

MINUTES – CHURCH MEETING

Thursday 28th January 2016 at 8pm in the Clifford Wood Room

Introduction

- Refreshments were served before the meeting
- Andy introduced the new format of the meeting. The theme of this meeting is **Children and Youth**.
- There were 16 Church members present.
- The minutes of the previous meeting, held on 26th November, were signed as a correct record.

Worship

- A time of worship was led by John Burridge.

Brigades Update

- Tina explained the forthcoming change from Girls Brigade to Girls Association (part of the Boys Brigade) which will take place on 1st April. The girls and parents are to be informed of this in a couple of weeks.
- Tim introduced a discussion on how we build links between the brigades and the Church, He reflected that nearly all of the membership have been involved with BB or GB at some point.
- Chris showed a video about activities that BB have been doing during the last year. He talked about some of the activities that are planned for the coming year. One of the themes that is being considered is 'community engagement', particularly with the older generation.
- BB are introducing a prayer box. Chris encouraged those at the meeting to add prayers to the box.
- Pray for the Brigades:
 - A smooth transition from Girls' Brigade to Girls' Association
 - Additional helpers and leaders to come forward to assist with BB.
- Current numbers:

<u>Boys</u>		<u>Girls</u>	
Anchors	13	Juniors	11
Juniors	12	Explorers	6
Company Section	7	Brigaders	2
		Seniors	9

Child Protection Policy

- Andy introduced the new policy, explaining the reasons behind it being updated. The policy and procedures need to be brought into line with current legislation and technology.
- The procedures run to 25 pages and have not been circulated widely but are available to anyone on request. These describe the detailed guidance and rules that govern working with children.
- The policy is a short summary and is a commitment on behalf of the Church to look after children - it also protects the workers and the Church. The policy was circulated with the agenda, and further copies were given out in the meeting. Members were encouraged to read it. It is intended that it will be approved at the AGM.
- As part of the policy, the Church appoints a *Safeguarding Trustee* who is responsible for ensuring that the policy and procedures are implemented, and a *Designated Person* to whom any incidents or concerns regarding child protection should be reported to.

Prayer

- Tim led a time of prayer, focussing on the names of Jesus.

Updates and Arrangements

- Arrangements for the Easter services, Lent meetings, AGM and Work Day were discussed.
- Following on from the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, there is a desire for similar prayer meetings to take place throughout the year. The first will be here on 9th February at 10.30am.

People, Prayer and Worship

- News was shared about a number of members of friends.
- There was a time of prayer for the work of the Church and for the people and issues raised during the meeting.
- The meeting closed with a time of worship.

Signed _____

Date _____