



CIRCUIT MEETING MINUTES

3rd March 2026

Bournemouth Methodist Church @ Victoria Park

1. Rev'd Karen welcomed Trustees to the Circuit Meeting.
2. The meeting opened with a bible reading and prayer.
3. The membership of the meeting was agreed.
4. Apologies for absence were received from Annie F and Eileen O.
5. Letters of Greeting & Acknowledgement and Items for Prayer: Deacon Suzie.
6. The minutes of the meeting held 2nd December 2025 were signed as a true and correct record.
7. There were no matters arising.

8. News from Churches

Poole: Work on Mission has been continuing. An evening service led by Rev'd Gareth and students from Moorlands College to which the Circuit had been invited was a great success. The Story Café sessions were going well providing support for parents and children and proving rewarding for the volunteers.

Trinity: a wonderful service to celebrate 100 years was held.

St Georges: another excellent service, in particular, celebrating the length of time that members had been worshipping.

Broadstone: a good Messy Church at half term, joining with Churches Together for a Lent course.

BMC: a busy period approaching with Puddings and Quiz, a Palm Sunday Donkey Walk and an Easter Sunday celebration at the beach.

9. Life of the Circuit & Staffing

9.1. Mission Updates

Upton: A Mission Forum has been set up at Upton and arrangements are under way for a Hobbies Day during the May half term and also looking at opening the church after school for students from Lytchett Minster School.

BMC: Rev'd Gill explained her idea for giving away bibles. There is an online offer for £2.00 each if you buy 40. The link will be circulated. Ideas needed to decide on the best place for them to be distributed.

BMC: Julian T as Chair of Churches Together in Boscombe asked for Trustees to pray for the work the group is doing with adults struggling with addiction.

Swanage: The Circuit Day led by the Chair of the District, Rev'd Rachel was very successful, 12 attended from the Circuit. Rev'd Karen apologised that not more notice was given.

- 9.2. Report from Circuit Youth Group: already circulated. Rev'd Karen thanked the leaders for all their work.
- 9.3. Lay employment: Rev'd Sarah explained that work was ongoing for the post of Family Worker to be based in Bournemouth and a Property Role to look after Manses but would hopefully be completed by 6th March and posts could be advertised. It is hoped that the Churches Property Role will also soon be ready for advertising.
- 9.4. Circuit Secretary: Chris Snape is stepping down from this role. Rev'd Karen explained to Trustees that the Circuit must have a secretary so please could Trustees think carefully about taking on this role and advertise it to their members. Chris was presented with a card and flowers.
- 9.5. Local Preachers Committee Report – a new Secretary is needed who must be a Local Preacher or Worship Leader. Rev Karen thanked those who had offered more appointments. A Salvation Army member Sheila C has offered to preach. The meeting looked at the Bible Society Report on church membership.

10. Governance

- 10.1. Safeguarding Officers Report – Rev Karen will be stepping back from this role; Michelle in the Circuit Office will be taking on administration and Sarah Badley will be co-ordinating training. Rev Karen thanked all church Safeguarding Officers and reminded the meeting that everyone is responsible for Safeguarding.

11. Finance

- 11.1. The 2024/2025 Report & Accounts, Letter of Representation and Comment had already been circulated and were approved the Meeting.
- 11.2. Budget and Assessments for 26/27 is not yet available but will be presented at the June Circuit Meeting. The Church Treasurers will need to meet beforehand.

12. Property

- 12.1. Tenancy: St Luke's and Marlborough Rd: both these Manses are empty. Trustees approved a motion to let both Manses. The Manse at Cherry Hill Grove is suffering from serious problems of leaking and dampness. No builders are interested in doing remedial work. It was thought the best solution was to sell; an alternative manse would be offered to Rev'd Gareth, possibly move to Marlborough Road under the same conditions.
- 12.2. Shaw Drive- gas remedial work on gas boiler and fire underway. The hot water cylinder also requires work.
Browning Avenue - the sale is progressing.

- 12.3. Trustees approved a motion to allow the CLT to have responsibility to investigate the selling of Manses.
- 12.4. Update on Kinson on the Kinson Building – permission has been granted for the Kinson Church to go on the market. A former member of Kinson Church has asked if monies raised from the sale could be spent on ‘green’ initiatives. Trustees approved a motion for monies to be spent on defined projects.
- 12.5. Update on Wareham Building – approval has been given for the church to be sold by auction. An auction house will now have to be found.
- 12.6. Update on the Lytchett Matravers Building – there are no further updates. The church still needs to be cleared.

13. Any Other Business

There was no other business.

14. Date of next meetings

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| 9th June 2026 | Circuit Meeting | Zoom |
| 29th Sept 2026 | Circuit Meeting | Venue TBA |
| 1st December 2026 | Circuit Meeting | Zoom |

15. An extraordinary meeting will need to be held in June to discuss Stationing.

16. The meeting closed at 8.45pm.