

Parish council Minutes Dec 1, 2025

Meeting started at 7:08PM

Present: Larry Anthony, Allen Doerksen, Dave Conway, Judith Armstrong, Evelyn Savage, Gerianne Knowles-Robson, Jackie Prowse (minutes)

Guest: Lisa Alexander (observer)

Regrets: Mark Laidlaw, Marcus Schlag

Check in and opening prayer.

Review of Oct minutes and business arising.

(there was no November meeting)

- Allen met with Paul (website). Analytics will be recirculated to Council .
- Newcomers' book not yet in place; can sign up to get more information.
- Suggestions:
 - put a QR code to email parish (office?) on leaflet, website and in newcomers' book
 - ushers and people who chat with newcomers (use pew card to) record info (and give to office with clear requested actions)

Minutes adopted.

St Matthias Update:

Judith and Larry met with St Matthias wardens to clarify the parishes' relationship in the event of a move. Email summary circulated to parish. There will be another meeting between wardens this week (early December).

Allen suggested a draft proposal for discussion, to clarify expectations. Council members to send thoughts on processes to wardens. Depreciation reports for both churches/properties are in the works.

Rector's report

Book study (Saved from Sacrifice) has had remarkable involvement and input. Not easy but rewarding.

Larry – challenging read but good discussions. Also need to offer things that are less cerebral to cater to various interests within church.

Letter of resignation from Judith Slimmon.

Two of Judith's points were discussed: changes to children's play area at the back of the church, and lack of input asked from Council for decision making. AD has been trying to contact JS for discussion.

1) Many agreed that the play area should be preserved for the children so that they enjoy church and are allowed to play.

2) How council makes decisions – Canons give the structure but not basis of how decisions are made in the parish. Canons place legal responsibility on priest and wardens. Intent is to discuss but perhaps practice misses sometimes. With just 10 - 11 meetings per year, can decisions be discussed and decided mutually every time? Some sense that discussions are fewer compared to three years ago. Eg Sunday school changes not discussed. If no input into decisions, then why sit on council?

Vestry/AGM set for Feb 24 Tuesday

New Parish Council members needed including Rector's warden (Larry finishes his term after 11 years on Parish Council). Larry and Judith are looking for new members and trying to find diversity e.g. ages, male, female etc. Meetings will be Monday nights at 7 PM.

St Philip congregation invited to St Matthias' carol service in Dec; ST P music group will play three songs with 7-9 members.

Closed at 9:20 pm

Next meeting: Monday 26 January.