

Peasedown St John Methodist Church

Minutes of the Church Council held on **Wednesday September 23rd 2015**

Those present: Chris Pulsford, Linda & Francis Day, Derek Edgell, Karen Smith, Ray Love, Beryl & Bob Fedder, Pam & Tom Turner, Sue Macey, Kathy Dymond, Jill Souter Val Humphries, Niki da Silva. Rev Michelle.

1. **Devotions** were led by Rev Michelle

2. **Apologies** were received from Nick Martin & Malcolm Hicks.

		Action
3	The minutes of the meeting held on May 5th 2015 were approved as a true record and signed.	
4	The meeting was informed that a "visioning" team had been set up which was intended to help the stewards make decisions about the future of the church under the headings of the "Our Calling" document set out by the Methodist Church. Other people may be invited and the church will be informed of the progress made.	
5	Good News: Soul Survivor had again been a blessing to the Young People who attended. 24hr worship had been a wonderful time for all who took part and for those who attended. It was agreed to send a letter from the meeting to thank Helena for her inspirational idea.	Francis
6	Worship: the Youth of the church are actively involved in leading worship, their next service being on October 4 th . The new combined covenant and Family Day will be on the first Sunday in September in future. The meeting thanked the Days for the use of their garden on the first of these events, which was a success. Some discussion followed regarding the volume of the music on occasions, and it was made clear that the stewards should be told, at the time , if it seemed too loud for anybody. Some concern about the lack of Methodist New in the "Village Voice" was expressed. Michelle will inform the Councillors of events at the church.	
7	Prayer & Learning: Monthly Prayer days continue on the last Thursday of the month, and every other Thursday evening from 8 – 9 p.m. There is a new Bible Study group that meets on the alternate Wednesday to Knit and Natter. The evening Bible Studies continue, Tuesdays at Edgehill and Wednesdays at Underknoll, There is room for more, participants so please think prayerfully about joining a group.	
8	Property: A list of work needed was distributed, a meeting will be held to prioritise the list. It was hoped that volunteers would be willing to help with much of the work. One immediate concern was the replacement of the flooring in the Dining Room, Linda & Francis would research the options for this. It was also suggested that the side entrance hall flooring should be replaced with the same material as that in the front porch. It was also agreed that the purchase of a small cordless "hoover" be bought for the premises which all groups would be encouraged to use after every event.	Bob, Christine, Linda, Francis
9	Christians Together: SJ's youth work has not progressed further. Christians Together has its annual meeting at the Vicarage on October 8 th 2015. The Women's World Day of Prayer is due to be held at St John's this year. We are restarting the Village carol service this year on Sunday December 13 th at 2.30 p.m. Midsomer Norton Silver Band will be in attendance and the Primary School children will take part also. There will be tea and mince pies afterwards.	Niki
10	Pastoral: The text Prayer Chain works well.it was thought that the land line group might need splitting in two. Visiting people in their homes was encouraged, and the recording of the services was again raised. Hill House was enjoyed by all and thanks were expressed to Niki and Jill & Ian Souter for their work over the weekend. Jill & Ian would value any feedback. It was agreed to write to Steve Moore to thank him for his wonderful work with the young people that weekend.	Francis
11	Youth Work: Sunday mornings are changing! Laura & Shaun take the teenagers on the 2 nd 4 th and 5 th Sunday mornings, to cover some of the "Big Q's" There is also "Blaze" on Monday evenings, and Steve Moore comes once a month on Sunday evening to take them as well. The Sunday School has a few Primary age children and they are taken in one class. There is a crèche which Gwen runs, with help from Chris, Marilyn & Rosemary. Claire has stepped down, and thanks were expressed for her work over the	

	<p>years. Seeds continues to very popular and the leaders are linking it with church with stories and songs. Young Blazers will recommence after Half Term, under Andrew & Lucy's leadership. The junior aged children who attended Kidszone were presenting extremely challenging behaviour and so the club has been dissolved. Thanks to Karen, Nick, Derek, Claire, Niki, & Alison who have had this group for so long. Messy church will continue on Friday afternoons bi-monthly, and these might become more frequent.</p>	
12	<p>Service: Foodbank continues to use the premises and their services are needed regularly. The infant schoolchildren will come here for their Harvest, and will bring donations for the foodbank. Holiday at Home was as popular as ever and Communita is still well supported every other month. A Macmillan Coffee Morning will be held this year as usual.</p>	
13	<p>Finance: Derek thanked everybody for the great response to the service that Michelle had held regarding giving. In consequence he felt we were able to increase our pledge to the circuit. He proposed we increase it from £1867 per month, to £2000. This was seconded by Karen and agreed by the meeting. It was also agreed to pay £100 each to the Property & Auxiliary Fund, The LWPT and Overseas Missions. He was able to tell the meeting that the amount raised for mission and charities over the year was £10,000 which means that 25% of our income is given away. Occasionally we do apply to outside groups for grants, Pam requested that these applications should be co-ordinated through the treasurer.</p>	
14	<p>Encouragement: We were all asked to pat each other on the back! Michelle explained that we should encourage each other regularly</p>	
15	<p>Circuit Matters: Kathy was able to update us on several circuit matters: The mission areas had changed, and minister's areas of responsibility had changed a little. Network now known as "Methodist Women in Britain" has ceased in this circuit, though the Easter Offering service will still occur. Jan Tate the new Radstock minister has a Development & Training role in the circuit. The district Youth meet at Midsomer Norton in October. We were not sure if our young people would attend, it was agreed that it would be encouraging for all the young people in the circuit if there were regular meetings for them to meet together. Rachel Borgars leaves next year, and there would be a new deacon for Southdown next year. Kathy also said that new Circuit Stewards were always needed.</p>	
15A	<p>Food Hygiene etc: We have set up a system to comply with all food allergen laws. We have produced forms to complete for menus, and thermometer monitoring. As we are a low risk establishment we were able to be interviewed on the phone which we passed. Our thanks to Valerie for coping with all the questions! There will be a further Rational Combi Oven Training session for any interested future cooks to attend, details later. <u>One important change to using the kitchen is that all food waste MUST be put in the food waste bin which has been placed on the worktop.</u></p>	All users of the kitchen
16	<p>Date of the next meeting: Thursday Feb 11th 2016</p>	

Signed..... Date: