

**SUTTON COLDFIELD BAPTIST CHURCH**  
**Church Members Meeting on zoom and YouTube**  
**MINUTES**  
**29<sup>th</sup> April 2021**

**Attendance: 197 Quorum: 81**

1. Donald opened by explaining the procedure of the evening, and gave a brief introduction:
  - a. Donald thanked everyone for their support and encouragement.
  - b. The live stream team would love everyone's ideas and creative thoughts.
  - c. Donald is delighted that some activities have been able to resume, and said that he will share thoughts around what may happen in June and July later this evening.
  
2. Donald gave a devotional quoting scripture John 13:34-35. "A new command I give you". This is to love one another. Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another." Donald ended this time with prayer.
  
3. Mark read the minutes of our last meeting. The minutes were agreed and accepted.
  
4. Membership.
  - a. In: Christine Doughty
  - b. Out: Will GwynnChristine was accepted into membership. Donald prayed for both Will and for Christine.
  
5. Finance Report.
  - a. Mark gave the finance report giving consideration that the general fund is in good order.
  - b. Mark quoted summary figures.
  - c. The general fund in the first quarter of this year had income of £185144.03
  - d. Expenditure. £129472.97
  - e. Fund transfers £36850.74
  - f. Balance £18820.32.
  - g. Further details are available in our website.
  - h. Expenditure is likely to increase as groups and activities return over the coming months. We have also received a couple of large one-off gifts.
  - i. Donald thanked everyone for their generosity and prayed.
  
6. Nomination of new elder.
  - a. Donald talked us through this process.
  - b. Our current Elders are Judy, Mark and Laurie who also act as trustees of the church alongside Mark and Donald.
  - c. Alongside our other team leaders Deb and Cath this makes up the leadership team of the church.
  - d. Diversity is required, and we are looking for the spiritual gift of wisdom. The person that we chose needs to be experienced and have been a baptised member of the church for a long period of time.
  - e. We want to commend Lou Gore, whole heartedly to the church as a possible Elder. Lou works part time for the Jericho Foundation.
  - f. Donald asked for comments or questions from members: There were no questions asked or comments made.
  - g. Donald prayed and we voted on whether Lou should become and Elder of the church. The results will appear in the weekly newsletter.
  
7. Donald spoke of a future coming out of Covid after June 27<sup>th</sup>, in accordance with Government guidelines.

- a. We want to build on lessons learned and priorities. We want to be able to sing together again. We also want to leave behind all that we haven't missed and tweak some other things.
- b. Our core values are to make disciples (someone who knows, obeys, and copies Jesus). A disciple is someone who's life has been transformed by Jesus, and because they know Jesus, they know God. They have a great love.
- c. How do we make a disciple in this post pandemic world? We believe He knocks and calls on people's hearts. There is then a role for the disciple. The way Jesus sends the twelve out, and the way people build on the encounter with God is by knowing disciples. People need to know Christians that they can trust. Donald quoted from Matthew 28: 19-20.
- d. When God knocks and calls, the one hearing God copies, and learns from a living disciple that they trust so that they copy and obey Jesus. A disciple is made and the best way to be a disciple is to show love. We believe and trust those we love. We copy those we love and we take correction from those we know love us.
- e. A disciple is made by relationship. In the last 18 months many people have been starved of relationship.
- f. We want to make sense of life together and share the love of Jesus. We want to help each other build relationships. Relationship is at the heart of mission.
- g. We believe these relationships need to be multi-generational. Old and young learning from each other. It is important to help younger people rebuild relationships. We also seek to be inter-racial.
- h. We asked ourselves what creates relationship where a person feels loved and inspired to believe and copy? With this in mind, the staff have been answering questions in 8 areas:
  - i. First impressions – the welcome.
  - ii. Relaxing environment – safe, easy and understandable.
  - iii. Feeling known and understood, space and time is given to be listened to, names are learned.
  - iv. Need can be expressed and is responded to. Prayer is evident.
  - v. Climate of gratitude not complaint – focus on thankfulness.
  - vi. Shared responsibility.
  - vii. Respect - Integrity - demonstrations of consistency.
  - viii. Next step of Discipleship is purposed – signposting.

## 8. Sunday Vision.

- a. Services are for the whole community.
- b. Encountering God in our services.
- c. Gratitude expressed.
- d. Wisdom learnt.
- e. Intercession shared.
- f. Response encouraged.
- g. Intergenerational and interracial.
- h. Sunday service schedule will be:
  - i. 8.30am - There will be a call to prayer service and a live stream.
  - ii. 10.30am - Worship and teaching for all ages. There will be an all age service once a month.
  - iii. 4.00pm - Grow Together will resume on May 23rd. This will eventually be once a month.
  - iv. 6.30pm - Worship and teaching prioritising young people and young adults. The service will be multigenerational but will be aimed mainly at young people and young adults.

Please do contact Donald with any questions relating to this.

9. Donald asked us to pause and quietly pray for our church. Donald then led us in prayer together.

10. The next church meeting will be held on Tuesday 29th June.

11. Donald thanked those who have attended this evening and ended with a blessing.