

Thames Valley Circuit Meeting
14th May 2024, at 7.45 pm
High Street, Maidenhead
Minutes

1 Revd Vicci **welcomed** everyone to the meeting. Vicci started by reading from Exodus chapter 13. She spoke about how the children of Israel met with all sorts of difficulties, and how this becomes a metaphor for Christian life indeed the life of this circuit - from Vicci's arrival in Covid and onward to the present day. God doesn't change but our understanding does. God's plan is still the same as when He planted Methodists here in John Wesley's Time.

2 **The membership of the meeting was agreed.** It is recorded on the attendance sheet in the minutes book. Those attending: 20 lay representatives; one staff member. Apologies. 8 members neither attended nor sent apologies.

3 **Declaration of interest** - There were no declarations made.

4 The **Agenda was agreed** with no other items requested for AOB.

5 **Minutes of last meeting**-were accepted and duly signed.

6 **Matters arising not on the agenda.**

Action point: MHA co-ordinator role – any volunteers identified? Send details to Circuit Administrator for information on this.

7 **EDI**

EDI report accepted.

Proposal: Churches to find one representative for EDI. Their role will be to review how church EDI practices are being carried out and to be in contact with Jason in regard to EDI best practice.

8 **Safeguarding Report.** Circulated with these minutes. Report stated a new District Safeguarding Officer, Claire Coles, had been appointed. The advanced safeguarding training for July 20th has been arranged and those who are required to attend have been notified.

Thames Valley's Circuit Safeguarding audit will be done in September/October time.

9 **GDPR**

No report submitted.

Action: send email out reminding all churches to send GDPR to Wendy Cory and email Circuit Administrator to confirm this is done.

10 **Accept reports** already circulated and not addressed as Agenda items.

1) Superintendents Annual Report Report Accepted

2) Circuit Youth – including 3-Gen video. Report Accepted

Proposed: Another Adult to volunteer coming to 3Generate as current Youth Convenor will be 38 weeks pregnant. This person would require DBS and safer recruitment checks. It was suggested that youth clubs in the Circuit also be promoted to surrounding schools.

3Generate video shown.

Action: Youth Convenor to email Jude Yabani in regards to the youth at St Andrew's

11 Finance

Report Accepted:

A thank you to all who gave to the World Mission Fund. The total by the Circuit Working together was £1747.81.

Of this £642 was gift aided which will bring an extra £160.50 making a total of £1908.31. The equivalent total last year, our first after Covid, was £1535.19.

It was proposed that the Circuit treasurer starting on the 1st September 2024 be Mr Frank Bulley with Mrs Susan Le Page as Deputy Circuit Treasurer, given authority to sign cheques and authorise bank transfers for one more year. This was seconded by Joy.

Agreed unanimously,

and that Frank Bulley be authorised to act on behalf of the Circuit for online banking for the Central Finance Board Account and for the Circuit Model Trust Account held at TMCP from 1st September.

This was seconded by Anne.

Agreed unanimously.

Sue was thanked for her 6 years service as Circuit Treasurer.

12 Property

Report Accepted

13 Matters from CLT

CLT Report Accepted.

Conversations were had about the Job Fair in June.

It was mentioned that by September a New Circuit Steward would need to be found.

ACTION: send all fliers mentioned in CLT report to churches wanting Online copies.

14 Circuit Strategy: The Work of God in the Thames Valley

Born in song Proposal:

It was proposed that £1000 from Circuit Funds be allocated to the project. 10 students are required to go ahead. If they are not found the funds will be returned to the Circuit.

Proposal Accepted.

There were conversations had about promotion and it was suggested that the Lighthouse project would be a good place to start.

It was mentioned that the Circuit Plan has come out late the last couple of times.

ACTION: all to send dates by the deadline so plan can be created within time set.

15 Matters from LP meeting:

No report given. as this is done every 2 years.

We currently have 3 local preachers on trial, 2 leaving to train (for the ministry), 1 fully fledged from another Conference

1 new authorised worship leader and 1 new in training.

16 Circuit Greetings No Greetings given.

17 Any other business

Pauline was gifted some flowers and a card to thank her for her time as Circuit Administrator and to thank her for spending time with the new Circuit Administrator

18 Dates for Diaries

Next meeting is on the 4th September

Proposed meeting venue : St. Mark's

Action: Churches to contact Joy to confirm who will be the stationing reps for each church for the next Circuit Meeting.

19 Closing thanks and prayer