

Goring URC Church meeting 31st May 2018.

14 members present.

8 apologies received

Devotions led by Revd Andrew Sellwood.

Previous meeting minutes signed as correct.

Matters arising.

1. **Time for God.** As we are unable to host a volunteer this year and following discussion at the Elders meeting regrettably no request will be made. Hilary Redman has informed the relevant people at TFG.
2. **The Ark.** Hilary Redman. reported on the rise and fall of numbers attending. This averages at around 10-11 children each week since January. The meeting agreed to the Ark continuing and reviewed again in September.
3. **Samaritans purse/shoeboxes.** Now Bett Swierk has stepped down from this role, Carole Culliss has taken over and will be collecting donations.
4. **Little Fishes storage.** Paul Redman read a report from the property committee. This report will be included in the minutes folder.

Eloise (LF manager) is obtaining quotes for the Little Fishes work which will be completed during the summer school holidays. The meeting discussed the time frame required to empty the existing cupboards. Geoffrey Redman will oversee the moving of the sheet music and will decide what is to be kept. Twins/triplets group and KESTRO will also require storage space.

The meeting discussed various factors including the disposal of items stored that are no longer used.

On the understanding there will be storage for music (in the space where tables are now stored) the meeting agreed unanimously for the work to go ahead. 14 members voted for and 0 objections.

Existing cupboard users are to be reassured their storage needs will be catered for.

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

Agenda items.

Elders Election. A brief update was given. 1 nomination has been put forward. The nomination will be taken to the next Elders meeting.

Church Secretary - Valerie Cooper is standing down. As yet no one has put their name forward. The Elders have discussed this situation and it has been decided the role will have to be split into different parts. It was acknowledged this could lead to problems with communication. As a church we are struggling to see how best to move forward with this. The URC requires us to have a contact person. Andrew reported that Sompting do not have a Church Secretary but have appointed a Senior Elder and an administrator who serves as the contact person.

In 2020 we have to register independently as a charity and will need a secretary for this process. We have 18 months to plan and prepare.

Andrew's time.

Andrew recently attended the Ministers conference in Staffordshire and reported this was a real blessing. 340 URC ministers attended.

Walking the Way. The programme has now started and Andrew has printed out a leaflet with all the dates. We will be looking at Holy Habits.

At Andrews invitation Revd. Jenny Morgan gave an update on the Worthing Cluster of Churches. The Revd Naison Hove has been called by Littlehampton United Church, St Andrew's and Emmanuel. The induction service takes place on Saturday 18th August and will be held at Littlehampton United Church.

The meeting was asked to pray for the new minister, Andrew and the future of the Cluster.

Group Reports.

Finance. Matthew Smith. Updated gift day. This achieved £2,355, slightly less than last year.

Hall hire. Following on from the previous meeting the necessary agreements have been received and the policy document will be revised to suit the needs of the local church. The Elders meeting will continue with this process.

Property Paul Redman provided a report on the car park wall costings and updated the meeting about completed works. This report will be included in the minute folder.

The Quinquennial survey has taken place and the URC architect has arranged to meet with Grahame Redman after Church on Sunday.

GDPR Graham Redman. The privacy statement is available in the church vestibule with copies to take away. Graham advised the meeting he is required to inform the members and friends of the changes to data protection.

As membership records are sent to Head Office, along with details in the handbook, this is not something we can avoid, all members have been asked to provide their written consent. We also use data for fund raising and promoting interest in the Church. The meeting thanked Graham for all his hard work in this process.

Defibrillator. Val Gill has ensured this is registered.

Outreach. No report.

World Church and Mission. Bett Swierk. Christian aid week raised £172 in donations with £64.50 from coffee and marmalade. The local Christian Aid service was held in Goring URC.

Notices and Correspondence. Nothing received.

AOB. A bring and share lunch is proposed on 22nd July to say goodbye to Marielle. There will be a group photograph taken that day.

Next meeting **Saturday 28th July at 10:00.** This will include the Elders election.

The meeting ended with the sharing of the Grace.