

MINUTES OF THE CHURCH MEETING HELD ON 27TH JUNE 2013 AT 8PM IN THE CLIFFORD WOOD ROOM

Present: Andy Potter (Minister) in the chair and 9 other members

1. **Opening Worship** was led by the Chairman
2. **Welcome and Apologies:** The Chairman welcomed all present. Apologies were received from Carolyn Greenaway, Jenny Lane, Hazel March, Coral and Cliff Burrige, Sarah Potter, Jean Blaxland, Tina Stanley, Charlotte Khan.
3. **The minutes** of the meetings held on 23rd May 2013 were signed as a correct record.

4. **Matters Arising**

- None

5. **Mission and Ministry**

Update

- Andy enjoyed his period of leave at the end of May and has heard good reports about how the services led by Martin Wells and Tim Gillard went.
- It was good to have Geoff Andrews speaking at the Church Anniversary service.
- There was a useful meeting of the local Church leaders last week, and they are planning an away-day to spend more time together. They are looking at ways the Churches can work together to have a bigger impact on the community. Ideas being looked at include the setting up of an emergency homeless shelter (a project being driven by David Burrowes) and supporting the child contact centre at Fox Lane URC. A number of churches are also interested in starting debt counseling courses.
- During the month ahead, Andy will be giving some thought to the Autumn programme. There is also quite a lot of pastoral need at the moment.

6. **Youth**

Update

- The youth activities are starting to wind down for the summer.
- The Girls Brigade camp took place the previous weekend.
- The Boys Brigade recently went to Holland. There is a battalion camp coming up soon and the company camp to Norfolk in August.

Re:create

- It has become apparent that the group will be much smaller next year and will be mainly Church young people. Changes will be made to the format to accommodate this.

7. Finance

Finance Report

- Ian Blunn handed out copies of the Finance Report for January-May and explained the main features.
- Total offerings are below budget for the year so far, however a greater proportion of the money is coming from regular offerings rather than loose offerings. A few more people have also requested to sign Gift Aid declarations. There have been some generous special donations plus income from premises is ahead of budget. Total income is therefore very close to budget.
- The Denning Trust has now been wound up and the balance of the fund has been received. This has to be spent for the benefit 'of the poor of the church' in line with the original legacy.
- Donations and Subscriptions are over budget due to increased requests from the Baptist Union and the Winchmore Hill Community Care Scheme.
- Spotlight is slightly over budget due to the new production method being more expensive. It was agreed that the cost is well worth it given the high quality production.
- The Publicity and Furniture/Equipment budgets appear to be heading over budget but that is because the major expenditure for the year has already been incurred.
- There has been no additional expenditure recorded since March on the Youth, Buildings and Repairs funds.
- The Thank Offering total at the end of May was £2390. Half of the final amount will go to the Buidling Fund and half to the Barnabas Fund. This is well below last year (which was exceptionally high) but is in line with 2010 and 2011.
- Overall, Ian is happy that the Church's income and expenditure is where we thought it would be.

Playgroup

- Jan Collins has written to the Church to formally thank us for freezing the hall hire rates for the year.

8. Membership

- Nothing to report.

9. World Mission

Hazel March Visit

- Hazel has now returned following her trip to Bexhill and she is staying with Jenny Lane until Thursday 4th July.
- A volunteer is still needed to transport her to Heathrow by 4pm on Thursday.
- Hazel will be taking part in the service the coming Sunday, and also Girls Brigade and Morning Fellowship Group the following week.
- Hazel is grateful to the members who are providing hospitality to her.

Christian Aid Week

£690.17 was raised. The Church collection total was slightly up on last year but the house-to-house total was significantly reduced. The team have agreed to discontinue house-to-house collections from next year as the amounts being received continue to reduce and the number of volunteers willing to participate is dwindling. They are planning to organize some sort of event to raise money instead.

10. Secretarial

Correspondence

- The LBA London Event, including the AGM, a time of worship and a relaunch of the vision and strategy of the Association, will take place at Regent Hall Salvation Army on Saturday 6th July 2-6pm. The keynote speaker will be Rev Lynn Green, the newly appointed General Secretary of the Baptist Union. The Church are entitled to send 2 voting delegates, and at present nobody has been allocated, so if any members are planning to attend they should contact Andrew. Andy encouraged members to consider attending as it is a good way to keep in touch with what is going on in other Churches in London.

Dates

- Deacons: 17th July
- Church Meeting: 25th July. There is no meeting in August.
- The deacons have decided to change the dates of their meetings to the 2nd Wednesday of the month from September. This will allow more time between Deacons and Church Meetings and more even spacing of the Midweeks@WHBC meetings.

11. Buildings

- The major buildings projects have not really moved forward since the last meeting due to David being very busy with other things.
- Over the weekends 6-7 July and 13-14 July there will be redecoration going on in the Lounge – the room will not be available for use during those times.

12. Pastoral

News was shared about a number of members and friends.

13. Any Other Business

- None

The meeting closed with the Grace at 9.01pm

Signed.....

Date.....