

# SUTTON COLDFIELD BAPTIST CHURCH

## Church Members Meeting

### MINUTES

30<sup>th</sup> September 2021

Attendance: 87 Quorum: 81

#### 1. **Welcome and Prayer.**

Donald expressed his thanks and gratitude to everyone who has attended, and his delight for the number of people in attendance.

Donald explained the importance of a members meeting.

Donald asked the question "what is the main thing?"

Luke 19 "For the Son of Man came to seek and to save what was lost."

Matthew 28 18-20 – **Go make disciples of all nations**

Why? It breaks God's heart for people to be lost eternally.

Because we find fulfilment in being disciples

Because it is the only hope for a better world

How? Love like Jesus. John 13:34-35

Teamwork. Together we can make up for each other inadequacies. 1 Corinthians 12

We need to pray. Matthew 6.

Donald prayed.

#### 2. **Minutes of the last meeting**

Mark presented the minutes of the last meeting, which were agreed and accepted.

#### 3. **Membership.**

In

Jayne Sprittles

Out

Rob and Kerrie Andrew

David and Aileen Healey

Jayne was voted into membership, and Donald prayed for Jayne, for Rob and Kerrie, and for David and Aileen.

#### 4. **Finance Update**

Mark presented this finance update, whilst giving thanks and expressing his gratefulness for God's provision to Sutton Coldfield Baptist Church.

Income £431,963.53

Expenditure £325,560.74

Fund Transfers £98,250.21

**In year balance £8,152.58**

Mark confirmed that our opening balance for 2021 and our balance at the present time are only £16.09 apart. However, our general fund is below our budget by about £10,000.00 at this time. We are also entering into colder months which do tend to be more expensive. Our activities are returning, and we need to heat our buildings and maintain them.

We also have some maintenance issues that need to be focussed on.

Mark feels that we are sailing quite close to the wind at the moment, but confirmed that God is faithful, and his provision is generous and amazing.

Mark prayed.

## 5. Stories of Hope

Cath presented some stories of hope to us.

- a) Video from young person giving thanks for Brigades
- b) The neighbour who was invited to cafechurch, who then came along to Alpha, and then to church, - a non-Christian who was made to feel very welcomed by many different people.
- c) We are so grateful to the Food bank team. One lady was unable to leave her home because of acute anxiety. This week she visited our food bank with chocolates and to say thank you.
- d) Second Thoughts. A man came up and said how lovely it was to see people sitting outside, so he bought them cakes to sit and enjoy.
- e) A lady heard our music from on the hill. She was invited in and stayed.
- f) Another man was also invited in after hearing the music. He said he was an atheist but had been significantly affected by the service. He felt something that he did not understand was powerfully happening to him. He took communion and appeared to have his arms raised as if in worship during the singing.

Cath reminded us all that we have cafechurch in two weeks' time - Monday 11<sup>th</sup> October on the subject "What to do when we mess up." Please pray for parents to stay who may be dropping their children off to Brigades.

## 6. Praying for Church

Donald invited us to place a stone at the cross at the front of the church to symbolise our burdens and our concerns.

Candles were lit at the front of the church – our witness –we were encouraged to pray for the church or for a specific activity to be a light to people.

We were also encouraged to place a 'post it note' at the front of the church containing the names of a person / people we want to bring to God.

We were asked to consider further prayers for...

Finances – baptisms – staff team – replacing Cath – Sunda- Safety – Children's work – Youth Work – Senior ministries – Second Thoughts – Food Bank – Small Groups – Alpha – Cafechurch etc

We held with a time of prayer where many church members spoke their prayers out loud.

Donald prayed for the family and friends of the 12 year old boy, Louis, who died on Friday evening.

Donald closed with prayer.