

CLARE BAPTIST CHURCH
MINUTES OF CHURCH MEETING 28TH JANUARY 2020

Chair: Paul Graham

29 members present

Apologies: were advised and recorded

The meeting opened with a reading from 1 John 3:16 reminding us of the meaning of true love, in that God sent his son Jesus to lay down his life for us. The challenge is that we are to do the same.

BUSINESS MATTERS

Minutes of the Church Meeting of 26th November 2019 were distributed, and were accepted as a true record.

PRACTICAL

Secretary: Vivien Sargeant updated the meeting on Safeguarding requirements. A training session at CBC has been arranged for the 31st October 2020: 9.30-12.30. Those requiring updates will be contacted re attendance.

Reports from CBC groups and organisations for the Annual Report should be sent to David Sykes by the 10th February 2020 for compilation by Dan Kidd.

Finance: End of year report attached with final amount over budget of £18,884 as previously noted. CB has agreed to continue as Treasurer for a further year unless a replacement comes forward. He was thanked for all his contributions to the oversight of CBC affairs.

Martin Snowling has volunteered to replace Mike Cumber as Independent Examiner for the CBC Accounts. His appointment was **proposed by Colin Barrable, seconded by Cheryl Trundle and agreed by the meeting.**

Maintenance: As recommended in the Quinquennial Report the asbestos testing is to take place soon.

A further £344 additional costs are required to fine tune the heating system. Item for information only.

In order to make safe some windows which do not have safety glass a sum of £648 (inc VAT) to install films over the windows is required to comply with regulations. This will come with a ten year guarantee. **Proposed by Anne Barrable, seconded by Gale Marshall and agreed by the meeting.**

Damp had been noted on one occasion by the skylight next to the kitchen. The area had been inspected and nothing untoward found. **To continue to monitor but no action required at present.**

Smoke and heat detection alarms in the kitchen require attention and it was agreed that this needs to be wired into the system in order to comply with Health and Safety regulations. **LD to liaise with electricians**

MINISTRY

Prayer Chain: This is currently being delivered by email and phone where appropriate. When PG is away or off duty David Sykes and Viv Sargeant have agreed to stand in as required.

Prayer Ministry: Team to meet on 29th January 2020 to discuss future plans for regular prayer opportunities.

Pastoral Care: All present were reminded that pastoral support was everyone's responsibility. Additional care is provided by House Groups and through other organisations and individuals within the church. However the pastoral care team will continue to provide care as required. **Any additional volunteers to speak with PG/LD**

The Dyson family and all those others known to us were remembered in prayer by all present.

FELLOWSHIP

House Groups: Volunteers from CBC were requested to either lead or host the Churches Together Lent Courses. The Parish Church has several groups but no information on the other churches at present.

Membership: A focus group is now in place to discuss what it means to be a member of CBC. Any other volunteers (particularly younger members) were welcome to join as they felt led. Meeting date TBA.

OUTREACH

Christmas in a Box: Mixed reception in that there were more boxes but fewer visitors.

Other events such as carol singing, lights switch on, Christmas services etc were well received. Thanks recorded to Sarah Sainsbury for organising the carol singing. Next year a Christmas Tree Festival has been proposed by another group in the town, which we can support or hold something of our own (e.g. Crib Fest) or do both...

Community Hub: This continues weekly in Clare Library on Mondays from 10-1pm. Attendance shows that there is real need within both the town and surrounding villages.

Friday Clubs: Senior Club has restarted with seven attendees at the first session. Youth Club has been closed at present. PG is involved with multi-disciplinary meetings discussing provision for young people within the town and will keep CBC informed.

SUPPORT

Rural Ministries: PG proposed, seconded by Peter Bateman and agreed by the meeting that CBC becomes a Partner Church. This may take the form of supporting other churches in the area and may entitle partners to access funds for projects/initiatives if required.

House of Joshua: All present encouraged to read letters received from the sponsored children and young people. Organisations could undertake to write letters eg LHG/Sunday Club. Facebook and website information including photographs and U-Tube clips are available but should be shared within agreed guidelines on Data and Child Protection and HoJ publicity policy.

Refugees: Successful visit on 29th December 2019. Able to distribute clothing, tents and food. Good response to leaflets distributed at Clare Christmas Lights switch on. Next visit planned for 23rd February 2020 when PG Tips, rice and lentils are required. A fund raiser is being discussed, may take the form of a Jumble Sale.

AOB

The transfer of VS to Church Secretary means she is now an ex-officio member of the diaconate, and as Jane Bailie has indicated she will step down at the next AGM the number of deacons (may be up to seven in line with the Constitution) will be down to three. All present were asked to prayerfully consider whether God is calling them to become part of the diaconate.

The meeting closed with the grace at 21.15 hours.

Diary dates as advised.

Signed:

Date: