

8
01/12/25



St Michael's
Wandsworth
Common

STANDING COMMITTEE MEETING

Monday 20 October 2025

Present: Connie Maya Parker (CMP), James Cunningham (JC), Justin Walford (JW), Tiffany-Alice Ewins (TE), Tom Holmer (TH)

Apologies: Fiona Holmer (FH)

Chair: Tiffany-Alice Ewins (TE)

Minutes: Tom Holmer (TH)

	Item	Action	Who
1.	Prayer		
2.	Apologies and approval of previous minutes Minutes of the previous meeting were amended to take into account corrections from the treasurer, were agreed as amended and were signed.		
3.	Safeguarding update TE raised the request made by the SO that it would be good to have a male safeguarding officer to join the two women SOs (Fiona Holmer and Sarah Taylor). She will look into this and see who might be proposed.		
4.	Treasurer's update JC presented his report. A surplus is predicted for the end of the year. There is enough to do the sound system or the hall windows, one being done this year and one for 2026.		

	<p>Messy Church – Sally had asked whether we could give a donation to Messy Church. JW said that this was envisaged to be a small donation to cover some of the costs of training. JC preferred to look at them as a possible mission partner and to see if we continue with them. Already we have paid for Michelts safeguarding training. We need a properly worked out budget for Messy Church. TE felt the time to review this when giving was reviewed. The £5k grant was just to start it off and we won't get this next year. It was decided to leave this for review with general giving in 2026.</p> <p>TE reported that Wandsworth Prison have some funds for a gospel choir workshop, a one day training event. The grant is for the prison chaplaincy, but they don't have a bank account so can we agree to receive the grant and then pay the required invoices?</p> <p>JC : We need to know how much this is, and that there is none left over once its paid. TE will be discussing this with Wendy Stevens the chaplain and will communicate this.</p>		
5.	<p>From Action Report:</p> <p>a. Hall windows</p> <p>The upper hall windows are in a poor state. Contractors may be able to do these with a tower or a cherry picker to reduce scaffolding costs. Possibly for during the Christmas holidays as they will need to get into the hall for the renovating work. This is mending, not replacing.</p> <p>These are the top priority for Sarah Taylor because of escaping heat and the need to keep the fabric in reasonable order. If the answer is it can be done into 2026, we could aim to do the sound system now and windows in early 2026, or vice versa.</p> <p>Choice of contractors? The task is filling and packing holes and making good.</p> <p>The SC agreed that Kennedy maintenance is the preferred choice of contractor.</p> <p>b. Sound System</p> <p>As above, to go ahead pending the restrictions above. Sarah to find out timing of installation and plan accordingly.</p> <p>c. Update on Children and Families work</p> <p>Messy Church – TE: huge number of volunteers, which helped it to feel buzzy. She is unsure of the finances. The meal was great. As an event it went very well. Content was great. Difficulty about the sustainability of it, and the</p>		

	<p>numbers of volunteers; a rota needed. It has a lot of potential. All age participation. A joy to see. It is a service – so it needs to be church, and this is a community on it own. Celebration area was weak. Possible action to get young people to lead this.</p> <p>Family work: Risk assessments, curriculum, all well done. Workshops at Honeywell going well. However, communication is a weak area, as is IT proficiency.</p> <p>All age services: some good, some less so.</p> <p>d. Music Ideas for Sunday</p> <p>TE spoke to Cecelia and shared with her to get someone to play the organ and teach hymns. In her church there are organists. She asked Colin her husband, recently retired. He would be prepared to be there for £112 per Sunday. He would also find a young organist to mentor. JW felt that our worship was not strong at the moment and it would be good to get someone in. TE felt 2 Sundays a month would be a good start. CMP – its not just the organ, but getting people singing and making use of music and how we worship is as important. JC two Sundays a month, probably not suitable for all age.</p> <p>The Gospel Choir is doing well – singing outside the church as well and plenty of people. Agreement to start with two Sunday, the two with HC (first and third Sundays).</p> <p>CMP - Thursday evening sung worship – it's a bit static. It gets the same small number coming along. She will pick up this with TE and the others who attend and play to see what to do about this.</p>		
6.	<p>Listening Campaign</p> <p>TE starting a listening campaign with see people to hear what they have to say about the needs of the community over the next few weeks. Claire Arkwright (Wandsworth Citizens) and TE are working on a training scheme for a listening campaign. The last one fed into the MAP. They will be training in Feb 2026 and through Lent have the formal listening campaign.</p> <p>As a Lenten practice the congregation (those trained) will encourage one to one conversations. After Easter those involved with group listening will come together and work out our key needs as a community. TE will be meeting with MP, other business people in the locality, and all this will feed into a fresh Mission Action Plan (MAP).</p>		

8.	<p>WWW / EBI of TE being away from SC perspective</p> <p>TH put in for Fiona the need for another ordained person to do communion occasionally and to relieve the pressure on Ann Brodie. TH to see if Philippa Boardman would do it, or if we can find anyone else.</p> <p>JC disappointed that a message on whats app which had caused some consternation ended up with TE being contacted by someone about it during her sabbatical.</p>		
	<p>Next PCC meeting – 6.30 pm at the Vicarage. Agreed time could be moved to 6.30 from 6pm. TE to publicise this change of time for future PCC meetings.</p>		