

CLARE BAPTIST CHURCH
MINUTES OF CHURCH MEETING 29th NOVEMBER 2022

Chair: Vivien Sargeant

25 members + 1 attendee

Venue: Meeting held in CBC and on Zoom

Apologies: As noted.

The meeting opened with a reading from the end of Romans Ch 11, the Doxology, to be read in the context of Ch 12 which we will be studying in 2023. It reminds us that we should always give God the glory in all that we do.

Minutes of the meeting held on the 27th September 2022 were agreed and signed as a correct record. Paul, Vicky and the family were welcomed back from the time spent on sabbatical.

SECRETARIAL

Sabbatical Report: attached.

Church Membership

- David Byrne had requested membership and had been visited by Colin Barrable and Geoff Snowling. He was recommended for church membership. **Agreed by the meeting**
- Sue Cornwell had also requested membership and had been visited by Viv Sargeant and Sue Cumber. She was also recommended for church membership. **Agreed by the meeting**
- To be welcomed into church membership on 4th December 2022 during the communion service.

Resignation/Transfer of Membership

- Tim & Joy Ayrton are now attending Sudbury BC with his sister and have requested a transfer of membership for the present. **VS has sent the transfer letter**
- Dan & Lucy Kidd: Dan is now taking his parents to another church in Sudbury, and Lucy has other commitments and feels that they are at present unable to fulfil their membership commitments so wishes to resign.

Prayers were offered for all the above matters.

FINANCIAL

Financial report was outlined by CB.

- A donation of £1,000 had been received in memory of Doris Baker and members were invited to consider how this may best be used.
- The Traidcraft and Christmas Sale had raised a total of £1,220. Traidcraft goods had amounted to £527, leaving £693 towards Mission donations.
- Other matters as listed in the report (attached)

Les Day asked the question as to whether CBC had sufficient funds to continue to employ PG, as he understood that the deacons would be presenting a proposal to reduce the overspend identified in the previous 2023 budget.

In responding to this comment it was stated that PG and the diaconate were seeking to find solutions to the financial situation of the church in its entirety, on an ongoing basis and that no time frame had been agreed. Various avenues were open to the church and need to be discussed with the BU in line with the agreed processes for such a situation. All present were encouraged to take this prayerfully to the Lord for guidance.

MAINTENANCE

- Repair to LHG wall: pending
- Garden Shed: no progress at present
- Church Decorating: underway
- Outside windows: JB seeking quotes for the work.

Prayers were offered for guidance for the future.

MINISTRY

- **Allsorts/Holiday Club:** Positive feedback had been received following this. It was proposed to further develop the outreach work already going on with this group by offering lunch and the chance to talk/support the Allsorts mums and carers. To be trialled next Tuesday, extending until 3pm with the possibility of offering this weekly from January 2023 if all went well and volunteers could assist from approx. 11.3—2pm. The possibility of grants to support the work is to also be explored.
- **Pastoral Care:** Marion Burbridge is currently in a Nursing home in Melbourn, close to the family. Further information if required from Janet Shaw. Elvena Dew and Rita Curtis-Bateman continue to improve. Wayne Martin's thanksgiving service will take place at CBC on 30th November.
- **Christmas Events:**
 - 11th December 10.30 - Gift Service, Janet Strellis volunteered to deliver gifts to Women's Refuge
 - 11th December 4pm - Carols by Candlelight, mince pies required
 - 16th-17th December 10-4pm - Crib Fest, volunteers and mince pies required
 - 18th December 10.30 – Nativity and Carol Service
 - 24th December 4pm – Crib Service, Allsorts parents to be invited
 - 25th December 10.30 – Christmas Service 10.30 all welcome
- Christmas tree required plus volunteers to decorate to be in place for 12th December. To source.
- **Community Christmas Events:**
 - Thanks to those involved in providing hot dogs and mulled wine at Christmas lights switch-on.
 - 2nd December - Carol singing around the town, proceeds to Christmas lights and Dunkirk trips
 - 12th December – Community Carols CBC

AOB

- No AOB.

The meeting closed with prayer at 20.50 hours.

Diary Dates

Deacons' Meeting: 6th December 2022 Deacons' Meeting

Morning Service: 1st January 2023 at 10.30am: To be led by Jane Baillie

Next Church Meeting: 31st January 2023 CBC at 7.30pm

Signed:

Date: