



Minutes of the Deanery Synod Meeting

Held at St Gabriel's North Acton

Thursday 3 July 2025 doors opened 7pm for 7.30pm meeting

Address of St Gabriel's North Acton, Noel Road, North Acton, London W3

Attendance: 31 + 12 guests

Welcome and Worship.

Father Timothy L'Estrange, vicar of St Gabriel's North Acton, welcomed the Deanery Synod to St Gabriel's and led a liturgy including sung worship to observe the Feast of St Thomas.

Business Items

Presentation of Accounts (AGM)

Margaret Copley, Treasurer (St Barnabas Northolt Park), presented the examined accounts for the year ending 28 February 2025. The accounts had been agreed by the Standing Committee and were adopted by Synod – proposed Revd. Julia Palmer (St Thomas's Hanwell), seconded Mo Perkins (All Saints Ealing Common).

Appointment of the Independent Examiner for year ending 28 Feb 2026 (AGM)

James Barron (St Stephen's Ealing) – proposed Margaret Copley, seconded Sue Bolton (St Dunstan's East Acton) approved *nem con*

Role of Deanery Synod Treasurer

Margaret Copley has been Deanery Synod Treasurer since 2008, part of that time also as Deanery Synod Secretary, and is intending to step down at the 2026 AGM. We are therefore looking for the next Deanery Synod Treasurer – the role is much simpler than looking after church accounts and involves primarily:

- Subscriptions to the synod from individual churches
- Payment of mission grants

Please speak to Margaret if you are interested.

School Governors

No nominations were received for the posts of School Governor at Edward Betham Primary School, William Perkins School or Twyford High School. Identification of candidates for School Governor posts is now more challenging as the Twyford Trust has four secondary schools in Ealing.

As the posts for Edward Betham and William Perkins have now been vacant for over a year, the Deanery Synod Standing Committee will appoint a School Governor if a nomination is received rather than waiting for the next Deanery Synod Meeting.

Diocesan Synod

Already elected

- Clergy: Revd. Richard Collins (Christ the Saviour), Revd. Joseph Fernandes (St Mary's Acton), Revd. Alex Volossevich (St Mary's Ealing)
- Laity: Antje Whitehurst (St Mary's Ealing), Dr Neil Yates (St Dunstan's East Acton)

Clergy By elections – conducted by Area Dean David Neno

- Nomination form received: Revd. Stu Plumb (St Mellitus Hanwell),
Proposed Revd. Julia Jagganath (St Mary and St Richard, Northolt),
seconded Revd. Sam Sanya (St John's Ealing)
- Nomination from the floor: Revd. Julia Palmer (St Thomas's Hanwell)
Proposed Revd. Jon Westall (St Dunstan's East Acton),
seconded Revd. Jeanny Wang (St Mary's Acton)

As there were two nominations for three vacancies, Revd. Stu Plumb and Revd. Julia Palmer were duly elected. There is one clergy vacancy remaining.

Laity By elections – conducted by Deanery Synod Secretary Wei Hei Kipling (St Mary's Ealing) in the absence of the Lay Chair Jackie Ashmenall (Christ the Saviour)

- Nomination form received: Emeka Abadom (Emmanuel Southall),
Proposed Jackie Ashmenall (Christ the Saviour),
seconded Merab Gill (St John's Southall)
- Nomination from the floor: Margaret Ainsworth (St Martin's West Acton)
Proposed David Gillingham (St Stephen's Ealing),
seconded Carmela Amodio-Johnson (St Stephen's Ealing)

As there were two nominations for four vacancies, Emeka Abadom and Margaret Ainsworth were duly elected. There are two lay vacancies remaining.

Mission Bids

Mission Bids for 2025

In view of the number of applications received this year, the Standing Committee were stricter in applying the mission criteria and there were four applications which the Standing Committee decided not to progress further. In addition, the Standing Committee has decided not to recommend an award of the maximum grant of £2,000 to any of the applications so the maximum grant recommended for any of the applications is £1,850.

Six of the thirteen applications being considered were invited to make presentations to the Deanery Synod but one presenter unfortunately could not attend at the last moment. Those applications for which presentations were made at the Synod meeting are shown in bold.

Worshipping Community	Project	Recommended Grant
St Mary's, Ealing	Christians Against Poverty in Ealing	£1,850
Christ the Saviour Ealing	Reading the Christian Story together	£1,850
St John Ealing	Community Outreach to older people (subsidized transport)	£1,850
St Peter Ealing	Ivy Community Café (chairs)	£1,850
Grove	Outreach hub - Furnishing outreach space	£1,850

Worshipping Community	Project	Recommended Grant
	- A grant for a related project was awarded in 2023	
St Mary Acton	Developing Lay Leadership in Ealing	£1,850
St Martin West Acton	Top up Grant for New church noticeboard (£972 rec'd 2023)	£888
St Dunstan East Acton	4TL - youth group resources	£1,850
St Thomas Hanwell	Youth Work resources	£1,850
St Mellitus with St Mark Hanwell	St Mellitus rear garden	£1,850
St Mary and St Richard Northolt	Evangelism on Racecourse Estate	£1,850
Holy Trinity Southall	Portable PA for services	£1,850
Emmanuel Southall	Living Waters Café	£1,850
	Total	£23,088

The available monies for the grants comprise £22,000 from Pathways and another £1,088 from the Synod's own funds.

Synod approved in block grants of the agreed sums for the projects listed.

Update on Mission Criteria

There are two issues relating to the Mission Criteria which the Standing Committee has raised with Pathways:

- the maximum grant which can normally be awarded is £2,000 which has been set at this amount for at least 15 years;
- the deadline for mission bids is 30 April which is an inconvenient timing as it is often soon after Easter and the Easter school holidays.

The Standing Committee is pleased to report that:

- The maximum grant for which an application can now be made has been increased to £3,000
- The deadline for mission bids is now 15 May

However, the deadline for evaluation forms will remain 30 April and we would strongly encourage grant recipients to submit their completed evaluation forms as soon as possible.

Next meeting

Wednesday 12 November 2024 7pm arrival time for 7.30pm meeting start

- at Oak Tree Anglican Fellowship www.oaktree.org.uk
- Main focus: Project Adder

Prayer and Finish

The Area Dean closed in prayer at 8.42pm