



THE VILLAGE METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH

Agenda for the meeting of the board of trustees Friday September 7th 2018 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 (verbal)
 - Pickle fund report (verbal)
4. AOB to be scheduled in for this meeting?
5. Safeguarding.
6. Health and Safety.
7. Annual day retreat
8. Drop in Center (St. James Street).
9. Interdenominational day conference in Manchester (Rev. Peta).
10. Constitution – (lay Delegate & Safeguarding roles)
11. Constitution – (General (working towards charitable status)).
12. Pride.
13. AOB.

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 Friday July 6th 2018 7:30pm at Keith's home.

Present: Rev Michael Hydes (Chair), Keith Fish (Treasurer), Sarah Barber (Safeguarding Officer), Wendy Burgess (Board Member), Dameon Loukas (Lay Delegate).

Guests:

Apologies: Simon Markham (Secretary),

Opening Prayer: Rev. michael

Minutes of the last meeting: Minor spelling amendments made and it was Chris, not Keith, who joined Dameon volunteering with the Forum at the bear's picnic.

Proposed by: Wendy **Seconded by:** Keith

Pastor's report:

Proposed by: Keith **Seconded by:** Wendy

Treasurer's report:

Proposed by: Michael **Seconded by:** Wendy

Lay delegate report (verbal) Nothing to report.

Pickle fund report: Nothing to report

Safeguarding: Nothing to report

Health and Safety: Wendy to ask a friend to look at a risk assessment system for us.

- 1. Working party to look at document wording.** Keith and Sarah will meet together on the first Friday in August (When we'd normally have a board meeting) at Keith's home. Everyone is welcome to attend.
- 2. Guest Speakers.** Ivor Caplin, Lloyd Russell-Moyle, more tba.
- 3. Annual day retreat.** Prob Oct 6th – Theme is *Being Bible Savvy*. (or similar).
- 4. Drop in Centre (St. James Street).** - W/Shops, trainings, Pickle fund mtgs with applicants can take place there free of charge.
- 5. Pet service and BBQ.** Will take place together at the garden – probably in late August or early September.
- 6. Trans Pride.** Peta is organising.
- 7. Pride.** - I have spoken to Billie. Still need volunteers. Will make a call at church.
- 8. AOB. It was agreed that** Peta be given £100 towards networking expenses if they choose to go, and the church will supply tokens to hand out on behalf of the church.

AOB Fundraising training is available on Sep 5 for anyone who would like to go. Please let Michael know asap.

Closing Prayer. Wendy

Pastor's report for July and August 2018

The fortnightly discussion group, *Questions of Faith*, meets every two weeks at Charlie's home and the discussion has been lively and varied. Attendance has been generally in the double figures. A big thank you to Charlie for leading the group the last week of August when I wasn't well, he did a great job.

Thank you to Will for updating our songbook. I didn't even realize that he'd done the work until we sang a song that we'd only recently talked about adding. It's a lovely job and we're learning the new songs as we go along.

In July I assisted Stephen Crowther with a service of healing at the Unitarian church. Designed for those who are survivors of sexual abuse it was a powerful yet gentle service, and for some their first taste of an inclusive communion celebration.

Chris and Dameon both volunteered at Disability Pride which was a huge success. I volunteered to be interviewed by a student at the Brighton College who is writing a paper about LGBT homelessness. Later in the week I recorded an episode of *Queersay* with Andrew Kay at latest TV.

In July I visited my spiritual director in Seaford where we talked at length about my preaching style. I have since then twice tried to preach without writing or memorizing every line, and both times gave far from satisfactory sermons. I will be returning to my usual sermon preparation style, even if it is very time consuming.

Rev. Peta and James volunteered with Trans Pride and supported the very well attended event, Fortunately none of the trouble that was expected happened on the day and the event went well. MCC Brighton hosted the spirituality area again but this year *The Village MCC* was not invited.

Rev. Peta spoke beautifully at our Trans Pride service, followed a week later by the right hon. Ivor Caplin. Our Pride service speaker was Lloyd Russell-Moyle who spoke passionately about the need to stand as a community in the face of adversity.

We had over 20 Pride volunteers working with *Accessibility Matters* at the Saturday event at the park this year, and then around a dozen on the Sunday. We entertained with temporary tattoos, guided with an information booth, and supported as volunteer stewards. A big thank you to everybody who helped out, especially Keith and Chris who both became *LGBT Community Safety Forum* supervisors whilst at the park. Without our volunteers many people would not have had access to the day's events. It was very special.

During July and August I made four hospital visits, met with two non members to offer pastoral care, made one home visit, made two pickle payments and supported three people via the telephone. Ill health has been a challenge, not just in the congregation but myself as well. Both Isla and Tony W. have had surgery, Wendy was very poorly in hospital for some time, Mathew was ill, and others have had various illnesses or been given serious diagnosis. Unfortunately because of this we were not able to provide the pet service and BBQ as hoped.

The drop in on St James street is coming along well and I met with The Rainbow Trust board to talk about how best to utilize the space and support the groups who want to use it. My hope is that it will give us the space in which to work and Rev. Peta has already negotiated its use for their *ReTranslation* study group. As the project evolves it is my hope that we will be able to play a role in the community, offering support to those groups that utilize the space.

Our retreat is almost upon us and this year we will be re-visiting our Vision as well as reviewing our worship service structure and events for the year ahead.

Love

Michael

Aug '18 Board Accounts for The Village Metropolitan Community Church

Opening Bal at 31 July 2018 £6275.48

Income

Collection

05 Aug	50.00	36
12 Aug	39.00	21
19 Aug	74.00	24
26 Aug	33.00	21
Standing Order	926.50	
Pickle donation	100.00	

£1222.50

Expenditure

Rev Michael	450.00	
Rev Peta	50.00	
Ufmcc tithe	133.44	
Costs /expenses	193.52	
Rent Sundays	<u>144.00</u>	<u>£970.96</u>

(conference transfer £100.00)

Balance in Account as at 31 July 2018	£6528.01
ADJ	<u>0.99</u>
	£6527.02

Mthly pyt

Rev Michael	450.00	
Rev Peta	50.00	
Ufmcc tithe	97.25	
Costs /expenses	110.15	
Rent Sundays	<u>180.00</u>	<u>£887.40</u>

forecast Balance available £5639.62

<u>Keyboard fund</u>	<u>£ 39.16</u>
<u>PickleFund</u>	<u>£ 1193.21</u>
<u>Sleep Safe</u>	<u>£345.53</u>
<u>Community Works</u>	<u>£ 71.92</u>
<u>Conference Fund</u>	<u>£ 1250.00</u>

General funds Avail £2739.80