

MINUTES OF CHURCH MEMBERS MEETING

JUNE 13th 2018

PRESENT: Peter Timothy (chair), Maxine Corrigan (minutes), June Day, Nigel Parrott, Megan Mynhardt, Malcolm Edmonds, Judith Edmonds, Denise Jackson, Lester Jackson, Grace Dale, Rachel Benham, Chris Yallup, Val Bayliss, Myrtle Catchpole, Kim Symeou, Nick Symeou, Andy Hillier, Pat Hillier, Pete Lyle, Louise Lyle, Su Robinson, Claire Hamilton-Dene, Lessie Keenan, Richard Keenan, Claire Timothy, Joe Liddament, Jorge Damasceno, Dale Bullock, Michelle Bullock, Sandra Grey, Chris Hillier, Iona Nixon, Gorete Conceicao.

Non Member: Sharon Hirst.

WORSHIP: Peter read from 2 Kings Ch 3. Method of Prophecy – gave a link between anointed music and prophecy. He calls for a harpist so Elijah could hear the voice of God. Peter went on to say that while many believe God speaks only through the bible – Bible is the primary word of God / prophecy is one way and music is another.

Peter went on to say how reflecting on Saturday's baptism made him feel God is blessing this church. Although low in number of English the musicians were certainly a blessing. A blessing from God through anointed music. With 10 new church members from the Portuguese congregation tonight and new questions and challenges facing the church. God wants to bless us when we come together in worship. Peter and Jorge committed to findings ways of coming together.

PASTORAL: Peter gave an update on a number of people who have health issues at present, particularly: Lea, Sandra, Bradley, Marilyn, Brian, Robin, Andrew, Sophie. Pat Hillier mentioned a CAP client. All were prayed for. Peter also said prayers for Iona and David for the lives together as they get married on July 27th.

ADMINISTRATION:

Apologies: Judith Gilbertson, Elizabeth Saunders, Gary Saunders, Robin Day, Lea Goffe, Brian Robinson, Marilyn Robinson, Fiona Waters, Tony Waters, Tina Warner.

Minutes: The minutes from the meeting held on April 18th were agreed as a true record and signed by the Pastor.

MINISTRY:

Project 18. Peter explained that it is proposed that:

- We do a feasibility study on a move.
- We discuss with the architect who was involved in the Sherringham Lighthouse Church move.
- The leadership team meet for full afternoon pray and discuss.

- All members actively pray on this matter.
- One Thursday prayer meeting per month will be devoted to this subject.
- Next church meeting in September will be devoted to further vision on this.
- We seek God's clarity on doors open or closed.

Finance: Sandra gave an update on the financial position almost at the end of quarter two.

In brief – First quarter giving was over budget, second quarter under budget. This leaves us £1,400 down on income. If this continues we will be in additional deficit of over £5,000 more at the end of the year. Some underspend on mission also on ministers costs, while some other costs under at quarter two.

General expenditure is on budget, however £1400 spent on new boiler for the kitchen.

First half of the year shows a net loss of £500 due primarily to reduction in giving over this period.

If anyone wants a copy of current financial position please ask Sandra.

MISSION

Membership Applications: Jorge presented a number of membership testimonies from the Portuguese congregation. Each had a history of migration from their home country to find a better life, some had moved from Africa to England via Portugal. Many had also come from a Catholic background and knew God but did not have a personal relationship with Him. Found God at Park, have been baptised and now wish to seal the relationship here with membership. Full names to be inserted here when available. A vote took place after each individual recommendation and all were brought into membership.

Questions.

Maxine asked if people were finding employment. Jorge responded that they do the jobs English do not want to do such as working in the chicken factories. They do realise that in order to get a better job they need to improve their English.

Michelle asked if we could start to learn move Portuguese. Peter said perhaps the Hub could be used for some classes.

Megan asked if the Portuguese members would now start to come to the church meetings. Peter explained that we altered the church Constitution to allow the Portuguese members be exempt from inclusion in the quorate figures. Jorge has his own 'church meeting' in Portuguese.

Jorge prayed for all these new members.

Growing Disciples Prayer Triplets: Peter circulated a paper with the Agenda entitled Introducing Prayer Triplets June 2018. (Addendum 1). He explained that considering how to help nurture one another, how we grow in our faith with such a wide diversity across the congregation this can't be done just on Sundays. How do we pray together, prayer meetings are poorly attended. The Church Vision states 'praying community' – not if we don't ever

pray together. Prayer Triplets come together say once per month and perhaps have a What's App or Text Group. Not a time for chatting but to spend the time productively, praying over important issues. Groups should be same sex, have a template for praying, silent is ok but to grow in confidence to pray out loud.

Questions

Peter Lyle said has this been tried before? June responded saying yes in the 1970's and is wasn't successful, enthusiasm probably waned.

Lester asked if the rules were the same last time with same sex groups etc. June said wasn't that organised, maybe why it didn't work.

Louise Lyle asked how would we measure success? Peter suggested we come back in say 12 months and say what worked well and what didn't and why.

Lessie said how Soul Sisters has started something similar.

Peter Lyle said could mini clique happen? Peter said that having 3 people will hopefully help prevent that but there is always a danger.

Claire Timothy said that perhaps then not have people from the same house group. Peter said not necessarily as will work better if there is already some kind of relationship. However should not be from the same family as there may be 'big' issues to pray over.

Michelle asked where to meet. Anywhere we choose. Meet at home, in a café, pub, at church. Flexible arrangements. Michelle asked if we could approach from Portuguese congregation. Yes Jorge is going to bring this up as well.

Martin B. firstly a wording issue, should not be that the leaders agreed, should be that they recommend. Peter clarified that the leadership team agreed to bring the recommendation to the church members, not that the church would do it.

Michelle commented that this like the Tower of Babel when God smashed languages. Suggest 2 English and 1 Portuguese, encourage one another.

Peter then asked if this is something to try to get off the ground. Peter will speak to someone to speak to 2 others. Once you have a triplet let Peter know then he knows who not to allocate.

Review in the New Year and then in June.

CAP Review: Peter informed everyone that Pat had attended the Leadership Meeting and given an update.

The priority is to develop partnerships. It is hoped for London Road Lowestoft become a partner next January. Peter and Pat meeting church leaders from Gorleston on Friday this week. It is hoped Cliff Park may become a partner. It will be more sustainable across GY/Gorl/Low if both these churches do. Salvation Army now allow Pat to refer to the food bank. Pat met with CAP fundraisers, they have ideas on how to raise money from outside

the church. They offered to host a fundraising workshop on how to apply for grants. Let Peter know if you are interested.

Prayer support – A Thursday prayer meeting will be devoted to CAP. Pat said she realised the gift of discernment when meeting clients.

Peter said that when his mate Simon visited he expressed how much we are on the 'front line' here at Park.

Chris Yallup asked if London Road or Cliff Park will have their own CAP Manager. Pat said not yet, new befrienders are what is required, Pat only supposed to do an initial 3 visits. In time they may wish to become a CAP Centre or have more debt coaches without increasing costs.

Michelle asked if Pat needed more befrienders. Pat responded by saying people may be concerned over the word befriender, it's just being a friend, everyone does this now in the hall after service. Two visits to say hello then pull paperwork together, 1 per year (is this right) would sort it out.

Finally Pat highlighted exactly how poor some of these people are.

Prayers were said for CAP

Peter closed the meeting in prayer.

Next meeting will be held on September 12th 2018