

## MINUTES OF THE CHURCH MEMBERS MEETING

APRIL 18<sup>TH</sup> 2018

**Members Present:** Peter Timothy (chair). Maxine Corrigan (minutes), Claire Timothy, Grace Dale, Claire Hamilton-Deane, Megan Mynhardt, Nigel Parrott, Chris Yallop, Lester Jackson, Denise Jackson, Judith Gilbertson, Tony waters, Fiona Waters, Brian Robinson, Andy Hillier, Pat Hillier, Sandra Grey, Martin Baylis, Lessie Keenan, Richard Keenan, Louise Lyle, Peter Lyle, Michelle Bullock, Dale Bullock, Kim Symeou, Nick Symeou, Elizabeth Saunders.

**Non Members Present:** Sharon Hirst, Tina Warden.

**Apologies:** Jo Knights, Iona Nixon, Pat king, Brian King, Malcolm Edmonds, Judith Edmonds, June Day, Robin Day, Su Robinson, Marilyn Robinson, Chris hillier, Lea Goffe, Val Bayliss, Myrtle Catchpole, Gary Saunders.

**Devotion:** Peter read from Romans Ch 11 v 30-36 (from The Message) then Romans Ch 12 v 1- 2 (from NIV) Termed 'The Doxology' reminder that everything comes from God, be transformed by the renewing of your mind.

Peter explained this bible reading came to him as part of his own devotions. Reminder we can catch a glimpse of the bigger picture, our minds become renewed by prayer both together and on our own. This is so crucial in this new season in the life of this church. Other churches have struggled following changes if prayer hasn't underpinned the process.

**Pastoral Update:** There followed a short update on those requiring pastoral care at this time.

**Minutes:** The minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on November 22<sup>nd</sup> 2017 were agreed as a true record and signed.

**Financial Update:** Sandra Grey circulated two papers a) End of Year Accounts for 2017 (Addendum 1) and b) Profit and Loss Quarter 1 (Addendum 2)

A formal vote of thanks was given to Martin Bayliss for his work as acting Treasurer and in producing the end of year accounts which were now fully audited.

Sandra asked for anyone requiring more details to speak to her after the meeting.

Martin explained the amount listed on the last year accounts as Administration and Other Payments – Schedule 9 which has risen from £5,922 in 2016, to £11,231 in 2017 is due to the renaming of expenses for C.A.P. then added into an amount already there. This was a direct suggestion from the Home Mission visitors.

Sandra explained that she is encouraging all those who can gift aid, due to paying tax, to do so by completing the necessary form, the church can then apply for their tax rebate. More money can be obtained for the church without individuals increasing their personal giving.

Sandra went on to say she has received a thankyou letter from CAP for the £50 raised at the 'Flipping Pancake' event. In addition she also received a thank you letter from Regent's Park College, Oxford for the tithe donation made at the end of last year.

**General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR):** Due to the new data laws which come into force in May this year permission need to be obtained from each church member to store personal details. Previously people had to say when they didn't want details shared now we have to confirm we allow data to be shared. Denise circulated forms (Addendum 3) for each person to complete and return. This allows data to be used to communicate with church and use in the directory and for use of photographs. Children will continue to have permission given by their parent or guardian as before.

### **Membership Applications:**

2 applications for membership were received.

Louise Lyle brought a report following her and Peter's visit to see Rachel Benham. Rachel gave her testimony on Easter Sunday at her baptism and Louise expanded on this reminding us that Rachel is a new Christian and as such needs discipleship, then brought a recommendation that Rachel be brought into membership, all voted and the recommendation was supported.

Denise Jackson brought a report following her visit with Lester to see Tina Warden. Denise recommended Tina be brought into membership, all voted and the recommendation was supported.

2 new members

### **PROJECT 18 – Seeking Alternate Premises:**

Peter had circulated with the Agenda a document entitled 'Park Baptist Church: 'Project 18' (Addendum 4) he now presented this, working through sections giving background and meaning to the content. He suggested that tonight we hear people's first reflections and thoughts, then follow this with any questions.

#### **Summary of Reflections:**

The session started with a number of members giving a call to prayer, stating that without individual and corporate commitment to praying over this we will be failing in our duty to God. This was reiterated by many as people gave their first thoughts on reading the paper. Others expressed excitement, fear of change, uncertainty. Others asked specific questions relating to the 'what will' etc which could not be addressed at this time.

#### **Moving on to Questions:**

Michelle – while not a question she said 'The harvest is ripe but the workers are few again suggesting prayer. Pat had also said that she only has 4 befrienders for CAP.

Louise Lyle – asked 'Does Pastor Jorge know about this?' Peter explained that as part of the leadership team he has been included in every discussion. He and Peter are very much 'on

the same page' in relation to Park, with a shared vision considering how do we link together. He went on to say that Jorge aware of an English/Nepali speaking congregation which uses 'Go Mad' for translations. Meet together for 1/2hr worship then separate for teaching then come together for coffee, plus share resources of Stewards and Sunday School leaders and helpers.

Claire Timothy – asked 'How do we generate money?' Peter said in reality this will cost a lot of money, members have stepped up in previous churches. Almost certainly we will need loans/financial plans maybe a Baptist Union loan as Gorleston BC has recently done for their upgrade to the hall. Peter couldn't say where the money would come from, Jorge has connections in Brazil with churches wishing to support churches in Europe who are helping migrant people, some of these are Mega churches.

Lessie – mentioned she had experience of this in a previous church and people with building skills came together and did work themselves.

Lessie – informed everyone of a dream she had. It was day time and she was in the prayer room, when she came out it was dark and the church was full of people and she couldn't understand why then she realised it was the prayer meeting and everyone was present.

#### Next Steps

Peter went on to say this is not being rushed, there will be time for prayer, starting with the prayer meeting tomorrow, the leadership team will reflect on what has been said. Speak to him if anyone has additional thoughts, concerns, ideas.

Nigel – went on to say no one should be scared of praying, we are simply speaking to God, nothing mystical, not frightening, don't let these kind of thoughts stop anyone from praying.

#### **AOB**

Fire exits - Peter mentioned that the broken table tennis table has been removed and the stacking chairs near the fire exit should not be stacked higher than 7 chairs and kept clear of the doors. In addition the table downstairs in the hall which is often in front of the fire doors must be moved away from that area. Maxine mentioned concern over the fire risk of walkers and wheelchairs potentially blocking the main aisle during services.

**Date of next meeting June 13 2018 7.30pm**