

MINUTES OF THE CHURCH MEETING HELD ON 25TH JULY 2013 AT 8PM IN THE CLIFFORD WOOD ROOM

Present: Andy Potter (Minister) in the chair and 7 other members

1. **Opening Worship** was led by the Chairman
2. **Welcome and Apologies:** The Chairman welcomed all present. Apologies were received from Philip Norman, Jenny Lane, Sarah Potter, Charlotte Khan, Binnie Weston
3. **The minutes** of the meetings held on 27th June 2013 were signed as a correct record.
4. **Matters Arising**
 - None
5. **Mission and Ministry**

Update

- Andy is clearing his desk ready to go on holiday at the weekend.

Midweek@WHBC

- There have been on average 7-8 people attending, and it has generally been the same people week by week. Those who have attended have enjoyed the meetings which have alternated between socials and bible studies. There has been a good mix of long-term members and those who have joined the Church more recently. Next term there will be a study of Habbakuk.
- Midweek meetings take place on weeks when there are no Deacons or Church Meetings. In order to spread out the Midweek meetings more evenly, Deacons meetings will be moved from the 3rd to the 2nd Wednesday of the month from September.

School Pastors

- A scheme is being launched in Enfield to deploy volunteer 'School Pastors' outside a number of schools at home time to promote safety and reduce anti-social behaviour. A meeting is being held on the evening of 31st July for people who would be interested in finding out more about this role. Andy is unable to attend but has planned a phonecall with the organizers. Andy encouraged other members to consider attending and reporting back.

Local Projects

- The ministers of the local churches have been meeting together to discuss whether there are any projects that could be undertaken together to serve the local community. The possibility of the Churches in the borough working together to run an emergency homeless shelter has been discussed. This is being promoted by David Burrowes MP.

Towel Washing

- Jean Blaxland has kindly washed the Church towels every week for a number of years, however she is unable to do this any more following her accident. Carolyn Greenaway and Sonia Gumbs have volunteered to take this on. Carolyn requested that volunteer cleaners leave dirty towels in the cleaning cupboard next to the disabled toilet.

6. Youth

- Boys Brigade camp will be taking place towards the end of the summer.
- Andy encouraged members to pray that the youth leaders get a good break over the summer.

7. Finance

Thank Offering Total

- The final total is £2470. This is to be divided between the Buildings Fund and the Barnabas Fund for North Korea.

Jim Roberston Legacy

- Jim left the Church £10,000 in his will. This will be paid directly into the Legacies Fund – there are no restrictions on how the money can be spent. The members were delighted that Jim had been so generous to us.

8. Membership

- Barbara Richardson has inquired as to the possibility of entering into membership, however she is clear that she also wants to remain in membership of her Church in New Zealand who have supported her for many years. The members could see no objection to this in principle. In accordance with the normal process, Sarah and Coral were appointed to interview Barb and report back to the September Church Meeting.

9. World Mission

Peter and Janet Dallman

- Peter and Janet have been in contact asking for special prayer for one of their missionaries who has suffered a late-term miscarriage.
- A large number of new missionaries are arriving at the JLC and Peter and Janet are working very hard to try and provide accommodation.

Hazel March

- Hazel March visited the Church earlier in the month and was able to spend time with a number of members, including meeting with the Missionary Committee and speaking in the morning service.
- Hazel is likely to properly retire from her work in WEC next year and is deciding whether to remain in South Africa or return to England.

Harvest

- The Operation Agri service will take place on 8th September and the Harvest service 2 weeks later. It is initially planned that the austerity lunch will take place this year on 8th September.

10. Secretarial

Correspondence

- Nothing to report

Arrangements for Summer Services

- There are three services where Andy will not be around. These will be led by:
 - 28th July: Amanda Roper
 - 4th August: Ken Jarvis
 - 11th August: Tim Gillard
- The Sunday Club teachers are hoping to take a break during the summer and would welcome volunteers who would be willing to look after the children for one or two Sundays.
- Volunteers are also sought who would be able to provide hospitality to Ken and Margaret Jarvis on 4th August.

Revised Calendar

- A revision to the calendar incorporating the Autumn dates for the Midweek meetings and the revised dates for Deacons meetings has been written. This will be sent out with the notices at the weekend.

Replacement of Bibles

- One member has commented that some of the pew Bibles are in poor condition and queried whether there is any plan to replace them. This was discussed and the general consensus was that the damage to the Bibles is mainly cosmetic and they are all readable. It was suggested that it would be worthwhile attempting to repair them. No additional Bibles will be purchased at present.

Dates

- Deacons: 11th September
- Church Meeting: 26th September

11. Buildings

Dry Rot

- A plan has now been finalized and agreed by Deacons for the work to eradicate the dry rot. This involves treating the old cleaning cupboard, the minister's vestry and the boiler room. The wooden floor in the minister's vestry will be replaced with concrete, the window in the cleaning cupboard will be bricked up, a large amount of plaster will be removed and replaced and the wood will be replaced with wood that has been treated to be resistant to dry rot.
- It was originally suggested that the floor in the cleaning cupboard also be replaced as it is in poor condition, however the Deacons have agreed that this is not really worthwhile at present as this room is only planned to be used for storage for the foreseeable future. If any plans are made in the future to make more intensive use of the room, the state of the floor will need to be taken into account.
- It is intended that the work will be carried out by W.J. Norman & Sons during the summer holiday. A final price has not been fully agreed but it is estimated to be just over £6000.
- The arrangements above were agreed by the meeting.

Repair of Incoming Electricity Cable

- When the electricity network operator came to the building in response to the power cut earlier in the year, they discovered that the 'head' (where the cables enter the building) had suffered corrosion and needs to be replaced. They have arranged to carry out this work on Monday 12th August. The electricity for the whole building will be cut off for the whole day and possibly into the following day, and they will need to dig up the pavement in the side passage. There are no activities planned to take place in the building on those two days and members were asked to steer clear. The work will be carried out at no cost to the Church.

12. Pastoral

News was shared about a number of members and friends.

13. Any Other Business

Thanks were expressed to all those who helped with the arrangements for Andy McGee and Rachel Barrow's wedding. The members all agreed it was a happy occasion and some of the guests commented how welcome they were made to feel in the Church.

The meeting closed with the Grace at 8.58pm

Signed.....

Date.....