

Minutes of the SPAN meeting held on 10th July 2023 in St Peter's Church Hall



The meeting started with the SPAN Prayer.

Attendance Jenny Armstrong (Chair), Caroline (Vice Chair) and Paul Manning, Michael Barker (Treasurer), Jonathan Holden, Paul Hayden (Secretary), Clare Burdett, Anne Elson.

Apologies David Burton, Jean and Wilf Feely, Jeanette Davison, Fr Stephen Day, Mary Holden.

Minutes of the last meeting were circulated, approved and signed. **Matters arising:** None.

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

- **Sylvester Mutsigwa**, *Community Participation Coordinator – CAFOD Birmingham Archdiocese*, dated 9th June 2023. "Thank you for your continued support of CAFOD and all the incredible work you do within your local community and further afield."
- Cheryl Cooke, Contracts & Fundraising Administrator  , dated 12th June 2023. "To the Congregation of St. Peter's (Leamington), Our Lady's (Lillington) and St. Joseph's (Whitnash) I am emailing you on behalf of everyone at Zoë's Place Baby Hospice to say thank you for your kind donation of £600.00, raised by the SPAN co-ordinated Lenten Appeals. We are so grateful for your support and please pass on our sincere thanks to everyone involved in this donation."
- John White, CEO, **Global Care**, dated 18th June 2023. "Thank you for the very warm welcome that all at SPAN gave to Fiona, Hazel and Myself. Thank you for the opportunity to present information about our work. Looking forward to keeping in touch with SPAN."
- Chris Connors,  *, dated 13th June 2023. "Thanks for the feedback, much appreciated. We are due to Fly in July on a trip with 2 families to build a house. So will defo feedback about the families we deliver the food to." Dated 16th June. "I received a cheque in the post today. Thank you so much. I will report back to you on the specific families that we have given food relief to."
- **Philippa Bent**, **Office & Database Manager, International Refugee Trust ***, Dated 16th June 2023. Thank you all very much indeed for your £500 cheque. As requested, I have attached a receipt for this donation.
- Dr Caracache, **House of Light and Hope ***, dated 15th June 2023. "Dear brothers and sisters at SPAN, and dear parishioners, Salam el Masih/The Peace of Christ. Here is the latest article of our brother Fady Noun that you will read with interest."
- Emily Gamston, **Afrikids**, dated 19th June 2023. "I do hope you are well. Thank you for your generous support of AfriKids. vital projects ensuring that vulnerable children are healthy, safe, and in school have been made possible. To celebrate the difference that your support has made, I invite you to our 2023 virtual event, which will take place on the **18th October 18:00-19:00**. We will share more details closer to the time, but for now please do save the date if you can, and we hope to see you there."
- Nicola Major-Gebbels **Targeted Support Officer Early Help and Targeted Support Team** (Warwick), dated 19th June 2023. "I submit a request for financial support for a family the Early Help Team are supporting currently. They would benefit greatly from a skip to clear unwanted/broken items from the house and garden. [Our Secretary replied "Paying for a skip is not normally an action we would take as our donors are usually hoping their help goes to relieve poverty or essential needs often in Africa but also locally. Our committee will consider whether we should prioritise this action over other appeals. I suggest you seek the support you need elsewhere."] Dated 21st June 2023. "Thanks so much for your response. Thank you for your consideration."
- Kieran McGerty, **Young People First**, dated 22nd June 2023. "Young People First is a youth charity focussing on supporting disadvantaged young people, predominantly in the Brunswick ward Leamington Spa area."
- Miriam Blakemore-Hoy, **Homes For Ukraine Support Team** Migration Team Children and Families Warwickshire County Council, dated 30th June 2023. "I have another Ukrainian couple who are due to move into social housing and have nothing. I hope that some aid might be available again for xxx and his wife. The main items needed are: a double bed and mattress, fridge freezer, cooker and washing machine. Is there a possibility that SPAN could help?"

- Michelle Oakford, Head of Supporter Relations, **CAFOD ***, dated 22nd June 2023. “Thank you for your donation of £ 100... Darfur”.
- Michelle Oakford, Head of Supporter Relations, **CAFOD ***, dated 22nd June 2023. “Thank you for your donation of £ 300... Sudan Crisis appeal”.

Finance - Comments by Michael on May 2023 Accounts

A relatively quiet month financially, sees us with £ 1,181 available to be allocated, due to standing orders, cash collected in the church and the continuing legacy release of £ 500 in the month.

During this month we received the grant for the Pastimes Warm Hub of £ 2,458 which was paid directly out. We also paid £ 250 to Father Mayele, via international SWIFT payments. The cost of the Open Evening was approximately £ 20, with food and drink costing £ 120, offset by £ 100 collected in donations. A donation of £ 100 will be made to the church for use of the room.

I am currently undertaking completion of the annual accounts and will be collecting the Gift Aid monies for 2022.

[£ 113.43 will be added to amounts earmarked for hospitals in Nyenga in Uganda and Ortum in Kenya.]

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

- **IRT South Sudan appeal ***. See documents sent. **£ 300 Agreed.**
- **Turbo Ghana NEW ***. “The purpose of our charity is to relieve financial hardship in Ghana. To improve health by providing safe and clean water. The provision of clean water and latrines will be achieved by contracting companies that install boreholes and build latrines. We also aim to provide educational materials by purchasing resources and donating them to schools.” **£ 300 Agreed.**
- **Malawi Association of Christian Support (MACS) NEW** “to promote any charitable purpose in Malawi including the advancement of education, the relief of poverty, sickness and distress, the preservation and protection of health and the advancement of the Christian religion particularly by supporting the pastoral work of the churches and the support of charitable Christian institutions.” **Agreed to c/fwd appeal.**
- **Young People First NEW ***. See documents sent. **£ 300 Agreed.**
- **Vision Hope International NEW ***. **Agreed not to support.**
- **Homes for Ukraine *** See correspondence. **Agreed to ask if needs already met and if Kenilworth Lions have been contacted. Committee to review response.**
- **BLYSEF NEW *** “BLYSEF (<http://www.blysef.org/>) is a passionate non-profit organization from Sierra Leone dedicated to fostering the growth and development of young individuals through the transformative power of sports and sports education.” **Agreed not to support.**
- **Becca Lee, Brokerage Officer**, appeal for child safety seat for single mother on benefits with 4 children. **Agreed £ 188.**
- **Medical and other supplies for Ukraine appeal.** See July EXTRA for details. **£ 100 Agreed.**
- **Darfur, Sudan. £ 100 Agreed from Frank’s legacy.**

Liaison Groups

Justice and Peace in Catholic Leamington. No additional info.

Saturday Friendship Group. The Way Ahead and SFG are only functioning on a Thursday with 2 volunteers and a gardener. Helping Hands are opening some mornings and may take on some support work. The minister is on long term sick leave. There is likely to be an announcement about the future of these projects on 18th July.

New Chapters Jenny met up with Yvonne from New Chapters (office with Dale Street), who are still working to find properties they can use. Not all Estate Agents are helpful. They are hoping to have an agreement with a landlady in Kingsway. New Chapters have funding for the first year of the project.

Any Other Business. None.

We finished with a prayer.

The next meeting will be on Monday, 11th September starting at 7.30 p.m. at St Peter’s Church Hall.