

Goring URC Church Meeting

Saturday 30th March 2019

Chair. Revd. Andrew Sellwood.

Devotions. Rosina Bayley

24 members present.

5 apologies received.

Minutes of previous meeting agreed and signed by rev Andrew Sellwood.

Matters Arising:

27 People from both Goring and Sompting are attending the Monday Lent group. Andrew reported on the review day he held for Sompting and from this there are plans to hold a mid-week evening service and also a joint praise evening with SCC*. These are likely to start in May. **Sompting Community Church.*

Andrew Sellwood is talking to the Mission Enabler Martin Hayward and also Andy Twilley regarding a possible joint study day for Goring and Sompting.

Eileen Rhodes gave a report on the World Day of Prayer, which was held in Goring URC thanking all those who helped to make this a success. The service this year was written by the women of Slovenia and was titled 'Come; everything is ready'. The service next year will be held at St Richards Church.

Thanks were given to Val Gill for preparing the display. Thanks also given to Susie Thomas who has agreed to be involved in the WDoP with Eileen.

Elders services. Thanks were offered to the Elders for putting together the service for March and also Aril 7th using preparatory notes from Andrew. The idea was for Goring and Sompting to be using the same material.

Pastoral report. Hilary Redman. The meeting shared news of the fellowship and upheld in prayer all those with special needs at this time.

Gratitude was expressed for the anonymous gift of a floral arrangement which was on display in the church. This was given in appreciation from someone who had recently visited the Church.

The meeting stood in remembrance of Betty Razzell who passed away on 27th March. Her funeral takes place on 10th April 2pm and the family have invited Church friends to attend both the service and the wake.

Rosemary Terry has volunteered to take over the role of Synod rep from Hilary Redman, thanks were given.

Agenda items.

Andrew's time. Andrew Sellwood reiterated what has already been said about the Lent groups.

Peggy Mott raised the need for a fire drill. (This was addressed later in the meeting).

Bet Swierk gave an update on Housekeeping. The cleaners attend on Monday mornings and Thursday afternoons and a good working relationship is had with Gemma who runs the cleaning company.

If anyone has any issues regarding church cleaning please raise these with either Valerie Cooper, Bett Swierk or Wilma Smith.

Church members were also reminded of the need to clearly label items placed in the church fridge and freezer. Wilma Smith will check the fridge and freezer after party bookings.

The Christian Aid service will take place on 1st. May at Grafton Road Church, Worthing.

On Saturday 18th May there will be a Christian Aid fish and chip supper with a quiz. £4:20 for fish and chips plus £5:00 for the quiz. Anyone interested can put their name down on the list at the back of the church. Val Gill will be running the quiz for this event.

Group Reports

Administration. The first meeting was held between Andrew Sellwood, Ryan Thomas and Matthew Smith who form the Admin section of the Eldership. This then frees up other Elders to address spiritual and pastoral matters.

The Admin team address all the legal and technical issues which the church is required to fulfil. The Elders are trustees of the church and are responsible for ensuring the church meets all that is required.

The admin team will meet once a quarter and report back key issues to the regular Elders meeting.

Elders Election. This will start at the end of April. Details will be in Welcome throughout May.

A proposal was put to the church by Matthew Smith to begin a process of daily reading the Word of God. This will take place every day in the church starting from 10th June. 2 people at a time will take turns to read aloud from the Bible at an appointed time. This venture is inspired by 2 Kings 22. It will be a time of reading and reflection and will be advertised locally. It was suggested that a notice board will also be placed outside the church to inform passers-by.

Church members and friends will be invited to put their names down on the list at the back of the church.

The Church meeting agreed in principle to try this venture which will be reviewed by the Elders as it progresses. It was also suggested a board be placed in the church where people can write their own reflections or questions which can then be used to inform Andrew's future teaching.

Finance. Matthew Smith.

Munro Wightman has completed his examination of the church accounts. Matthew presented these to the meeting and a copy will be placed in the church meeting folder.

Hall lettings continue to rise.

Overall church giving has decreased by around £6,000. Letters regarding giving will be sent to all Church members.

The 'Spiritual' branch of the Eldership will be looking at how the Church can reach out and bring in new members, closely working with the outreach group.

The church accounts were approved unanimously by the Church Meeting.

Munro was thanked for his input

The next gift day will be June 9th with a target of £8,000.

Hall letting updates on My Sister's House. This organisation has booked the Cornwall room from 10am-3pm from Thursday 24th April and will also be using the

Sanctuary from 13:30 -14:15. A “Do not Enter’ sign will be in place during this time.

Goring Ilex Women’s Guild have booked rooms from 14:00 -16:00 hours once a month.

There is a Worthing Voices concert in the church on 6th April at 19:00 hours.

Property. Bett Swierk (on behalf of Ryan Thomas) Bett has joined the property committee along with Ray Knight. Various individual tasks will be opened to church members on an ad hoc basis. A list for volunteer will be at the back of the church. The church computer is now up and running. The Quinquennial report has been received and is being reviewed.

The new Ark tables have been purchased.

Other minor jobs have been completed and Ryan can provide details if anyone wishes.

Bett gave an overview of the property committee which consists of Paul Redman, Stuart Newell, Ryan Thomas, Alan Cooper, Ray Knight and Bett herself, they would welcome any new members.

The need for a fire drill is being addressed by the property committee. Bett will work with Stuart to organise this.

Outreach. Val Gill announced 75 tickets have been sold for the Barn Dance which takes place on Saturday 30th March. This will be held in the church Sanctuary.

Meal nights out are being arranged for both the ‘ladies’ and ‘gentleman’ of the church.

There are also plans to arrange a skittles evening sometime in September and also a possible coach trip at the end of May.

World Church and Mission. Bobby Hitchin. Information is available at the back of the church regarding the various groups supported by the church. Any monies donated to Leprosy Mission is matched by the government.

Additional Items. Giles Wilson and Andrew Sellwood attended the Synod Together meeting, Giles gave a report on this meeting which will be added to the minutes folder.

Andrew added information regarding loans and grants available from Synod, there is a considerable fund that has been made available for building and mission projects. Also, Synod are now using more outside agencies as consultants such as the London Institute of Contemporary Christianity.

Andrew now has his terms of Settlement.

Notices and Correspondence. Details can be found at the back of church and in Welcome.

Any contributions to Welcome need to reach Graham and Hilary as soon as possible in order to keep the website and church diary updated.

AOB. Vic Joy requested church members shop at Waitrose as Kestro are possible beneficiaries of the Green token money. Further information will go in Welcome.

Next Meeting 30th May a 19:30.

The meeting closed with the sharing of the Grace

