

CIRCUIT MEETING MINUTES
5th December 2017
BOURNEMOUTH METHODIST CHURCH @ Victoria Park

The meeting started at 7:30pm

1. **Welcome**
2. **Opening Devotions:** were led by Rev Chris Moreton
3. **Agree Membership:** The attendance list was circulated
4. **Apologies for absence** – noted on circulated list
5. **Letters of Greeting & Acknowledgement and Items for Prayer** - None
6. **Minutes of the meeting held 21st September (already circulated) – Agreed**
7. **Matters Arising** – None
8. **News from Churches**

Wareham – Judy Holloway was delighted to tell the meeting 340 Shoe Boxes were filled and collected from around the Circuit.

Victoria Park – Ros Murray explained the Church decorations were earlier than usual, local schools and groups were using the Church during this week. The tree decorations were made by children in the reception class of Winton Primary when learning about religious celebrations.

The Spire – Pete Smith told the meeting the project had received two grants each of £50K, from Methodist Insurance and The Talbot Village Trust. The Connexion's Methodist Council are still discussing the Levy situation.

9. Governance

9.1 What is Circuit / Circuit Review

Rev Tony Cavanagh gave the meeting a precursor to the Circuit Review which is on course to be delivered next summer.

What is Circuit? What is Circuit to You? What Does a Good Circuit Look Like?
What Does a Healthy Circuit Look Like? - **As Trustees we need to know.**

Seven Marks of a Healthy Circuit:

1. Supports and resources mission
2. Has an outward looking focus
3. Has an effective Circuit Leadership Team – lay and ordained
4. Provides Worship and other opportunities for nurturing discipleship
5. Uses an effective structure and administration
6. Develops, trains and supports
7. Is effective in dealing with matters of governance and legislation

Connexion have issued a document - Seven Marks of a Healthy Circuit, the link is:

<https://www.behdistrict.org.uk/Publisher/File.aspx?ID=86055>

The CLT has met twice during October along with a District representative to discuss the review. In the New Year it is the Churches turn/opportunity to get involved with it.

What can we realistically achieve? We ask for your honesty, your input and your support. Talk to your people, discuss the matter at your Church Councils and pray we get to the right place.

10. Life of the Circuit

10.1 **St George's – Licence for Trussell Trust**

The Trussell Trust have had conversations with St George's as they want to expand their storage facilities, could they help? The current arrangement needs attention. It has been proposed to let the trust have the upstairs room in the Well Spring Centre, operational April 2018.

Due to loss of space St George's want to remove the pews in the Sanctuary to make it a multi – purpose space. Cost of this would come from a legacy received.

The meeting agreed these requests

10.2 **Trinity – Play Café**

A copy of the Trinity Project Mission Plan was distributed to trustees.

Deacon Suzie Viana gave an overview of the vision that led to project being started. The need in the community and the mission opportunities a Soft Play Area and Community Café could bring. The project would be operated on a full time basis by an experienced project manager with two part time employees. The role of the church would be to build relationships with the people coming to the centre.

Due to the size of the project it needs to be registered on the Methodist Consent Site. Trinity sought agreement of the meeting, in principle, to go further and engage with Softbrick and spend money. Funding will come from a legacy. Updates would be circulated by email as and when. This was agreed unanimously.

10.3 **Winton – Nursery School**

The meeting was shown a short Methodist Schools video. Sheila Slattery followed this with a Powerpoint presentation sharing the mission opportunities the nursery School could bring:

- Sharing the Christian Faith
- Working with the children – church members engaging with the nursery
- Reason this interaction is so important – impact on children's lives
- Working with Staff – church members working alongside with staff
- Building on existing work
- Providing resources
- Community Work – job opportunities
- Access to clergy

Winton will govern the project, a business plan is already in place. It is hoped Yr. 1 will bring in £30K and Yr. 2 £40K assuming a mix of 2 – 3 yr. olds. Funding will come from a legacy.

Alterations will be necessary to change entrance into the church, the cost being £10K and this will be covered from another legacy.

Winton sought agreement of the meeting, in principle, to go further with the scheme. When firmed up be circulated by email in January '18

This was agreed unanimously.

10.4 **The Spire – Story Café**

Deacon Sarah Wickett gave a Powerpoint presentation detailing what this initiative is about:

- A Story of Reading – head of local school concerned children were not reading their homework reading books
- A Story of Companionship – each child being given time, reading levels have gone up.

- A Story of Hospitality – building relationships
- A Story of Community Support – engaging with local businesses
- A Story of Hope
- A Story of Celebration – project given an annual Methodist Insurance Award of £1K
- An Unfinished Story

Tony commented all stories shared this evening are vibrant – we trust God to take us on a journey.

10.5 Circuit Steward's Report

Due to health reasons Carol Joy has stepped down as a circuit steward. This means new signatories are needed for the bank account. The meeting agreed to Denis Dean as a signatory and subject to being asked and accepting, Brian Tucknott. In the New Year there will be a drive to recruit new stewards.

There is still a vacancy for a Circuit Meeting Secretary.

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. 2017/18 Budget Comparison

The budget comparison was distributed to the meeting. As it was self-explanatory trustees were asked read and digest it and if they had any questions send them to Jane Shipton-Ashwell at the Circuit Office and she would email the reply.

Correspondence from the District Treasurer advises there will be a £8K increase in next year's Assessment to District and Connexion.

Related Parties Return – paid work done by Gordon Wells, Swanage Methodist needs to be reported to the Charity Commission.

13. Any other business to be notified to the circuit office by end of 3rd December – none

Date of next meeting

13th March Circuit Meeting 7.30pm Swanage

The meeting concluded by sharing the Grace at 9:20pm

Minutes prepared by:.....

Approved by: **DRAFT**

Date.....