



ALL SAINTS METHODIST CHURCH

**General Church Meeting
Sunday 26 March 2023 11:45am
Church Hall**

AGENDA

1. Welcome & Devotions
2. Apologies
3. Minutes of previous meeting (*attached*)
4. Conversation on the Work of God
 1. Annual Reports (*separate document*)
 2. Finance Report (*separate document*)
5. Stewards
6. Election of any reps from this meeting to the Church Council (currently elected are Alistair Batey, Margaret Ellwood, Joanne Phipps, Derek and Jenny Pooley).
7. From the Circuit Meeting *Plus* gathering on 4th March
8. Date of next meeting: 28 April 2024
9. Closing Prayer

If you are unable to join the meeting but would like to make a comment please contact one of the Stewards.

ALL SAINTS METHODIST CHURCH
MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL CHURCH MEETING
HELD ON 8th May 2022

Present:

| | | |
|-------------------|----------------------|----------------------------|
| Rev.Ian Griffiths | (Chair) | Sue Russell (Secretary) |
| Tim Coward | Helen Appleyard | David Perrow |
| Ruth Coward | Rosemary Stanbury | Jenny Caddy |
| Larissa Richards | Meena Hull | Judith PB |
| Valerie Grist | Alan Grist | Maurice Tubb |
| Sylvia Wilson | Martin Wilson | Mike Appleyard |
| Mike Brown | Margaret Ellwood | Eileen Appleyard |
| Richard Matthews | Ann Matthews | Dawn Tyrrell |
| Colin Bartlett | Sarah Hawthorn | |

1. Welcome and Devotions

Rev. Ian Griffiths welcomed those present to All Saint's Annual Church Meeting which opened at 12.00pm. Opening prayers were followed by prayers in memory of Barrie Marsh and Sue Crane

2. Apologies

Apologies for absence had been received from;

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|--------------------|--------------|----------------|-----------------|
| Dcn.Selina Nisbett | Chris Caddy | Martin | Jennifer Pooley |
| Pauline Sykes | Derek Pooley | Alistair Batey | Sue Butler |
| Kate Jones | Derek Bold | | |

3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The minutes of the previous annual general meeting on 22nd April 2021 were agreed and signed.

4. Conversations on the work of God - Annual Report for 2021/2022

Annual report- Ian commented that again there was no guide report in the document and that all units of the uniformed organisations were short of leaders although full to capacity with children. This year the Monday Brownie unit has also had to close. Sue was thanked, along with Eluned for preparing the report. It was explained that Eluned's role had taken the pressure off the stewards and church notices and services were prepared by her.

A question about wearing a mask during the service was raised when no one wore a mask while drinking coffee. Most people agreed that due to singing a mask was preferred.

It had been suggested that an experienced musician was required as pianists were few and some had to play more than they would like. Hiring an organist had been looked into pre covid but this proved not to be an option. This will mean that we need to adapt our singing to more recorded music. Chris did not want to play at services at the moment due to covid fears but it was suggested that he might prerecord hymns at his practise sessions that could be used during services.

ACTION- Ian to contact Chris concerning this

Financial Report. – Richard thanked his team and highlighted that the budget had been set with a planned deficit of £10000. He was grateful for the loyal donors, many of whom, while transferring direct debits to the new bank account, had raised their giving amount so funds remained buoyant despite the financial climate and sad loss of members.

Accounts were accurate as David records monthly gas and electricity usage so bills are based on consumption. Margaret will be issuing Gift Aid certificates soon and Mike keeps an eye on balancing the accounts. All Saints will be facing inflation pressures when we need the heating next autumn.

An unexpected expense to the budget of between £4000-£5000 will be to replace the fire door in the hall as it is not working. An extra church council meeting or email agreement may need to be arranged to agree this expenditure.

5. Election of Stewards to serve 2022-2023 and Re-Election of Representatives to the Church Council

Ian thanked the departing stewards for their extended time period of serving and for their leadership during the lockdowns of covid.

The elected team of church stewards for the coming year would now be

Sue Butler Dawn Tyrrell

It was acknowledged that the even smaller steward group cannot function fully so will need the support of worship stewards. Trisha Evans was added to the list of worship stewards but more volunteers for this role are also required so that duties fall no more frequently than once a month. Jobs such as lighting the candle or getting the water ready could all help lighten the load. It was agreed that a job description be prepared so people could see the tasks to take on by it was mentioned that congregation is now mostly an older and frailer generation.

There would be no All Saints initiatives planned for the Queen's platinum jubilee but the CIA encouraged people to join in the planned events, especially at Rye Farm.

The meeting was asked to give Ian, Church Council and the stewards authority to appoint new stewards within the coming year.

This proposal was AGREED

The current chairs of the various committees and action groups were confirmed as representatives to the church council. In addition the following were re-elected as representatives of the ACM to the Church Council.

Alistair Batey
Joanne Phipps

Derek Pooley
Margaret Ellwood

Jenny Pooley
Paul Williams

The composition of the Church Council is for the next year therefore.

| | | |
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| Minister (Chair) | Rev Ian Griffiths | |
| Secretary | Sue Russell | |
| Acting Treasurer | Richard Matthews | |
| Stewards | Sue Butler | Dawn Tyrrell |
| Pastoral Committee Secretary | Sue Butler | |
| ACM Representatives and other office holders | Selina Nisbet | Mission Action |
| | Helen Appleyard | Safeguarding |
| | Margaret Hoskins | Communion Steward |
| | Trudy Hall | Junior Church |
| | Judith Penrose Brown | CFC & Youth Forum |
| | Richard Matthews | Finance Committee |
| | David Perrow | Property Action |
| Church Meeting Appointments (Up to 15) | Alistair Batey | Jenny Pooley |
| | Joanne Phipps | Derek Pooley |
| | Margaret Ellwood | Paul Williams |

All Saints Reps to Circuit meeting

Anne Matthews
Sue Butler

6. Other Items

Ian commended the **Sustainable Church, Sustainable Circuit** booklet to read along with Pentecostal Prayer booklets compile by Justin Welby.

Circuit stewards were entering a stationing phase with Jocelyn and Selina both starting the process. The circuit was lucky to have so many retired clergy who could step up to preaching roles. Keith was on sabbatical, so Ian is at present the only active minister. With demographics and reducing membership there was likely to be less ministers within the circuit due to sustainability.

7. Date of Next Meeting

Date Sunday in April 16th 2023

8. Blessing

The meeting closed with a prayer

Sue Russell, 10th May 2022