

Hucclecote Methodist Church

Annual Church Meeting held on Wednesday 17 April 2024 at 7:30pm

Present: the Revd Barry Bishop, Keith Long, Ron Keasley, Elaine Keasley, Sue Clarke, Richard Clarke, Peter Shaw, Kate Amos, Elfed Pugh, Sheila Pugh, Kathy Morritt, Dawn Pearman, Mary Little, Margaret Dunne, Sue Dickens, Diana Godden, Jan Butler, Nick Butler, Mark Dickens, Sylvia Blake, Tim Blake, Beth Sweet, Mike Gregory, Mac McCulla, Sue Woodward, Andy Woodward, Lynne Cooke, Sue Yates, Paula, Debbie Long

Apologies received from: John Rainbow, Carole Stokes, Andrew and Jane Jackson, Scott Dickens, Loraine Shaw

Barry welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Barry opened the meeting by reading Psalm 150 Praise the Lord and with a prayer

Notes from the Annual Church Meeting held on 19 April 2023.

Barry signed the notes from the annual meeting held last year.

Remembering those Church Members who have died since the last annual meeting.

The meeting reflected on the lives of Alan Carne, Joan Morris, Bob Pearman, Diane Rotherham, and Carol Simpson and gave thanks for all the service they have given to Hucclecote Methodist Church.

Appointment of Church Stewards

The following Church Stewards agreed to be appointed for a further year, Lynne Cooke Senior Steward, Beth Sweet, Tim and Sylvia Blake, Sue Clarke, Christine Brewster. Lynne and Christine will finish their term of office at next year's annual meeting therefore new church stewards will be needed. If anyone wishes to volunteer as a church steward please speak to Barry or Lynne.

Barry gave his thanks to the Church Stewards for all their hard work.

Appointment of representatives to the Church Council

Jan Butler wished to resign from the Church Council and Nick Butler was nominated to join the Church Council.

The following are members of the Church Council

Minister	The Revd Barry Bishop
Church Treasurer	John Rainbow
Pastoral Secretary	Mary Little
Secretary of the Council	Debbie Long
Property and Finance Chair	Mark Dickens
Boys' Brigade	Scott Dickens
Communications and Room Bookings	Jane Jackson
Safeguarding Officer	Debbie Long
Junior Church Leader	Sylvia Blake

Action for Children
First Aid
Health and Safety
Assistant Treasurer
Communion Steward
Christian Aid
GDPR
Hucclecote Hub Representative

Lorraine Shaw
Keith Long
Keith Long
Andrew Jackson
Arnold Eke
Ron Keasley
role vacant
Keith Long

Ex Officio:

The Revd John Hellyer
Circuit Steward
Lesley Ward

Church Stewards

Lynne Cooke, Beth Sweet, Tim and Sylvia Blake, Sue Clarke, Christine Brewster

Other Church Council representatives

Andrew Jackson, Bernard Brewster, Dawn Pearman, Kay and Brychan Jenkins, Peter Shaw, Richard Clarke, Ron Keasley, Sandra John, Sue Woodward.

Additional help is required with operating the sound system, please see Peter Shaw

Communion Stewards are needed, please see Arnold Eke or Barry.

Volunteers are needed to help with the Memory Garden, please see Beth Sweet.

Adoption of Church Reports 2024

The 2024 Church Reports have been downloaded onto the church's website. If a paper copy is needed, please let Tim Blake know and he will print off a copy.
The reports were adopted.

Any other Business

Church letting

Barry has been approached by the leaders of a community of orthodox Christians from the Indian State of Kerala asking if they could use our church building to hold Christian Communion Services on a Sunday afternoon. Barry wanted to gauge the opinions of Church members. The following was discussed:

- The group would wish to either screen off or cover the Communion table
- The group have asked if they could use our kitchen facilities as they serve food after their communion services
- The group have asked if there is somewhere where they can store items. It was suggested tidying up and recycling the old hymn books in the Choir vestry.
- Income – the amount charged for rent would need to factor in the use of the heating of the church during the winter months
- If the group wished to use the sound system then they would have to leave it in the same position they found it in and not alter it. Similarly with the organ, there would need to be procedures agreed for the use of the organ
- Any cover or screen used to hide the Communion table would need to be funded by the group.

- It was suggested asking other churches in the Circuit who have rented out their churches to other faith groups to let us have a copy of their proposal so we can adjust it according to what is agreed between both parties.
- The group have 30/40 attending although this could increase
- The group must have public liability insurance
- We would need to review their safeguarding policy
- It was suggested photographs of the layout of the church are placed in the vestry so the group can put everything back afterwards
- The Circuit will need to agree to this, Barry will take this proposal to the staff meeting.
- No alcohol would be allowed on the premises
- There would have to be a trial period and then a review carried out.

Following discussions, the Church members agreed to Barry and the Church Stewards taking this proposal forward.

Size of banners proposal

It was agreed to take this proposal to the next Church Council

Mark advised that we need to arrange a date for a church tidy up.

Lay Worker appointment

Barry advised the advert is ready to be published and the interview date is being arranged.

Letting of Church premises for an interfaith event

Jane Jackson has received an enquiry regarding letting the church buildings for an interfaith event. Jane was unable to attend the meeting and it was suggested the proposal is brought to the Church Council for consideration.

There was a report on the BBC news regarding the recent theft from the Welcome Garden.

Sheila Pugh asked about the Church finances. The Church Treasurer, John Rainbow, had provided a report for the annual meeting. The church finances are in a healthy position. Mark reported the Grants sub Committee had met and we need to have a project to be agreed on before we can apply for grants. Quotations are being obtained to improve the church heating. It was suggested having a gift day and to raise money for a specific project or to purchase a tangible item, for example Members could purchase a radiator etc. The focus would be to hold the Gift Day in November around the time of the Church Anniversary. It was suggested letting members know that any items donated, the church could receive 25% in gift aid.

Date of next General Church Meeting

Wednesday 14 May 2025 at 7:30pm

The meeting closed with a prayer and the Grace