

Goring URC Church Meeting 26th September 2019

Chair: Rev Andrew Sellwood Devotions: Chris Howie
18 members present
7 apologies received

Minutes of previous meeting held on 25th July agreed and signed by Rev Andrew Sellwood. **Matters arising and recent happenings.**

Skittles evening at The Spur in Slindon was a great success.

The Harvest lunch was attended by 45 members. Thanks, were given to Valerie, Bett, Denise and all the helpers.

Bible study will take place on the First Sunday of the month instead of the usual evening service. This will be reviewed after three months.

Andrew's slot

The first Praise evening at Sompting URC in conjunction with Sompting Community Church went well and another is arranged for Thursday 31st October at 7:30 pm. All are invited. Margaret Gardener has requested to become a member of Goring URC. The meeting voted unanimously in favour of this.

Pastoral report. Hilary Redman.

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

The meeting stood in silence and prayer for Brian Mitten who passed away on 20th September and also Peter Stewart, (Bible Society), who passed away on 3rd September.

The passing of others known to the fellowship was also acknowledged .

Hilary also informed the meeting that the 8:00am. service is no longer taking place.

Hilary read correspondence received from :

Rev Jenny Morgan, who sent thanks for the past two years of worshipping at Goring URC and to offer her resignation as a member now she and her husband have moved away. Emma and Scott Winterford, with news of baby Theo and sending thanks for Prayer and support.

Agenda Items

Elders Election. Val Gill was welcomed as a newly elected Elder.

Rosina Bayley and Chris Howie have been elected for a further year. The service of ordination and induction will take place on Sunday October 6th.

Rev Andrew Sellwood was congratulated on his 25th Anniversary of Ordination. The church will celebrate this more fully on Sunday 6th October.

Bett Swierk advised she will be organising a Fire drill for the church.

Housekeeping Queries. Valerie Cooper has spoken with the manager of the cleaning company and cleaning should take place on Monday, Thursday and Friday lunchtimes.

Bible Reading Review. Most days are covered although some days there is only one reader. Two people are required in order to have the front doors open to invite people in to listen. Please can we encourage others to sign up for this.

Non- food harvest gifts were collected by the Food Bank last Tuesday with their thanks. Food gifts will be taken to Asda collection on Saturday 5th October by Valerie Cooper. The meeting thanked Valerie for her work in this area.

Group Reports.

Finance. Matthew Smith. The finance group had not met since the July church meeting, but Matthew reported on church letting. The Cornwall room is booked by a Polish group on Mondays from 10-11am.

36 young people from a Dutch college are using the Sanctuary from 15-17th October from 8:00 - 8:30 for prayer.

Property. Graham Redman (on behalf of Ryan Thomas)

Missing letters from the outside sign to be replaced.

As reported earlier in the meeting, Bett is to organise a fire drill.

Work on the Transepts is delayed as there are other large jobs to be done first. Estimates are being obtained for replacing windows in Transepts, as well as wall insulation and drainage. It is anticipated around £30-£40 K will be needed to fund these works.

Church Projector. This has now become too dull and lacking in colour. It was decided by the property committee that due to cost and simplicity a replacement projector should be purchased instead of T.V screens. The meeting debated the pros and cons of both options including the need to address this quickly and also to have a system that is fit for purpose.

Cost of new projector with blinds for the back of the Church is on a par with two T.V. screens, this being around £3,000.

The meeting agreed to look into hiring a projector in the first instance. This will be reviewed at the next church meeting.

As there is currently no convener of the property group Graham Redman has agreed to step in and the meeting gave their thanks to Graham.

Outreach. Val Gill.

The church coach outing was cancelled due to lack of interest. It was suggested a future venture should be a 'Buy one Get one free' with every paying person bringing a friend along for free.

The skittles night was a success and a further evening will be arranged. Due to limited numbers this will be on a first come first served basis.

The Outreach group will meet again on 17th October if anyone has any suggestions. Val Gill is planning the Christmas Eve service.

World Church and Mission. Bett Swierk. Bett informed the meeting of the passing of Dr Jenny Gibson who was a great support of Christian Aid and a member of Bury Drive Methodist Church. She lived simply so others could simply live.

Administration. Andrew Sellwood. Martin Haywood, Mission Officer will be offering training and support to prepare for the mission field in respect of the planned housing development near the Church. Andy Twilley, training officer, will meet with the Elders first. This will look at a possible role for the Church as a centre for the newly developing community.

Matthew Smith then spoke about the Church taking advantage of Synod funds to finance the work needed to prepare the church for future mission.

As Ryan Thomas has now stepped down from the Fabric committee Graham Redman was asked to join the Administration group to work towards a cohesive plan between the Administration and Property groups. Graham has agreed to this.

Andrew Sellwood went on to say that money is readily available from Synod to fund Outreach but that a robust business plan will need to be in place before applying for this. **Notices and Correspondence.**

Bible Sunday will now take place on 23rd February 2020.

No other business was received.

The meeting closed with the sharing of the Grace. Next meeting Saturday 30th November at 10am.