

**THE METHODIST CHURCH
KETTERING & CORBY CIRCUIT (23/19)**

**Minutes of the Circuit Meeting held on
Wednesday 23rd January 2019 at 7.30pm at Burton Latimer**

PRESENT:

Rev Martin Swan (RMS) – Chair
Wendy Curtis (MWC)
Michael Curtis (MC)
Lynette Muir (LM)
John Muir (JM)

Patrica Hone (PH)
Mike Dalton-Stirling (MDS)
Elizabeth Dalton-Stirling (EDS)
Alan Window (AW)
Anne Window (AWi)

Peter Shuker (PS)
Maureen Johnson (MJ)
Alan Johnson (AJ)
Maureen Ownsworth (MO)
Don Spooner (DS)
Jenny Spooner (JS)

PRESENT:

Ron Rudge (RR)
Joan Catherall (JCa)
Caroline Barratt (CB)
Brenda Lockwood (BL)
Alan Joyce (AJ)

Carolyn Rice (CR)
Roger Keach (RK)
Mary-Ann Ansdell (MAA)
Ian Basson (IB)
Pat Basson (PB)

Anne Ellson (AE)
Alan Deans (AD)
Liz Beeby (EB)
Marlene Fulton (MF)
Jon Hall (JH)
Fiona Schofield (FS) - Secretary

APOLOGIES:

Sue Walters
Joan Gray
Rev Hannah Jeffery
Ruth Fitch
Peter Candlin

Jennie Ixer
Andrew Stenson
David Cox
Julie Johnson

1. Welcome and Opening Devotions

RMS opened the meeting with the song Abba Father and a reading from Psalm 53

2. Apologies

Please see the list above.

3. Minutes of Last Meeting

RMS accepted and signed the minutes as a true record.

4. Matters Arising

None.

5. Any Other Business

CB asked to bring up the Mission Morning.

RMS asked the meeting to encourage their church members to attend the regular Tuesday prayer meeting and end of the month Bible Studies

Jon Hall addressed the meeting about Mission work. He feels passionately that more should be done in churches with outreach and evangelism; so a Mission Morning is being held at 9.30am on Saturday 9th February at Central Church; there will be bacon sandwiches available and it is hoped that this will become a regular event.

The circuit car rally is no longer being held due to all manner of organisational matters.

The Easter Offering Service is 28 April 2019 at Cottingham in the afternoon at 3pm.

Circuit service at Rothwell on Sunday 17th February 2019 at 10.30am and Jill Marsh is taking the service.

6. Safeguarding

No update available.

7. Youth Work

CB updated the meeting with her work during the last few months. She visits various primary schools and holds events. One such event was at Kingswood Primary Academy at Christmas time and the school also held their Christmas Carol concert at Cornerstone. She also runs a prayer space during lunchtime at the school. Acts 29 is being run at Towcester next month and CB hopes to take some young people from the circuit. She has distributed information to the circuit youth leaders and asks that young people be encouraged to attend. Transport will be provided.

CB is starting a new Youth Group aimed at senior school age children once a month starting at Rothwell. She asks that people encourage the young people to attend.

8. Treasurer's Report

MWC updated the meeting following the CLT meeting earlier this week. It has been decided to increase the hours of CB to 25 hours from 20 hours per week. WMC asked the meeting to agree; AD proposed; a vote was taken and it was agreed.

WMC explained that further funding is required at the Kettering manse; new boiler around £3,000 and complete refurbishment of shower unit at £2,500. With the work done last Autumn, this should have the manse in very good condition.

The district has been offered some land to facilitate the erection of a Methodist primary school near Overstone on this side of Northampton. We would be one of three bordering circuits who would be involved with the school and the CLT would like to give £2,500 to this initiative. RMS explained that these opportunities do not happen very often and we should encourage them. WMC and RMS asked the meeting to agree to the funding of this faith school. AJ proposed the funding and the meeting agreed unanimously. This funding may be re-visited in the future and hopefully the circuit can commit more.

9. Stationing (Reports and Handover Package)

RMS addressed the meeting about the future and Andrew's arrival. The CLT and RMS feel it would be welcoming and helpful for each church to provide a pastoral list of its members; the demographic of the membership and contact numbers if possible.

Also details of local churches and groups that have contact / interaction with our churches.

A list of leaders, faith leaders and local preachers would also be very helpful.

Minutes of all meetings should be sent to Mary-Ann, the Circuit Administrator so there is a full record for any new arrivals.

10. Grange Update

MWC has still not received the final documentation from Kettering Borough Council but has received a proforma from the solicitor which needs completing. RMS thanked MWC for all her work with this and the other church sales.

11. Mission Monies

DS reminded the meeting about the Model Trust Fund and that not all churches had used all of their £20k allocation. The CLT proposed that those churches which have not yet taken up their full allocation to consider using the remaining amount for circuit wide mission and outreach. If those churches in future have need of monies for mission they will still be able to apply whilst funds are available. This was proposed by DS and seconded by AJ and the meeting agreed. The second proposal was that the circuit appoint another lay worker primarily to do pastoral and work with older people initially for 20 hours per week (DS reminded the meeting that we had previously agreed to fund a probationer minister for 2019

stationing, which had been unsuccessful). The cost of the lay worker would be funded from the remainder of the model trust fund. This was proposed by DS and seconded by JS and the meeting agreed.

12. Advertising for Lay Worker

A job description is being put together and will be put out in the next couple of weeks.

13. Structure of CLT Going Forward

Some members of the CLT are coming to the end of their tenure. As a circuit we need to be mindful of who will take over. The new minister is surprised that our CLT is so large.

Manse Secretary – MWC explained that there is a need for someone to take on this role for the circuit. It would involve liaising with contractors and it would be beneficial if the person had some property knowledge.

14. News from the Churches

DS informed the meeting about their family meeting this weekend at Central and also their new prayer space which has been made available. The Christmas services were taken by Sue Walters' daughter but unfortunately attendance was lower than expected.

MWC shared with the meeting about two services that have been held at Cornerstone with local arrangement at short notice and attendance was 32 for one of them. The church is hoping to hold another lunch and working with the wider community in Corby.

PB explained that Rothwell hadn't planned to have a Christmas Day service but as the time got nearer it was felt that having a service would be beneficial to certain members of the community. There were only 9 people but it was a lovely service.

The free Wednesday film night (3rd Wednesday of each month) has been a success and last week they showed 'The Shack', which everyone enjoyed. Attendance is varied but the word is spreading around the local and wider community.

RK shared that AS and CS do a wonderful job running the Messy Church and they also held a Christingle service at Christmas. RK runs a monthly Fellowship Group on Sunday evenings and they showed a film about a man that set himself up against the communist regime but always kept his faith even under dire circumstances.

AWi explained that St Giles will be closed during March to facilitate the installation of a new lighting system. During this time, all services will be held alongside mini church in the community centre. The messy church is going from strength to strength.

15. Leaving and Welcome Services

10.30am on Sunday 28th July 2018 for RMS' leaving service at Central Church. RMS asked that local preachers work together to prepare the service. This will be his Swan Song. The date of Andrew's welcome service will be given to us by Helen.

16. Closing Prayer

RMS led the meeting in the Grace.

17. Date of Next Meeting

The dates of the next meetings are:-

Wednesday 8th May 2019 at Rothwell – this is a change of date. Meeting starts at 7.30pm

Signed

Date