

MINUTES OF CHURCH MEETING 24TH NOVEMBER 2018.

Chaired by Revd. Andrew Sellwood.
Devotions lead by Matthew Smith.
6 apologies received.
23 members present.

Minutes of previous meeting approved and signed as accurate by Andrew Sellwood.
Matters arising. The Church meeting will take place on Saturday mornings throughout winter and it was suggested this changes back to Thursday evenings once the clocks go forward in March.

Pastoral report. Hilary Redman.

The meeting stood in remembrance of Eric Bond and also remembered Joan Jacks.
The meeting shared news of the fellowship and upheld in prayer those with special needs at this time.

Andrew advised the meeting that the names of 3 potential new church members had been brought to the attention of the Elders. Valerie Berry, Ray Knight and Alan Paterson their membership was agreed unanimously by the church meeting.
They will be received into membership during a suitable morning service.

AGENDA ITEMS

Andrew's Time. Andrew reminded everyone of the Bring and Share lunch followed by a time of Advent preparation on Sunday 2nd December.

Andrew is looking to present a study course in the New Year. There are 2 options to complete the Walking the Way course, or to use material from the Bible Society.

Heating. Vic Joy raised concerns about the Church heating. Matthew Smith advised he is trying to get this sorted and that there have been some problems with the programming technology. The engineer who installed the heating is due to come and check this. Please can Matthew be contacted regarding any further heating problems as he can reset using the App.

Samaritans purse. Carole Culliss. 43 boxes were sent this year as well as £172 towards travel costs. The Church Meeting agreed they were happy for Carole to continue this next year and thanked her for her hard work. Collections for shoe boxes will start again at the end of January.

Christmas Dates.

9th December. Bible Society presentation.
20th December. Carols by candlelight.
23rd December. Service led by the Elders.
24th December at 5pm. Nativity service.
25th December. Christmas morning service.

GROUP REPORTS.

Finance. Matthew reported that the 2018 budget update shows that we are broadly on track to break even this year despite exceptional spend totalling £7,663.

He then presented the 2019 budget (attached) which was accepted by the meeting. Expenditure reduction in MoM by £420, and the absence of a "Time for God" provision results in a reduced "balancing" Gift Day figure of £2,219 - although the Gift Day target will remain at £8,000.

An exercise is under way to revisit our insurance cover.

Hall Lettings news is that the Indian group meeting on Saturday nights is to move to a weekly booking (from fortnightly). The group understand that we may need to cancel some bookings on the basis of Church need but that we will need to give as much notice as possible - so Wilma needs to be advised of planned events at the earliest opportunity.

Valerie Cooper and Bett Swierk have offered to take over "housekeeping" responsibilities in January and will also be responsible for monitoring cleaning standards - Matthew thanked them for this offer.

Reporting from the Little Fishes committee Matthew said there are teething problems with the new dividers in the Harris Room area. Property Group are working on these and any issues need to be channelled through them/Elders and not Little Fishes. While doing outstanding work with a large proportion of special needs children in their care, amid some very challenging situations, Little Fishes need to focus all their efforts in that direction and need our support, not criticism.

Matthew asked for someone to come alongside him to learn the week to week Treasurer responsibilities. 2 local churches have lost their treasurer suddenly in recent times, causing the Churches concerned significant difficulties. We need to ensure we have contingency arrangements in place to protect the Church against such an event. Matthew aims to continue as Treasurer for a further 5 years, so we are not looking for a replacement Treasurer just yet but need to know that contingency arrangements can be brought to bear in such an emergency, thereafter the Church would need to look for a longer term solution.

PROPERTY.

Susie Thomas read the report on behalf of Ryan.

Gas leak in Sanctuary has now been repaired. Boiler and heaters have all passed their annual safety inspections.

As previously mentioned by Matthew, the heating control installer is visiting to investigate the on-going problems.

Little fishes. As agreed in the March meeting, dividers have been installed between kitchen door and Harris Room as the latter is now for sole use of Little fishes. The door to the main hall will be adjusted to allow for easier passage past the screen.

Any concerns speak directly to Property committee rather than contacting Eloise and Little Fishes staff.

Work completed since last meeting. There have been a lot of minor jobs worked on or completed since the last meeting. Ryan can provide a list of these if anyone is interested.

OUTREACH.

Successful Beetle drive on 10th which was enjoyed by all who attended.

Plans for a Barn Dance in January are in process.

Men's Christmas meal planned for Monday 17th December.
WORLD CHURCH and MISSION. No report.

Giles Wilson was thanked for attending the Synod Together meeting at Caterham school.
Please request a copy of the written report if required.

NOTICES and CORRESPONDANCE. Details can be found at the back of the church.

AOB. Margaret Butcher reported the Bible Society concert raised £663.33 for refugees in Jordan. Thanks were given to all those who helped make this event a success.

Date of next meeting. Saturday 26th January at 10am

The meeting closed with the sharing of the Grace.