

Peasedown St John Methodist Church

Minutes of the Church Council held on February 11th 2016 at 7.30 p.m.

Those present: Beryl Fedder, Ray Love, Pam & Tom Turner, Linda & Francis Day, Val Humphries, Niki de Silva, Jill Souter, Nick Martin, Karen Smith, Sue Macey, Rob Doble

1 Devotions were led by Rev Michelle Ireland

2.Apologies : Bob Fedder

		ACTION
3.	The Minutes of the meeting held on September 23 rd were agreed a true record and signed.	
4.	The Safeguarding Policy , has been reviewed and some changes were made and agreed. Health & Safety policy has also been reviewed and changes agreed. The Lettings policy will need to be changed to reflect new Methodist policies regarding Insurance and Safeguarding. The Internet policy was also reviewed and agreed with some small changes. Thanks were expressed to Nick for his work in facilitating these reviews.	Francis
5	A discussion on the Methodist definition of marriage was held in two groups. A letter will be sent to the Superintendent Minister detailing our conclusions. A copy of this letter is available for anyone to see.	Francis
6.	Circuit Meeting: Several new appointments were reported.	
7	Vision Meeting: This group have come up with ideas to publicise what we do in the church. Banners for the outside of the church were decided upon. Jill spoke about the Spiritual growth of members in the congregation, and introduced the "Inspire" programme, which suggests groups getting together to discuss their faith and help each other to develop. This idea will be progressed at the next "Vision Meeting" It was also suggested that we ought to look at a healing ministry in the church.	Jill
8	Good News: The 24 hour prayer was a great time, Communitas continue and Michelle will be setting up Prayer Stations in the church during Holy Week. There will be 12 Young People going to Soul Survivor this year.	
10.	Learning & Prayer: Thursday Prayer Evenings will be looked at again, Prayer chains and Prayer texting are working well	
11	Property: Thanks were expressed to those who had worked on the refurbishment of the Dining room. Volunteers are needed to help with the maintenance of the building, It was agreed that another "DeepClean" of the kitchen was due. The Local Council have given us a start date for the bus shelter, assuring us that it is in this year's budget.	All members
12	Unity: The Women's World Day of Prayer is at St John's this year on March 4 th , Good Friday Service is at St Joseph's, followed by the Walk of Witness. The Village Carol Service has been booked for Sunday December 11 th at 2.30 p.m. at the Primary School.	
13	Pastoral: Thanks were expressed to all the Pastoral Visitors, they were reminded that they should share any concern, or news, about their folk with Michelle.	
14	Young People: Messy Church has taken off and is quite popular, there had been a different group on the Christmas Saturday, so there will be a Saturday meeting, but it will generally be on a Friday after school, once a term.	

	Sunday School the crèche is now established there is now one class on a Sunday. Young Blazers is doing well. The Youth enjoy their get together on Sunday mornings, Sunday evenings and at Blaze on Monday evenings.	
15	Service: The Food bank is still fulfilling a need in the area. The Winter Warmer event will be on March 8 th , and the Holiday at Home will be from the 12 th to the 14 th July. Plans are in hand for both.	
16	Treasurer: Derek is standing down as Treasurer after many years of service. The meeting decided that a letter of thanks and appreciation should be sent to him. We therefore need a new Treasurer, anybody interested is asked to talk to Michelle. Thanks were also expressed to the congregation in general for the generosity of their giving.	Francis
9.	There is a general feeling that the Technology needs updating. A new Laptop is needed, and another photocopier. The new Loop system is in hand, The speaker link to the Schoolroom would have been useful at a recent funeral, and this will be dealt with soon. It was also thought that the church would benefit with a TV in the Upper Room. It was agreed to leave final decisions to those who know about these things!	Nick, Andrew etc
	Worship Group: Jim Midgley proposed, (by e-mail), that Strictly Questions and Strictly Worship might be moved to other venues, this was discussed and the meeting agreed to endorse the idea of moving around. It was also agreed that we ought to get on with producing the Posters discussed at the vision meeting, The drum kit has recently been improved with some of Helena's personal kit, and it was agreed that a letter of thanks be sent to her.	Jim Francis
	Any Other Business: It was suggested that as the Shower room downstairs is never used it would be more useful to convert it into a small kitchen for the use of the Youth Groups that meet there on Tuesdays and Thursdays. This will be investigated. It was also agreed that a letter of thanks be sent to Vera to thank her for the dishcloths that she has knitted for the kitchen.	Linda Francis
17	Date & Time of next meeting: Tuesday May 17 th at 7.30 p.m. This will include the AGM	
18	The meeting closed in prayer.	