

## Church Meeting

24<sup>th</sup> July 2021

Chair. Revd Andrew Sellwood

Devotions led by Caroline Hibbs.

Present 30 members and adherents

Apologies 5.

Covid 19 restrictions meant there were no minutes to be signed from the previous church meeting due to the time lapsed.

### Elders' election.

Andrew thanked the Elders for all their hard work during Covid lockdown.

The following Elders have now stepped down.

Matthew, Wilfred, Chris, Rosina, and Bobby. Thanks were given on behalf of the meeting.

Caroline and Ryan were standing for another term and Val Gill was continuing.

Matthew Smith and Bett Swierk were appointed by the meeting to act as Tellers.

Andrew explained the voting process and emphasised it was open to church members only.

All six nominated Elders were appointed by the Church meeting.

Andrew led the meeting in a prayer for those newly appointed.

Mary Redman.

Ryan Thomas

Caroline Hibbs

Valerie Cooper

Val Berry

Rosemary Terry

The meeting also ratified the decision of the Elders to appoint Val Gill as Church Secretary with a unanimous vote.

### Lay Preacher Assessment Service

Andrew advised the meeting that Tom Hackett, CYDO (Children and young people's development officer), will be taking the service on Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> July and will be assessed to be a Synod accredited Lay Preacher.

### Pastoral Report.

The Elders and Pastoral visitors have been aware of and responded to the needs of the congregation during Lockdown.

Andrew led a time of prayer for Carol Culliss.

### Finance and property Management.

Matthew presented a report with a PowerPoint presentation prepared by Ryan.

This covered the Church accounts for 2019 and 2020. These were ratified by the Church meeting.

2021 budget was presented. A Gift Aid Day is proposed for Harvest service on 26<sup>th</sup> September with a target of £8,000

## Property

Firstly, thanks were offered to Ryan and all the team for the excellent AV system set up during Covid which allowed us to continue to hear the Word each week.

The necessary expenditure on various I.T. items as detailed by Matthew and approved by the Elders, was ratified by the church members.

Flat roof repairs. Were approved by the Elders due to necessity of getting work completed. Expenditure was ratified by the Church Meeting.

Vestry toilet expenditure. Ratified by meeting.

Little Fishes have requested to extend their playground this was discussed, and the rationale given. Children are now to be offered Free Flow and have access to indoor and outdoor activities at all times with the safety and security being a priority.

The meeting was asked to agree this in principle in order to obtain further proposals and costings. Agreement In principle ratified by the Church meeting.

Little Fishes have also requested to erect an electric awning to help protect the children from the sun. The Elders have given their agreement and with the exception of two abstentions this was carried by the church meeting.

Matthew informed the meeting he will be putting in a claim to Synod for the £2000 grant available each year for building maintenance.

## Manse

Following Andrew's manse report Synod have approved a new roof, but we are still awaiting a formal response.

Taps have been replaced. Kitchen worktops replaced. Back door lock to be replaced.

Property group to arrange further assessment of the bedroom window and re plastering of wall.

Items not covered by Synod will be paid for using the annual Manse grant.

Thanks were offered to the Finance and Property team for their hard work

## Hall Lettings

Hall hire is now being rolled out after Lockdown put a stop to this. Matthew and Wilma will need to carry out Risk Assessments for Lettings. Matthew has based his financial report for this year on the basis we can fully let the rooms by September.

Little Fishes 10-year lease has come to an end and will need to be re-negotiated by the Trustees.

The 3-year plan for the church was put on hold due to Covid restrictions and the potential financial implications of this had to be considered.

A new plan for 2022 will be created once we have a better understanding of the church's financial position. This plan will also require active member support to help both with minor property tasks and also to support emerging mission plans and activities.

The 'new' Eldership will be looking at Mission and Outreach initiatives which will be necessary if the church is to survive into the future.

We all have skills and abilities which we can offer to further the Kingdom here in Goring.

The key to success will be working together as a team.

Anyone with administrative or practical skills would be most welcome to join the Property group.

There was a brief question and answer time around various aspects of the PowerPoint presentation and report. Andrew thanked Ryan for putting together the power point presentation.

Matthew and Wilma were also thanked for their hard work both with finances and Hall letting and Management.

**Full details of this report and PowerPoint are included in the Church minutes folder.**

Notices and Correspondence. No Report

AOB. Val Gill spoke about Samaritans Purse shoe boxes which had been organised by Carol Culliss. It is decided the church will now work with Link Romania to provide shoe boxes for families and the elderly. Bett and Bobbie have agreed to take this on. The meeting agreed to would be good if we could start this year.

**Next meeting Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> September at 7:30 pm**

Andrew again thanked the outgoing Elders and encouraged the meeting to pray for the newly elected Elders.

The meeting ended with the sharing of the Grace