



Thames North Synod Resources Committee

Paper G
19 October 2024

Since the last report to Synod in March 2024 the Resources Committee has continued to hold regular meetings by Zoom. The meetings held in the last seven months have maintained the Committee's work to:

- Support churches with maintenance of their properties, legal advice and administering applications for various Grants & Loans
- Review and management of the Synod's property portfolio
- Support Programme Staff and Officers and oversee their workload for:
 - Major Building projects
 - Property Sales – Including a number of closed churches
 - Planning Matters
 - Leases
- We have liaised with the other Synod Committees, particularly Discipleship Steering Group, to ensure that Grant and Loan applications and other projects receive sufficient advice and guidance during their planning and through to delivery.
- Working alongside the Synod Accountant and Finance Team to monitor the Synod's accounts and budgets
- Working closely with Thames North Trust on the legal aspects of church projects, compliance and governance.

Ministry and Mission Fund Despite the financial difficulties which many churches are currently experiencing, the overwhelming majority of congregations have maintained their contributions to the Ministry and Mission fund, sufficient for us to anticipate that we will meet our Synod 2024 target with Church House. We acknowledge with grateful thanks our congregations' commitment to the denomination and its ministry.

Synod Eco Fund

Grants from The Thames North Synod Eco Fund are beginning to flow in, and we have around 9 projects at various stages of development. The Eco Fund will continue into 2025 and is included within the Synod budget. The Resources Committee reminds churches to contact the Synod Property Team (David Skipp & Sacha McArdle) if they are keen to explore the possibility of applying for some of this funding. A prerequisite is for churches to have signed up to Eco Church before approaching Synod for help with funding.

Annual Church Administrators, Secretaries and Treasurers Conference

We are planning to hold our next conference early in 2025. Further details will be provided via the Synod Newsletter.

David Skipp October 2024