



**THE VILLAGE
METROPOLITAN
COMMUNITY CHURCH**

**Agenda for the meeting of the board of trustees
Friday November 4th 2016 7:30pm**

1. Opening Prayer.
2. Minutes of the last meeting.
3. Reports:
 - Pastor's report
 - Treasurer's reports
 - Crisis fund report
4. Safeguarding.
5. Health and Safety.
6. Charitable Status.
7. Lunch for the Homeless - Review
8. AGM
9. Christmas
10. Closing Prayer.

Our Vision

We call for a world where LGBTQ people live free from discrimination.

Our Mission

We are called primarily to empower and serve the LGBTQ community.

Our Core Values

We are a Christian church called to do justice and walk humbly with God. (Micah 6:8). We seek at all times to be honest, transparent, and true to our mission in the world.

Minutes of The Village MCC board meeting 7th October 2016 at Rev Michael's home in Kempton.

Present: Rev Michael Hydes (Chair), Keith Fish (Treasurer), Sarah Barber (Crisis Team), Mary Bachoo (Health&Safety), Simon Markham (Secretary), Wendy Burgess and Ann Wilkinson (Members at large)

Apologies: Nigel Utting (Vice Chair).

Rev Michael opened in prayer at 7:30pm.

Minutes of last meeting: Circulated prior to meeting. Proposed by Ann Wilkinson and seconded by Keith Fish. Accepted unanimously by the board.

Pastors Report: Circulated prior to meeting. Wendy Burgess asked why the Tuesday group appears to have changed from weekly to fortnightly, Rev Michael said it hadn't actually changed. He wanted to add more groups when he could and was hoping for ideas at our Retreat Day. Proposed by Sarah Barber and seconded by Ann Wilkinson. Accepted unanimously by the board.

Treasurers Report: Circulated prior to meeting. Keith said he had done two sets of accounts as September's meeting had been held the last week in August, a week before the end of the month. He said we were holding our own financially and was close to our planned budget. Proposed by Rev Michael and seconded by Wendy Burgess. Accepted unanimously by the board.

Crisis Team: No change from last month. James now on board and Sarah and Rev Michael planning to meet on Monday. Rev Michael had set up some guidelines to go through, for ourselves and applicants. For safety always two people to out when needed. Wendy said the fund was for anyone who is in crisis not just for the homeless. Mary asked was it solely for LGBT or for anyone, and that it needed clarifying.

Safeguarding: No issues at the moment.

Health & Safety: None. But Mary said a risk assessment on lone working may well be needed.

Charitable Status: Nigel not present, so deferred till next meeting.

Place of Worship: Rev Michael said he had noticed that setting up volunteers was now down to just three people and asked for suggestions about what we could do? Options thought of included - have a small set up team permanently in place, leave the tables where they are, (only problem being they are not always in the same place), or move to a new venue. These were discussed by the board, for now Rev Michael said to try some different set up positions and to look at other venue ideas and gather information.

Attendance: Rev Michael said we are 10% up on last year. Attendance does fluctuate for various reasons throughout the year. He said he had spoken to various people all with varying ideas on why and ways to improve it. Rev Michael asked the board for their thoughts on the matter. We all had different ideas and he hopes for more at the Retreat day.

Sunday Lunches: Rev Michael had met with the volunteers and one of them is a chef, who is doing the main course. Rev Michael is hoping to get more volunteers leading up to the first lunch on the 30th of October.

Retreat Day: Everything all set for the 22nd of October. Rev Michael said he had set Mary's workshop for one hour before lunch and one hour after.

Any Other Business: Ann asked when was the board due for re election, Rev Michael said it would be at the AGM which will be on Sunday 4th December. Mary said that the beach hut advent event will be on the 5th of December this year.

Wendy Burgess closed in prayer at 9:10pm

Pastor's report for October 2016.

Highlights for October were:

- The church retreat
- The community Sunday lunch at DGMC
- Guest speaker Alice Denny
- Speaking at the Anti-Hate Vigil
- Meeting with Spiritual Director
- Three pastoral calls
- Plan new orders of worship and information flyers
- Churches together meeting

The church retreat went well, thank you to Mary for her workshop on worship beads and the subsequent worship service. Thank you to Wendy and Sarah for organizing the space. Thank you to everyone who made food or contributed in some way.

During the day we looked at styles of worship and how diverse our needs are as a congregation. We spent some time revising the order of worship. We meditated and found our own inner worship space. We ate too much food! (Well, I did!).

The Community lunch went well. Thank you to Mary, Bill, and James for their help. We were planning on feeding around 25 guests and in fact fed 61. It was well received and there was a warm friendly atmosphere.

Alice Denny shared stories and poetry with us. She was genuine and thought provoking, all of us touched by her grace.

I wrote a piece for the anti-hate vigil and led the silence. It was a good event with local leaders speaking and the Gay Men's Chorus singing.

Meeting with my spiritual director every two months we are focusing on prayer and the life blood of a Christian. I would like very much to bring some of her insights to a group at some point.

Pastoral visits went well, one being with a young man who'd tried to take his own life. I continue to make myself available, and I know that Wendy is also ministering on behalf of the church.

New orders of service and information leaflets are the result of the changes to worship suggested at the retreat. Although it wasn't possible to use everyone's ideas in every service, I believe it is possible to reflect the main ideas and use the remaining ideas occasionally through the church year.

At the churches together meeting we talked about Christmas plans and a new leaflet that will be available in all the Brighton hotels. The Village MCC will be on the leaflet with all of the other main churches with service times etc. so that visitors can choose to attend church whilst in town if they like.

Plans are now afoot for Christmas and I'm looking forward to a Christmas Eve service that truly reflects all of our talents!

Rev. Michael.

Oct '16 Board Accounts for The Village Metropolitan Community Church

Opening Bal at 30 Sep 2016 **£4556.24**

Income

Collections		Attendance	
02 Oct	33.00	15	
09 Oct	62.50	21	
16 Oct	42.00	16	
23 Oct	56.04	15	
30 Oct	5.00	13	198.54

Crisis fund cash and s/o £150.00
Standing Order £ 771.50 **£1120.04**

Expenditure Oct

M Hydes
Sep Remuneration 400.00
Rent Oct 180.00
MCC Tithe 68.76
Expenses sep 65.20 **713.96**

Balance in Account as at 31 Oct 2016 £4962.32

Forecast

M Hydes Oct £400.00
M Hydes Exp oct £145.45
Rent Nov £144.00
Tithe £ 97.00
£786.45

Balance available **£4175.87**

Keyboard fund £ 59.10
Crisis Fund £812.00
Sleep Safe £613.63
Community Works £124.46

General funds Avail **£2566.68**