

**ALL SAINTS METHODIST CHURCH**  
**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL CHURCH MEETING**  
**HELD ON 29<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2018**

**Present:**

Rev. Keith Underhill	(Chair)	Sue Russell (Secretary)
Dcn.Selina Nisbett	Helen Appleyard	Mary DeVere
Martin Appleyard	Kate Jones	Tony DeVere
Pauline Sykes	Margaret Long	Jenny Caddy
Marion Williams	Paul Williams	Judith Penrose Brown
Rosemary Perrow	David Perrow	Margaret Ellwood
Ruth Coward	Chris Caddy	Margaret Hoskins
Tim Coward	Brian Mansfield	Gillian Mansfield
Derek Pooley	Jennifer Pooley	Derek Bold
Becky Batey	Valerie Grist	Alan Grist
Jan Malin	Myrtle Hodgkins	Maurice Tubb
Pat Brightwell	Anne Matthews	Richard Matthews
Bert Brightwell	Larissa Richards	Trudy Hall
Audrey Hallett		

**1. Welcome and Devotions**

Rev. Keith Underhill welcomed those present, thanked Tony and Mary DeVere, who were present, for their service to All Saints during their time at the church as Senior Steward and Circuit representative. He reflected that not only was the AGM meeting a time to elect stewards and representatives but a time to reflect on the past year's achievements and be proud of what All Saints achieves through its ministry, service and outreach. He opened the meeting at 13:30 with prayers. There followed prayers in memory of Marion Denis and Hilda Hesky.

**2. Apologies**

Apologies for absence had been received from;

Mike Brown	Joanne Phipps	Sue Butler	Alistair Batey	Pauline Marshall
Cliff Marshall	Rosemary Stanbury	Rev John Anderson		

**3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

The minutes of the previous annual general meeting on 14th May 2017 were signed as a true record by the chair, Keith Underhill. There were no matters arising that were not covered on the agenda. There were no additional items added for AOB

**4. Presentation of the Annual Report for 2017/2018**

**Stewards report-** Keith explained that there was no senior steward at All Saints. A senior steward shouldered much of the burden so tasks were now shared equally among stewards. He commented on how the stewards at All Saints in working collaboratively and with no senior steward are modelling a different way of working that other churches might find helpful. He thanked Paul Williams for his service as a steward as he was standing down from the role.

**Deacon's report** – Selina was thanked for her role working within the community which had a big impact on families who find life difficult.

**Circuit report** – Blewbury church was under offer, not yet sold. It had been difficult to close churches where members had invested lengthy service but it was pleasing to see them worshipping

elsewhere and the money released from the sale of the churches had released capital for mission work elsewhere. Rev. John Anderson had been employed part time to work through Pastoral concerns at Trinity and All Saints Churches. Keith mentioned that it was a great Circuit to work in.

**CIA report** – Paul mentioned that the CIA are celebrating their 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary but that some churches were reluctant to worship together, but he would continue to chivvy the clergy to celebrate this achievement. Keith mentioned Thy Kingdom Come, the novena of prayer between Ascension and Pentecost, initially suggested by the Archbishop of Canterbury but now a worldwide, multi denominational event. Booklets were available to take and people encouraged to pray. The CIA are hosting events during these 9 days of prayer. Selina said that the clergy meet for prayer monthly.

**Finance** – Brian informed the meeting that overall collections and lettings netted around £70,000 but that outgoings were in the region of £100,000. From our income All Saints gives away 20% , much to Methodist charities. This amount can be reduced if the budget falls into difficulties. The new signage and cross will leave a deficit of £5000 and a Gift Day is planned to fund balance. Keith thanked Brian for his meticulous scrutiny of finances in a rigorous role with ever increasing outside demands from the government and the charities commission etc.

**Mission Action Report** – Keith highlighted the need for a secretary as Joanne was stepping down from the role.

**Property Action Report** - David Perrow reported that Property Action Committee had 2 main projects; the Cross and the toilets. Tim had applied to VOWH seeking for planning agreement for the new Cross and signage. The toilets would be altered in two phases. The first next Easter when pre-school were on holiday and the 2<sup>nd</sup> phase in the summer of 2019. Grants had been applied for and the Oxford Historic Churches Trust had awarded All Saints £15,000. We qualified as we were over 50 years old and an active member of the trust, taking part regularly in the annual Ride and Stride event. Margaret Hoskins was thanked for her role in this. Keith assured the meeting that the Circuit and District have given their support to the alterations and improvements and thanked David for his hard work, especially completing varied forms.

**Bold Walk** – Keith congratulated the group on reaching 300<sup>th</sup> walk!

**Messy Church Report** – Keith commented on the initial statement from the report ‘...continues to thrive as a congregation’ and thanked the meeting for ‘understanding’ and for ‘getting it’! For some people Messy Church is their ‘Church’ and the way they encounter God.

**All other reports were noted and accepted**

### **Other Activities**

**Christian Aid report** – Keith reminded the meeting that it would soon be Christian Aid week again and several activities were planned.

**Church Flowers** – Keith reiterated Rosemary’s request for offers of help with ‘festival’ flowers and to fill gaps

**Trinity Learning report** – Keith thanked Rosemary Perrow for her presentation to Circuit and that it had inspired and challenged those members and ongoing financial support would ensure its continuation.

**Future Focus Day report** – Keith thanked Val Grist and her team for their enthusiasm, organisation and detailed, reflective report from the Future Focus day held in March. He mentioned there would be an Open Worship Consultation Meeting on May 16<sup>th</sup> at All Saints Church @7.45pm

**Foodbank report** – Judith thanked All Saints for their generosity in donations of food supplies in acknowledgement of the crisis of some families on our doorsteps. She reminded the meeting that she often updates supplies needed at the foodbank on the weekly notices. Keith reflected that this shows God’s love in a very practical way.

**Keith said that the report reflected not only what All Saints does financially and with its property but what it achieves locally and globally and that we should celebrate what we do DO!**

- **The meeting accepted the Annual Report.**

## **5. Election of Stewards to serve 2018-2019 and Re-Election of Representatives to the Church Council**

Paul was thanked for his time as stewards. All Saints had been grateful for him volunteering and recognised his many periods of long service.

**The elected team of church stewards for the coming year would now be**

<b>Valerie Grist</b>	<b>Tim Coward</b>	<b>Ruth Coward</b>	<b>Martin Appleyard</b>
<b>Helen Appleyard</b>	<b>David Perrow</b>		

- **It was agreed and delegated that if anyone else wished to stand as a steward then Keith could approve this appointment without it waiting for an AGM approval.**

The current chairs of the various committees and action groups were confirmed as representatives to the church council. In addition the following were elected as representatives of the ACM to the Church Council.

Alistair Batey	Derek Pooley	Jenny Pooley
Joanne Phipps	Rosemary Perrow	Margaret Ellwood

The composition of the Church Council is for the next year therefore.

Minister (Chair)	Rev Ian Griffiths	
Secretary	Sue Russell	
Treasurer	Brian Mansfield	
Senior Steward	Tony de Vere	
Stewards	David Perrow	Helen Appleyard
	Valerie Grist	Tim Coward
	Ruth Coward	Martin Appleyard
Pastoral Committee Secretary	Sue Butler	
Circuit Steward	Tim Coward	
ACM Representatives	Rosemary Stanbury	Mission Action
and other office holders	Vacant	The Fellowship
	Margaret Hoskins	Communion Steward
	Trudy Hall	Junior Church
	Judith Penrose Brown	CFC & Youth Forum
	Richard Matthews	Finance Committee
	Kate Jones	Messy Church
	David Perrow	Property Action
	Helen Appleyard	Safeguarding
Church Meeting Appointments	Alistair Batey	Jenny Pooley
(Up to 15)	Joanne Phipps	Derek Pooley
	Rosemary Perrow	Margaret Ellwood

All Saints Reps to Circuit meeting

Tim Coward - steward	Kate Jones	Sue Butler
Brian Mansfield - Treasurer		

## **6. Any Other Business**

- **Ruth Coward** reminded the meeting that the lobby was messy with surplus paper with folding edges and asked all board holders to tidy their contributions. Derek reminded the meeting that he always removed out of date paperwork.

- **David Perrow** said that All Saints Environmental group had been looking into the possibility of becoming an Eco church. They had investigated in 2010 and had made improvements to insulation, economic water flush in toilets, change of bulbs to LED and recently a move to green Eco gas/electricity suppliers. Unfortunately the categories to meet the criteria have expanded. David asked the meeting to approve the continued quest for becoming an Eco Church
- **The meeting agreed that the Environmental group continue exploring carbon reducing ideas to apply for a certificate of recognition as an Eco Church.**
- **Judith Penrose Brown** highlighted the fact that 2019 would be All Saints' Diamond celebration year. Requests had been put in place to have the President of Conference as preacher on the day. She reminded everyone of the superb Gold year celebrations, and although she wasn't prepared to invest the same amount of time and energy if anyone had any ideas then to please pass them on so she could raise them with Church Council.
- **Ruth Coward** reminded the meeting that stewards had proposed a Nativity festival at the church during December and if anyone was interested in planning this event to speak with her and join the group.

**7. Date of Next Meeting**

Date TBC at 1:30 pm as Easter celebrations are late in 2019

**10. Blessing**

The meeting closed with prayers and the Blessing 14.25

**Sue Russell**

**30<sup>th</sup> April 2018**