Minutes of the SPAN meeting held on 14th September 2026 held in the Davenport Room, St Peter's.
The meeting started with the SPAN Prayer.

Attendance: Jenny Armstrong (Chair), Ann Marie and Patrick Reddin, Anne and Roger Elson, Paul Hayden (Secretary), Allan Mulholland, Michael Barker (Treasurer).
Apologies: Fr Stephen Day, Canon David Hartley, Jeanette Davison, Paul and Caroline Manning (Vice Chair), Mary and Jonathan Holden, Clare Burdett.
Minutes of the last meeting were circulated and approved.
Matters arising: None.
Summary of Correspondence: NB* means - attachment supplied for the meeting.

- **Forbes Chikobvu, Rosa Care Organisation**, dated 14th July 2026. "Thank you very much for your email and for taking the time to ensure that the transfer complies with UK charity regulations."
- **Rev Sr Susan Namuliika, Hospital Administrator, St Francis Hospital Nyenga**, dated 14th July 2026. "Warm greetings from St. Francis Hospital Nyenga. On behalf of the hospital administration and the entire community of beneficiaries, we wish to extend our heartfelt appreciation to S.P.A.N for your generous financial support towards improving the livelihoods of lepers under our care tosupport a total of 26 lepers, with 14 of them currently in need of active assistance. These funds will go a long way in restoring dignity, hope, and improved quality of life for our vulnerable patients."

- **Will Seth-Smith, fivetalents ***, dated 16th July 2026. "We received your generous donation today and I just wanted to say thank you on behalf of all the Five Talents team. I look forward to sharing the impact your donation is enabling over the next few months!"
- **Sr Prexadis Muthuka, Hospital Administrator, Ortum Mission Hospital, Kenya,** dated 18th July 2026. "It's inspiring to hear about the consistent dedication of your group over the years and the positive impact SPAN continues to make both locally and globally."
- **Jonathan Allen, Friends of the Holy Land Institute for the Deaf *,** dated 20th July 2026. "Thank you very much indeed for your donation to Friends of Holy land Institute for the Deaf. Your continued support is so very important to the children in these challenging times."
- **Sonia Sekhon, Brokerage Officer, Family Information Service**, dated 23rd July 2026. "I am currently supporting a family who requires support with a freezer." The letter also justified the need for a freezer. *[Committee agreed to provide vouchers for £ 160.]*
- **Barry Harper, EACP- East Africa Children's Project ***, dated 25th July 2026. "The *[£ 200]* award from your Trust will make a massive difference for these children who grasp every opportunity to learn and to better understand the world."
- **Michelle Oakford, CAFOD** *, dated 5th August 2026 – thanks for £ 500 to the Venezuelan Earthquakes Appeal.
- **Sonal Kadchha, Educating The Children *,** dated 4th August 2026. "Thank you very much for your generous donation of **£400**. We are truly grateful for your support helping women gain the skills and opportunities they need to achieve financial independence."
- **Fr Frederick Franco Kasozi, Regina Mundi Church, Otumbari Parish, Uganda,** dated 13th August 2026. "I will update you soon about a little report. May God bless your endeavours."
- **Rev Fr Gabriel Kwaku Mwanza, Radio Maria Zambia, Chipata,** dated 13th August 2026. "I am happy to hear from you. Thank you very much for the donation to help our needy Christians."

- **Kerry Johnstone, Temwa *,** dated 14th August 2026. "I'm delighted to attach the Mid-Year Report for our STEP-A project, which SPAN is generously supporting through until next year."
- **Basembera Nicholus, VCU**, dated 11th Sept 2026. "Village Concern Uganda express our appreciation for your financial assistance it will make a difference and we are incredibly grateful."
- **Zoe Hauser, Medair *,** dated 27th August 2026. "I am writing to thank you for your extraordinary support and partnership with Medair over the past 6 years. Over the time that you have supported Medair, you have now contributed £2,400 to reaching people with life-saving support."
- **Dr Robert Caracache, House of Light and Hope *,** dated 9th September 2026. Prayer requests.

Finance – Treasurer Report by Michael on the July and August 2026 Accounts

We have £ 1,260 available for appeals, while this includes two months of standing orders, I processed the two international payments of £400 each to our African priests in Uganda and Zambia. We also answered three local appeals, one for £160 which has been included but two further for £325 which will show in October but should be accounted for now.

We also received our quarterly investment income. We received two payments so the new investment of £ 20,000 this year has generated £ 154. Also the fund is performing well, with the stock market recovering post Iran so the investment is now worth just over £ 20,000.

Unfortunately in the month two incorrect postings were charged to our accounts for £228. This happened earlier in the year for smaller amounts and HSBC corrected them. I have asked them to do the same here.

The annual accounts were completed and are currently with the auditors for sign off so we should comfortably meet the Charity Commission deadline for submission.

It also appears that the Africa box in the porch has been fixed with a new plate. I think by Royce, emptied it yesterday, quite a few coins inside.

[£ 471.20 will be added to amounts earmarked for hospitals at Nyenga in Uganda and Ortum in Kenya.]

Appeals – * indicates that attachments with further details were sent out ahead of the meeting,

- **Sandra Hannen, AMOR! *,** dated 27th July 2026. "Guatemala. We believe every child, no matter where they live, should have access to food, healthcare, shelter, and education." **£ 300 Agreed**.
- **Gemma Williams, Porridge & Pens *,** dated 24th August 2026. Appeal to improve kitchen facilities providing 180,000 meals each year. **£ 300 Agreed.**
- **Tamsyn Wymer, African Children's Fund *,** dated 29th September 2026. "I am pleased to attach an application to SPAN for the **Kenyan Porridge Clubs** programme. In the words of Brenda – an early recipient of a daily mug of porridge – Porridge Clubs are a "*game changer*". **£ 300 Agreed.**
- **Uilliam Barrow-Retallack, Sand Dams Worldwide *,** dated 13th August 2026. **Deferred.**
- **Sylvia McKenzie, Family Support Worker, Warwick Family Help,** dated 24th August 2026. "I'm supporting a family within the family help team. The family are struggling financially and mum needs support in buying school uniform for her 7-year-old daughter." *[Committee corresponded to check existing possibilities. **£ 75 voucher provided**.]*
- **Prue Banks, Brokerage Officer, Family Information Service/Children with Disabilities Team,** dated 27th August 2026. "I am writing to ask whether you might be able to support a single-parent family. The mother is also battling an aggressive form of cancer. The mother and daughters are looking to move into their new home imminently but do not have any beds for the 2 children, as they were co-sleeping in their old flat. I write to ask for consideration if the charity can provide £300 (Argos vouchers). ***[Committee agreed £ 300 in vouchers.]***
- **CAFOD** for the Nepal Flooding Appeal. **£ 500 Agreed.**

Any Other Business:

The rest of the meeting discussed the SPAN Social on Friday 2nd October, 7.30 start.

ACTIONS ALREADY COMPLETED

Hall booked

Speakers booked - Lisbeth Potter, Guys Gift and Kay MacKay from Children of the Dump

Jonathan Chilvers and the Mayor, Sarah Boad attending. Jonathan to give intro in support of Span. The Mayor some brief words.

Fliers and posters in place; promotion in Extra and Newsletter

Invites send to Yvonne, New Chapters, Naomi from Young People First and John White from Global Care.

Musicians booked -- Martin, Antonio and Rose (Glass Wall)

Programme drafted -- SPAN scenario in draft for discussion

Food -- Jenny H is to order; Drinks – Patrick and Ann Marie to organise.

Next actions

Continuous promotion of fliers at the Churches -giving out in person if possible Elsewhere? Facebook ?

Publicity through the newsletters and church notices. Caroline has produced leaflets which can be handed out whilst letting people know that there will be speakers from Children of the Dump working in the Philippines and Guy's Gift supporting bereaved young people locally.

Press ?

Displays around the room –

Sign up sheets to be agreed – to capture emails and contacts of attendees

Agree format of the last part of the evening when we try to get potential helpers –

Proposal that we have a round table discussion on a Span meeting scenario – Jenny had collated some appeals and it was suggested that we use 'live' data from next months appeals.

- With a Span member at each table to facilitate if necessary. Followed by a short round up of the evening with the emphasis on encouraging people to offer to help in some way. Ie attending meetings, giving regularly, supporting our regular events, promoting through social media , publicity, research of charities or linking with a particular charity.

[This latter part may need to be managed differently on the day depending on time restraints.]

The meeting finished with a prayer.

The next meeting will be on Monday 12th October 2026 at 7.30 pm in the Davenport Room at St Peter's.