

United Church Council
Monday 12th September 2016

Minutes

Present: Andrew Bond, June Poppleton, David Hibbert, Sue Johnson, Ash James, David Carruthers, Rob Kay, Petra Hedges, John Rhodes (Lay Vice Chair), David Edney, The Rev'd Scott Talbott, The Rev'd Deborah Snowball (Vicar)

The Vicar chaired the Meeting

1. Opening Prayers: These were led by the Vicar.
2. Apologies for Absence: Darryl Sharp, Rev'd Richard Lowson,

John Rhodes was welcomed back to the UCC following a period of ill health.
3. Minutes of last Meetings held on Monday 11th July and Sunday 14th August 2016
Both sets of Minutes were approved as an accurate record of the Meetings that took place.
4. Matters arising from the Minutes not covered elsewhere on the Agenda
 - July Minutes
 - Item 4e (Matters Arising) Church Secretary to move to new contract with immediate effect.
 - Item 5 (Financial Report) Retention Fee not yet been claimed or paid to PAYE.
 - Item 9b (Fabric and Churchyard Committee Report) Localism Act
Martyn Gowing has applied for the former 'Church Car Park' to be registered. All members of the UCC agreed to this application being made – seeking to ensure that full consideration is given by TRDC to future use of the land for the public benefit. We have no Trustees, but we are governed by the Church of England Church Representation Rules, as well as the Rules of the Methodist Church.
 - August Minutes
 - Internal Lighting: Spec gone to three companies. One does not wish to tender, awaiting others.
 - Chancel works: Date for start of works to be set asap.
5. Correspondence
Received a Gift of £1000 in memory of Helen Cox.
6. Finance Report (RK)
A balance sheet was presented, as well as Six Month Budget Review. Thanks were offered to Rob ay for his work in putting together the information.
7. Reports from UCC Committees
 - a. Community and Outreach: No questions were raised.
 - b. Fabric and Churchyard
 - i. Bicycle Racks: It was agreed to move ahead with a Faculty Application for these – to go in front of the west end of the Church Centre, beside the walkway. Three quotes were tabled: £2410+VAT (BJB), £1885+VAT (Chess), £1890 (no VAT to be applied). The quote for £1890 was agreed.
Action: Chair of Fabric and Churchyard to contact Company concerned.
 - ii. Alternative Vehicular access: Following some discussion as to the merit and feasibility of this matter, it was decided not to proceed any further.

- iii. Path to Church Centre from East End: Two quotes were available (despite having sought additional): £2350 (Forest), £1121.00 + VAT (Gomm). It was decided to accept the quote from Gomm.

Action: Chair of Fabric and Churchyard to contact Gomm.

c. Stewardship and Finance

- i. Safeguarding: Scott Talbott presented Minutes from a meeting that had taken place between him and the Safeguarding Officers. A number of points were made which will require further discussion and action (Posters, Officers, Agreeing a Safeguarding Team; References; Process). Future Minutes will be tabled for discussion.
- ii. Organist: Increase in Honorarium: A 1% increase was agreed.

Action: Rob Kay to implement this increase as of 1st January 2017.

8. Reports/Items from other Committee

- a. Annual discussion of the Charitable Giving Policy: This was agreed by all.
- b. Events Committee Minutes: A discussion took place regarding the possibility of merging the Events Committee with the Charitable Giving Committee. The is to be take back to both Committees to discuss further as to whether this is a best way forward in terms of managing and developing an Events Calendar.

9. Diocesan/Deanery/Circuit News (*Diocese: JR; Circuit: RL/DE/DD; Deanery: SA*)

a. Methodist

- i. New District Chair: Rev'd David Chapman
- ii. New Circuit Superintendents: Rev'ds Rachael Hawkins and Richard Lowson
- iii. Various other matters relating to Staffing were mentioned: Retirement of Rev'd Linda Woolcott, Ordination of two Circuit Staff members, appointment of new Staff for 2017 (hopefully).

b. CofE

- i. New Rural Dean: Rev'd David Hall
- ii. Bishop visiting: 7th November. We're hosting Bring and Share Supper. All members of the UCC were asked to save the date.

10. Governors for St Mary's Primary School

Two people have indicated their interest. More information will be available at the next meeting.

11. Big Welcome Back to Church Sunday (25th September), *update of plans*

Scott outlined a number of actions that had been put in place.

12. Mission Action Plan update

David Carruthers informed the meeting that plans were well ahead and that a meeting needed to take place with the Vicar and Associate Minister to look at which objectives were going to be the most useful to take forward.

13. LEP Constitution – continued discussion

As a number of the members present had not read the documentation, it was not possible to undertake this item. A separate meeting is to take place (before the November UCC Meeting).

14. Any other business: Thanks were offered to Jane Earl, who had given the Church a new Computer.

15. Items to be publicised: £1,000 gift; Bike Racks; annual discussion and agreement of the Charitable Giving Policy.

16. Date of next full UCC Meeting: 14th November

17. Closing Prayer: This was led by Scott.