

STAMFORD METHODIST CHURCH

Church Council Minutes: Sunday 6th June 2018 @12:00pm in The Church.

1. Welcome & Devotions

Rev. Andy Fyall welcomed everybody to the meeting and opened the meeting with devotions.

2. Present

Rev. Andy Fyall, Chris Adams, Eddie Adams, Josie Bull, David Clarke, Luke Denley, Audrey Hensman, Roger Hensman, George Hetherington, Jan Hetherington, Margaret Hewardine, Beth Hodgson, Janet Howitt, Ian Husbands, Julia Husbands, Roger Ing, Godfrey Jones, Helen Little, Clive Marshall, Ted Murray, Evelyn Pickard, Nina Rawlins, Beryl Teasdale, Jenny Whatley, Anne Wiltshire, John Cameron (Sec.)

Geoff Beach, Sian Chambers, Karen Cozens, Rev. Julia Dowding, Margaret Durdey, Pat Fulcher, Pat Hagan, Doug Hyde, Joan Knowles, Andrew Marshall, Ruth Pryke, Ruth Reho, Judith Wade, Maurice Wade, Sheila Wolfenden

Apologies:

Charlotte Davis, Pauline Jones, Conan Lewis, Geoff Little, Bill Newbery, Michael Pryke, Maz Roberts, Corinna Selby, Dave Selby

3. To receive & adopt the annual reports from Church Groups

Ministers Report

Rev. Andy Fyall highlighted the areas of: *Worship, Learning, Service & Evangelism* which form the backbone of the Methodist Church of Great Britain's Mission Statement and are the basis of this report. Whilst there is always room for improvement, the feedback to the meeting was that the Church is doing good works for God. This report was accepted by all.

Youth Outreach Report

Luke Denley highlighted the Shack construction was completed Friday 4th May 2018 and that the formal opening was scheduled for 8th May at 16:00. He asked that people keep the Shack project in their prayers. The report was accepted by the meeting.

Youth Outreach Worker - Financial Report

Audrey Hensman used this opportunity to draw the meetings attention to the current shortfall of £11,000 to August this year but was able to report on a £3,000 donation in the last few days. The meeting was made aware that fundraising is never easy and asked that people help where they can. In response to a question from Eddie Adams, the meeting was informed that the shortfall took into account a recent contribution by the Church. The report was accepted by the meeting.

Church Treasurer's Report

Please see section 5 for detail

Second-helpings Report

The meeting was updated on the decision by Marks & Spencer (Stamford) to select Second Helpings as their charity of the year. In addition to the £50 in funding, there is the offer of labour, which will be used to paint the Shack. The report was accepted by the meeting.

The Well Report

Rev. Andy Fyall thanked the team who works hard to make the Well a success. Jan Hetherington requested that people support the well by coming in as often as they could. The report was accepted by the meeting.

JMA (Junior Mission for All) Report

The need for new and additional collectors was highlighted. The report was accepted by the meeting.

Twinkle Tots Report

The work of Sarah Lamb in this initiative was highlighted by Judith Wade. Judith also stated that she would be supporting Twinkle tots for a few more months but would complete her service in the Summer and asked that others consider how they could help with this important service.

The subject of appointing a Children's & Families worker was briefly discussed. It was suggested that the Stewards consider this request in more detail. The report was accepted by the meeting.

Christian Aid Report

Thanks, were expressed to Maurice Wade for his efforts leading the program and for Heather Ormston, Froo Coles and Jan Simmonds who are taking up this role going forwards. The report was accepted by the meeting.

Sunday Plus Report

A request was made for people who feel they could contribute to the running of this program. Everyone was asked to encourage those they know to attend on a regular basis.

Stewards' Report

The report was accepted by the meeting.

Open Door Report

Those who had worked to run the Open Doors group over the years were thanked for their service. The report was accepted by the meeting.

Prayer Meetings Reports

Both reports were accepted by the meeting.

Tuesday Afternoon House-group Report

It was noted that members of the offshoots group had joined this group when the Offshoots group stopped meeting. The report was accepted by the meeting.

Empingham Mission Band Report

It was noted that Keith Thrift will step down from the band later this year, after 47 years of service. There will be an effort to recognise this commitment closer to the time. The report was accepted by the meeting.

Barn Hill Prayer & News Service

Ian Husbands was thanked for his efforts to support this group. The report was accepted by the meeting.

Churches Together in Stamford Report

The Renew café was highlighted as an important initiative to address mental health issues. The report was accepted by the meeting.

Stamford & Rutland Circuit Report

The report was accepted by the meeting.

Music Group Report

The report was accepted by the meeting.

Wednesday Afternoon Fellowship

Pat Fulcher was thanked for her help in leading this group. The report was accepted by the meeting.

Choir Report

Hope was expressed that the Choir would regroup at some point in the future.

GB/JCBs Report

Julia Husbands highlighted that while Boys had been welcome in the Girls Brigade, proposed uniform changes may make this more challenging in the future. The group continues to seek solutions to this issue that allows the boys to feel included in this group. The report was accepted by the meeting.

Mission Projects Group Report

Roger Ing provided clarification that the figures stated were for the report period (12 months) and not the Church year. He also noted that income was down year on year, based on the Church year and asked everyone to think of events that could help to improve this situation.

Tuesday Evening House-group

The contribution of the late Charlotte Pridmore was recognised and other members were thanked for their efforts to support this initiative.

4. Election of officers

4.1 Church Stewards

To re-elect, Conan Lewis, John Cameron, Charlotte Davis, Beth Hodgson, Anne Wiltshire, Corinna Selby & Jenny Whatley and Ted Murray

Proposed: Rev. Andy Fyall

Second: Margaret Hewerdine

For: Unanimous. Against: None. Abstaining: None

Special thanks were expressed to Nina Rawlins who has just completed her service as Senior Steward (and Steward) and a presentation was made. It was noted that Nina was taking up the role of Finance Officer for Methodist Women in Britain.

Meeting was informed that Conan Lewis would be Senior Steward for the year starting at this meeting.

4.2 Treasurers

To re-appoint Eddie Adams as Church Treasurer

Proposed: Rev. Andy Fyall

Second: Judith Wade

For: Unanimous. Against: None. Abstaining: None

To re-appoint Roger Ing as Assistant Treasurer

Proposed: Rev. Andy Fyall

Second: Clive Marshall

For: Unanimous. Against: None. Abstaining: None

4.3 Church Council Secretary

To re-appoint John Cameron as Church Council Secretary.

Proposed: Rev. Andy Fyall

Second: Jan Hetherington

For: Unanimous. Against: None. Abstaining: None

4.4 Church Safeguarding Officer

To appoint Sian Chambers as Church Safeguarding Officer

Proposed: Rev. Andy Fyall

Second: Beth Hodgson

For: Unanimous. Against: None. Abstaining: None

4.5 AGCM Reps to Church Council Meeting (up to 15)

Julia Husbands; Chris Adams; Margaret Hewerdine; Josie Bull; Janet Howitt; Bill Newbery; David Clarke; Nick Jones; Beryl Teasdale (9)

Proposed: Rev. Andy Fyall

Second: Ted Murray

For: Unanimous. Against: None. Abstaining: None

4.6 Persons to represent all areas of church life (up to 15)

George Hetherington (Second Helpings Project); Godfrey Jones (Property); Ian Husbands (Circuit Steward); Helen Little (Mission interest); VACANCY (Property secretary); Jan Hetherington (The Well); Michael Pryke (young person); Audrey Hensman (YOW); Sarah Atwell-King (Local Preacher); Pauline Jones (Mission Projects); Clive Marshall (Churches Together in Stamford); Evelyn Pickard (Past Steward); Sian Chambers (Church Safeguarding Officer) [12]

Proposed: Rev. Andy Fyall

Second: Eddie Adams

For: Unanimous. Against: None. Abstaining: None

5. Financial report

The Treasurer informed the meeting that a shortfall in the accounts that is projected for the year end. This is expected to be around £1,600. A gradual decline in weekly connections was noted.

A recent bequest of £500 from Mary Coles was highlighted. It is traditional that bequests are used in a way that fits the character of the individual and people were asked to make their suggestions. The report was accepted by the meeting.

6. Outreach mission

Rev. Andy Fyall updated the meeting on the progress being made in this area, following permission being obtained at the Church Council Meeting in February 2018. He requested volunteers to assist in the planning of events around the main activities, which will take place in November 2018.

7. Discussion: Showing God's love in word, deed and prayer

The meeting was asked to break into small groups and discuss ways in which the Church was meeting this mission and ways the Church could improve.

This activity was well received and active discussions were observed.

8. Any Other Business

None

9. Closing Prayer

Rev. Andy Fyall closed the meeting in prayer