

Meeting	Community Development Committee
Date	28 th November 2025
Report Title	Christmas Parcel Scheme 2025
Agenda Reference	Agenda Item 13
Author	Jackie Fawcett, Community & Office Administrator

Officers' recommendation

1. To note the report.
2. To purchase large paper bags for parcels.
3. To note volunteers are needed for packing the parcels on 13th December 2025 (AM) and for delivering the parcels on 13th December 2025 (PM).

Christmas Parcels 2025

The Christmas Parcel scheme is open to anyone aged 70 years and over who lives alone in the parish of Haydon Wick. We have currently received 142 applications (114 paper applications and 28 online). The deadline for applications is 10 December 2025.

Budget

A budget of £1,000.00 is available for this initiative. In previous years, sponsorships have helped to extend this budget, with additional support from Community Choices virement where necessary. To date, we have received the following donations despite sending emails and letters to numerous organisations, with JF also visiting local businesses in person:

Company	Donation
Farm Foods	£10 Voucher
Asda	£40 of goods
Juniper Stores	Goods at the value of £60
Greenmeadow Stores	£50 cash
RCCG Church	Bags; soup / biscuits / jam / corned beef
Rialtas	Provide a selection of items
Local resident	Will provide our 2 x Gluten free parcels

Awaiting a response from:

Aldi – re: Mince Pies; Tesco Express; Lidl; Morrisons; Peach Estate Agents; Sea Scouts; Swindon food collective; Bookers; NB Foods; Holland and Barrett; Cross Street Garage; Capelli Hairdressers; Perfection Hairdressers; The Cut; Tru Delights.

St Johns church is unable to support this year but could help with deliveries if required.

Timeline

02/12/2025	Update to Community Development Committee
07/12/2025	Closing date for applications
W/C 08/12/2025	RCCG separate packing date (if applicable)
13/12/2025 - 9.30 - 11.30am	Packing
13/12/2025 - 11.30am - 1.30pm	Delivery
16/12/2025	Press release
19/12/2026	Collate feedback

Proposed content for 2025 Christmas parcels

Price comparisons have been made between most major supermarket retailers to ensure best value. Items highlighted may be donated by local sponsors. If these donations are not secured, we may need to omit certain items from the parcels, as our current budget allows for approximately £8 per parcel.

Product	Supplier	Price
Teabags 80 (Tetley)	Farm Foods	0.99
Coffee	Farm Foods	1.99
Sugar	Morrisons	0.89
Shower Gel	Aldi (x142 can be purchased with £50 donation from G/Stores)	0.35
Washing Up liquid	Aldi	0.62
Cream Crackers	Aldi	0.49
Individual Christmas Pudding	Aldi	0.89
Packet Instant Custard	Asda (50% still to purchase 40p)	0.20
Mince Pies	Aldi	1.25
Confectionary	Chocolate Orange segments / eclairs	0.99
Porridge Pot*	Lidl	0.39
Instant cup a soup	RCCG	0.00
Sweet Biscuits	RCCG	0.00
Jam	RCCG	0.00
Corned Beef	RCCG	0.00
Semi Skimmed Milk	Aldi	0.69
Tinned Peaches / Rice Pudding	TBC	0.45
	Total price per parcel:	10.19

*** We could exchange this for tinned potatoes / baked beans?**

Printed Paper Bags

To maximise our budget, we will reuse the arrangement from last year by using bags provided by the RCCG, adding our own sticker to personalise them for the scheme.

Personal Homemade Gift

Our Craft and Connect group has kindly made approximately 120 handmade Christmas tree decorations. Staff volunteers will create the remaining gifts needed to ensure every recipient receives this personal touch.

Volunteers

Current list of volunteers / we will need more helpers for the deliveries.

Packing	Deliveries
Jackie Fawcett	Jackie Fawcett
Leigh Jackson	Liz Matthews
Steve Hayes	Leigh Jackson
Rebecca Ross	Rebecca Ross
Leanne Stevenson	Leanne Stevenson
Jacqueline Ireland	George Morgan-Denn
Julie McMorrow	Zara + Lynne (Volunteers)
Amanda Smith (Volunteer)	
Lynne Young (Volunteer)	
Rachel + 1 (Volunteers)	
Zara + Lynne (Volunteers)	

**Printed paper bags**

Due to costings we are going to insert our items in to the bags used by the RCCG again this year and incorporating our own sticker as we did last year.

Personal homemade gift

Our Craft and Connect group created around 120 Christmas tree gifts. Staff will create the shortfall.

Volunteers

Current list of volunteers: