

GURC CHURCH MEETING MINUTES 25th. JANUARY 2020

Chair: Rev Andrew Sellwood.

Devotions led by Rosina Bayley

Attendees: 25

Apologies:6

Minutes of previous meeting approved and signed by Rev Andrew Sellwood.

Matters arising

Family service. The first for 2020 was on Sunday 19th January and was attended by 45+ congregation. Reported to be much appreciated. Further family services are planned and will be reviewed and adapted as required.

Little Fishes. Families in need have been identified by the leaders. The congregation raised £92 at Christmas for Little Fishes. The meeting thanked Val Gill for the link into Little Fishes.

Photocopier. A new one has now been installed.

Pastoral Report. Hilary Redman

The passing of Jim Hope on 2nd January was recorded. The Funeral will be taking place on 5th February and will be led by Rev Andrew Sellwood. The meeting stood in remembrance of Jim.

We also remembered Norman Ashby, husband of Margaret Ashby who has also passed away.

The meeting shared news of the fellowship and upheld in prayer all those with special needs at this time.

It was also agreed in the meeting that non-members shall be recorded as Church Friends in future.

Agenda Items

Reform Magazine. Jane Bond has handed over the purchase of these to those who take it.

Table Tennis Tables. Wilfred Rhodes read out an email from Carol Webber to say that some damage has been reported to a table which was originally purchased by the group themselves. The meeting discussed future storage possibilities which will be further addressed during the property report.

DBS. These are due for renewal. Wilfred informed member he will be passing around forms to those requiring them.

(Women's) World Day of Prayer. Wilfred Rhodes read out a report from Eileen Rhodes which is filed with the minutes of meeting. This event is now to be known as World Day of Prayer. Service details were provided about the event this year by people of Zimbabwe.

Anyone requiring a lift to speak to Eileen.

Following this year's services Eileen will be stepping down from the committee and Susie Thomas is to be our church representative.

Group Reports

Finance. No report.

Property. Graham Redman. Future use of stage area for storage was discussed but this is not a priority and will be added to the list of on-going items to attend to.

It was suggested a deposit could be requested of one-off users of our premises. This was not discussed further.

Ray Knight continues to work hard with regards to his report and items to be addressed.

The property committee have further discussed the windows and agreed to replace the transept windows first at a cost of around £16,000. This includes repair fascia and down pipes. The work will be carried out by replacing individual panes and will likely take place in the spring.

The meeting was asked to agree this specific spend and did so unanimously.

Matthew Smith advised the meeting that we will receive £2,000 a year grant from Synod for church maintenance.

The asbestos survey has taken place. Some asbestos noted on outside bottom windows which can be painted to seal this.

The property committee will discuss what needs to be done with the garage which is reported to have a leaking roof.

Graham also gave some information regarding future costs to building maintenance.

Health and Safety. Any issues regarding this to be taken to the Property committee.

Health and Safety responsibilities are required to be published annually in Welcome and on the church web site.

The central carpet in the Sanctuary is now a Health and Safety issue and a decision on how to resolve this needs to be made. Graham asked of suggestions to be emailed or written to him for consideration by the property committee.

Fire risk assessment has been updated and a further fire drill will take place in Spring.

Security. A list of current key holders is to be compiled. Ryan Thomas is looking into an electronic system using a code entry system.

Graham reminded everyone that all information can be found on the church website and diary pages. Please see Graham if anyone requires further information regarding this.

Outreach. Val Gill. A Barn Dance is planned for 28th March from 7 to 10pm. Tickets will soon be printed and will cost £7:50.

Skittles evening 13th June. Food served at 7:30. Bowling before and after food and if numbers interested are high this may be divided into early and late bowlers to accommodate everyone.

GLAD. Next event Tuesday 18th Feb. All ladies invited.

Next outreach meeting 15th March. Valerie Cooper was welcomed onto the outreach committee.

W C and M. No report.

Administration. No report.

AOB.

The meeting was advised that all business needs to be given in advance of the meeting.

Diary dates

Provided on meeting agenda.

Date of next meeting 28th March 2020

Meeting closed with the sharing of the Grace.

Church meeting minutes. 30th November 2019

Welcome.: Andrew Sellwood in the chair

Devotions: led by Matthew Smith.

21 members present.

12 apologies received.

Minutes of previous meeting approved and signed by Revd Andrew Sellwood.

Matter arising:

Bible study on 1st Sunday evening of the month have been well received and will continue.

Thanks given to Peggy Mott for the Remembrance Sunday poppy display.

Thanks to the audio-visual team for our new TV screens and improved vision for hymns etc.

Pastoral report. Hilary Redman.

The meeting shared news of the fellowship and upheld in prayer all those with special needs at this time.

The meeting also heard happy news of those recovering from surgery

Margaret Gardner has been welcomed into church membership.

The meeting remembered Charlie Ward who has passed away.

Thanks were given to those who help distribute church flowers and new volunteers are always welcome to support

this important ministry.

Hilary has as if the property group can provide a larger notice board for the back of the church.

Please can members

remove any out of date information they may have placed on the notice board .No church related information can

go on the shelves in the porch area please.

AGENDA ITEMS.

- From the Elders meeting. Dates have been set for Café church. Format and structure have yet to be decided.

This will be reviewed after a period of time.

- Samaritans purse. Carol Culliss. 45 shoe boxes were filled and taken to Burgess Hill for distribution.

Toothpaste and sweets can no longer be included in parcels. These items have now been given to Safe in

Sussex. Carol will begin the collection for 2020 in January

- Synod report. This was read out by Giles Wilson and a copy will be included in the minutes file when

provided

- Little Fishes report. Matthew Smith. It has been brought to the attention of the church that there is food

poverty amongst some of the families of the children who attend Little Fishes. It has been suggested we look

at how the church can address these needs and how we can help. A formal proposal will be

brought to the

next meeting but in the meantime a decision was taken to provide a selection box to each child at a cost of

£1:00 each. This has been funded out of the Minister's benevolent fund and there will be a retirement

collection on Sunday for those who wish to contribute.

It is important the church reconnects with Little Fishes.

- Journeys with Jesus. Message received from Valerie Cooper and Bett Swierk to say this has now come to an

end but that the word of the Lord has been passed to those children who attended. Bett and Valerie will

now be putting their energies into other ventures. Thanks were given to both for this work.

- Christmas leaflets. These have been printed by Mary Redman and Jonathan Cooper and are available for

distribution. Please can everyone take and deliver to their own road and surrounding areas.

- Christmas gifts. Collections from Christmas Day service will be donated to the Safe in Sussex charity. Mary

Redman is also asking for toy gifts to be taken to the children who will be in the refuge over Christmas. Full

details will be in Welcome.

- Christmas service dates will be given at a later date as not available for the meeting. These will be on the

information table at the back of the Church.

GROUP REPORTS.

- Finance. Matthew Smith. Matthew presented the budget update to the meeting.

We are due to receive a £5000 legacy and should break even without the need for a Gift day. The new T.V

screens were not included in the budget, but it is anticipated the legacy should cover this.

- Photocopier. The supplier has warned this is reaching the end of its viable life and that new parts cannot be

guaranteed after next May. Trade in value is £1,320.

Matthew requested permission from the meeting to go ahead with trading in the current photocopier. This

new copier should last beyond 5 years as it is a new generation model. The meeting gave its agreement and

the motion was passed.

- Matthew is also negotiating the Utilities contracts.

Electric price is set until September 2020 and Gas until September 2021. However, an opportunity has arisen

to get an early deal ahead of these to ensure we get the best deal. Matthew has therefore signed an

agreement for electricity and will provide details of Gas agreement at a later date.

- Lettings. The India church will resume using the premises shortly.

Marshmallow fitness are no longer booking rooms.

The Apostolic Faith Mission church will use the Sanctuary Sundays from 1-4 pm. They will also use the

Cornwall room for Sunday school from 1-2:30 pm. The Elders agreed this is an appropriate agreement.

- Cleaning costs have reduced by £1000 which reflects where we are with the cleaning costs and is a realist

budget figure.

Property. Graham Redman.

- Graham thanked the meeting for approval to purchase TV screens. £1600 has been spent so far. We are

waiting for electrical work to be completed which will bring to cost up to £2000. Wiring needs to be tidied

and Graham requested the church members bear with the property group while they complete this

important piece of work.

- The agreement to purchase tv screens was agreed at the ad hoc church meeting and was ratified as passed

and agreed at today's meeting. Graham and his team were thanked for their hard work in this venture.

- Ray Knight presented his report regarding the outer structure of the building including window replacement

and asbestos checks. The full report is filed in the minutes folder. The meeting thanked Ray for his hard

work.

- Matthew Smith reported that the church can access a yearly £2,000 grant from Synod towards property

maintenance.

The meeting was asked for approval of the works as outlined in Ray's report. This was proposed by

Matthew Smith and Seconded by Graham Redman. The meeting agreed to the proposals in principle. This

work will take place over a 4-year period and can be funded via Gift aid.

Andrew commented that this is a big task for the future of the church and that we may be able to take

advantage of Mission funds available from Synod.

It was noted that available quotes will increase over the 4-year period.

- Matthew presented a report from Bett Swierk regarding waste collections which is now fortnightly. Matthew

will discuss with Bett the possibility of requesting additional bins.

Outreach

[Church Meeting Minutes: January 2020 - July 2017](#)

No report.

WC&M Bobby Hitchin.

£100 has been donated to various charities supported by the Church. Details of these have already been

provided in 24th November welcome.

Bobby also read out a extract of the thank you letter from FEBA radio, one of the recipients of donations.

Administration.

From the Elders. The daily bible reading schedule will be rescheduled in the New Year.

The meeting ended with the sharing of the Grace.

Next meeting 25th January at 10am.

Goring URC Church Meeting 26th September 2019

Chair: Rev Andrew Sellwood Devotions: Chris Howie

18 members present

7 apologies received

Minutes of previous meeting held on 25th July agreed and signed by Rev Andrew Sellwood.
Matters arising

and recent happenings.

Skittles evening at The Spur in Slindon was a great success.

The Harvest lunch was attended by 45 members. Thanks, were given to Valerie, Bett, Denise and all the

helpers.

Bible study will take place on the First Sunday of the month instead of the usual evening service. This will be

reviewed after three months.

Andrew's slot

The first Praise evening at Sompting URC in conjunction with Sompting Community Church went well and

another is arranged for Thursday 31st October at 7:30 pm. All are invited. Margaret Gardener has requested to

become a member of Goring URC. The meeting voted unanimously in favour of this.

Pastoral report. Hilary Redman.

The meeting shared news of the fellowship and upheld in prayer all those with special needs at this time.

The meeting stood in silence and prayer for Brian Mitten who passed away on 20th September and also Peter

Stewart, (Bible Society), who passed away on 3th September.

The passing of others known to the fellowship was also acknowledged .

Hilary also informed the meeting that the 8:00am. service is no longer taking place.

Hilary read correspondence received from :

Rev Jenny Morgan, who sent thanks for the past two years of worshipping at Goring URC and to offer her

resignation as a member now she and her husband have moved away. Emma and Scott Winterford, with news

of baby Theo and sending thanks for Prayer and support.

Agenda Items

Elders Election. Val Gill was welcomed as a newly elected Elder.

Rosina Bayley and Chris Howie have been elected for a further year. The service of ordination and induction

will take place on Sunday October 6th.

Rev Andrew Sellwood was congratulated on his 25th Anniversary of Ordination. The church will celebrate this more fully on Sunday 6th October.

Bett Swierk advised she will be organising a Fire drill for the church.

Housekeeping Queries. Valerie Cooper has spoken with the manager of the cleaning company and cleaning

should take place on Monday, Thursday and Friday lunchtimes.

Bible Reading Review. Most days are covered although some days there is only one reader. Two people are required in order to have the front doors open to invite people in to listen. Please can

we encourage others to sign up for this.

Non- food harvest gifts were collected by the Food Bank last Tuesday with their thanks. Food gifts will be taken

to Asda collection on Saturday 5th October by Valerie Cooper. The meeting thanked Valerie for her work in

this area.

Group Reports.

Finance. Matthew Smith. The finance group had not met since the July church meeting, but Matthew reported

on church letting. The Cornwall room is booked by a Polish group on Mondays from 10-11 am.

36 young people from a Dutch college are using the Sanctuary from 15-17th October from 8:00 - 8:30 for

prayer.

Property. Graham Redman (on behalf of Ryan Thomas)

Missing letters from the outside sign to be replaced.

As reported earlier in the meeting, Bett is to organise a fire drill.

Work on the Transepts is delayed as there are other large jobs to be done first. Estimates are being obtained

for replacing windows in Transepts, as well as wall insulation and drainage. It is anticipated around £30-£40 K

will be needed to fund these works.

Church Projector. This has now become too dull and lacking in colour. It was decided by the property

committee that due to cost and simplicity a replacement projector should be purchased instead of T.V screens.

The meeting debated the pros and cons of both options including the need to address this quickly and also to

have a system that is fit for purpose.

Cost of new projector with blinds for the back of the Church is on a par with two T.V. screens, this

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being

around £3,000.

The meeting agreed to look into hiring a projector in the first instance. This will be reviewed at the next church

meeting.

As there is currently no convener of the property group Graham Redman has agreed to step in and the

meeting gave their thanks to Graham.

Outreach. Val Gill.

The church coach outing was cancelled due to lack of interest. It was suggested a future venture should be a

'Buy one Get one free' with every paying person bringing a friend along for free.

The skittles night was a success and a further evening will be arranged. Due to limited numbers this will be on

a first come first served basis.

The Outreach group will meet again on 17th October if anyone has any suggestions. Val Gill is planning the

Christmas Eve service.

World Church and Mission. Bett Swierk. Bett informed the meeting of the passing of Dr Jenny Gibson who was

a great support of Christian Aid and a member of Bury Drive Methodist Church. She lived simply so others

could simply live.

Administration. Andrew Sellwood. Martin Haywood, Mission Officer will be offering training and support to

prepare for the mission field in respect of the planned housing development near the Church. Andy Twilley,

training officer, will meet with the Elders first. This will look at a possible role for the Church as a centre for the

newly developing community.

Matthew Smith then spoke about the Church taking advantage of Synod funds to finance the work needed to

prepare the church for future mission.

As Ryan Thomas has now stepped down from the Fabric committee Graham Redman was asked to join the

Administration group to work towards a cohesive plan between the Administration and Property groups.

Graham has agreed to this.

Andrew Sellwood went on to say that money is readily available from Synod to fund Outreach but that a robust business plan will need to be in place before applying for this. Notices and

Correspondence.

Bible Sunday will now take place on 23rd February 2020.

No other business was received.

The meeting closed with the sharing of the Grace. Next meeting Saturday 30th November at 10am.

Minutes of the Goring United Reformed Church,

Bi-monthly Church Meeting

held on 26th July 2019

11 Apologies /28 Present.

Devotions led by Mrs Carole Culliss, with words from Psalm 5 vv 4-6 'God is always with us'

MINUTES: Matthew Smith signed the minutes of the March meeting as a true record in agreement with those present.

MATTERS ARISING:

- The Ladies and Men's supper was attended by 22 people and was an excellent evening.

- Redevelopment of HMRC site is only the site behind the existing car park. A consultation evening was held in the Cornwall room today - 26th July and Wilfred suggested that as a church body we should make a comment on the form provided with particular reference to the extra traffic that will be generated. Research and consultation on this issue is still going on but there will be emergency entrances and exits for the 'Essential Services'. When work starts there will be a new junction in the form of a roundabout to serve the Leisure Centre and Barrington Road. Give any comments to Wilfred or Matthew by this Sunday morning.

- Plans are in place for 400 dwellings on the HMRC site and 350 for the Leisure centre site and this is the time to go forward in faith to spread the Good News to our current and extended community.

- Synod have a 2 Million fund for Mission Development – we as the local URC Church are putting together an application for a grant from this fund. This will be used to update and renovate the church to make it more exciting for the people who will be our neighbours. It was also said at the meeting that as an established Church family, we need to prepare for Mission, and welcome the new community into our Church. This preparation is both spiritual and practical purposes so that we are ready to go forward in faith becoming more spiritually based to spread the word locally.

- The Church Picnic on Goring Gap was rained off so it was moved to the Church where all those who attended had a great time. There was still a call from the meeting for outreach and to take the puppet theatre to Goring Gap another time.

- Andrew's Bible Class will take place on alternate Thursday afternoons in the autumn; more information will be available on Andrew's return from holiday.

- The Recycling event raised between £150 and £170 for the Community Chest, the meeting agreed it was a fair amount for a 2 hour collection of items on a Saturday morning.

- The daily Bible reading time will be changed and will be 12 – 1pm everyday from August. Matthew thanked all those who are supporting it by reading and added that this is part of the progress to a more spiritual life. Everyone is welcome to take part.

PASTORAL REPORT:

- George Bayley died and his funeral will be on 29th July 2019; led by Rev Tony Trevithick in Andrew's absence. We were asked to pray for his family. The meeting stood in silence to remember George.

- Wilfred reported that he had been in touch with Rev Peter Newell a good friend and occasional preacher at Goring, he has now retired from preaching and is very well.

ELDERS ELECTION:

- 2 Elders are up for re-election and one new Elder. Wilfred Rhodes and Alan Westcott were asked to be tellers. Voting took place and all three were elected with over 70% of the vote, to join or continue in the Eldership from September. Mrs Valerie Gill as a new Elder with Miss Chris Howie and Mrs Rosina Bayley continuing for another year.

Matthew led the meeting in prayer for the Elected Elders.

- While the counting was happening Matthew asked for prayers for children who are vulnerable in the summer months from unscrupulous people.

SYNOD AREA MEETING:

- Mrs Rosemary Terry as our new representative gave a report to the meeting a copy of which is attached to the minutes in the file.

HOUSEKEEPING:

- Valerie Cooper reported that she has been in touch with Gemma our contact at the cleaning company we appointed for the church with regard to the standard of work. From September Valerie and Bett will be monitoring the cleaning routine as it is felt that the cleaners are not doing the job properly and are not here long enough to do the work that has been agreed for the price we pay.

FINANCE:

- Matthew reported to the meeting that we have agreed a financial arrangement with Sompting for Ministers expenses; Sompting is not as well off as other, which has been taken into consideration.
- Gift Day current total is slightly up on last years figure with £5320.00.
- There will be no income tax payable on the hall lettings as long as we don't offer services to the hirers, i.e. tea/coffee etc.
- Budget update: Projecting a deficit of a possible £1200. We are hoping for a leakage allowance from Southern Water Authority after a huge bill. Most significant is a projected offering of £33500.00 after the prompt from the treasurer with regard to giving.
- Following a letter from Synod Re Ministry and Mission we will be taking the 1% reduction from the annual fees (£41304.00). Meeting agreed with taking the reduction.
- Nothing new on Hall Lettings. There is a Dutch School coming to Worthing in October and for 3 days and have asked if they can use the Sanctuary for 30 minutes, 8.15 – 8.45 each day for morning prayer. This has been agreed and there will be no charge.

PROPERTY:

- Report from Bett Swierk
- Graham Redman has repainted the arrows and other road markings in the car park; thanks from the meeting will be conveyed to him when he returns from holiday.
- The Projection system is to be updated and 3 systems are being evaluated. 1. New Projector and one large screen. 2. Two screens one each side of the church. 3. Larger Television than the current one as it is backlit. These options will be brought the next church meeting for discussion and agreement. It was pointed out that this should be addressed quickly due to the IT failures recently.
- Alarm batteries have been replaced and a fire drill is imminent.
- The property group working hard to behalf of the church doing all sorts of jobs in the background that might go unnoticed.
- Little Fishes: will be covering the area between the Main Hall and the Little Fishes building with a rubber matting made from recycled car tyres to make it a safe place for little children to play, it will be done during the summer break. They will also be doing some decorating the cost of which will be borne by them.
- It was reported that staff and the children of LF have cut the Bank opposite their building and thanks have been offered by the meeting.

- They have also asked if they may have an area on the bank for the children to use for learning about nature. WSCC have put out a directive that children should be offered Nature/outdoor activities.

OUTREACH:

- Catch up for Christian Aid.
- There will be no Advent Hope Service this year, Event Bright has been unhelpful as this is Internet based and numbers went down. There is no money to fund it with such an uncertain future. Due to not going out house to house anymore funds are shrinking £12000 this year, which is down £1500. Events through the year do add this to however. The treasurer Peter Cronin wants to stand down this year therefore creating a vacancy.
- Winchester Coach trip is to be opened up to Sompting to join in and Maureen Clarke will be telephoned to put the invitation out on this coming Sunday morning.

WORLD CHURCH AND MISSION:

- No Report.

ADMIN:

- A 3 year plan is being put together with reference to Mission and Development in the church, this will be reported further when clear plans have been decided upon.
- Registration for the Charity Commission has been put back to March 2021. John Dennison the Synod Treasurer thinks it may not happen at all. The Admin Group will however go through the necessary work so we are ready if the registration goes ahead.

NOTES AND CORRESPONDENCE:

None.

AOB:

- Valerie Cooper reported that the coffee/tea is completely self-supporting and any money over goes into the benevolent fund. However the compostable cups we use on a Sunday morning are disappearing and re-appearing in the recycling bin also the Coffee and Tea disappear and is used and returned or left somewhere else in the church. There is a full report of this matter in the minutes file. Valerie would just like to know who it is who uses the items. She needs to keep track of the supplies and the costs. Matthew Smith commented about Andrews preaching about intolerance and that as far as we can we can be tolerant, if possible.

- Jane Bond Reminded us about REFORM Magazine and if anyone wants to receive them please speak to her.

Meeting closed at 8.55 by Matthew who thanked the Tellers for the Elders Election and continued by leading us in sharing the Grace.

Next Meeting at 7.30 on 26.9.19 with Devotions by Chris Howie.

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Signed as a true Record of the 25th July 2019 by Rev Andrew Sellwood.

Minutes of the Goring United Reformed Church,

Bi-monthly Church Meeting

held on 30th May 2019

6 Apologies

Devotions by Rev Andrew Sellwood

MINUTES: Andrew signed the minutes of the March meeting as a true record in agreement with those present.

MATTERS ARISING:

- Thanks were given to Valerie Cooper for the Easter Breakfast.
- Recycling event was very successful and we will learn later how much was raised for the Community Chest as a result.
- The Sompting Community Service was thought successful and another will be held in September.
- Thanks were given to Bett Swierk for her work with Christian Aid and Over £400 was raised.

PASTORAL REPORT:

- All are healthy!
- Thanks were given to Brian Mitton for his years of service on the door at the Ark.
- Prayers were asked for Edna Nicholas, she is well but not very strong.
- Christina Shearer has joined our congregation.
- Jill and Andrew have been blessed with a new Grandson, Theo who was born 6 weeks early and is now home from hospital. They are both off to Australia to meet him.
- As an aside Andrew conducted a baptism at Sompting who was also 6 weeks early!
- May the Lord bless all these folk.

ANDREWS TIME:

- He reported that he is prayerfully thinking and planning for mission and also for a series of sermons in the autumn.

ELDERS ELECTION:

- 2 Elders are up for re-election and one new Elder. Voting will take place at the July Church meeting on 25th July at 7.30.

HOUSEKEEPING:

- All ok – A couple of reminders.
- Please flatten boxes when putting in the recycling bin to save space.
- Will Church Groups please put recycling in the bins outside and not

leave in the kitchen.

- Black sacks are available for normal rubbish.

GORING CHURCHES PRAYER WALK:

- On 8th June a walk will commence from St Mary's round the churches in Goring leaving St Mary's at 2pm.

PREPARATION ROTA FOR COMMUNION:

- Alan Westcott is to take over this job from Eileen Rhodes. Thank you to Eileen for her service and thank you to all who prepare the Communion Table, May the Lord continue to bless them.

LETTERS FROM THE TREASURER:

- Please can the Elders deliver any of the letters that are left on the table at the back of the church?

THANKS were offered to Giles for joining the Welcome rota.

FINANCE:

- Nothing new to report, except to say the Barn Dance was very successful with requests for more! There was a £22 shortfall, which is not a problem.

PROPERTY:

- Report from Bett Swierk
- Stuart Newell has resigned from his job as Health and Safety Rep and Bett has taken it over.
- 18 items in the Quinquennial report are completed.
- 3 full size Adult tables have been purchased for the use of the church and the hall hirers.
- Health and Safety needs addressing and Graham and Bett have tested all the fire alarms and recorded it as proof.
- Fire Drill will take place within the next month, stewards will be updated prior to the drill, and the property group have it all in hand.
- Graham and Betts phones are the ones to use in an emergency and if a false alarm occurs no one is to turn it off. **ONLY THE FIRE BRIGADE HAS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF TURNING IT OFF.**
- The beeping in the choir vestry means a new battery is needed.

OUTREACH:

- 80 people attended the Barn Dance, which was successful.
- The ladies and gentlemen's meals have taken place
- Joint meal out arranged for 24.7.19

- Church picnic 7th July at Goring Gap after the morning service.
- Coach trip to Winchester 21.8.19, cost £10.00 per person. Leave at 9.30 from Church and leave Winchester at 4.30. This will be in Welcome for the next few weeks and sign up sheet on the table by the sound desk. Bring your friends.

WORLD CHURCH AND MISSION:

- Christian Aid raised £447.83 from the collecting envelopes, the Quiz and Marmalade.

ADMIN:

- Matthew said not much happening to report at the moment.
- He also spoke about the Bible Reading initiative. We are opening the church for one hour per day around lunchtime and reading the bible from beginning to end. It starts on 10th June and there is a list on the table by the sound desk to sign up. It is a challenge and the more knowledge we have of the bible the better we will be.

OTHER ITEMS:

- 9th June is gift day.
- Andrew has a course at Sompting called 'How to read and study our bibles'. Question, Do we want it at Goring too so that we can get the most out of our time with the bible? The course will be one day a week.
- Wilfred would like notices given out prior to the Sunday morning Services. BOTH OF THESE QUESTIONS NEED AN ANSWER.

NOTES AND CORRESPONDENCE:

- Safeguarding training 23rd June at Emmanuel 2 – 5.30pm for Group leaders. There was a complaint about it being Sunday afternoon.
- Mission, Vision at Sevenoaks 11th June.

AOB:

- For the information of all: Graham Redman Spoke about the App he has set up which is on smart phones and tablets, a mini version of our website can be accessed, you can listen to sermons, view church business, diary and prayer requests.

- Carol Webber asked a question about whether the church wanted flowers every week, in which case we need more people to sign up to prepare them as an arrangement or in vases. It's too much to expect one or two people to keep it going. It was confirmed that the flowers are here to Gods Glory. And for the pleasure of those who receive them. It was agreed we do want to have them every week and more others signed up to help.

- We need to encourage and thank people for their work here.

Meeting closed at 8.35 by Andrew leading us in sharing the Grace.

Next Meeting at 7.30 on 25.7.19

Goring URC Church Meeting Saturday 30th March 2019

Chair. Revd. Andrew Sellwood.

Devotions. Rosina Bayley

24 members present.

5 apologies received.

Minutes of previous meeting agreed and signed by rev Andrew Sellwood.

Matters Arising:

27 People from both Goring and Sompting are attending the Monday Lent group.

Andrew reported on the review day he held for Sompting and from this there are plans to hold a mid-week evening service and also a joint praise evening with SCC*.

These are likely to start in May. *Sompting Community Church.

Andrew Sellwood is talking to the Mission Enabler Martin Hayward and also Andy Twilley regarding a possible joint study day for Goring and Sompting.

Eileen Rhodes gave a report on the World Day of Prayer, which was held in Goring URC thanking all those who helped to make this a success. The service this year was written by the women of Slovenia and was titled 'Come; everything is ready'.

The service next year will be held at St Richards Church.

Thanks were given to Val Gill for preparing the display. Thanks also given to Susie Thomas who has agreed to be involved in the WDoP with Eileen.

Elders services. Thanks were offered to the Elders for putting together the service for March and also Aril 7th using preparatory notes from Andrew. The idea was for Goring and Sompting to be using the same material.

Pastoral report. Hilary Redman. The meeting shared news of the fellowship and upheld in prayer all those with special needs at this time.

Gratitude was expressed for the anonymous gift of a floral arrangement which was on display in the church. This was given in appreciation from someone who had recently visited the Church.

The meeting stood in remembrance of Betty Razzell who passed away on 27th March. Her funeral takes place on 10th April 2pm and the family have invited Church friends to attend both the service and the wake.

Rosemary Terry has volunteered to take over the role of Synod rep from Hilary Redman, thanks were given.

Agenda items.

Andrew's time. Andrew Sellwood reiterated what has already been said about the Lent groups.

Peggy Mott raised the need for a fire drill. (This was addressed later in the meeting).

[Church Meeting Minutes: January 2020 - July 2017](#)

Bet Swierk gave an update on Housekeeping. The cleaners attend on Monday

mornings and Thursday afternoons and a good working relationship is had with Gemma who runs the cleaning company.

If anyone has any issues regarding church cleaning please raise these with either Valerie Cooper, Bett Swierk or Wilma Smith.

Church members were also reminded of the need to clearly label items placed in the church fridge and freezer. Wilma Smith will check the fridge and freezer after party bookings.

The Christian Aid service will take place on 1st. May at Grafton Road Church, Worthing.

On Saturday 18th May there will be a Christian Aid fish and chip supper with a quiz. £4:20 for fish and chips plus £5:00 for the quiz. Anyone interested can put their name down on the list at the back of the church. Val Gill will be running the quiz for this event.

Group Reports

Administration. The first meeting was held between Andrew Sellwood, Ryan Thomas and Matthew Smith who form the Admin section of the Eldership. This then frees up other Elders to address spiritual and pastoral matters.

The Admin team address all the legal and technical issues which the church is required to fulfil. The Elders are trustees of the church and are responsible for ensuring the church meets all that is required.

The admin team will meet once a quarter and report back key issues to the regular Elders meeting.

Elders Election. This will start at the end of April. Details will be in Welcome throughout May.

A proposal was put to the church by Matthew Smith to begin a process of daily reading the Word of God. This will take place every day in the church starting from 10th June. 2 people at a time will take turns to read aloud from the Bible at an appointed time. This venture is inspired by 2 Kings 22. It will be a time of reading and reflection and will be advertised locally. It was suggested that a notice board will also be placed outside the church to inform passers-by.

Church members and friends will be invited to put their names down on the list at the back of the church.

The Church meeting agreed in principle to try this venture which will be reviewed by the Elders as it progresses. It was also suggested a board be placed in the church where people can write their own reflections or questions which can then be used to inform Andrew's future teaching.

Finance. Matthew Smith.

Munro Wightman has completed his examination of the church accounts. Matthew presented these to the meeting and a copy will be placed in the church meeting folder.

Hall lettings continue to rise.

Overall church giving has decreased by around £6,000. Letters regarding giving will be sent to all Church members.

The 'Spiritual' branch of the Eldership will be looking at how the Church can reach out and bring in new members, closely working with the outreach group.

The church accounts were approved unanimously by the Church Meeting.

Munro was thanked for his input

The next gift day will be June 9th with a target of £8,000.

Hall letting updates on My Sister's House. This organisation has booked the Cornwall room from 10am-3pm from Thursday 24th April and will also be using the Sanctuary from 13:30 -14:15. A "Do not Enter" sign will be in place during this time.

Goring Ilex Women's Guild have booked rooms from 14:00 -16:00 hours once a month.

There is a Worthing Voices concert in the church on 6th April at 19:00 hours.

Property. Bett Swierk (on behalf of Ryan Thomas) Bett has joined the property committee along with Ray Knight. Various individual tasks will be opened to church members on an ad hoc basis. A list for volunteer will be at the back of the church.

The church computer is now up and running. The Quinquennial report has been received and is being reviewed.

The new Ark tables have been purchased.

Other minor jobs have been completed and Ryan can provide details if anyone wishes.

Bett gave an overview of the property committee which consists of Paul Redman, Stuart Newell, Ryan Thomas, Alan Cooper, Ray Knight and Bett herself, they would welcome any new members.

The need for a fire drill is being addressed by the property committee. Bett will work with Stuart to organise this.

Outreach. Val Gill announced 75 tickets have been sold for the Barn Dance which takes place on Saturday 30th March. This will be held in the church Sanctuary.

Meal nights out are being arranged for both the 'ladies' and 'gentleman' of the church.

There are also plans to arrange a skittles evening sometime in September and also a possible coach trip at the end of May.

World Church and Mission. Bobby Hitchin. Information is available at the back of the church regarding the various groups supported by the church. Any monies donated to Leprosy Mission is matched by the government.

Additional Items. Giles Wilson and Andrew Sellwood attended the Synod Together meeting, Giles gave a report on this meeting which will be added to the minutes folder.

Andrew added information regarding loans and grants available from Synod, there is a considerable fund that has been made available for building and mission projects. Also, Synod are now using more outside agencies as consultants such as the London Institute of Contemporary Christianity.

Andrew now has his terms of Settlement.

Notices and Correspondence. Details can be found at the back of church and in Welcome.

Any contributions to Welcome need to reach Graham and Hilary as soon as possible in order to keep the website and church diary updated.

AOB. Vic Joy requested church members shop at Waitrose as Kestro are possible beneficiaries of the Green token money. Further information will go in Welcome.

Next Meeting 30th May a 19:30.

The meeting closed with the sharing of the Grace

Minutes of Church Meeting.26th January 2019-02-03

Chair. Revd. Andrew Sellwood

24 members present

11 apologies

Devotions led by Carole Culliss

Minutes of previous meeting. Following correction of spelling these were agreed by the meeting and signed by Andrew Sellwood.

Matters Arising.

1. Church Housekeeping. Valerie Cooper and Bett Swierk have taken over this role.

Please let either of them know if there are any issues relating to housekeeping, either by email or phone. Matthew Smith reported on a leaking tap and dripping toilet cistern. He is negotiating with the water provider. Bett and Valerie are monitoring this. This has been reported to the Property committee who will arrange for a plumber to check. A note will go in Welcome to advise the church about these new housekeeping arrangements.

2. Christmas services. The meeting agreed they were happy with these.

Pastoral Report. Hilary Redman.

Three new members were welcomed into membership and to their first church meeting. The meeting shared news of the fellowship and upheld in prayer all those with special need at this time.

The meeting was informed of the passing of 5 church friends and there was a time of prayer.

Agenda Items.

1. Andrew's time. The meeting was updated with some Sellwood family good news.

Andrew will hold a Walking the Way day on Saturday 23rd February from 10-12am.

Andrew will run a Lent course. Details to follow soon.

The meeting was also updated with news of Sompting church. Andrew is holding a meeting with them to look at how they can move forward. They are open to doing some joint work with Goring. Andrew will also be holding a discipleship course with Sompting.

2. World Day of Prayer. Wilfred Rhodes on behalf of Eileen. This will be held on Friday 1st March at 14:30 at Goring URC. There is also a morning service at Broadwater and an evening at Durrington. Eileen has further information if required.

The theme this year is Come- Everything is Ready, and is written by Christian women of Slovenia. Eileen is able to offer a lift if anyone would like to attend the evening service.

Group Reports.

Finance. Matthew Smith. Matthew has met with a heating engineer and the hub is replaced but the problem may lie with our internet arrangements. Matthew is to discuss this with Ryan Thomas and Paul Redman.

Church letting agreements have been sorted by Wilma Smith in accordance with Synod ground rules.

Matthew repeated his request for someone to work alongside him in his role as a treasurer. This does not require being involved in all aspects but as a precaution in the event of Matthew not being available.

3 toddler tables have been purchased and the meeting was asked for its agreement to purchase 2 more, bringing the cost to £550. The meeting approved and agreed this request. We have been offered some chairs at no cost. These will match our existing chairs. Matthew Smith is dealing with the arrangements.

Lettings. Wilma Smith. Wilma update the meeting on organisations currently using our premises. Wilma asked for the meeting's approval to negotiate with an organisation called My Sisters House who have requested to book our premises, including the Library area, for 10 weeks from the end of April on a Thursday morning. The meeting agreed Wilma could continue these discussions. Further information about My Sisters House will be filed with the Church meeting minutes.

Property. Susie Thomas on behalf of Ryan. Sanctuary heater on west side is now fixed.

Little Fishes. Door from Main hall to kitchen and Little Fishes has been rehung by Paul to open both inwards and outwards to make access easier.

Print room. The desktop computer suffered a catastrophic software failure. Ryan is working hard to get this operating again.

Since the meeting the main gas meter has been replaced by SSE.

Several minor jobs have been completed and Ryan can provide details if requested. Tables purchased as mentioned earlier in the minutes.

Outreach. Val Gill. Barn dance to be held on Saturday 30th March. Live music and experienced caller. Tickets £7.50 with food and drink. Please invite friends and family. Help will be required with the catering.

The church men enjoyed a pre-Christmas meal at the George V and the ladies are dining out on February 12th at Tides. Details will be in Welcome.

WC&M. No report.

Notices and Correspondence.

This Sunday (27th.) will be a joint evening service at English Martyrs to mark the end of the week of prayer for Christian unity.

Andrew made the meeting aware of how churches in Lancing /Sompting mark this and suggested we consider doing something similar.

Christian singer Lou Fellingham is appearing at Lancing Tabernacle on 9th March. Details can

be found on the poster at the back of the church.

AOB

Fair Trade. Valerie Cooper. Valerie offer to host a Big Brew to celebrate Traidcraft's 40th birthday, on Saturday 2nd March in the afternoon. There will be a birthday quiz and guessing game. Please can this be supported. Traidcraft (now known as Traidcraft exchange) have had to downsize due to cash flow problems.

Samaritans purse. Carole Culliss. Carole is now collecting ready for this years shoe boxes and will leave a bag a the back of the church for monthly donations.

Afternoon Communion services. Dates set for 10th March, 30th Jun and 20th October. The meeting discussed if the evening communion services should go ahead as usual during these months.

Next meeting Saturday 30th March at 10am

MINUTES OF CHURCH MEETING 24TH NOVEMBER 2018.

Chaired by Revd. Andrew Sellwood.

Devotions lead by Matthew Smith.

6 apologies received.

23 members present.

Minutes of previous meeting approved and signed as accurate by Andrew Sellwood.

Matters arising. The Church meeting will take place on Saturday mornings throughout winter and it was suggested this changes back to Thursday evenings once the clocks go forward in March.

Pastoral report. Hilary Redman.

The meeting stood in remembrance of Eric Bond and also remembered Joan Jacks.

The meeting shared news of the fellowship and upheld in prayer those with special needs at this time.

Andrew advised the meeting that the names of 3 potential new church members had been brought to the attention of the Elders. Valerie Berry, Ray Knight and Alan Paterson their membership was agreed unanimously by the church meeting.

They will be received into membership during a suitable morning service.

AGENDA ITEMS

Andrew's Time. Andrew reminded everyone of the Bring and Share lunch followed by a time of Advent preparation on Sunday 2nd December.

Andrew is looking to present a study course in the New Year. There are 2 options to complete the Walking the Way course, or to use material from the Bible Society.

Heating. Vic Joy raised concerns about the Church heating. Matthew Smith advised he is trying to get this sorted and that there have been some problems with the programming technology. The engineer who installed the heating is due to come and check this. Please can Matthew be contacted regarding any further heating problems as he can reset using the App.

Samaritans purse. Carole Culliss. 43 boxes were sent this year as well as £172 towards travel costs. The Church Meeting agreed they were happy for Carole to continue this next year and thanked her for her hard work. Collections for shoe boxes will start again at the end of January.

Christmas Dates.

9th December. Bible Society presentation.

20th December. Carols by candlelight.

23rd December. Service led by the Elders.

24th December at 5pm. Nativity service.

25th December. Christmas morning service.

GROUP REPORTS.

Finance. Matthew reported that the 2018 budget update shows that we are broadly on track to break even this year despite exceptional spend totalling £7,663.

He then presented the 2019 budget (attached) which was accepted by the meeting. Expenditure reduction in MoM by £420, and the absence of a "Time for God" provision results in a reduced "balancing" Gift Day figure of £2,219 - although the Gift Day target will remain at £8,000.

An exercise is under way to revisit our insurance cover.

Hall Lettings news is that the Indian group meeting on Saturday nights is to move to a weekly booking (from fortnightly). The group understand that we may need to cancel some bookings on the basis of Church need but that we will need to give as much notice as possible - so Wilma needs to be advised of planned events at the earliest opportunity.

Valerie Cooper and Bett Swierk have offered to take over "housekeeping" responsibilities in January and will also be responsible for monitoring cleaning standards - Matthew thanked them for this offer.

Reporting from the Little Fishes committee Matthew said there are teething problems with the new dividers in the Harris Room area. Property Group are working on these and any issues need to be channelled through them/Elders and not Little Fishes. While doing outstanding work with a large proportion of special needs children in their care, amid some very challenging situations, Little Fishes need to focus all their efforts in that direction and need our support, not criticism.

Matthew asked for someone to come alongside him to learn the week to week Treasurer responsibilities. 2 local churches have lost their treasurer suddenly in recent times, causing the Churches concerned significant difficulties. We need to ensure we have contingency arrangements in place to protect the Church against such an event. Matthew aims to continue as Treasurer for a further 5 years, so we are not looking for a replacement Treasurer just yet but need to know that contingency arrangements can be brought to bear in such an emergency, thereafter the Church would need to look for a longer term solution.

PROPERTY.

Susie Thomas read the report on behalf of Ryan.

Gas leak in Sanctuary has now been repaired. Boiler and heaters have all passed their annual safety inspections.

As previously mentioned by Matthew, the heating control installer is visiting to investigate the on-going problems.

Little fishes. As agreed in the March meeting, dividers have been installed between kitchen door and Harris Room as the latter is now for sole use of Little fishes. The door to the main hall will be adjusted to allow for easier passage past the screen.

Any concerns speak directly to Property committee rather than contacting Eloise and Little Fishes staff.

Work completed since last meeting. There have been a lot of minor jobs worked on or completed since the last meeting. Ryan can provide a list of these if anyone is interested.

OUTREACH.

Successful Beetle drive on 10th which was enjoyed by all who attended.

Plans for a Barn Dance in January are in process.

Men's Christmas meal planned for Monday 17th December.

WORLD CHURCH and MISSION. No report.

Giles Wilson was thanked for attending the Synod Together meeting at Caterham school.

Please request a copy of the written report if required.

NOTICES and CORRESPONDANCE. Details can be found at the back of the church.

AOB. Margaret Butcher reported the Bible Society concert raised £663.33 for refugees in Jordan. Thanks were given to all those who helped make this event a success.

Date of next meeting. Saturday 26th January at 10am

The meeting closed with the sharing of the Grace.

Minutes of Church meeting Thursday 27th September 2018

Chair - Matthew Smith (in the absence of Rev. Andrew Sellwood)

- 9 members present
- 11 apologies

Devotions led by Chris Howie

Minutes of previous meeting signed as as a true and accurate record (after 3 minor amendments to names)

Matters Arising (from previous minutes)

- At the Sunday morning service this week the Duty Elder (Wilfred Rhodes) will ask for a show of hands to see whether the next meeting should be on a Thursday evening or Saturday morning
- Provisional date and time for 'Walking The Way' (Saturday 10th November 10-12) - this will be confirmed on Andrew's return, as this day has also been proposed for the Church Beetle Drive (See Outreach report)

Pastoral Report (Hilary Redman)

- The meeting shared news of the fellowship

Agenda Items

- Rev. Naison Hove

Wilf wanted to ensure that we were aware of the correct pronunciation: NYE-SUN - HOE-VAY

- Church Handbook and Database

Eileen Rhodes had written expressing concerns that several people were missing from the latest Handbook - and could something be done about persuading them to allow their details to be included.

- Hilary explained that everyone missing from the current Handbook had requested that they be removed, but that Graham was working to allay privacy fears and hoped to get agreements to add people back for the next print run.

- Matthew said that there was no problem with having names on rotas as that doesn't constitute personal data

Group Reports

- Finance (Matthew Smith)

Lettings news - the 'Down The Rabbit Hole' group didn't get off the ground and the Chinese Brush painting block bookings were on hold due to the organizer's ill-health

- Property (written report submitted by Ryan Thomas)

- Car Park Exit Wall: 5 builders/bricklayers were contacted - only 2 actually quoted. It is recommended that we employ the services of Markus Gladdish at a cost of £625. He will also endeavour to re-position the wall and pier by the entrance.

The meeting agreed to accept Markus Gladdish's quote for fixing the car park exit wall

- Choir Vestry: storage cupboards have been built and are being used.

Further storage options are still being investigated.

Hilary mentioned that the Sunday Evening service had been disturbed by the noise of people using the new cupboards. Matthew offered to speak to the Indian Pentecostal Church about this

• - Table-tennis tables: there is a health and safety issue as a Church member has been injured by a falling table. In a separate incident, one of the tables has been damaged.

Matthew has offered to get rid of the defective table if the Table-Tennis club agree - Ryan will liaise with Peggy Mott (representing the Table-Tennis club)

Since the last Church meeting the Property Group have opened 10 new issues, made progress on 17 issues and have closed 10 issues. There are currently 20 issues and other projects in progress.

The Property Group is very short of members and is looking into ways of enabling those not officially on the group to take on individual issues with no further commitment.

Geoffrey agreed to research replacing the piano stool

• Outreach (written report submitted by Ryan Thomas)

- Barn Dance: the Church hall has been booked for Saturday 19th January 2019.

Details are still being worked out - Rosina has offered to liaise with the lady at Sompting who organised their recent Barn Dance.

- Coffee at St Paul's - this has been arranged for Monday 8th October at 10.30am

- Men's Meal: A table has been booked at the Sussex Yeoman for Monday 15th October. A form will be placed at the back of the Church on Sunday for prospective attendees

- Beetle Drive: possibly on Saturday 10th November - details to follow.

All these events will be publicised via Welcome.

Hilary asked that the Outreach team remembered to inform her of dates so that she could keep the Diary up-to-date

• World Church & Mission (Bobby Hitchin)

- There is a meeting on Friday - details of how the money is allocated will be provided via the Welcome sheet

- Matthew mentioned that 'Inspire' had received money last year but had not been produced recently as it is having a revamp

Notices and Correspondence (Hilary Redman)

- Hilary drew attention to some upcoming events and the meeting was reminded that any information received is to be found on the table in Church and/or in the Welcome sheet.

AOB

- Roger enquired as to who had decorated the shelves for the Harvest Thanksgiving service - it was Bobby, and he thanked her
- Bett had written to ask that people be informed that - having previously gone missing - the Church handbook was now stored in the left hand drawer of the print room.

Hilary reminded the meeting that copies of the Church handbook were not to be handed out to people not entitled to them.

Date of next meeting

- To be decided

The meeting concluded with the sharing of the Grace

Minutes of Church Meeting 28th. July 2018

Chair Revd. Andrew Sellwood

22 members present + 2 later arrivals.

6 apologies.

Devotions led by Carole Culliss.

Minutes of previous meeting signed as as a true and accurate record.

Matters arising.

TFG volunteer Marielle leaves on 31st July. Her leaving lunch was a success and our best wishes were sent

with Marielle.

Pastoral Report. Hilary Redman. The meeting shared news of the fellowship and upheld in prayer those in

need and offered best wishes to those with special celebrations.

Agenda Items.

1. Andrew's time. Updated the meeting with regards to Church Diary. Hilary will be keeping this so any

event or items for the diary please let Hilary know.

Naison Hove has his Induction service on Saturday 18th August at Littlehampton United Church 2:30pm.

Andrew described this as a landmark in the life of the 5 churches.

Andrew officially thanked Valerie Cooper for her work as Church Secretary.

Roger Wild and Ray Elliott were appointment by Andrew and approve by the meeting to be the official Tellers

for the Elders election vote.

Final Walking the Way of this series will be on Tuesday 7th August. Andrew said how much he has enjoyed

leading this course.

2. Elders Election. Ryan Thomas was unanimously elected as an Elder with 22 votes being cast.

3. GA Report. Wilfred Rhodes read his report on the General Assembly Meeting which he attended in July.

This was held in Nottingham. A copy of his report is filed in the meetings folder.

Group Reports.

Finance. Roger Wild. A deficit was predicted for the end of the year in the order of £1,000. Less income was

received from Gift Aid and exceptional spending of the hall heating of around £3,000. We also lost two hall

bookings. However, new groups have made bookings to start in August, fitness for over 50's, New Creation

Life ministries, Toddler group 'down the rabbit hole' and dog training (with a new leader). This financial

situation was reported to not be too much of a concern.

Property. Ryan Thomas. Aiden Knowles is starting the storage building work in the choir vestry which should

take about 3 days. We are still awaiting further quotes form other builders.

Outreach. No report.

World Church and Mission. No report.

Notices and Correspondence. Nothing received. The meeting was reminded that any information received is

to be found on the table in Church.

AOB. Graham Redman had attended some training provided by the CPO. He proposed we use the church

website for the purpose of evangelism by asking those who use our premises to detail their services on our

website. Anyone enquiring about these services can also see what is happening within the church.

Suggestion of employing a children's worker will be discussed amongst the Elders in the first instance.

Peggy Mott encouraged everyone to look at the church garden, the meeting noted all the good work carried

out by herself Ray Elliott and Alan Paterson. A request was made for large strong plastic bags to collect

compost.

A volunteer is still needed for the once a month bread collection from the Mulberry shops to Worthing Churches Homeless project. This will be on the fourth Monday of the month. Please see Carol Webber.

The meeting was asked to consider the option of further Saturday morning meetings. Elders would make the

final decision.

Next date to be confirmed.

The meeting concluded with the sharing of the Grace

Goring URC Church meeting 31st May 2018.

14 members present.

8 apologies received

Devotions led by Revd Andrew Sellwood.

Previous meeting minutes signed as correct.

Matters arising.

1. Time for God. As we are unable to host a volunteer this year and following discussion at the Elders meeting regrettably no request will be made. Hilary Redman has informed the relevant people at TFG.

2. The Ark. Hilary Redman. reported on the rise and fall of numbers attending. This averages at around 10-11 children each week since January.

The meeting agreed to the Ark continuing and reviewed again in September.

3. Samaritans purse/shoebboxes. Now Bett Swierk has stepped down from this role, Carole Culliss has taken over and will be collecting donations.

4. Little Fishes storage. Paul Redman read a report from the property committee. This report will be included in the minutes folder.

Eloise (LF manager) is obtaining quotes for the Little Fishes work which will be completed during the summer school holidays. The meeting discussed the time frame required to empty the existing cupboards. Geoffrey Redman will oversee the moving of the sheet music and will decide what is to be kept. Twins/triplets group and KESTRO will also require storage space.

The meeting discussed various factors including the disposal of items stored that are no longer used.

On the understanding there will be storage for music (in the space where tables are now stored) the meeting agreed unanimously for the work to go ahead. 14 members voted for and 0 objections.

Existing cupboard users are to be reassured their storage needs will be catered for.

Pastoral news. Hilary Redman. The meeting shared news of the fellowship and upheld in prayer those with special needs at this time.

Agenda items.

Elders Election. A brief update was given. 1 nomination has been put forward. The nomination will be taken to the next Elders meeting.

Church Secretary - Valerie Cooper is standing down. As yet no one has put their name forward. The Elders have discussed this situation and it has been decided the role will have to be split into different parts. It was acknowledged this could lead to problems with communication. As a church we are struggling to see how best to move forward with this. The URC requires us to have a contact person. Andrew reported that Sompting do not have a Church Secretary but have appointed a Senior Elder and an administrator who serves as the contact person.

In 2020 we have to register independently as a charity and will need a secretary for this process. We have 18 months to plan and prepare.

Andrew's time.

Andrew recently attended the Ministers conference in Staffordshire and reported this was a real blessing. 340 URC ministers attended.

Walking the Way. The programme has now started and Andrew has printed out a leaflet with all the dates. We will be looking at Holy Habits.

At Andrews invitation Revd. Jenny Morgan gave an update on the Worthing Cluster of Churches. The Revd Naison Hove has been called by Littlehampton United Church, St Andrew's and Emmanuel. The induction service takes place on Saturday 18th August and will be held at Littlehampton United Church.

The meeting was asked to pray for the new minister, Andrew and the future of the Cluster.
Group Reports.

Finance. Matthew Smith. Updated gift day. This achieved £2,355, slightly less than last year.

Hall hire. Following on from the previous meeting the necessary agreements have been received and the policy document will be revised to suit the needs of the local church. The Elders meeting will continue with this process.

Property Paul Redman provided a report on the car park wall costings and updated the meeting about completed works. This report will be included in the minute folder.

The Quinquennial survey has taken place and the URC architect has arranged to meet with Grahame Redman after Church on Sunday.

GDPR Graham Redman. The privacy statement is available in the church vestibule with copies to take away. Graham advised the meeting he is required to inform the members and friends of the changes to data protection.

As membership records are sent to Head Office, along with details in the handbook, this is not something we can avoid, all members have been asked to provide their written consent.

We also use data for fund raising and promoting interest in the Church. The meeting thanked Graham for all his hard work in this process.

Defibrillator. Val Gill has ensured this is registered.

Outreach. No report.

World Church and Mission. Bett Swierk. Christian aid week raised £172 in donations with £64.50 from coffee and marmalade. The local Christian Aid service was held in Goring URC. Notices and Correspondence. Nothing received.

AOB. A bring and share lunch is proposed on 22nd July to say goodbye to Marielle. There will be a group photograph taken that day.

Next meeting Saturday 28th July at 10:00. This will include the Elders election.

The meeting ended with the sharing of the Grace.

Minutes of Church Meeting 22 March 2018

Chair. Andrew Sellwood

Devotions led by Rosina

17 members present. 8 apologies received.

Minutes of previous meeting were approved and signed as correct.

Matters arising from previous meeting – Time for God – no offers of hosts forthcoming, to be discussed again at the May Church meeting.

The Ark – 9 meetings have taken place and numbers have fluctuated. Overall the average has been 10 adults, 12 children and lots of volunteers. To be reviewed again at May Church meeting

Pastoral News – The meeting shared news of the fellowship and upheld in prayer those with special needs at this time.

Agenda Items

1) Shoeboxes and Samaritans' Purse – Bett reported that with mixed feelings she had taken what was for her not an easy decision to stand down from co-ordinating this very important work. Another member of the Church is currently thinking about taking over the co-ordinators role and discussed with Bett what is involved. The Church meeting was happy for someone else to take over the role. Bett will let her know. The Church meeting expressed their thanks to Bett for all her hard work over the years.

2) Andrew's Time. Cluster update – someone is coming to preach with a view on 22nd April at Emmanuel. This will be followed by lunch. Then Emmanuel, St. Andrews and Littlehampton will meet to make a decision. Andrew Twilley is with us again on 18th April; he will be sharing new worship songs.

3) Southern Synod Report – Giles Wilson gave a report on the recent meeting which was held at East Croydon - copy attached

4) Synod Area Report – this meeting was held on 20 th February and the report was delivered by Hilary Redman - copy attached

5) Little Fishes – would like to extend their use of the Harris Room by carrying out the following work, during the summer holidays.

- by putting in a new access door to the Harris Room. This will allow the children to access a new play area between the hall and the existing Little Fishes buildings where new gates will be installed.
- to have a temporary office space divider clipped to the wall at the top of the ramp and extended to the wall where the coat hooks are. (This is to cover Safeguarding). These can be removed quite easily for access to the kitchen when the Church need to use it.

- utilising the cupboards down the ramp. This would mean that other cupboard space would need to be built somewhere else on the Church premises to accommodate what is stored by various groups in the ramp cupboards.

Slides to show the proposed changes are attached. Church meeting approved the extended use of the Harris Room in principal (15 for, 1 against, 1 abstention). The new access door and the gates to go ahead. After discussion the property group were asked to look at a solution for alternative storage, including

i) on the back wall of the stage,

ii) the choir vestry, and

iii) to take out the stage completely and use that area for storing the table tennis tables with cupboards along the back wall at floor level.

Decision to be made at May Church meeting.

6) Preaching Plan for July to December – will be discussed at next Elders meeting.

7) Group Reports – Finance – Matthew presented the accounts to year ended 31 December 2017. These were approved. A Gift Day with a target of £8,000 to be held on 27 th May was agreed. Matthew will put a Notice in Welcome nearer the time. The following resolution was passed unanimously to circumvent legal advice received by Synod:

“The Church Meeting of Goring United Reformed Church authorizes the Elders Meeting as agents for the Trustees to permit the hiring of the Church/hall premises for any reputable purpose when not required for Church use.”

Letting News – a new over 50s exercise group has begun on Monday mornings between 10 and 11 and a possible further booking; a baby sensory group who would be using the Cornwall Room; to begin in May.

Property - reported by Paul on behalf of Ryan. During February the old and unreliable heaters in the Main Hall were replaced with four new radiators. This work is not quite complete with an additional radiator to be fitted soon to the East end of the hall. A new heating control system covering the Sanctuary, Main Hall and Cornwall Room was also installed. The Quinquennial Survey has been carried out. We are waiting for the full report but the surveyor did indicate that there was nothing major to worry about. Wilma has unfortunately had to step down from the Property Group due to the pressures of the Letting Secretary role. The Property group would like to place on record their thanks for the years of assistance she has given. It does mean however that we are spread very thin; so please bear with us until we find a replacement.

Outreach – nothing to report.

World Church & Mission – A Christian Aid meeting had been held in Lancing where members of the committee were introduced to the new coordinator for the area, Mark Johnston. Loretta Mingela, the Chief Executive Officer has moved on. Peter Cronley, Treasurer reported that for the year 2016/2017 £19,502.00 had been given to Christian Aid. The house to house collection was £571 higher than the previous year. Bett will continue to make marmalade for funds.

Notices and Correspondence – As listed on Agenda for information and there will be no evening service on Easter Sunday

AOB – Wilf notified the meeting that people will need to be re-certificated for DBS checks. Wilf will be contacting people in due course.

The next Church meeting will be held on Thursday 31 May 2018.

The meeting closed with the sharing of the Grace.

GURC Church Meeting 25/01/18

Present 15 members + minister.

Apologies. 8 received.

Devotions lead by Matthew Smith.

Minutes of previous meeting. Two typographic errors were amended and the minutes approved and signed as correct.

Matters Arising. Giles Wilson is to be the new Synod Representative and Wilfred Rhodes will hand over this role. Thanks were offered to Giles for taking on this role. The meeting also acknowledged their thanks to Wilfred Rhodes for his many years of service as Synod Rep.

Defibrillator. 16 people attended the first meeting, both church and external users of the premises. Val Gill showed a DVD. A further showing will be on 8th Feb and there will be details of this in Welcome.

Christmas services. The members were asked for feedback on these.

Ark. The minister, Revd Andrew Sellwood read out a statement which will be included in the minutes file - see Appendix 1.

As a result of developments following the last Church Meeting, and conscious of the time constraints involved Andrew had decided that ARK should continue under new leadership. Rosina also read out a statement, in which she acknowledged the work of the previous leadership and the fact that ARK numbers had indeed reduced.

However, she and Hilary were eager to give ARK a further chance and had volunteered to take it forward. Following a fresh publicity approach numbers have increased and they think ARK has a fair chance of success. The Elders supported ARK's continuation, in the circumstances, subject to review in May. There was consensus that much of the work within the Church is carried out by a few people and we need to carefully manage our limited resources and ensure those who work so hard are not overburdened. As there had been no formal resolution/vote at the November meeting, it was agreed that none was necessary on this occasion.

However, the meeting unanimously gave its blessing to continuation, subject to review. The hard work of all those involved in ARK, both past and present was acknowledged.

Pastoral Report. Hilary. The meeting shared news of the fellowship and upheld in prayer those with special needs at this time.

Agenda Items.

Little Fishes.

Elouise Spencer, the manager of Little Fishes, began by thanking the church for the support we offer which enables learning that may not be possible without this backing.

Elouise then gave a very enlightening report on the work of Little Fishes which recently was given a status of Outstanding by OFSTED. We heard about the complex needs of many of the children and their carers and the work Elouise does on conjunction with Social services, especially in the area of Child Protection. The meeting thanked Elouise and her staff for all the hard work they do and how this represents our church.

Andrew's time.

Andrew reported the success of his Induction service to Sompting and thanked those who attended. We are in the process of forming a cluster of 5 churches and this involves the calling of a second minister. A member, usually an Elder of Goring URC will be required to attend the meeting of the calling group as an observer. The whole process will be addressed at the next Elders meeting on 8th Feb.

TFG. The meeting was asked if we would like another TFG person and volunteers were invited to be host family/families. This could be a shared role. Hilary agreed to consider if she will be able to continue the role of supervisor. This will be further discussed at the next Elders meeting.

Group Reports.

Finance. Matthew Smith reported the ending of the dog training letting.

Property. Grahame Redman (on behalf of Ryan Thomas) Radiators are being fitted in the Hall on 12/ 13th Feb. The heating control for the Sanctuary has failed and this is currently being operated manually. It was suggested we have a control system operated via an App which will mean this can be controlled via the Internet. To do this for the Sanctuary, main hall and Cornwall room will cost around £1000. Given we take around £20, 000 a year in Letting this will enable us to provide the best service to those who use our premises. The meeting gave its unanimous approval for this expenditure.

Susie Thomas agreed to inform Ryan of the need to replace the outside front light.

Outreach. No report.

W C and M. No report.

CTG. Joint service This Sunday at Catholic Church No evening service at Goring URC. The meeting was informed that the CTG prayer group is still functioning.

Notices and Correspondence. None.

AOB.

Eileen Rhodes suggested a round table could be placed at the front of the church to be used as a bible stand and for the collection plate. This will be forwarded to the Property group.

Eileen also informed the meeting of the forthcoming Women's World day of Prayer which has been put together this year by the women of Suriname and is titled All God's creation is very good.

Service to be held at English Martyrs on 2nd March at 14:30 and St Michaels on Hayling Rise at 19:30.

Next meeting will be held a week earlier than usual on 22nd March due to Maundy Thursday falling on 29th March.

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Church Meeting minutes 28.09.2017

Chair. Rev. Andrew Sellwood

Devotions - Andrew

14 members present

Apologies: 9

Minutes of previous meeting approved and signed as correct.

Matters Arising: None

Pastoral news. The meeting shared news of the fellowship and upheld in prayer those with special needs

at this time. We noted the passing of Gwen Bailey and Ken Woods.

Agenda Items.

Finance/Lettings. No report.

Property Management. Little Fishes requested permission to put up a temporary banner advertising their

location to be seen from the bridge. This has already been given the OK by the local council. The meeting

agreed and approved this request.

It was suggested a letter of thanks go to Steve Webber for trimming the trees. To be arranged via church

secretary (Rosina Bayley deputising for Valerie Cooper at this time).

Outreach. Details of craft stalls on 18th November are in Welcome.

World Church and Mission.

Monies have been sent to the charities the church supports. This information was also to be found in Welcome.

C.T.G. More Lucky dip items costing a pound were requested.

Saints and Sinners on 14th October. Tea in the afternoon and fish and chips in the evening.

Rosina and Carole have tickets,

It was reported that the funeral for Janine Bryer which was held in Goring URC was well attended.

Andrew's time.

Andrew attended the funeral of Revd. David Littlejohns in Birmingham.

He also requested prayers of support for the week end of 7 & 8th October when he will preach with a view at

Sompting.

Another music evening has been arranged for 8th November at 7:30. This is open to the other churches.

Diary Dates.

14/10/17 Saints and Sinners.

12/10/17 at 14:30 Bible society are holding an audio/ visual presentation at Emmanuel Church.

Details on

[Church Meeting Minutes: January 2020 - July 2017](#)

the notice board.

Synod day 14/10/17

Macmillan Coffee and cakes at Kestro on Friday 29/09/17.

28/10/17 Shoe. box filling 10:30am.

Details of Lay Preachers Day on 18/11/17 can be found at the back of the church.

Next meeting 30th November.

The meeting closed with the sharing of the Grace

Church Meeting Minutes - July 27th 2017.

Chair. Revd. Andrew Sellwood.

Devotions. Matthew Smith

27 members present.

11 apologies received.

Minutes of previous meeting approved and signed as correct.

Matters arising.

Worthing cluster. Valerie Cooper read out a letter from the Moderator regarding cluster plans. The letter will be included with copy of minutes. Andrew is due to meet with the moderator in two weeks.

Defibrillator. Costing £1,500 in total. £750 for the defibrillator and £750 for the special housing. Wilfred Rhodes is going to approach the Community Chest Fund for a grant of £1,000 toward this. The meeting voted for approval to purchase a defibrillator, 21 members for, 2 members against.

Synod together. October. Preparations and volunteers are in place for this event.

T.F.G. Julia has now returned to Germany. We welcome Marielle Springer who arrives on 26th August and

will be staying with Rosina Bayley for the first month until Valerie and Alan Cooper return from holiday.

Pastoral news. Hilary Redman. The meeting shared news of the fellowship and upheld in prayer those with special needs at this time.

Agenda items.

1. Elders Election. Ryan Thomas and Geoffrey Redman were approved by the meeting to act as Tellers. All 5 nominees [Matthew Smith, Wilfred Rhodes, Mary Redman, Bobby Hitchin and Caroline Hibbs] were elected with high votes. The induction/ordination service will be arranged in due course. Thanks were given to all involved. The meeting gave permission for the voting slips to be destroyed. Thanks were also given to Ryan Thomas and Vic Joy who are standing down after 6 years of service.

2. Ratification of church secretary. The meeting gave its consent for Valerie Cooper to continue in this role. Rosina Bayley and Chris Howie will cover this role whilst Valerie is on holiday from 31st August to 2nd.

October.

3. Annual/perennial jobs. No one requested to stand down from any role.

4. Ministers Time. Andrew had nothing to share.

5. Piano. The meeting discussed the Hall piano. To replace this will cost £3,798 and can be funded out of the organ

fund in the first instance with this money being put aside to build up the organ fund over the next 4-5 years.

Replacing the piano will ensure the Hall can continue to be a viable Let bringing in around £4.300 P.A. We can also

consider being a piano exam centre this will potentially increase revenue. The meeting voted in favour of purchasing

a new piano and Geoffrey Redman agreed to order it.

Group Reports.

Finance. Matthew Smith. First ½ year budget is looking satisfactory. £3,000 surplus currently thanks to Gift Aid. Unexpected spending on property out of the fabric budget, including lighting. Also work required at

the Manse with replacement fence. Quotes are being requested. Synod to fund this. Work to clear the Manse garden at a cost of £300. This part of the work is not covered by Manse maintenance.

Church sanctuary cleaning. This is now being carried out by the same company who clean the halls. At an

additional cost of £20 per week. Thanks were given to all those who have given their time to clean the

sanctuary over the years.

Maintenance of Ministry Allocation. Approval gained from the Meeting to pay £42,144 next year which continues to be a good contribution.

Utilities. The finance group ratified the decision to an agreed fixed rate for Gas with SSE over the next 4

years. Electricity. Elders and finance group have given the go ahead for a 3 years fixed rate with EDF. There

is an 8% increase in the cost of Electricity.

Outreach Group. No report.

Property group. Ryan Thomas. Advance notice was given for a Property work day in September. This will

involve cleaning, painting and gardening in readiness for the Synod day in October.

World Church and Mission. No report.

C.T.G Rosina Bayley. Ecumenical service at St. Mary's on 17th September in the evening.

Saints and Sinners in October. Donations requested for a Lucky dip. Carole Culliss is working with St Mary's to

organise the cake stall.

Letting news. Nothing to report.

Notices and correspondence. Valerie.

Information given about a Worship Workshop on 9th August.

Andy Twilley is holding a seminar on 16th August at Crawley URC. A poster is available at the back of the church.

Southern Synod are producing a newsletter which will go on the notice board when received.

A letter has been received from Church Tourism Management to introduce themselves. The National Churches Trust

have a website called Explore Churches and enquired if Goring URC would like to be included. The meeting agreed to

be part of the website and the information is passed to the Outreach Group.

Minutes from the Surrey/Sussex Synod Area meeting were provided by Hilary Redman and will be included

in the minutes folder.

The meeting ended with the sharing of the Grace.

Next meeting September 28th

May 2017

