



THE VILLAGE
METROPOLITAN
COMMUNITY CHURCH

**Agenda for the meeting of the board of trustees
Friday October 7th 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. Place of worship
8. Attendance / Spirit
9. Quarterly Sunday lunch for the Homeless.
10. Retreat 22 Oct
11. 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 26th August 2016 at Ann and Linda's in Southwick.

Rev Michael opened in prayer at 7.40pm

Barber (Crisis Team), Simon Markham (Secretary), Wendy Burgess and Ann Wilkinson (Members at large)

Minutes of last meeting: Circulated prior to meeting. Point raised about the written paper format for the Crisis fund. Rev Michael said he had not done it, said that paper is not always the best and maybe a paperless version might be better. Also that James wanted to help with the project. Proposed by Rev Michael and seconded by Wendy Burgess. Accepted unanimously by the board.

Pastors Report: Circulated prior to meeting. Proposed by Simon Markham and seconded by Keith Fish. Accepted unanimously by the board.

Treasurers Report: Circulated prior to meeting. Keith said that more money was coming in on standing order, than actual cash collection. Also that income is still very tight. Keith said that we also could do with another online authorizer, Wendy Burgess said she would do it. Proposed by Nigel Utting and seconded by Ann Wilkinson. Accepted unanimously by the board.

Crisis Fund: No payments had been made since last months meeting. It was suggested that relevant organisations were approached and told about the fund, as at the moment nobody knows it is there to be used. Also it was said that a need to clarify funds was needed between the Crisis fund and Sleepsafe funds. Keith Fish agreed to be a Crisis fund authorizer.

Safeguarding: A new safeguarding officer is needed after Jean Hatton resigned, Sarah Barber said she would cover this short term till the AGM in December.

Health&Safety: No issues at present.

Laydelegate: A new laydelegate is needed since Jean Hatton has resigned, the board recognised and thanked her for her work. It was said that as a emerging church we actually did not have to have one, but would need to when we become a full church. Sarah Barber offered to stand in till the AGM, but Rev Michael felt it could cause a conflict of interest.

Charitable Status: Nigel said he had sent emails to North London and Newcastle but had not had any replies, so remains a work in progress. Was suggested he could try looking at their websites to see if it would help.

Sleepsafe: The fundraiser did very well and it was said that Rev Michaels' speech before was very good. Rev Michael said he had been contacted by the Rainbow fund as they want to give donations to frontline LGBT services.

Sunday Lunches: Rev Michael said he met with Robin and some volunteers from Dorset Gardens to discuss the lunches. All food to be fresh and cooked on the day to allow leftovers to be taken home. It was decided that they would do the third Sunday and we would do the fifth Sunday at dorset Gardens starting in October. Rev Michael to arrange our volunteers.

Retreat: The date of the retreat is set for the 22nd of October at the building where Wendy and Sarah live, Wendy said how happy the housing people had been with us last time. Mary Bachoo is planning a workshop on prayer beads and all said that sounded interesting. Rev Michael said he would like to do something too on the day.

Any other Business: Wendy Burgess is to be a online authorizer and Keith Fish is to be the Crisis fund authorizer. Next board meeting set for 7th October 2016.

Keith Fish closed in prayer at 8.45pm

Pastor's report for September 2016.

September was a quiet month for me since Chris and I were away for the first part of it. Thank you to everyone who took up the slack whilst I was away and helped out, especially Simon who took responsibility for building security, and Nigel who brought together a worship experience suitable for a small group.

After most volunteers pulled out of the set up rota I have been looking at other options. Suggestions include a 'cafe' style church leaving the seating as it is (although it must be pointed out that when we arrive on a Sunday the seats are not always arranged in the same way), moving to a new space, and having one small team responsible for set up and take down on a permanent basis.

There were three pastoral calls during September, and I met with one person to discuss some concerns. I also met with the Dorset Gardens Methodist church Pastor and volunteers to organize the coming lunch program. Plans seem to be coming along well.

I have a feeling that this is the quiet before the storm! Our one day retreat is in just a few weeks, and soon after that, (the first Sunday in December) there will be our annual general meeting and we move into Advent.

This November is 'Get to know you month' and I will be replacing the usual sermon with informal interviews with church members and regular attendees. My hope is that we will get to know each other a little better.

In the new year I want to focus on inviting more guest speakers to our pulpit (although I am aware that our £25 honorarium is a stretch on our small budget). March is Women's history month and only women will be sharing the Sunday pulpit. To date Heather Leake (HIV Chaplain), Felice Rhiannon, (former chaplain of a London seminary), and Paula Cocker (LGBT advocate and key worker for the Blind Veterans Association) will be joining us. I am looking creatively at the rest of the year and hope to garner some ideas at our retreat.

After meeting for a year the time has come to review our Tuesday evenings. I would like to have a wider range of groups on offer, meeting various needs. I am hoping for a monthly 'open' group, a monthly 'closed' group, and a selection of single event workshops. Again, I hope to garner some suggestions at our retreat.

Love - Rev. Michael

August '16 Board Accounts for The Village Metropolitan Community Church

Opening Bal at 31 July 2016 **£3789.03**

Income

Collections		Attendance	
07 Aug	28.00	20	
14 Aug	89.12	19	
21 Aug	45.65	17	
28 Aug	31.72	15	<u>£194.49</u>
Crisis Fund	50.00		
Sleep Safe concert	656.72		
Standing Order	£631.50		£1532.71

Expenditure August

M Hydes		
Jul Remuneration	400.00	
Rent Aug	144.00	
MCC Tithe	<u>85.36</u>	629.36

Balance in Account as at 31 August 2016 £4660.66

Money to be paid in 31.72 **£4692.38**

Forecast

Monies Due Sept

M Hydes	
Aug Remuneration	400.00
Rent Sept	144.00
Aug MCC Tithe	82.62

Exp/costs

JUL/AUG 217.12 **843.74**

Balance available **£3848.64**

<u>Keyboard fund</u>	<u>£ 59.10</u>
<u>Crisis Fund</u>	<u>£662.00</u>
<u>Sleep Safe</u>	<u>£603.63</u>
<u>Community Works</u>	<u>£124.46</u>

General funds Avail **£2399.45**

Sep '16 Board Accounts for The Village Metropolitan Community Church

Opening Bal at 31 Aug 2016 **£4692.38**

Income

Collections		Attendance	
03 Sep	25.00	20	
11 Sep	94.00	19	
18 Sep	29.00	17	
25 Sep	18.10	15	<u>£166.10</u>

sleep safe 10.00
Standing Order £531.50 **£707.60**

Expenditure Sep

M Hydes
Aug Remuneration 400.00
Rent Oct 144.00
MCC Tithe 82.62
Expenses Jul /Aug 217.12 **843.74**

Balance in Account as at 30 Sep 2016 £4556.24

Forecast

Monies Due Oct

M Hydes
Sep Remuneration 400.00
Rent Oct 180.00
Sep Exp 65.20
Sep MCC Tithe 68.76 £713.96

Balance available £3842.28

Keyboard fund £ 59.10
Crisis Fund £662.00
Sleep Safe £613.63
Community Works £124.46

General funds Avail £2383.09