

**The Annual General Meeting for
The Church Association for Sudan and South Sudan** (reg charity no 1180881)
**was held on Saturday 14 June 2025 at 12.00
at St Andrew's, Church Waterloo, London**

Present: There were 19 attendees in person and 7 on the zoom link.

The Chairman opened the meeting with prayer

1. Welcome and Apologies – Ian Wallace (chairman) welcomed the attendees both in the room and on ZOOM.

2. Minutes of 2024 AGM – There were no amendments to the minutes so the chairman asked that they be accepted as a record of the AGM. They were proposed by Wendy Fry and seconded by Andrew Persson and agreed unanimously.

3. Matters Arising – There were no matters arising

4. Chairman's Report – The chairman, The Reverend Ian Wallace, gave the following report on CASSS. He said that this year has been a bad year and a good year for the Sudans and for CASSS. It has been a bad year because of the devastation and destruction in Sudan where the fighting is still continuing especially in the Darfur and Kordofan regions. There is a fear that the country could fragment into different regions. It would seem that the two main parties do not want to come together to compromise and make an agreement. This is having awful consequences for the people of Sudan. The situation in Sudan obviously has implications for South Sudan. There is no oil revenue for S Sudan and as this is the main income for the government it means that salaries are not paid and the rate of inflation continues to increase. The situation in S Sudan is also very unstable with attacks on government institutions. More than ever there is need to pray for Sudan and S Sudan.

BUT it has, in many ways, been a good year for CASSS. For the first time CASSS has made an appeal and has had a very good response to it. The appeal was in response to Archbishop Ezekiel's survival budget for the ECS. We with other donors were able to fully fund the ECS budget. The church in Sudan has been operating in a remarkable way and is a beacon of hope in the darkness. It is one of the few civil society organisations that is still functioning in Sudan. Archbishop Ezekiel has given exemplary leadership during this crisis and has visited church centres to encourage the people. He also has been back into Khartoum and seen for himself the destruction of church property.

John Poole has provided support for Archbishop Ezekiel and has convened the Round Table conference made up of agencies that work in Sudan. It has been difficult to get money into Sudan as none of the banks would transfer money but John Poole has found a way of getting money to Sudan through Stone X and this is now being used by other agencies.

CASSS has also supported the ECSS, not only through the funding of their capital project, the guest house, but also the annual grant to the Province. CASSS is still supporting 2 scholarships from Shokai and also CASSS is helping to train MU workers in Cairo.

The review and newsletters keep people informed throughout the year.

The chairman ended by assuring people that CASSS is in good health with a good set of trustees.

5. Financial Report and Presentation of Accounts for year ending December 2024 – The treasurer Mr John Poole presented the accounts which have been circulated to the attendees and which are on the internet. Before voting to accept them, he made the following comments. The accounts are in a very healthy state and this is partly due to the number of legacies that we have received. He said that over the last 3 years they had averaged out to around £30,000 to 35,000 a year. CASSS has looked to invest money in Sudan and S Sudan to help them towards being self-sufficient. Unfortunately the guest house in Khartoum, that was bringing in an income has been trashed by the RSF. CASSS has been supporting Archbishop Ezekiel's relief fund. He was pleased how many CASSS members and other rose to the challenge of giving to the Appeal. This appeal is still on going and even this week he has received £6,000. He also mentioned StoneX which has already been referred to by the chair. He said that CASSS has been a channel for other supporters to send money to Sudan and this has been a valuable service that CASSS could provide. The chair thanked John Poole and Wendy Fry for all that they do and asked the CASSS members to accept the accounts for 2024. They were proposed by Elizabeth Newport and by seconded Mary Brooke and agreed unanimously.

6. Appointment of an Independent Examiner – The treasurer Mr John Poole said that John Inglis Jones had agreed to be the independent examiner for CASSS for the next year. His appointment was agreed unanimously.

7. Election of Board Members – re-election of The Venerable Michael Wilkes and Mr John Poole to CASSS board of trustees. As these two people are already trustees the chairman proposed that they were taken together and they were proposed by Pauline walker and seconded by Joanna Hunt and agreed unanimously

8. Date of CASSS AGM 2026 – It was agreed to continue with the AGM's on a Saturday and the date of 20 June 2026 was agreed for the secretary to book.

9. Any Other Business – The chairman noted 2 things firstly that the membership is getting smaller. Secondly that the trustees are doing a strategic review of the way forward for CASSS.