



Guiseley Methodist Church

Wharfedale & Aireborough Circuit

Oxford Road, Guiseley, Leeds LS20 9EP

Minutes of the Church Council Meeting 6th March 2018

- 1 **Opening devotions** were led by the chair Revd Roger Smith
- 2 **Apologies:** There were five apologies and 32 attendees
Minutes of the previous meetings were accepted and signed as correct
Any other business: four items were identified
Thanks were extended to the reps from the church who have served for 3 years and are retiring; please encourage others to offer.
- 3 **In memoriam** It was agreed that this be part of the November agenda only and names will be submitted by the pastoral secretary and the minister.
- 4 **FH legacy**
The list of suggestions was discussed thoroughly, and the following conclusions agreed upon:
Family worker: To be part time and employed specifically for this church. Leadership team to agree on a job description and bring to next CC
Property and finance team will research and bring to next CC: proposals, costings and suggestions on source of funding for new stained glass window, back door intercom control, automatic main doors and replacement fire doors, modern double glazing in some windows, external signage and upgrading of projection facilities in church. Re a new boiler, a consultant will be engaged to advise on what is best for our needs. Re foyer lighting, alternatives are being tested. Some of the above could be funded from general funds. To use any of the legacy money a precise submission has to be made through the property consents system (Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes).
- 5 **News from Deacon J P**
Currently JP is supervised by two bodies* as she begins to get the wider picture across our three churches whilst continuing her studies and working towards her final examinations. She wishes to focus on prayer, Bible study and teaching and youth work so that people can become empowered to share the Good News naturally and with empathy. JP also plans to work alongside existing groups in our churches.
 - ROAC (The Religious Order Advisory Committee) and the District Probationers' Committee
- 6 **Partnership news**
Each of the three current Lent groups is attended by people from all three churches in our partnership. On 22 April we will host an evening service as a culmination of the groups' studies.
- 7 **Circuit news**
The Circuit stewards' report had been circulated. In addition IW told us:
New regulations about data protection will shortly be published.
Revd LT will be on sick leave for four weeks. Please pray for LT and for the circuit leadership team during this period.

The circuit is looking into creating a CAP (Christians Against Poverty) debt centre in our circuit. R will invite PK from Burley to come to a morning service to give more information and answer questions on this organisation.

8 District/Connexion

A District Pentecost Praise service will be held on 20 May, 1.30 – 5.30pm. Venue tba.

9 Accounts/Finance Committee/Gift Aid

KR presented the 2016/17 accounts, which have been signed off, and council accepted them. K also went through the interim accounts to December, his treasurer's report and the Reserves Policy which council accepted as follows:

The aim of the Church Council is to hold sufficient reserves to cover six months of average expenditure. On the present figures this would amount to approximately £45,000. We also hold a property reserve of £23,700 to meet any major expenditure on the upkeep of the premises. We keep an amount of £5000 in reserve to cover the salary and expenses of the lay worker for 12 months.

In August 2017, the church received a legacy of £41,975. During the financial year 2017-18 the Church Council will develop a policy regarding this.

Council also accepted the proposal to donate £4000 to the work of Oxford Place in gratitude for their generous gift of an organ which would have cost us £8000. The Gift Aid report was also accepted.

Thanks to all the finance team.

10 Property

TK reported that the team was looking at replacing some of the carpets in the church, as well as preparing for the legacy spend and continuing the general maintenance of the church. The team also has an ongoing project of clearing out 32 years worth of unwanted items from the storage rooms and where possible taking them for recycling. Thanks to the team and all those who help them in their work.

11 Safeguarding

C's report was accepted and council agreed to adopt the Church Safeguarding Policy 2018. Small posters giving advice re domestic abuse are to be placed on the walls of our church toilets.

12 Other reports (had been circulated and were accepted). In addition:

Pastoral: A memorial bereavement service will be held on May 17th. Details tba.

Church Stewards: In September JB stands down as senior steward to be replaced by JF. JH retires at the same time and one or preferably two new stewards will be needed. We are asked to work with the stewards and R to find these replacements.

13 Any other business

13.1 It was agreed that since we support Fair Trade in almost every way, we apply to become a 'Fair Trade Church' **JD**

13.2 Room lettings in Holy Week. Council agreed to a policy of only letting to regular users.

13.3 A church 'unlocker' was required on Mondays at 6.15pm for four weeks in April. RG kindly volunteered. PB thanked all those who help in this way.

13.4 Sunday 3rd March 2019 will be Church Anniversary Sunday. Preacher to be arranged when protocol for doing so has been decided. **IW/stewards**

14 General Church meeting: 29 April 2018 after morning worship

Next Church Council: Tuesday 5th June at 7.30pm

15 The meeting closed with all saying The Grace together.