

**Minutes of the SPAN meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> April 2026 held in Davenport Room, St Peter's.**  
**The meeting started with the SPAN Prayer.**

**Attendance:** Jenny Armstrong (Chair), Michael Barker (Treasurer), Caroline (Vice Chair) and Paul Manning, Patrick and Ann Marie Reddin, Clare Burdett, Roger and Anne Elson.

**Apologies:** Paul Hayden (Secretary), Fr Stephen Day, Canon David Hartley, Francis Vaz, Allan Mulholland, Jonathan and Mary Holden, Jeanette Davison.

**Minutes of the last meeting** were circulated, approved and signed.

**Matters arising:** Clare had sent the 5 refugee families she keeps in touch with from Leamington a £10 token each, and they all wrote to thank us and were pleased to be remembered.

**Summary of Correspondence:** NB\* means - attachment supplied for the meeting.

- **Tom Williams, STAND**, dated 4<sup>th</sup> March 2026. "Hi Friend, It's been a big month for team STAND. We've opened a new rehabilitation centre in The Gambia!" **Also from Phil Tunstall, dated 12<sup>th</sup> March 2026 \***. Thanks and Impact Report.
- **Sonia Sekhon, Brokerage Officer, WDC**, dated 11<sup>th</sup> March 2026. "... currently supporting a family experiencing significant financial hardship a single parent with two young children, and the family recently fled domestic abuse." [*Committee agreed £ 100 Argos for vacuum + other essentials*]
- **Hannah Kirubi, Transform Trade**, dated 11<sup>th</sup> March 2026. "We work with some of the most marginalised producers in Africa and Asia to access a fairer deal from trade. Transform Trade is working directly to support smallholder farmers to combat and build their resilience to climate change"
- **The Trustees of Children of the Dump \***, dated 10<sup>th</sup> March 2026. Thanks and **appeal**.
- **Dr Caracache, House of Light and Hope**, dated 14<sup>th</sup> March 2026. Update already shared.
- **Zoe Hauser, Medair \***, dated 16<sup>th</sup> March 2026. "**Lebanon** is facing a rapidly escalating humanitarian crisis. Medair teams are already on the ground. As **Ukraine** enters its fifth year of war, 10.8 million people urgently need humanitarian assistance. Hospitals are running on generators, and families are sleeping in their coats in the face of freezing overnight temperatures." **ALSO \***, dated 16<sup>th</sup> March 2036. Thank you for support in Madagascar for Cyclone Gezani - £ 400.
- **Jacqui Grove, Helping Hands \***, dated 16<sup>th</sup> March 2026. Update in Community Newsletter.
- **Sally Harrison, Empowering Kids in Kenya (E-kik)**, dated 17<sup>th</sup> March 2026. "Thank you so much for your lovely donation - solar lanterns for our 35 new children entering Year 7. In January 2027, we will have another 35 children starting in the school. If you are able to support them with this life-changing equipment, that would be absolutely wonderful."  
*We thought we should carry this forward as a future appeal (at the end of the year) to help this project.*
- **Jean Feely**, forwarding thanks from our Primary Schools for the Lenten vouchers received.
- **Yvonne McKinnon, New Chapters**, dated 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2026. "... please let all at St Peters know how much New Chapters value your continued support. Thank you for including us in your brilliant, fun quiz nights and choosing us as one of your charities to support, your generous donation of £500 will help us immensely continuing our work with individuals seeking recovery from addiction."
- **Michelle Oakford, CAFOD \***, dated 13<sup>th</sup> March 2026. Thanks for £ 100 for Darfur.
- **Angela Doherty, New Ways \***, dated 19<sup>th</sup> March 2026. Thanks for £ 400 in March 2026 and report.
- **Brian Austin**, dated 8<sup>th</sup> April 2026. "Dear all, forgive me for leaving this message to you for so long. But I do want to thank you for remembering Janice and arranging a Mass to be said for her. That is very much appreciated. Janice was very devoted to her Catholic Faith as you well know and she loved the Mass, always watching online when she could no longer attend. I know too that many of you were at the Funeral Mass (some 7 weeks ago!) and I thank you for being there for her. Thank you so much, Brian."



## Finance – Treasurer Report by Michael on the March 2026 Accounts

We have £ 1,209 available for appeals, which was boosted by a further donation of £ 420 from the Leamington Catenian President, bringing the total received in the year to £ 1,894, which is a fantastic payment. Unfortunately there is a new President who has his own preferred charity so we will not be receiving any more monies this year. However next year Mike O’Riley is President who has been a long-time supporter of SPAN and may be willing to choose SPAN.

The Lenten appeal has been very successful so thanks to those of you who donated or distributed envelopes in churches. At the end of March we had collected just short of £ 2,000 but in April I have received a further £ 1,100 allowing us to meet the cost of the local vouchers of £ 2,400 and make payments to Friends of the Holy Land and House of Light and Hope of £ 800 each, with a small balance coming from our gift aid monies.

The cheque to New Chapters for the quiz proceeds remained outstanding in March but has been cashed in April

*[£ 209.49 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,

- **Fr Phillip Apiya, Parish Priest Amuru Catholic Parish \***, dated 17<sup>th</sup> March 2026. “This is a humble checking if you received our application? Blessings.” **Agreed not to support.**
- **Francisco Idiiri, Kwikiriza Charity Foundation**, dated 25<sup>th</sup> March 2026. “Hello, a Christian Faith Based Charity that was initiated in 2024 started with the plight of demonstrating Jesus’ love through transforming lives by supporting educational, nutritional, medical and basic opportunities for the poorest families in Uganda.” **Agreed not to support.**
- **Derrick Kidake, Bornstar Children Centre**, dated 31<sup>st</sup> March 2026. “an urgent appeal. While our children have flourished through learning, growing, and thriving, we now face critical challenges. (1) Our roof is leaking. (2) Our feeding program. We need your help now. **£ 400 Agreed**
- **Mark Ryan, Turbo Ghana \***, dated 11<sup>th</sup> March 2026. Appeal for buildings, public toilets, latrines, school furniture, business schemes or scholarships. **£400 agreed**
- **Mollin Delve, PHOEBE \***, dated 16<sup>th</sup> March 2026. Towards a women’s healing hub in Zimbabwe. **Agreed not to support.**
- **Alexandra Chapman, Ethiopiaid \***, dated March 2026. Thanks for past support and asking for contributions to of their Lifetime Fund. **Agreed not to support.**
- **Robert Steven Adams, Make Them Smile \***, dated 17<sup>th</sup> March 2026. Supporting children with disabilities across the UK. **Agreed not to support.**
- **Children of the Dump. £ 400 agreed**
- **CAFOD for Darfur £ 300 so far this year – target £ 1,200. £ 100 Agreed**

### Any Other Business:

Facebook link: <https://www.facebook.com/share/1DCfZ4yYgP/> please share and follow.

Caroline was thanked for organising and continuing to improve to our Facebook page. She has added many photos of projects we have supported. She urged everyone to ‘like’ the page and to spread the word.

Warwick District Faith Forum. Anne informed us that there was a walking tour of several local faith destinations on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> April starting at the Polish Centre in the High Street Leamington at 9.15 am and ending at the Ahmadiyya Mosque and Community Centre. <http://www.wdfaithsforum.org.uk/>

The meeting finished with a prayer.

**The next meeting will be on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> May 2026 at 7.30 pm in the Davenport Room at St Peter’s.**