

# **QUINTON METHODIST CHURCH**

Registered Charity no: 1128423

## **Minutes of CHURCH COUNCIL Meeting**

**Tuesday 10 March 2020.**

**WELCOME and DEVOTIONS.**

Rev Ajay Singh welcomed everyone with a reading from Matthew Ch 6. He spoke about the present coronavirus outbreak, and to keep people affected in our prayers.

The room layout had been changed to become more inclusive, less confrontational, and encourage discussion.

**PRESENT.** 17 people attended, names are in the minute record.

**APOLOGIES.** 10 people gave apologies, names are in the minute record.

**OTHERS NOT PRESENT.** 4 people, names are in the minute record.

**MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 22 OCTOBER 2019.**

Agreed with adjustments and signed.

**MATTERS ARISING**

None

**CORRESPONDENCE**

None

**THE WORK OF GOD AT QUINTON METHODIST CHURCH**

This item was moved higher on agenda to reflect the importance. An open conversation took place about Reaching Out further into the community and to encourage more people to come to Church and activities. Attention is needed on Sunday morning Worship, as The Work of God during the week is clear. Without viable Sunday Worship we may not have a building in future. There was particular emphasis on encouraging younger people and families, and that we need to change to achieve this. The Welcoming role of the Brigades at Services was positive. Worship throughout the week to be explored with active links to Stay and Play, Youth Group, Place of Welcome, and Lunch Club. Devotions in groups could be expanded. The ideas generated will be included in our Mission Action Plan where appropriate. A separate note will be produced about this.

**SAFEGUARDING and GDPR**

Brian spoke to a document (previously circulated).

He emphasised the Safer Recruitment process to reduce the risk to the Church and individuals; Job Descriptions were being formalised with Ajay, and available as required.

They had already been issued to Pastoral Visitors clarifying their function.

GDPR and Data Protection matters are a priority. Consents will be renewed annually. QMC addresses to be used where available, otherwise bcc, not open addresses.

The Church Privacy Notice was issued to all Members (please advise Helena or Tony if you do not have one).

## **CIRCUIT MATTERS**

Representatives to Circuit. Quinton can have 4 representatives. These are Laurence, Chris, Tony, and a vacancy.

Sabbatical. Ajay will be on Sabbatical from 6 September to 6 December 2020. Michael chairs a Support Group, Tony is representative for Quinton. Nutan will be on Sabbatical from 7 December 2020 to 7 March 2021.

## **FINANCE and PROPERTY**

Chris presented. Draft Outline Budget for 2020/2021 agreed, to be finalised and go to Annual Church Meeting. Youth funding being discussed with Warley Woods.

Roof slopes repair needed at approx cost of £5000. Circuit approval required. Main roof repair needed, will seek grant, reserves will be taken into account.

## **OUTREACH**

Helena presented. Request from Circuit for support to Beginagen received. As it seemed that the project was not functioning and likely to be suspended, we were unable to help.

Church Project 2020/2021. 5 proposals explored, 4 were viable propositions, only 1, Just Earth, responded. This is a Kenyan farm school training project. Nominated and agreed.

## **LEADERSHIP TEAM**

Tony presented, report to be circulated with Minutes. This covered Worship, Church Life, Coronavirus, and Mission Action Plan (MAP). Within the MAP is Eco Church (led by Rosemary and William) with plans for Toilet Twinning, (with Zoe and GB leading); Fairtrade Church and Peace/Community Garden.

Funeral Fees proposals were agreed.

## **COMMUNICATIONS**

Beth presented, report to be circulated with Minutes. This covered the new Welcome Leaflet Website, Social Media and Email Group. Measures to encourage younger people and families, Safeguarding and GDPR were highlighted.

## **PASTORAL**

Pamela presented, report to be circulated with Minutes. This covered Church Life, Pastoral Visiting, including Safer Recruitment and importance of confidentiality. Church membership at October 2019 was 160, plus 85 adherents. Thanks given to Ajay and all Pastoral Visitors and many others who support and help.

## **YOUTH**

Chris advised that the magazine covers this well.

## **BRIGADES**

Zoe presented. In GB a number of girls are on officer courses, and there are additional younger girls joining. Parades Services are an area to encourage more younger members to attend. Messy Church had been well promoted, but is not viable at present because of low

numbers attending, and fewer leaders available. Ajay suggested we explore the potential for holiday club type initiatives.

#### **OTHER BUSINESS**

Zoe presented. Health measures, with the present Coronavirus outbreak, are a major issue. Emphasis on hand washing and using single use cleaning and drying items. Guidance to the congregation, and groups using the building was in place and it is vital that this is maintained.

(Note that since 18 March the building has been closed following guidelines from the Government and Methodist Church about restricting and managing the spread of Coronavirus)

#### **DIARY DATES**

Annual Church Meeting revised to 3 May 2020. (Note that this now deferred as building closed; a new date to be advised when matters are clearer). Reports are required for prior circulation ( these are still required and a separate note will be sent to groups).

Church Council. 22 October 2020. 7.30 pm.

The Meeting closed with a Prayer and Blessing.

*Tony Burridge 19 March 2020.*