



Minutes of a Circuit Meeting
held on 9th December 2015 at
Poole Methodist Church

1. Welcome

Rev Tony Cavanagh, Superintendent Minister, welcomed all to the meeting.

2. Opening Devotions

Opening devotions were led by Barry Matthews.

3. Agree Membership

Membership agreed. Visitors were reminded they cannot vote.

4. Apologies

Apologies were noted from Chris Vernon, Danny Plews and Rev Betto Viana.

5. Letters of Greeting

The meeting requested that a letter be sent to Rev Donald Shaw offering condolences on the death of Glennie.

6. Minutes of the last Meeting

The Minutes from Circuit Meeting held on 8th September 2015 were agreed as an accurate record. Eileen Osgood (Wool) asked to be added to the email circulation list.

7. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising from the last minutes which will not be covered in the current agenda.

8. Good News Stories the churches

Wareham

Following on from a short video shown at the last meeting, the meeting was advised that 434 shoeboxes had been packed and sent for distribution.

Trinity

Trinity have been successful in obtaining a grant to create a sensory room. The room has now been completed and the congregation are looking forward to making facility available to the community very soon.

Circuit

Deacon Suzie advised that the SleepSafe project started 30th November 2015. The first one at St George's was on 6th December. It was a very positive experience and was well received. Deacon Suzie thanked everyone for both the practical support and prayer support received

Lytchett Matravers

Clive Allen reported that Lytchett are still sharing worship with their Anglican friends. Both Anglican funerals and baptisms have taken place at Lytchett Matravers Methodist Church.

9. Presentation by Mrs Chris Stuckey

Chris Stuckey, District President of Methodist Women in Britain shared news of her role and of the £150,000 raised for numerous worthy charities and her 'theme' of Abundant Life.

10. Presentation regarding The Spire

Pete Smith, Andrew Creamer and Barry Matthews gave a presentation regarding the latest events relating to the redevelopment of The Spire, the future plans and the ethos behind the vision, which was based on the Methodist publication/initiative, Our Calling. They also gave an insight into the worship now being shared at The Spire and their work in creating partnerships with the local community.

11. Life of the Circuit

11.1 Staff News

- Jane Shipton-Ashwell shared news of Gay Francia's (Community Worker) resignation. Gay will leave on 8th January 2016 to pursue another role with a church in Southbourne. The Circuit expressed their thanks to Gay.
- Rev Tony Cavanagh reminded the meeting that the Circuit would have four Presbyters engaging in the re-invitation process this year - Rev Tony Cavanagh, Rev Chris Moreton, Rev Sue Gowling and Rev Mark Kimber. Conversations regarding these re-invitations will happen over the summer. Voting for any Presbyter wishing to be re-invited will occur at the September 2016 Circuit Meeting. As there could be a vote required for our Superintendent, the meeting will be chaired by Rev Dr Andrew Wood, Chair of District.
- Rev Sue and Colin Gowling moved to the York Road manse in October. There has been substantial work done on the bathroom and kitchen and some remedial work done to the roof and to damp-proof the property.

11.2 2016 Stationing

- Rev Nick Wood and his wife Suzannah, visited the Circuit on 14th November visit and met with the Invitation's Committee and Church Stewards in the east section. It has now been agreed that Nick will be joining the Circuit in September 2016 and will cover the Bournemouth churches
- Tony has been advised that we have been matched with a Probationer Deacon to also join us in September 2016. They will work in the central section, predominantly with The Spire. At present, we do not have a name of the Probationer Deacon. They will visit in January and will meet the Invitation Committee and Church Stewards from the central section.

11.3 Circuit Stewards' Report

- Di Baggs reported to the meeting that there had been a good meeting of Church Stewards on 30th September. She reminded all that she had asked for feedback by the end of October but had only received one email to date. She made a further please for feedback and items for the next agenda by the end of January.

11.4 Preachers Meeting Report

- The meeting was advised that Zoe Marriott has decided to step down from her Local Preacher's studies due to the recent birth of her daughter. Zoe was On Trial. The meeting asked for a letter to be sent to Zoe congratulating her on the birth.
- Mrs Angela Bartlett has been given a note to preach and is now On Note.
- Denis Dean and Les Smith are continuing On Trial.
- Mrs Fiona Key has stepped down as Circuit Local Preachers' Tutor.
- Mr Geoff Goodman has been appointed Circuit Local Preachers' Tutor.
- The meeting was saddened to hear of the deaths for Miss Audrey Powney and Mr John Mills.

11.5 Update regarding BCARS (Bournemouth Churches Alongside Rough Sleepers)

- Deacon Suzie reported that donations received from the five churches in Bournemouth and Circuit totalling £2,500, had been passed to BCARS to support their work.
- Ticket sales for the Vauxhall Make Voice Choir Concert, held at St George's on 24th October, plus donations collected on the night, totalled £1,500. BCARS have expressed their gratitude for the support.

12. Property

12.1 Springbourne Lease

- The meeting was advised that the Circuit Office staff were currently arranging a quote for a survey to be carried out in connection with obtaining an up to date commercial rent figure for the Walpole Road property. Once this has been received the meeting will need to decide whether they wish to continue to match the rent with a grant or not. It was agreed that this could be done by email.

12.2 Property Schedules

- A plea was made for all outstanding property schedules to be completed shortly. Help can be obtained from the Circuit Office, if required.

12.3 Request from Swanage

- Val Wells, Treasurer of Swanage, requested the Circuit's approval for repairs to be made to Swanage Methodist Church which is a Grade2 listed building. The repairs consist of replacement sash windows, repointing of rear wall, replace windows, re-slate flat roof and new front door. The cost is expected to be approximately £9,000. The meeting approved the request.

12.4 Property Expenditure Policy

- The meeting heard that in a bid to be able to respond to manse property issues in a timely manner and assist with a backlog of required repairs the Circuit Leadership Team (CLT) have drawn up a draft Property Expenditure Policy, laying out authorisation levels. The meeting was asked to adopt this policy. Steve Shipton-Ashwell proposed. Pete Smith seconded. The vote was carried unanimously.

13 Finance

13.1 CC8 Checklist

- The CC8 checklist which had been circulated prior to the meeting was agreed by the meeting. The meeting heard that although the Circuit Office was still working within the policies agreed by the old Bournemouth Circuit, the Poole Bay Circuit had yet to adopt its own. The Circuit Office would be gradually working through the CC8 checklist to review and update, as necessary, the old policies and present them to future Circuit Meetings for agreement.

13.2 Draft 2014/15 Accounts

- The meeting confirmed that the draft 2014/15 accounts, circulated prior to the meeting had been reviewed and were approved for despatch to the Auditors for a full audit.

13.3 Annual Report

- The annual report was not ready to be reviewed by the meeting. It was agreed that this would be circulated and agreed at the next meeting in March 2016

13.4 Risk Register

- The risk register was agreed. The meeting heard that although the

14. Any Other Business

Rev Dr Mark Kimber shared that he would be participating in the Great Escape at the end of January, an event being organised by Shine Cancer Support, an organisation that Mark is finding very helpful on his road to recovery. The event itself is free to participants but all are encouraged to seek sponsorship to aid Shine to put on further retreats. Tony suggested that each church consider if they could make a donation of £100. It was agreed that Circuit would donate £250. Any donations are to be forwarded to the Circuit Office by 10th January and they will be paid over in one transaction. For further information go to www.shinecancersupport.org/get-support/shine-events/the-great-escape

Date of Next Meeting

15th March 2016 – St George's, Boscombe