

**Thames Valley Circuit - Methodist Church Circuit Meeting at
Ledger's Road - Tuesday, 28th February 2012 at 7.45 pm**

Minutes

Present: Rev Andrew Baker plus 3 other ministers, 4 Circuit Stewards, and 31 other members (plus 5 non-voting observers) as listed in the register of attendees. Apologies from 11 members noted there.

Agenda as distributed including the Deferred Special Resolution sent separately, plus under AOB, Change of authorised Circuit Cheque signatories and Fairtrade Fortnight.

Minutes of last meeting were agreed and signed as a correct record. Proposer: Peter White, Seconder: David Thomson.

Matters Arising - The Ministerial Development Reviews (MDRs) are currently taking place. Thank you to Ed Filmore, Peter Hardiment and Mary Hall for carrying out reviews. Ed Filmore had agreed to be the MDR secretary for next year's arrangements.

- The North Slough and Colnbrook LEPs are due for review by Churches Together in Berkshire this year; Burnham Churches Together has been resurrected.

Changes to the Deed of Union: Deferred Special Resolution

Having consulted its members on resolution 47/9 of the 2010 Methodist Conference, the Circuit took an "Approve / Disapprove" vote on the proposal to amend Clause 4 of the Deed of Union as set out in paragraph 5.4 Law and Polity in the 2010 Minutes of Conference pp 28-29. The result of 36 Approve and 1 Disapprove will be sent to Synod.

Safeguarding Four people in the Circuit have been trained to give 'Creating Safer Places' training which will be offered on a variety of dates and times from Easter to August. Church Council Secretaries are asked to obtain the list of those who need training in their Church and safeguarding cards for them from Kathy Rickman. Clarification is being sought on whether Module A training exempts this requirement. The training is not just about safeguarding children and vulnerable adults but also safeguarding ourselves.

Circuit Annual Report - This was received in the form of reports from the Circuit Superintendent, the Senior Circuit Steward and the Treasurer's financial report to the last Circuit Meeting.

These were accepted with the amendment of the first sentence in the Circuit Steward's report of the paragraph starting "Once again I ask..." to "Once again I ask for your forbearance as the plan we have been working on can only become fully operational once our three new members of staff have arrived and settled in, and we have discussed and finalised collectively how best to utilise their particular skills and talents." Proposer: Joyce Brown, Seconder: Anne Haggarty

The Annual Report will be available on the Circuit website with one paper copy in each Church.

Stationing Subject to Conference, Rev Margaret Dudley will be our new Probationer Presbyter. Margaret and will live in the Windsor manse.

Pastoral Charge of Churches from September:

- Sonia – Hampshire Ave, Ledgers Rd, Burnham and Eton Wick.
- Gary - High Street and St Mark's.
- Margaret – Windsor, Old Windsor, and Colnbrook.
- Andy - Deacon in the Slough area.
- Andrew - St. Andrew's English and Urdu, Woodlands Park and ultimate pastoral charge of Cookham (chaining Church Council and the named Minister).

Gary and Sonia will also give pastoral support at Cookham. Rev Malcolm R White will be planned for 3 morning services a quarter at Cookham, whose Church Council were happy with the prospect of this team ministry.

Pam Newton commented on the danger of Andrew having too much to do, especially as St Andrew's is quite demanding of ministerial time, holding the four communities together. Andrew foresaw the Deacon relieving him of the mission aspects in Slough. Neville Walton spoke of the need for the team to meet regularly to make a team ministry work. It was stated that this arrangement would be reviewed after a year.

Search for a manse to rent for Sonia. This would now start in Burnham up to Farnham Road and down to Cippenham Road. Please notify Phil Clack of any suitable properties you see.

Circuit Meeting resolved unanimously to apply for request for the probationer to be given a **dispensation to administer Holy Communion**

2012/13 Budget and Assessment of £250,624, 1% above the current year, was agreed unanimously.

The Circuit Property Schedule D was approved to be sent to District containing some exceptions which Phil Clack would take up with the individual Churches involved.

Circuit Property Consent was given to Eton Wick to refurbish their 2 bedroom house for £25,000 to £30,000 and then to let out. Help with finding a prospective tenant in a month or so was requested.

A donation to Reading Citizens' Advice Bureau of £200 was agreed in recognition of the work John Salthouse does for the Circuit website. A token donation from the Mission Development Fund made to a charity chosen by him was proposed by Ed Filmore.

Annual Circuit Appointments for 2012/13 were agreed (as listed in Appendix 1) including Mrs Elizabeth Tottingham as Circuit Steward replacing Mr Paul Newton. Our Circuit representation to Synod has been reduced to the Senior Circuit Steward plus 5 who are ex officio members of Circuit Meeting. Those who had volunteered as Circuit Development reviewers were thanked, but this proposed system had now been superseded.

Circuit Cheque Signatories –

Anne Haggarty proposed and the Circuit agreed that:

- “ For our HSBC bank account Mr Alan Crowle and Mrs Elizabeth Tottingham replace Mr Paul Newton and Mr Phil Clack on the list of appointed signatories”, and also
- “that for our CFB account Mr Alan Crowle and Mrs Elizabeth Tottingham replace Mr Paul Newton and Mr Phil Clack on the list of appointed signatories.”

Fairtrade Sue Trout encouraged us to support a RBWM Fair trade event this Saturday. All our churches have signed up to provide only fairly traded tea, coffee and sugar. Kingdom coffee is a good source for nice tasting bulk coffee.

The next step we can make as leaders in our churches to bring the Kingdom of God to our Circuit was the challenge in the discussion session.

Dates for Diaries:

10 th Mar 7pm	Broken Shoestring at St Mark's for Water Aid
17 th Mar 10-12.30	Morning on Methodism at Windsor
22 nd Apr	Service & ticketed Lunch with the President of Conference at Windsor
29 th Apr 4pm	Tea & Circuit Easter Offering Service at High St,
16 th May 7.45 pm	Circuit Meeting Eton Wick
22 nd July 6.30pm	Circuit Farewell to Mannie and Barbara at Hampshire Avenue
20 th Sept 7.45pm	Circuit Meeting at Windsor
20 th Nov 7.45pm	Circuit Meeting at Colnbrook
<u>2013</u>	
28 th Feb 7.45 pm	Circuit Meeting at St Mark's
22 nd May 7.45 pm	Circuit Meeting at Hampshire Avenue

The Meeting closed with thanks to our hosts and the Blessing at 9.30 pm.

Annual Circuit Appointments for 2012 - 2013

Circuit Leadership Team Appointed by Circuit Meeting

Appointed in:

Circuit Stewards	Mr Phil Mount	2007	Miss Ruth James	2007
	Mrs Anne Haggarty	2008	Mr Alan Crowle	2011
	Mrs Liz Tottingham	2012		
Circuit Steward/Treasurer			Mr Chris Wren	2010
Circuit Property Secretary			Mr Phil Clack	2011
Circuit Meeting Secretary			Mrs Sue Le Page	2011
Circuit Local Preachers Meeting Representative			Mrs Connie Jeffery	2011

Nominations from Circuit Committees for ratification:

Children and Youth	Lay Secretary		<i>vacant</i>	
Local Preachers' Mtg:	Secretary		Mrs Connie Jeffery	2006
	LWPT Secretary / Treasurer		Miss Daphne Hogg	?
Methodist Homes	Representative / Secretary		Miss Daphne Hogg	?
Ministries	Lay Secretary		<i>vacant</i>	
Missions	Representative for Mission in Britain and World Mission		Mrs Pam Newton	2010
	JMA Secretary		<i>vacant</i>	
Action for Children	Co-ordinator / Secretary		Mrs Evelyn Thomson	2003
Circuit MWiB	President		Mrs Ann Hardiment	2008
	Secretary		Mrs Audrey Lelliott	2008

Circuit Representatives to Synod: *Ex officio* member + 5 representatives + 1 substitute (All are *ex officio* members of the Circuit Meeting)

	Mr Phil Mount (<i>Ex officio</i>)	2002	Mr Philip Clack	2005
	Mr Bill Barnett	2008	Mrs Anne Haggarty	2009
	Mr Peter Trout	2010	Mrs Liz Tottingham	2012
<i>Substitute:</i>	<i>vacant</i>			

Membership of Invitations Committee:

Circuit Leadership Team minus any Minister leaving
The committee is empowered to issue an invitation to a minister if a right match be found.

Other Appointments

Circuit Auditor	Messrs Bridgen, Watkins & Wainwright			2005
Circuit Safeguarding Officer			Mrs Kathy Rickman	2004
Circuit Webmaster			Mr Ian Haggarty	2009
Circuit Deputy Webmaster			Dr Ed Filmore	2009
Circuit Ministerial Development Review Secretary			Dr Ed Filmore	2012