

CIRCUIT MEETING MINUTES
3rd December 2024
Venue: Zoom 7:30pm

- 1 Welcome
- 2 Opening Prayer was led by Rev'd Tony Cavanagh
- 3 The Membership of the Meeting was agreed.
- 4 Apologies for absence were received from Deacon Suzie Viana, David Downing, Sheila Slattery, Di Baggs, Annie Fellowes and Bob Taylor.
- 5 Letters of Greeting and Acknowledgement and Items for Prayer – the family of Dr Terry Hughes and the family of Alan Belshire.
- 6 The Minutes of the Circuit Meeting held on 17th September 2024 were agreed as a true and correct record (already circulated).
- 7 There were no matters arising.
- 8 News from Churches:
Broadstone the church will be involved in the Christmas Parade on Saturday 7th December.
Poole Eifron Hopper emphasised that the Youth Group held monthly at The Spire is a circuit wide group.
Trinity had had a special Advent service – a joyful occasion.
St Georges are very pleased with the attendance at their midweek service, around 20 attend.
Victoria Park are looking forward to their Carols in the Café on 18th December at 11am
Wool are eagerly anticipating their Carols round the Christmas Tree and Carol singing around the village which may include fish and chips.
- 9 Circuit Invitation Committee. Rev'd Karen was delighted to report that Gillian Le Boutillier-Scott would be joining the Circuit with her family in September based at BMC. Rev'd Karen thanked the CIC for all their work and the volunteers at Victoria Park who organised the visit refreshments in November. Julian Tawn and Rev'd Karen just have some final paper work to complete. The stationing of Deacons follows a different pattern and will not take place until the new year. It is hoped that the 'visit' will take place on 18th January 2025 and would follow a similar format to that of the Presbyterian visit.
- 10 Update on Finance and Property Roles: the Finance Role has been advertised and it is hoped that an appointment can be made to go from January 2025 (for Broadstone and Poole). The Property role is 'work in progress'.

- 11 Life of the circuit
- 11.1 Mission Updates: Deacon Suzie's report had been already circulated. Deacon Gill reported that a significant number of Christingles were taking place with local schools and of the planned Christmas services taking place at local Care Homes. Deacon Gill also spoke of the uncertainty affecting Maidment Court.
- 11.2 Report from Circuit Youth Group by Kate White: this had already been circulated and was adopted.
- 11.3 Report from the Local Preachers Committee by Dr Terry Fish: this had already been adopted and was adopted.
- 11.4 Update from Poole and TSCMG by Rev'd Sarah: Sarah described the current situation in Poole and their hopes and plans for 2025, the Spire's 10th Anniversary. Rev'd Tony thanked the Management Group. (Please see attached Report).
- 12 Governance
- 12.1 Safeguarding Officers Report – Rev'd Karen thanked all the Church Safeguarding Reps. for their work. Necessarily any safeguarding issues are confidential. Rev'd Karen reiterated that everyone is responsible for Safeguarding and recommended watching the online conversation between Rev'd Rachel Bending and Rev'd Dawn Saunders. Rev'd Karen confirmed that all volunteers at the Circuit Youth Group had been DBS checked.
- 12.2 An appeal was made by Rev'd Tony for a new Circuit Steward who comes from the western side of the Circuit.
- 13 Finance – the Finance Report had been circulated prior to the meeting and was adopted. Rev Tony described the current situation which will be discussed by the Finance Group in the new year. Decisions will have to be made as to the best way forward. Alan McCoy asked about the process of setting up a trading company (Victoria Park Café), the Circuit will pay for advice to BMC and Poole (The Spire). Special thanks were expressed to Louise Tidd for all her work behind the scenes.
- 14 Property – further discussions are taking place re the sale of Wareham Church. Advice has been sought about the advisability of selling the church by auction and of applying for change of use. Neither was adopted. Trustees unanimously decided to change the estate agent to Purbeck Property. The church continues to deteriorate; a sale is becoming increasingly urgent.
- 15 Any Other Business – Rev'd Tony announced that Di Baggs was stepping down as Circuit Secretary, Chris Snape would continue for another year. A card and gift to be presented to Di Baggs with many thanks.

The meeting closed at 8.45pm.

Dates of 2025 Circuit Meetings

4th March: Victoria Park
10th June: Zoom

16th September: Venue Needed
2nd December: Zoom