

**Minutes of the Church Members Meeting Held on
Tuesday 3rd March 2020**

Chair: Graham Simpson (Elder)

Secretary: Andrew Thompsett

Present: Catherine Wilson, Ian Simpson, Ruth and David Bellerby, Darren Brown, Amy Lanelly, Len Smith, John Smith, Janet Stacey, Annette Morris, Sue Whitmore, Dave and Moira Miller, Lorraine and Lee Jackson, Gill Beams, Mary Simpson, Serena and Phil Stevenson, Sue Parker, Lena Parker, Anne Gosling, Hannah and Michael Cassell, Jenny Stephenson, Sally and Peter Plant, Colin and Denise Russell, Lynn Foltyn and Farrell Clifford

Total Members Present - 33

Graham had previously been asked by the meeting to Chair both the AGM and CMM

Apologies: (As given at the AGM)

John and Christine Daniels, Judith Smith, Cyril and Joan Jackson, Jim and Dianne Clifton, Alison Whiteley, Stephen Parker, Chris Butler, Melanie Crewe-Butler, Linda Williamson, Tim Wilson and Danni Simpson

Minutes of the Special Church Members Meeting on 17th November 2019

The minutes of the Special Church Members Meeting on the 17th November 2019 were accepted as a true and accurate record

Proposed: Ruth Bellerby

Seconded: Hannah Cassell

All in favour - No abstentions

There were no matters arising

Minutes of CMM 22nd October 2019

The minutes of the Church Members Meeting on the 22nd October 2019 were accepted as a true and accurate record

Proposed: Dave Miller

Seconded: Phil Stevenson

All in favour - No abstentions

There were no matters arising

Other reports incl Safeguarding:

These had been circulated beforehand and there were no questions

Colin Russell spoke to the meeting about the proposed plans which were ongoing for the Rigby Lounge. This would involve knocking down the wall and extending into what is the conservatory to make one large room and then moving the kitchen across to give a lot more room and to ease the congestion on a Sunday morning

Andrew then announced the result of the ballot for the affirmation of Elder and the appointment of Deacons. All appointed with overwhelming majorities.

There followed a time of prayer for the newly elected leaders and the church leadership as a whole.

Membership

Ruth Bellerby brought a short report and proposed that Nicki Haylett be accepted into membership at BBC

Seconded by: Anne Gosling

Approved unanimously

There was then a time of prayer

Foodbank – Phil Stevenson

Phil read out a report (attached- Appendix 1) outlining the past and future of Foodbank at BBC. A few questions were raised and answered.

CIO Update – Andrew

Andrew told the meeting that the move to becoming a CIO was progressing, albeit slowly and that he didn't anticipate this going through until later in the year.

Future Events and Dates: Graham

Graham reminded the meeting of the forthcoming dates and Andrew said that this year there would be no sunrise service, but that Ruth and him were looking at the possibility of an Easter breakfast before the main service

Palm Sunday – Baptisms – April 5th

Good Friday – April 10th

Easter Sunday – April 12th

Graham brought the meeting to a close at 21:25

Signed Date: 12th May 2020
Graham Simpson (Elder)

Appendix 1

Food Bank Report February 2020

We opened the Food Bank in March 2015 as a satellite to Christ Church under the Trussell Trust oversight.

In June 2019 a new project manager was appointed by the Trussell Trustees, Doncaster, to support the work of the three Food Banks, Christ Church, Rossington and here. The changes introduced and the rigid way they were implemented took away the freedom to support the clients in the way we had been able to do over the previous years. All the volunteers felt this was not what they had signed up for and the change in the co-ordinator, my role, led me to say I would step back from this position.

The trustees were informed of the unrest and negative vibes. Consequently, Graham and I met with the trustees and the Yorkshire Regional manager. At this meeting it became clear the Christian basis of the Food Bank was called into question. We were told we could not insist on my replacement as manager being a Christian, both me and the Church Leadership Team found unacceptable.

Being unable to find a suitable replacement manager, we took the decision to give notice that the oversight of the Trussell Trust was to cease after 2nd March 2020.

The Church Leadership Team and the Food Bank volunteers are committed to opening an independent Food Bank. Contact with other independent Food Banks has been made, and one in Thorne been visited. They are willing to give practical help and advice as we work towards reopening, which will probably be after Easter.

There is a lot to be arranged, and we are holding a meeting next Monday 9th March with the volunteers, to agree how and who will follow through with practical arrangements.

We have been supported with food donations from local churches, we hope we continue to receive these. We need to contact local supermarkets, schools, health centres, libraries etc. for additional food supplies.

St Peter's Church have a store of food which they have been using to support the Town End flood victims. They will be giving us the food and have pledged ongoing food and financial support to the independent Food Bank.

We believe that we will better support the needy in Bentley and surrounding area as an independent Food Bank, free from the constraints of the Trussell Trust voucher system.

God's heart is for us to care for those in need, to feed the hungry is one way we can do this. We also get to share the love of God and sometimes pray with people.

Do you want to get involved? Please speak to Me.

Thank you to all the volunteers who have supported Food Bank so faithfully over the years.

Phil Stevenson