott.

Stephen Collyer mentioned the subsidised energy audits which were being offered in recent editions of the diocesan news.

The synod then split into smaller groups where recent experiences and challenges with children's and young peoples' ministry could be shared, and prayers offered for the Gospel to be shared with more children and young people in our parishes.

## **10. Elections and appointments to be made at the next Synod**

At the next meeting it was hoped to appoint two people to the Deanery Standing Committee, including a new Lay Chair of Synod.

The Synod closed by praying the grace together.

## **Dates of Future Meetings in 2024**

### **EDS Standing Committee Meetings – 12 noon to 2pm**

Wednesday 12th June – St James, West End

Wednesday 9th October – St Paul's, Bursledon

### **Deanery Synod Meetings - 7.30pm**

Tuesday 25th June – St Andrew's, Hamble

Tuesday 15th October – St Luke's, Hedge End with Bishop Philip



## Eastleigh Deanery Synod - 2023-2026

### MINUTES

#### St Andrew's, Hamble

Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> June 2024 at 7.30pm

**Present** **Clergy:** Richard Wise (Area Dean), Vicky Maunder, John Pawson, Clive Beard, Linda Galvin (Secretary)

**Laity:** Peter Hoadley, Margaret Hoadley, Ann Brown, Wendy Noble, Grant Hearn, Carol Kidd, David Dimmick (Treasurer), John Reynolds, David Lloyds, Carole Hodgson, Gloria Brown, Lynne Mursell, Jean Nolan, Anne Davies, Scott Langridge, Mandy Dean, Thomas White, Brian King, Peter Rhodes

**Apologies** **Clergy:** Sarah McClelland (Assistant Area Dean) Ian Fletcher, Phil Aindow, Ben Jones  
**Laity:** Stephen Collyer, Sue Fletcher, Neil Osborne, Steve Harding, Wendy Harris, David Cuthbert, Peter Littlejohns, Gary Holcombe

#### 1. Opening prayer and worship

Opening worship was led by Richard Wise (**RW**) using material prepared by Stephen Collyer (**SC**), who unfortunately was unwell.

#### 2. Welcome

**RW** welcomed all present, especially any new members and those who had come to hear Sam Scott (Diocesan Environment Officer) talk. He then welcomed Sam and also Lucy Howlett (Project Coordinator for Net Zero Carbon and Racial Justice) and handed over to them.

#### 3. Apologies

All apologies were noted after Item 4

#### 4. Revd Sam Scott (Diocesan Environment Officer)

*[Please note that the presentation slides from Sam are attached separately. These notes are taken from the slides on the evening]*

Caring for creation gives us opportunities – for Discipleship, Mission and Resource Stewardship.

**Discipleship** – the call to care is integral to creation, linked back to Genesis. We are given the gift of creation but we break it. Quote from Colossians 1:15-20

<sup>15</sup> He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; <sup>16</sup> **for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers—all things have been created through him and for him.** <sup>17</sup> He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. <sup>18</sup> He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. <sup>19</sup> **For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell,** <sup>20</sup> **and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven,** by making peace through the blood of his cross.

Through Jesus everything is brought together, reconciled and recreated.

**Mission** – creation care is seen as one of the top four issues for UK adults. When young people are asked about how the church is doing around this issue, only 1 in 10 think the church is doing enough

and 9 out of 10 teenagers are concerned about creation care. People hope that the church should lead on this.

**Resource Stewardship** – Small changes can save money and give opportunities to change. It is not simple or easy, but there are opportunities and challenges.

The Church of England has set a target of 2030 to become Net Zero Carbon, so where are we now? There are tools to find this out, using the Energy Footprint tool and commissioning an Energy Audit and working through the Eco Church award system.

How Can We Reduce – looking at heating timetables, triple insulated urns, insulation of pipes and electrical use.

Switch To A Renewable Tariff – through Parish Buying Scheme

Switch To A Low Carbon Heating Source – there are pro and cons for doing this

Address Reimbursable Travel

**Underlying all of these things is the need to plan**

Everyone is encouraged to use the Energy Footprint tool

The national church has provided £190 million funding for Net Zero by 2030. £30 has been released in the first tranche. An energy audit can highlight 'quick wins' and there are grants up to £3k. Give to Go Green is a match funding scheme, for every £10k raised they will match £10k. This Details can be found here [Give To Go Green | The Church of England](#) There is also a Diocesan Loan Fund up to £20k as well as the possibility of obtaining outside funding

How Can They Help? Through registering, action planning, inviting to talk to PCCs, preaching and school and community outreach and synods.

## 5. Shared Mission

There was then an opportunity to ask questions and share what was happening in each parish. These were some of the responses

- About the match funding scheme – can be done through our giving machines. They will need to know the expected target and the overall cost of the project even if not raised. You can fundraise more, but they will only match up to 10k.
- It would be helpful to have a list of credible contractors and Sam will create a list.
- Helpful to include churchwardens and any others interested, aware of these things
- It is good to start with Eco Church and build a vision.
- First thing is to look for ways to reduce energy consumption. Relook at the Plan slide – what will make the biggest difference? Changing to renewable tariffs or low carbon heating source.
- Challenge at the moment is that heat pumps are not necessarily right at the present time for some older church buildings.
- The energy audit provides personalised advice for churches.
- Use of under seat heating – heat every person, not the whole church.
- Net Carbon is defined by carbon production. Heating, lighting, travel and using energy efficiently.

*Non Synod members then left the meeting and a separate meeting of lay members was called to appoint a new Lay Chair*

## **6. Appointment of Lay Chair**

Carol Kidd, Lay member for St James, West End had previously indicated that she was willing to stand as Lay Chair. She had been nominated by Peter Littlejohns and Ann Brown, and had also provided a statement to support her nomination.

As there were no other nominations received or declared, Carol was duly elected as Lay Chair, proposed by Anne Davies and seconded by Margaret Hoadley. All were in favour and Carol was congratulated on her appointment.

## **7. To agree Minutes of the Previous Meeting of 21<sup>st</sup> February 2024**

Minor spelling amendments were made and were then approved as a true record. Proposed by Jean Nolan and seconded by Lynne Mursell. All in agreement.

## **8. Matters arising from previous Minutes**

There were no matters arising not already on the agenda.

## **9. Financial matters**

David Dimmick reported as follows:

- a) Eastleigh Deanery collectively had paid 42% of the Common Mission Fund contribution requested by Winchester Diocese to the end of May 2024. Two parishes had paid in excess (paying over a 10-month period) and two parishes were well behind with their payments. The total amount requested for the Deanery is £609k of which £258k has been received.
- b) The £30 donations towards Deanery expenses had been received from some parishes. However, David asked that parishes please identify themselves when sending money as some had been received unreferenced and he was therefore unable to ascertain which parishes had sent them.  
*Please check if you have paid or have still to pay, and let David know.*

## **10. Diocesan synod update**

A resume of the recent Diocesan Synod will be sent out once it has been received. However, Richard reported that there will be a review of how CMF is calculated – with a change in the rolling average from 3 years to 5 years. Whichever average is the lower for each parish.

The Diocesan School of Mission is being restructured to the Department of Mission and Ministry under the leadership of Amy Roche. This will result in changes in training. BCMs will continue. However, the BPP (Bishop's Permission to Preach) is on hold for a year to make it less academic.

Reduced cost – the vast majority comes back to parishes as stipends and housing. Diocesan staff have been reduced. A full report has recently been published (see link) [Annual Reports - Diocese of Winchester \(anglican.org\)](https://www.winchester.anglican.org/annual-reports)

All of the Diocesan offices are now back at Old Alresford Place – due to excessive cost of rent of rooms at Wolvesey Palace by Church Commissioners.

Interviews for the Bishop of Southampton will take place on the 1<sup>st</sup> July.

## **11. Companion and ecumenical links**

There is no news about Companion links at this time.

HEWEB Churches Together will be running their annual Holiday Bible Club in August (5<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup>) at Hedge End Methodist church.

Hustings for the upcoming election were held in Chandlers Ford overseen by Bishop Geoff, which was very interesting and informative.

## 12. Across the Deanery

- **Chandlers Ford**  
Pleased to announce that Revd Duncan Hollands has been appointed from the 10<sup>th</sup> September and are thankful that their wait has come to an end. Prayers for the inevitable changes and challenges ahead
- **Netley**  
A new minister will be appointed shortly. Prayers for the uniting of the two parishes.
- **St John, Hedge End**  
Praise for the upcoming 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebrations that are coming up and Flower Festival on the 18<sup>th</sup> - 21<sup>st</sup> July. The challenge is whether we are still here in 150 years time with an aging and reduced congregation.
- **Boyatt Wood**  
Prayer that they get more help with their Youth services
- **Valley Park**  
Praise for their Celebration Festival with lots of the community crossing the threshold. Prayer that the use of the Generous June theme will expand those giving regularly as part of their discipleship as the body of the church.
- **Bishopstoke**  
The challenge was raising funds for their urgent building repairs, but they were having fun doing it. Praise for the church ECO team leading the Greening campaign in Bishopstoke – more than 200 people came to find out more about it.
- **West End**  
Praise for the growing links with the six schools in the parish, including several church visits. The challenge like a lot of parishes is financial and prayers that the Generous June campaign will go well.
- **St Luke, Hedge End**  
Praise for the youth in the area, and they now have access to the new Secondary School (Deere Park). On Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> July the Youth Group will be leading the service – doing everything. The challenge is journeying with people who are ill or dying
- **Bursledon** – the challenge is again finances, but praise for the ceilidh held in memory of Joyce, an organist to raise funds for the organ by September.
- **Hamble**  
Recently welcomed 50 children each afternoon to the church, setting them a quiz about the windows and building. Prayer that they would get more young people joining as they have an aging population
- **Eastleigh** – is the repairs to the St Francis site that was flooded several months ago, but praise that they are getting more new faces coming along.

## 13. AOB

There was no other business to discuss

## 14. Closing Prayer

The meeting finished with the grace.

## Dates of Future Meetings in 2024

### EDS Standing Committee Meetings – 12 noon to 2pm

Wednesday 9th October – St Paul's, Bursledon

### Deanery Synod Meetings - 7.30pm

Tuesday 15th October – St Luke's, Hedge End with Bishop Philip



## Eastleigh Deanery Synod - 2023-2026

### MINUTES

St Luke's, Hedge End

Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> October 2024 at 7.30pm

#### Present

**Clergy:** Richard Wise (Area Dean), Hayley Richens, Jono Harvey, Jill Kells, John Pawson, Clive Beard, Ian Fletcher, Phil Aindow, Ben Jones, Duncan Hollands, Linda Galvin (Secretary)

**Laity:** Ann Brown, Carol Kidd (Lay Chair), David Dimmick (Treasurer), David Lloyds, Jean Nolan, Anne Davies, Scott Langridge, Brian King, Rob Sanders, Stephen Collyer, Sue Fletcher, Neil Osborne, Steve Harding, Peter Littlejohns, Gary Holcombe, Wendy Harris, David Cuthbert

**Non Members:** Chrissie Aindow, Daphne Bright, Danny Stupple, Mike Moores, Fennie Yap

#### Apologies

**Clergy:** Vicky Maunder, Tom Young

**Laity:** Peter Rhodes, Peter Hoadley, Margaret Hoadley, Wendy Noble, Lynne Mursell, Sandra Kneller, Gloria Brown, John Reynolds, Carole Hodgson

#### 1. Opening prayer and worship

Ben Jones (**BJ**) welcomed everyone to St Lukes, including Bishop Philip. Opening worship was led by Clive Beard (**CB**).

#### 2. Welcome

**RW** again welcomed all present, especially those who had come to hear Bishop Philip speak. He then welcomed Bishop Philip and handed over him

#### 3. Introduce Bishop Philip Apologies All apologies were noted after Item 4

Bishop Philip started by suggesting that community was the most important thing in a flourishing church. Community is a value that is often overlooked and we shouldn't devalue it. A community that is loving, welcoming and can challenge accountability.

He had fond memories of attending Southampton University and remembered graduating from the Turner Sims in 1980. This was a bit of nostalgia, but also how he came to faith as he belonged to a loving group of friends, love that valued acceptance. He had helped run a summer camp and afterwards they wanted him to take it over the following year because of the improvements he had made. Why was it so good? Because in those 10 days they had built up a community and this was something he wanted to make more intentional the next year. He asked why can't church be more like that – they should be.

At an annual appraisal when asked what he thought God's calling on his life was, he replied 'to be a builder of a Christian Community shaped by the Gospel of Jesus Christ.' (*These are not his exact words but a paraphrase. If anyone wants to correct me with the actual quote please do!*)

This is what he sees as his mission in Winchester, to build community. Jerusalem was monochrome Jewish, but the readings from Acts 2 and Acts 11, 13 tell us about the nature of being a Christian. The idea of breathing in and breathing out of the Holy Spirit. In Acts 2 there is something profoundly attractive about the community - the first church after the gift of the Holy Spirit had been given. If we give to the church, we give to one another. This brings about church growth, so we need to attend to this. This is the breathing in.

Antioch, on the other hand, in Acts 11, 13 was a global port city. There were no Jews, but here gentiles were coming to faith. Displaying some scepticism, Barnabas was sent to check this out – Yes, something profound was also happening. There was a welcome for everyone. In Act 11 they are first called Christians – so there were diverse followers of Jesus, so called Christians.

The only thing the two groups have in common is Jesus, he really is for everyone and they were being let out into a world changing mission, spread out into the world. This is the breathing out.

Healthy communities breath in and breath out, they draw in in the Spirit and breathe out, send out in the Spirit. Anyone stepping over the threshold of a church should be able to feel this.

He said there was a huge amount to be grateful for, such as the recent licensing service for those stepping into ministry – making it easy, one step at a time, and there was much to be encouraged about. When he came into ministry in Winchester, he saw it as heritage, healing and hope. The nature of hope is not in an antiquarian way, but how to inspire us for the future, but the Grace of God. The same things in the Diocese of Winchester that changed the world.

There were four main points as part of Walking the Wessex Way – Serving, Loving, Learning, Growing. How might communities be part of this? What shape might it take locally? The Bishop's staff team take this seriously, but there is only so much that the centre can do. It also needs to happen at grass roots – help us to help others.

Bishop Philip outlined four priorities:

- a. Attending well to clergy wellbeing. It's a valued role that has changed greatly
- b. Ministry Development – we need the right kind of ministers. Bishop Rhiannon will eventually take responsibility for this area which will include:
  - Training for ministers who will have oversight of more than one church
  - Developing local leadership
  - Recognising people with particular gifts, both inside and outside of the church
  - Engaging in children's ministry
  - Developing chaplaincies, which have significant value as a loving presence
- c. Church health and growth, looking at different strategies
- d. Catching up to equality, diversity, inclusion – such as more women ministers.

#### **4. Question and Answer Session**

Danny Stupple asked about persecution of the church and the proposal to abolish the Lords Spiritual. Bishop Philip responded that as a Christian it was a privilege to be involved. There was a lot of 'silliness' in public bodies. It was particularly useful, bearing in mind the disastrous areas of the world to take a more grown up attitude and we would have to ask what effect there would be if our freedoms were curbed.

Chrissie Aindow asked about funding for School Chaplaincy. Bishop Philip said that this was part of the Diocesan Ministry Development and that there would be Central funds to support this Diocesan strategy. He would also be delighted if part licenced lay workers were there to support clergy.

Duncan Hollands asked about relationships. God's advocacy and our advocacy in growing the church. Bishop Philip quoted the Baptist minister William Carey, 'Expect great things from God; attempt great things for God!' He went on to speak about the upcoming visit of the Archbishop of Canterbury to the diocese and had high hopes and aspirations for the visit. It had been a highlight in Truro when a similar visit had taken place there. There were many great things that people were doing naturally – he hoped it would broaden and create an uplifting experience of what people want. Like oxygen to evangelism in the diocese.



*The bishop was thanked for his contribution to the meeting and along with those non-members who wished to, left the meeting.*

## **5. Apologies**

Apologies were then noted as above

## **6. To agree Minutes of the Previous Meeting of 25<sup>th</sup> June 2024**

The previous Minutes were approved as a true record. Proposed by John Pawson and seconded by Ben Jones. All in agreement.

## **7. Matters arising from previous Minutes**

It was confirmed that Hayley Richens had been appointed to Hamble and Hound, and Duncan Hollands had been welcomed to Chandlers Ford.

## **8. Financial matters**

David Dimmick reported as follows:

- a) Using the end of September figures, Eastleigh Deanery collectively had paid 75% of the Common Mission Fund contribution requested by Winchester Diocese, which was just above the expected amount. However, some parishes have paid more in advance and two parishes were behind at this time. David thanked all the parishes for their contributions.
- b) He was already aware the CMF requests for 2025 would include an increase of £26k
- c) He again asked that any parishes £30 contributions to the Deanery fund are named, as it is hard to identify which parishes have paid if no references are given.
- d) The Diocese as a whole is struggling to pay CMF requests, so we are doing well as a Deanery

## **9. Diocesan synod update – including video message from Bishop Philip and promotion of Diocesan Synod Lay Vacancies**

Carol Kidd (Lay Chair) introduced herself in her role as Lay Chair and Safeguarding Officer and Anna Chaplain for Carraway. She spoke about the need to fill the two vacant lay spaces for Eastleigh Deanery on Diocesan Synod. She confirmed that it doesn't have to be a Deanery Synod member, but that anyone put forward does have to be nominated by two Deanery Synod members.

She also spoke about Living in Love and Faith and the wider family of the church.

*One nomination was received from Stephen Collyer, and notice will be sent out to everyone that any further nominations will need to be received by 1<sup>st</sup> November. If there are more nominations than the two spaces available a voting process will be put in place.*

The video message about CMF from Bishop Philip was played. CMF requests had been reduced in the hope that people would pay more. This has not been the case.

There are also two lay vacancies on the Deanery Synod Standing Committee. This is to keep the balance of five clergy and five lay members. The committee meets on a Wednesday lunchtime approximately a fortnight before each full Deanery Synod meeting.

## **10. Companion and ecumenical links**

There is no news about Companion links at this time. There is uncertainty about whether previous links with Bukedi in Uganda or new links with the Democratic Republic of Congo were still in existence.

## **11. Time of Open Prayer**

Informal groups were formed to offer an opportunity to pray for each other and for the wider diocese and concerns.

## **12. AOB**

John Pawson informed Synod that there was an opportunity for an evening of theatre at St Paul's, Bursledon on Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> October. Further details and flyers would be sent out electronically

Philip Aindow gave details of a visit from a member of the College of Evangelists, Rachel, who would be visiting St Johns on Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> October, as part of the Archbishop of Canterbury's weekend of evangelism. She will be sharing her passion with us to help enable us to share our stories of God being present in our lives.

Clive Beard said that details of the Archbishop of Canterbury's visit would be sent out, giving a timetable of events

*Details of all three of these event were sent out after the meeting.*

A reminder that on the 30<sup>th</sup> October at 7.30pm at St Edward's, Hayley Richens will be installed to the parish of Hamble and Hound.

Richard Wise asked that we keep praying into the situation in Palestine and Lebanon and for the whole of the Middle East at the moment.

Notice that Bishop Rhiannon would be consecrated in Canterbury on the 18<sup>th</sup> November followed by her welcome to Winchester on the 16<sup>th</sup> November

### **13. Closing Prayer**

A reminder to share warmth and grace and the importance of community. The meeting finished with the grace.

### **Dates of Future Meetings in 2025**

#### **EDS Standing Committee Meetings – 12 noon to 2pm**

**Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> February – St John's, Hedge End**

**Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> June – St James', West End**

**Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> October – St Peter's Boyatt Wood**

#### **Deanery Synod Meetings - 7.30pm**

**Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> February – All Saints, Eastleigh**

**Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> June – St Paul's, Bursledon**

**Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> October – St Boniface, Chandler's Ford**