

Starbeck Methodist Church
Church Council Meeting
Thursday 7th October 2010 7pm

Present: Robin Wilkinson, Kathryn Smith, Malcolm & Chris Binks, Chris Robson, Jenny Lillie, Doreen Thompson, Joyce Routh, Andrew Bachelor, Anne Hoole, Julia Mosley, Shirley Clark, Shirley Clapham, Laura & Martin Brassington, David Hunt, Mike Clipston, Chris Atkins, Chris Thomas, Nick Witham.

Opening Devotions: Nick opened the meeting with a reading from Galatians after lighting a candle to remind us that Christ is the light of the world.

Apologies: Rob Allan, Margaret Light, Maureen Newbould,

The minutes of the previous meeting were read, approved and signed.

Matters arising from the previous minutes:

The recommendation from resources for further Indemnity Insurance: This had been followed up by Andrew and it was found that it was unnecessary to extend the Insurance as what we have is adequate.

Appointments: The Pastoral visitors list is the same as last year with additions: Ann Abbott and Edward Smith.

Church Treasurer: Andrew Bachelor is happy to continue for a further year.

Reps to circuit meeting: The list is the same, although Rob Allan is standing down and Laura Brassington is to take over from Rob, Sue Lynch will go on as reserve.

A way forward for mission: Option 1: Harrogate, Knaresborough & Tadcaster circuits:

Malcolm opened the discussion by recommending that individual churches be given the choice of joining which ever circuit they think fits them, rather than the whole circuit joining with another one. Julia suggested that this may bring smaller sub areas. To join large circuits with other large circuits could make circuits too big. Andrew showed concern as to how the Geographic's would work regarding travelling etc. Malcolm voiced that what may suit one area may not suit another area which is 40 miles away.

Option 2 & 3: Harrogate to join with Knaresborough or visa versa, Malcolm still maintained that each church to have their own choice. David pointed out that this is an option for mission and up to now the discussion was centred on the geography. Laura thought that we might be able to share different ideas from different areas. Chris Binks was concerned for the size of a larger circuit drawing on the experiences in Girls Brigade with the difficulty in arranging events and meetings being a perpetual problem.

There has also been discussion regarding changing the way in which we minister, there are lots of opportunities to explore.

Option 3: Knaresborough/Harrogate forming a new circuit but to maintain links with Tadcaster: This was considered the best option, we were, however, reminded that joining other circuits we would be able to become more focussed in our mission aim.

It was still maintained that churches should be given some freedom eg Starbeck to join Knaresborough.

Option 1 our least preferred choice.

David Hunt left the meeting at 8pm.

Reports & Recommendations: Finance: Andrew handed out hard copies of the current statement. Chris Binks pointed out that we should be paying the connexional fund to support their various charities. Do we continue to pay centrally or to the different charities: Nick put to the vote that we send the money centrally for them to decide where it is most needed? Resources committee will decide on the amount. The 'Gift Aid' return is due to decrease. Therefore we would not benefit as we have done in the past. Discussion regarding the Reserves policy, it was decided to go to the Resources committee for further clarification. This would cover us for 6 months. Nick thanked Andrew.

Resources report: The only concern is whether to replace the ceiling in the corridor after the incident earlier in the year.

Schedule A: This is nearly complete; Nick asked the meeting if they were happy to agree to the Resources team to sign subject to their approval. The meeting gave their approval.

Safeguarding: Rob Allan had sent a report via computer but neither Nick nor Chris T could open. The C.R.B certificate system is to stay as it is for now as the new government have scrapped the new system which was going to be put in place. Resources team will look at the guidance concerning this.

Health & Safety: A reminder for all groups to do practice evacuations etc. Both cleaners are leaving and we need two new recruits. Resources team to find new staff. Contingency plans to be put in place if no new recruits are found in the near future. Malcolm suggested that we clean our own church rather than pay 2 staff. This is what other churches do on a rota system. Julia was worried as to how long we could sustain a rota system; people are willing but perhaps not able.

Mike Clipston has given a years notice in his capacity as bookings secretary.

Shirley Clapham has volunteered to fill the vacancy on the Resources team.

Pastoral: Anne Hoole gave the Pastoral report: Their last meeting was September 2010 where Nick welcomed Ann Abbott and Edward Smith as new pastoral visitors.

All concerns and worries concerning pastoral were discussed.

The meeting decided the prayer list to be restarted in the 'Link'.

The format of the meeting was discussed with a view to change - after the official business was completed it was thought it would be more helpful to have a more informal chat with other members of the team.

They remembered in silence & prayer Betty Mann & Jean Lazenby.

The date for the Pastoral dedication service is Sunday January 23rd 2011 10:30am.

It was suggested to merge worship consultation & outreach together to become one. The new title to be **Worship and Mission Team**. The next meeting is 8 November at 7.30pm. This is an open meeting and all are invited to attend.

Childrens & Youth Work: Sundi club have 34 young people. There are 11 members of staff: Elaine & Pauline (in charge) Emma Jackson, Sarah Francis, Leigh Neville and Ivy Kirkbright to work with the younger ones. Diane Button to run the crèche. Mark Wheatley & Claire Cheal to be in charge of the middle group and Laura Brassington & Vicki Fisher to run the Teenage section.

GB / BB, Jenny Smith has resigned as Officer in Charge of the Girls Brigade however, it was proposed that Kathryn Smith take over, the meeting accepted and agreed the proposal. The full list of staff is as follows:

Emma Jackson, Alan Slater, Claire Cheal, Diane Button (to take over as leader in the Anchor & Explorer section), Melissa Hague, Kerrie Morris, David & Sonia Marshall, David Clark, Clare Rogers, Sarah Sutton, Mark Wheatley, Ken Ramsdale, Robin Wilkinson & Rachel Clark, with John Lynch & Kurstie Wheatley as reserves. The new staff were all accepted and agreed by the Church Council. There are currently 39 young people in GB/BB.

Matthew Lunn has been appointed as children and families worker.

Christmas lights: light up, we will as usual be singing around the tree in Starbeck. The Carol service is 19th December at 6:30pm here at our church.

Childrens Holiday Club & Starbeck Gala - Matthew Lunn to be involved with and keep us informed.

The last two years we have run a summer fun day, Nick asked if we should do something different this year. To be discussed at a later date.

Know & Grow: Mission aims to be reviewed.

Church weekend away: Green Gables Hotel Scarborough. There will be 73 people staying for the whole weekend & 3 coming on Saturday.

Christmas and Easter devotions 2011: Nick suggested that we go outside our church and into Starbeck using Julies Café. All agreed that it was a good idea.

Job & Role vacancies within the church: We urgently need a Deputy for Mike Clipston in the role of Church Bookings Sec: Nick is most concerned as there are many vacancies not being filled. Names put forward for Nick to approach. Nick concerned that we may be too busy as a church? What is our mission and our priorities.

A.O.B - Action for children, (was NCH) support at our gift service. Farm Crisis network is our adopted charity for this year, however it was deemed not suitable for the Christmas gift service.

Nick has found some original paperwork from the beginning of Starbeck Methodist and asked do we keep the old minutes or send to the archives in Manchester? Shirley Clark suggested they be made available for the members to read. Shirley also has some old network books. She suggested she bring those as well and they be put on display as historical interest.

Nick would like some input from the young people at church council as we would value their thoughts on the running of our church.

Dates of next meetings:

Thurs 10th Feb 2011. 20th October 2011 both at 7pm

The meeting closed at 9.15pm, Nick closed with the Grace