

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of The Cross and Stable Church Held on Sunday, 13th March, 2005

Present: The Reverend Paul Smith (in the chair) together with 28 members (Peter Green arriving later).

1. Apologies for Absence

Ken and Joan Brine, Bob and Edith Cross.

2. Previous Minutes

The Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on the 28th March, 2004, were accepted as a correct record and signed.

3. Matters Arising

It was agreed that a congregational meeting be held in September, possibly September 11th – a short service followed by a meeting.

4. Annual Reports

All the reports had been circulated beforehand. The chairman commented that the reports showed what a high level of commitment of people there was to the church. Amy bright spoke to the pastoral team report and stated she would welcome more people to join the team.

5. Financial statements 2004/2005

Peter Green acting Treasurer arrived in time to speak to this item and also brought greetings from Newport Pagnell Methodist Church. He reported that the accounts had been prepared by Paul Dunn and showed a deficit of £1,000. The current year's deficit was likely to be much more. He pointed out the amount received under the gift aid scheme and from Cross & Stable charities which is usually passed to the management committee towards the upkeep of this building.

Joan Wilson asked for clarification of the £335 spent under the heading of 'Pastoral Care' as the Pastoral team had not incurred such expenditure. Peter Green promised to investigate this. (NB this expenditure was respect of part cost of the Christmas leaflets £248 and £87 Christmas newspaper advertisement).

Peter Green re- iterated the current year's financial position as we are losing £100 a week. It is anticipated that there will be a loss of £5,000 on current outgoings of £15,000 which will use up our reserves in a year. A letter will shortly be sent out to the regular givers showing amount given during the year and the tax recovered. All of us will need to consider if we can contribute more to enable this church to survive. Amy Bright explained that the rentals coming into the management committee were spent on the upkeep of the building i.e. the brick paving outside and more was to be spent on upgrading the lighting. The suggestion was made that more fundraising could take place. It was proposed by Amy Bright, seconded by John Weaver and agreed that the annual reports and accounts be approved. Peter Green was thanked for being willing to look after the accounts in the interim period before a new treasurer can be found. It was also agreed to recognise and salute the hard work of Paul Dunn in acting as church treasurer for so many years.

6. Membership list

It was proposed by Gill Grant, seconded by Gwen Green and agreed to approve the membership list, as included in the annual report. The secretary pointed out that, under the data Protection Act, the membership list should not be circulated outside the church members. The Chairman reported that membership cards were to be printed without a date, to save on printing cards, with the name of the member and the date handwritten.

7. Appointment of church officers

a) Warden

Both wardens continue in office but next year one warden will stand down to allow for continuity in office.

b) Secretary

Amy Head retired from office. Two nominations had been received- Katie Grant and Gwen Green. Upon a secret ballot having been taken, Katie Grant was appointed to the office.

c) Treasurer

Peter Green is acting pro tem but a nomination is urgently required.

d) Minutes Secretary

Stephanie Tucker is willing to continue.

e) Team leaders

1. Senior Steward Derek Smulders wishes to retire. Ken Brine has agreed to accept this appointment.
2. Worship Bob Cross
3. Bell Ringers Stephanie Tucker reported that as the practice time had been altered her daughter could no longer attend and therefore there was no contact with the Bell ringers. Gill Grant agreed to contact the Bell ringers and inform them of the situation and that if they wanted to change their arrangements or have extra sessions they must first contact the caretaker.
4. Junior Church Lorna Smulders
5. Pastoral Amy Bright
6. Flowers and Furnishings Edith Cross
7. Social Violet Walters

It was proposed by Peter Green, seconded by Paul Bright and agreed that these appointments be approved.

8. Election of Representatives

- a) SEC Bob Cross and Paul Bright
- b) Mission Partnership Gwen Green and Paul Bright
- c) Management Committee Vicar, Bob Cross, Amy Bright, Paul Bright (would like to give up next year), Peter Green and Jeanette Smith.

It was proposed by Paul Smith, recorded by Violet Walters and agreed that all the above representatives be approved.

9. Nomination of Deanery Synod

To be appointed at SEC AGM.

10. Children and Holy Communion

The chairman explained that the last congregation meeting had approved that children be allowed to receive the bread at communion services, if approved at SEC. This approval had now been received. It was agreed that Paul Smith and Lorna Smulders decide how best to proceed.

11. SEC, Vision, Shared Values and Review Response

The Chairman reported that at the last SEC meeting it was agreed to make progress with a parish magazine. Christ Church was also organising a fete and barbecue on a Saturday to which other churches were invited.

12. Any other Business

Alan Argue thanked all those who had sponsored his swim - he had raised £150. Joan Wilson thanked all the officers and team leaders for all their hard work last year.

13. Date of next AGM

Sunday, March 19th 2006.

The meeting closed with prayer.

Chairman