

# MINUTES OF THE CHURCH MEETING HELD ON 24TH APRIL 2014 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 Jenny Lane, Sarah Potter, Rachel Forster, Binnie Weston, Keith and Barbara Richardson
3. **The minutes** of the meeting held on 27th February 2014 were signed as a correct record.

## 4. **Matters Arising**

- None

## 5. **Mission and Ministry**

### Update

- Easter preparations have been a major focus for Andy over the last couple or three weeks.
- Andy thanked Andrew for all the work that had been put into the preparation for the AGM.
- Andy recently took two large boxes of food from the cloakroom to the food bank. Already the boxes are starting to fill up again.
- In the services up until Pentecost, we will be spending more time thinking about Easter and the resurrection. After Pentecost we will finish studying Romans. In the Autumn Andy is considering working through a book in the Old Testament.
- Andy and Carin attended the Churches Together meeting yesterday. One of the matters that was discussed was the proposed Enfield Night Shelter which will run for 3 months during the Winter starting this November - it appears that the venues have been decided. Churches Together are also considering running a money management course in association with Christians Against Poverty. Some discussion was held in the meeting as to the practicalities of this, including what training was required and how it would be funded.
- Andy is on leave from 30<sup>th</sup> April to 6<sup>th</sup> May. Rev Joe Kapolyo from Edmonton Baptist Church will be leading the service on 4<sup>th</sup> May.

### Easter Review

- The number in the congregation seemed to be down on Good Friday but was good on Easter Sunday. There was a very large congregation on Palm Sunday.
- One member suggested that it would be good to have an extra event to celebrate Easter Sunday in addition to the morning worship service. Ideas discussed including meeting for breakfast before the service.
- Andy asked members for other ideas on how the Easter programme could be improved.

## 6. Youth

- Nothing to report

## 7. Finance

### Thank Offering

- In recent years we have adopted the tradition that half of the Thank Offering goes to fund the Church's activities while the other half is given to an external charity. The deacons have proposed that this pattern be continued, with half of the offering going to the Church General Fund with the intention it is likely to be used for a project related to the buildings. This was agreed by the meeting.
- A tradition has also existed whereby the recipient of the other half of the offering has alternated between a local charity and one operating further afield. Last year we supported Barnabas Fund helping Christians in North Korea. This year the deacons recommended *The Christian Kitchen*, a Church-led charity provision providing meals to vulnerable and homeless people in Walthamstow. The meeting agreed with this recommendation.

## 8. Membership

- Tim Gillard and Carolyn Kindberg have not yet been able to interview John Melbourne regarding his membership application as he has been recovering from an operation. A report will be presented to the next meeting.

## 9. World Mission

- Things are falling into place for Hazel March returning to the UK. She is flying to London on 9<sup>th</sup> May and is attending a retirees conference and Bulstrode and will then travel to Peterborough. She will stay with her son until she finds permanent accommodation. She has now sold her flat and is saying goodbye to her friends.
- Janet Dallman will be in London 5<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> May to spend time with her family as her father remains very unwell. Pete will be holding the fort at the JLC.

## 10. Secretarial

### Anniversary Service – 11<sup>th</sup> May

- Andy will be leading the service and Lewis Pearson, our former youth worker, will be preaching. Andrew plans to distribute the invitation letter this Sunday.

### Service Rota May-October

- A new service rota which runs from the beginning of May until the end of October has now been published – it has already been sent out by email and Andrew had some paper copies to give to those without email. Andrew encouraged participants to check their dates and notify him of any duties they would not be able to do as soon as possible.

### Dates

- Deacons: 14th May, Church Meeting: 29th May

## 11. Buildings

### Clifford Wood Room boiler

- The deacons have been struggling to find the best solution for the replacement of the boiler, in particular there are a number of items of work that it may be beneficial to carry out at the same time but it is proving difficult to work out which of these are sufficiently important to warrant the expenditure. Ian Blunn plans to meet a gas engineer with whom we have personal contact at the Church tomorrow to discuss possibilities and receive advice. It is likely that the replacement of the boiler will take place during the school summer holidays.

### Survey

- The quotes received from the surveyors for carrying out the survey proved to be much higher than what was expected, the cheapest being £3500. The deacons are considering options for how the scope of the survey can be reduced to save money without losing too much of the benefit.

## 12. Pastoral

News was shared about a number of members and friends.

## 13. Any Other Business

None

The meeting closed with the Grace at 8.50pm

Signed.....

Date.....