



THE VILLAGE METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH

Agenda for the meeting of the board of trustees Friday May 3rd 2019 7:30pm

1. Opening Prayer.
2. Minutes of the last meeting.
3. Reports:
 - Pastor's report (written)
 - Treasurer's reports (written)
 - Lay delegate report (verbal)
 - Associate pastor's report (Written)
 - Pickle fund report (verbal)
4. AOB to be scheduled in for this meeting?
5. Safeguarding.
6. Health and Safety.
7. Charitable status.
8. Larger worship space.
9. AOB
10. Close in 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 For The Meeting of The Board of Trustees 5th April 2019 at Keith's home

Present: Reverend Michael Hydes(Chair) Reverend Peta Evans(Associate Pastor) Keith Fish(Treasure) Sarah Barber(Safeguarding Officer) Simon Markham(Secretary) Wendy Burgess(Board Member)

Apologies: Dameon Loukas(Lay Delegate)

Wendy opened in prayer

Minutes of last meeting: Discussed and accepted with amendments.

Proposed: Reverend Michael Seconded: Wendy Abstain: Reverend Peta Vote: All

Pastors Report: Discussed and accepted with amendments.

Proposed: Simon Seconded: Keith Vote: All

Treasurers Report: Discussed and accepted. Keith asked Reverend Michael if on the Order of Service there could be a request for refreshment donations.

Proposed: Reverend Michael Seconded: Reverend Peta Vote: All

Lay Delegate Report: Dameon still recovering, doing very well.

Associate Pastors Report: Reverend Peta said the church allotment was coming along more now the better weather was here and thanked Keith for his help. Reverend Michael asked if the itinerary for the allotment could be emailed to him and he could email that out. Unfortunately the prayer meeting had to be cancelled due to illnesses. Reverend Michael asked Reverend Peta if a written Associate Pastors report could be done instead of a verbal one, and Reverend Peta said that actually that would be better.

Pickle Fund: Reverend Michael said that no payments had been made this month.

Any Other Business for Later: Reverend Peta and Keith had items.

Safeguarding: No issues.

Health & Safety: No issues in church. But for the church allotment a risk assessment needs doing by Reverend Peta.

Charitable Status: Reverend Michael thanked Keith for the form he had sent. And asked if it could be Word smithed.

Any Other Business: Reverend Michael said he was using the same plan as last year

for the Seder evening and the Lamb was going to be delivered on the Tuesday and would be cooked on the Wednesday before the Meal.

Reverend Peta is planning to do a informally structured worship service, possibly once a month for about 10 people. Reverend Michael said that the Rainbow Hub would be a good place to hold it, as it is a designated safe space.

Reverend Michael talked about the role of being a Beacon and that as Wendy, Charlie and Isla were already doing that most Sundays that they would make good ones. Wendy said that the group had met and discussed it and all agreed they wanted to do it. Wendy that it would be good to make the meetings a bit longer. Reverend Michael said that the posts are yearly and anyone can step down or carry on. Reverend Peta asked if there was any information packs from MCC to help and Reverend Michael said that as the roles of Deacons vary church to church that none were available.

Reverend Peta closed in prayer

Pastor's report for April 2019

Alas, much of April was hampered by ill health. A severe dose of sinusitis, a chest infection, plater fasciitis, and a Spondylosis flare all meant that I was very very grateful that we were not involved with the B-Right-On festival this year; that Peta was around to pick up the slack when I couldn't even get to church, and that my husband was able to drive when I could not. Having said which, there was plenty to keep me busy.

Our month began with Rev. Peta winning the annual International *Purple Grass award* for their work in the community. As a representative of MCC Chris Baker announced and gave the award. There were some great photo's in the MCC *Headline News*.

The Easter week began with Palm Sunday (26 in attendance) where we handed out the traditional palm crosses and blessing. This year's Seder was attended by 19, (the same as last year) and was lots of fun. Thank you so much to the anonymous donor who contributed 4 legs of lamb. It was local Sussex lamb and probably the best I've every tasted. It was a lovely evening, with lots of socializing and great desserts.

The following Sunday we celebrated our Easter Sunday service. There was 27 in attendance (up from 25 last year, 17 in 2017, 22 in 2016, and 16 in 2015), definitely a growth trend. Again, there was a lovely atmosphere and getting quite late before we all left. Thank you so much to Simon for the Lemon Drizzle cake, it sat with my sermon perfectly!

Perhaps the highlight for me was the installation of our first Deacons. Isla Munro, Wendy Burgess, and Charlie Notley all agreed to form our fledgling deaconate. We will meet the first Tuesday of every month to pray together, support one another in our ministry areas, and look at ways we can strengthen the church. I feel God at the centre of this and look forward to working as a team.

I gave out one Pickle fund payment to a family that had run out of electricity and had two small children.

Will has been recovering from surgery and was able to lead us in worship on Easter Sunday. He was missed more than he could have guessed! As was Dameon, who has recovered enough to be able to attend church. It has been wonderful to see his recovery progress so well. I have also noted how church members have helped out, some with shopping, some with cleaning, others with visits, both for Will and Dameon, and it truly warms my heart to see love at work in the church.

I visited with my spiritual director and purely by accident it turns out that both Peta and I are meeting with the same person! They are a chaplain working in the Brighton hospital so I do not have any concerns about their ability to work with professional boundaries. Both Rev. Peta and I will monitor it as we go along.

I am looking forward to the conference in July, and Pride in August. And until then it's nice to have a little space for planning and to catch up on some work – not the least of which is our application for charitable status.

Much love

Rev. Michael



Associate Pastor's Report, The Village MCC, April 2019

It's been an odd month for me – at church Easter is my favourite season, projects have come together well, and encouraging things have been happening. In my personal life, my anxiety still has me signed off work and I've been frustrated and struggling with low energy and lack of confidence. But CBT has been going well and I am much better than I was a month ago.

Prayer Team has been carrying on - a meeting is scheduled for this Sunday, meanwhile the new additions to the prayer rota have been doing well. I covered for Dameon after his accident but he is recovering wonderfully and will be back doing prayers soon.

It's been a quiet month for me for pastoral care, which is just as well in view of my own mental health issues.

I've made contact with the Hub about an alternative worship gathering, and am waiting for a response.

A lot of work has gone into the Church Garden project this month, the volunteers have worked hard and the seed donations have been almost more than we had space to plant. I've set up a contact email and a newsletter – still learning to use mailchimp but Chris is helping me. Mary and I have been brainstorming a name for the project to encourage volunteers from beyond the Village congregation and reach out into Brighton's LGBT+ community more widely. In the other direction, a recent volunteer from the allotments has already joined us at the Village on Sundays!

I've preached twice, once at comparatively short notice, which in fact I found energising! And I always love Palm Sunday and Easter, they're my favourite time of the year. I was disappointed by the lack of a Good Friday Ecumenical walk this year, and if nobody else wants to organise one next Easter, I propose to get it started myself.

UFMCC Board has approved virtual voting for this year's Conference, which I intend to register for as soon as I get the payment together.

Rev. Peta.

April '19 Board Accounts for The Village Metropolitan Community Church

Opening Bal at 31 Mar 2019 **£5949.55**

Income

Collection

07 Apr	47.00	17
14 Apr	61.00	26
21 Apr	69.15	27
28 Apr	53.00	25
Standing Order	1091.50	
Seder Meal Donations	150.00	
Be a gem Collection.	139.00	
Global Justice	101.05	
Pickle donation	100.00	
		<u>£1811.70</u>

Expenditure

Rev Michael	450.00	
Rev Peta	50.00	
Ufmcc tithe	112.34	
Costs /expenses	88.79	
Rent Sundays	144.00	
Rent Seder.	36.00	
		<u>£881.13</u>

(conference transfer £100.00)

Balance in Account as at 30 April 2019 £6880.12

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Rev Michael	450.00	
Rev Peta	50.00	
Ufmcc tithe	117.17	
Costs /expenses	254.55	
Rent Sundays	144.00	
Be a Gem	139.00	
Global Justice	101.05	
		<u>£1255.77</u>

Transfer Music Bal to General

forecast Balance available _____

<u>Keyboard fund</u>	<u>£ 0.00</u>
<u>PickleFund</u>	<u>£1096.27</u>
<u>Sleep Safe</u>	<u>£345.53</u>
<u>Community Works</u>	<u>£ 0.00</u>
<u>Conference Fund</u>	<u>£ 854.40</u>

General funds **Avail** **£3328.15**