

CIRCUIT MEETING MINUTES
21st September 2017
BROADSTONE METHODIST CHURCH

The meeting started at 7:30pm

1. Welcome

2. Opening Devotions: were led by Rev Nick Wood

3. Agree Membership: The attendance list was circulated

4. Apologies for absence: Rev Chris Moreton, Jenny Hounsell, Val Wells, Richard Sheppard, Sue McCormick, David Howe & Rev Dr Mark Kimber

5. Letters of Greeting & Acknowledgement and Items for Prayer:

Family of Deacon Joan Stockley
Rev Dr Mark Kimber

6. Agreement of the minutes of the meeting held 13th June (already circulated) - Agreed

7. Matters Arising – Clarification of the second proposal of minute 10.4

Due to some misunderstanding of the interpretation of this proposal, it was necessary to clarify what the Trustees thought they were voting for at the last meeting regarding the timescale when the Poole Methodist Redevelopment would receive the estimated £156K levy for the sale of the Carbery Manse if the Methodist Council ruled in favour of the Poole Bay Circuit and confirmed it was not payable to Manchester.

Lengthy discussion, regarding this matter, took place and resulted in a new proposal being put to the meeting so all Trustees knew exactly what was being asked of them:

“If the Methodist Council decides that the levy can be retained by the Circuit, at that point, the Circuit advances £156K to Poole Methodist Redevelopment. Once the sale of the manse has gone through then an adjustment will be made so that the total amount donated matches up with the sale price less £50K.”

Proposed: Pete Smith Seconded: Andrew Creamer

The proposal was agreed.

8. News from Churches

Chris Snape told the meeting the Upton Pre-School now has 75 children attending. They were opening from 8:00am – 3:30pm.

9. Governance

9.1 Review and re-adoption of Circuit Safeguarding Policy

The document will be reviewed 11.09.2018
Bullet Point 21 should be in the Superintendents role

With these amendments the policy was accepted

10. Life of the Circuit

10.1 Staff news

Chris is still convalescing, recovering at home, following his recent illness. Tony and others are covering all necessary requirements in the Purbeck section

Mark is currently undertaking his Mt Kilimanjaro climb

10.2 Report from the Preachers' Meeting

Denis Dean updated the meeting on the recent LP/WL Meeting of 07.09.2017. Reports were given on Deacon Suzie Viana and Jack Keys. Jack has now returned to Cliff College where he will do a masters on completing his degree, so has ended his training with the circuit. Peter Cotgrove joins us as a Local Preacher although not currently taking appointments, Paul Thompson and Russell Elliott have resigned their roles as Local Preachers.

10.3 BCARS Update

A Mission report was circulated to the meeting covering the work Suzie is involved with; all areas are interlinked. She told the meeting of the hardship families have feeding their children through the school holidays and how by working together the churches bridged this gap. She talked about the good work being done by Bournemouth Hope in the Community reaching out, befriending those in need. BCARS starts again this year on the 14th November and runs for 14 weeks; Suzie thanked the circuit for its continued support for this project and asked for our continued prayers in this venture.

10.4 All Together Conference

Sarah promoted this live interactive national event taking place on Tuesday the 10th October 10:00am – 3:00pm; bringing generations together. Exploring what it means to be intergenerational church community. If you are interested contact Sarah or Suzie and book your place and don't forget to bring your packed lunch.

11. Property

11.1. Reminder to churches regarding Property Schedules

Please remember to do these in a timely manner so to meet the necessary deadlines.

12. Finance

12.1. Agree 2017/18 Budget and Assessments

The 2017/18 Budget was circulated prior to the meeting; the Assessment breakdown on the day. By using the formula agreed at the June 2016 Circuit Meeting, using a 5 year rolling average, it means some churches face a large increase in their assessment.

Following the CLT Away Day there will be presentations to each church by two CLT members including conversations with individual church members. These meetings will be analysed and reports sent to churches to lead into presentations to Church Council Meetings in March. A Review Report will then be presented to the June '18 Circuit Meeting.

A resolution for churches, who incur assessment hardship, will be explored with Finance Group.

Tony then asked the meeting to go along with the Budget and Assessment currently tabled.

Val Wells, Treasurer of Swanage Church, was unable to attend the meeting but sent a report via Annie Fellows which was read out; saying Swanage cannot agree the budget.

Further conversations were had. Tony agreed to send a Doodle Poll offering 4 dates to Treasurers so a 'Care and Share Element' can be discussed.

Following this the vote took place:

The Budget for 2017/2018 was agreed – with 3 against

The Assessment was agreed – 27 For, 10 Against, 1 Abstention

12.2. Agree Related Parties Document

This was not complete as some trustees have not replied. It is important all trustees reply to the office request

12.3. Agree CC8 Checklist

This was agreed by the meeting

12.4. Agree Risk Management Policy

This was agreed and adopted by the meeting

12.5. Appoint PFK Francis Clark with Princecroft Willis as Auditors for 2016/17.

This was agreed and adopted by the meeting

13. Any other business to be notified to the circuit office by end of 18th September

- The Methodist Church is being investigated by HMRC on how we pay our staff. This will include paying a living wage, entitlement to work here, how we pay our organists etc Honorariums are one of payments; it is illegal to pay organists this way. Proof is required that organists are declaring payments to HMRC. The District Employment Officer is looking into the matter of what proof is acceptable.
- Rev Sue is Chair of the Support Group at Maidment Court. They need a Treasurer and Secretary and asked the meeting to prayerfully consider if it is something they could do or whether they knew of someone. The job is not onerous, 3 meetings a year plus AGM.
- We still need a Circuit Meeting Secretary, please ask around in your local churches.

Date of next meeting

5th December

Circuit Meeting

7.30pm Victoria Park

The meeting concluded by sharing the Grace at 9:30pm

Minutes prepared by:.....

Approved by: DRAFT

Date