



THE VILLAGE METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH

Agenda for the meeting of the board of trustees Friday September 6th 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. Retreat days.
9. World Aids Day service.
10. AOB -
11. 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 Board of Trustees 19th July 2019 at Michael's home

Present: Reverend Michael Hydes (Chair), Simon Markham (Secretary), Wendy Burgess (Board Member), Dameon Loukas (Lay Delegate) and Sarah Barber (Safeguarding Officer)

Apologies: Keith Fish (Treasurer) and Reverend Peta Evans (Board Member)

Sarah opened in Prayer

Minutes of Last Meeting: Read and discussed, accepted with amendments.

Proposed: Wendy **Seconded:** Reverend Michael **Vote:** All in favour

Pastors Report: Read and discussed, accepted with amendments.

Proposed: Simon **Seconded:** Wendy **Vote:** All in favour

Associate Pastors Report: Read and discussed.

Proposed: Reverend Michael **Seconded:** Wendy **Vote:** All in favour

Lay Delegates Report: Dameon said he had enjoyed the conference through the eyes of a Lay Delegate. All the voting, including the voting for the new moderator had gone well, and he had enjoyed meeting MCC Brighton's representatives. Reverend Michael thanked Dameon for his work.

Treasurers Report: Read and discussed.

Reverend Michael had made some payments for Pride that day. Sarah said that a pickle fund payment she had made appeared worded as if it was for her personally.

Proposed: Wendy **Seconded:** Simon **Vote:** All in favour

Pickle Fund: Sarah had made a payment to help a homeless person she had met.

Any Other Business to Add: None

Safeguarding: No new issues. Reverend Michael said we should ensure that folk keep an eye on their belongings when in church.

Health & Safety: No issues.

Charitable Status: Reverend Michael said he was going to look at it, now he was back from the conference.

Retreat Days: The first one is a leadership day is for people who are active in Sunday worship in some way. Wendy said it would be nice to get someone to come in and bless us all. Dameon suggested doing some work around pastoral care. And Wendy suggested some work on Christianity and LGBT. And the second retreat day is a open one for anyone in the church to come along and enjoy in workshops and activities.

Pride: Reverend Michael said he had 10 tickets for people on the day and 11 volunteering. Wendy offered to go through and organise the temporary tattoo books. Reverend Michael said he had been looking at banners but hadn't seen anything yet.

World Aids Day: Reverend Michael has been talking with Heather Leake-Davies and they have agreed to do a service at 4pm that day. So people can either go on to the concert or the reading of names. A format for the service is yet to be arranged. This service will replace our usual Sunday worship service.

Any Other Business: Reverend Michael said that a service for Richard Tredgett is being held Friday week. And on the 29th there are two events, one is a lunch with the new Mayor of Brighton and Hove and the other at 6pm is a launch reception for the LGBT youth program that is going to be aired on *Latest TV*.

Reverend Michael closed in prayer

Pastor's report

Since our last board meeting Rev. Peta and I have met twice and I've been thrilled to hear about the garden and food that's being donated to lunch positive. It's a wonderful community outreach and Rev. Peta has continued to work hard to make sure it happens every week.

I have met with the Mayor at the pre-pride event at the town hall, along with many of the other LGBT supportive faith leaders. Hidayah now has a small chapter in Brighton and I hope that we can offer some support as time goes on.

Pride in the park went well, and all our volunteers were great. In fact, it was insanely busy! However, most folks were out of the area, and very few of those we served either knew, or cared, that we were a church. My hope is that at Saturday's retreat we'll decide to reach out through local events, smaller pride gatherings, and those community festivals where we can promote the church.

Our Pride service went well and Councilor Alexandra Phillips, Mayor of Brighton and Hove spoke well. After some lengthy preparations to ensure that protocols were heeded the Mayor arrived on a bicycle in a rainbow flapper's dress. She looked amazing, was genuine and personable, and stayed to answer questions.

I have recently had two lengthy pastoral meetings with church members, and supported various people around Richard Tredgett's death and funeral service. Both the Brighton Gay Men's Chorus, where Richard's fiance is the musical director, and the Actually gay men's chorus, where Richard sang, sang beautifully and created an honour guard.

Since our last board meeting we have held two deacon's meetings, and I'm pleased that their work is quickly becoming a vital part of church life. Each of them have supported people with pastoral care and I have heard nothing but high praise for their work.

Wendy, Sarah, and I, attended Matthew's birthday party. It was a staged affair and Matthew seemed genuinely thrilled that we were there. Wendy and Sarah bought him a beautiful new rainbow tie, and on behalf of the church I gave a colouring book and crayons.

This last week has been sad as I led Michael Wall's funeral service. He was a long time contributor to Gscene and there were many from the community in attendance. I believe that the pastoral care needed in the wake of his loss will be quite high.

Thanks to you all for the time off. Chris and I visited his parents, taking the dogs with us. The sun shone but it wasn't too hot, and the bank holiday traffic was light.

I'm sorry that I haven't managed to make any further moves towards our charitable status, putting the time aside for it is no easy feat when there seems to be something going on every single day. We have had some inquiries about perhaps holding a monthly service in Eastbourne and we continue to explore the possibilities and logistics of such a project.

Love
Rev. Michael.

Associate Pastor's Report 6th September 2019

We had a busy and successful Trans Pride this year, the volunteers did sterling work with the collecting buckets and set-down team.

I will be representing us at London's first ever Trans Pride march, alongside Rev Jak and MCC North London. We've had our prayer team meeting, with plans for creative prayers to go along with 'creation spirituality' month, and the finger labyrinths went down well last Sunday.

The garden has produced a lot of vegetables, Gary and Lunch Positive are delighted. The tensions with the site representative seem to have been resolved.

I've investigated a potential new location for us, which has pros and cons.

I've met with my spiritual director and I've been applying for chaplaincy work.

August '19 Board Accounts for The Village Metropolitan Community Church

Balance in account at 31 Jul 2019 £6299.87

Income

Collection

04 Aug	50.20	30	
11 Aug	57.00	24	
18 Aug	61.00	19	
25 Aug	41.00	19	
Standing Order	751.50		<u>£960.70</u>

Expenditure

Rev Michael	500.00		
Rev Peta	50.00		
Ufmcc tithe	106.33		
Costs /expenses	215.41		
Rent Sundays	144.00		
Conference food allowance	210.00		
Mayors charity Donation	25.00		<u>£1250.74</u>

(conference transfer £100.00)

Balance in account 31 August 2019 £6009.83

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Rev Michael	500.00		
Rev Peta	50.00		
Ufmcc tithe	106.33		
Costs /expenses	185.61		
Rent Sundays	144.00		<u>£985.94</u>

forecast Balance available £5023.89

PickleFund £1196.27

Sleep Safe £345.53

Conference Fund £ 109.48

Pride £. 17.74

General funds Avail £3390.35