



# THE VILLAGE METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH

## **Agenda for the meeting of the board of trustees Friday January 3<sup>rd</sup> 2020 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)
  - Social media report (verbal)
  - Pickle fund report (verbal)
4. AOB to be scheduled in for this meeting?
5. Safeguarding.
6. Health and Safety.
7. Visitor etiquette
8. Photographs and video at public events
9. Innes-Paul expenses
10. 2020 Outreach events and fundraising.
11. Charitable status.
12. Choir and musician.
13. Board – roles and support.
14. Worship space
15. Retreat 2020.
16. AOB
17. 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 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2020 at Keith's home

**Present:** Reverend Michael Hydes (Chair), Reverend Peta Evans (Board Member), Keith Fish (Treasurer), Simon Markham (Secretary), Dameon Loukas (Lay Delegate), Tony Wares (Board Member) and William Tinsley ( Board Member)

**Apologies:** Sarah Barber (Safeguarding Officer) and Wendy Burgess (Board Member)

William opened in prayer

**Minutes of last Meeting:** The minutes were discussed, and accepted with two amendments.

**Proposed by:** Reverend Michael      **Seconded by:** Tony      **Vote:** All

**Pastor's report:** The report was discussed and Reverend Michael said he had been able to get a Christmas card in Braille for David.

**Proposed by:** Keith      **Seconded by:** Tony      **Vote:** All

**Treasurer's report:** The report was discussed and both Reverend Michael and Tony thanked Keith for his work in making them easy to read and understand.

**Proposed by:** Simon      **Seconded by:** Reverend Peta      **Vote:** All

**Lay Delegate's report:** Dameon said that Robert had agreed to be the alternate Lay Delegate, all agreed it was a good choice.

**Associate Pastor's report:** We discussd Rev. Peta's leaving to start a new calling at MCC North London. It was agreed that, although we shall miss them a lot it will be good to have a closer relationship with MCCNL.

**Pickle Fund report:** Reverend Michael said he had made two payments. One was through the Lawson Unit and the other was for a winter coat.

**AOB to be scheduled in for this meeting:** Keith: Reverend Peta's board role.

**Safeguarding:** A ongoing issue was discussed as a situation came up at our Christmas service. Confidentiality of this section was discussed with the new board members.

**Health & Safety:** Reverend Michael said that Mary was our Health and Safety officer and as we continue to worship in the same building there are no new issues to discuss.

**Training in congregational life:** Reverend Michael asked the board what training do we need? And he said he was going to restart the Preaching Circle again.

**Charitable Status:** Reverend Michael said that now we have a new full board, he will bring in the paperwork for us all to sign.

**Social Media reporting:** Reverend Michael said that at the last meeting, he had asked Tony about a social media report. Tony said that due to his software, it will be a 28 days overview. Also are we meeting all the needs of those who connect with us through social media?.

**Board Roles:** Reverend Michael said there are four main board roles, Chair, Vice Chair, Treasurer and Secretary. He said that with this being Keith's last term and the role of Secretary being a large role, it might be a good idea to create a associate roles for the posts, to help and shadow the current post holders. Keith pointed out that such posts are not mentioned in our constitution, however the idea has merit. status. Tony said he would be happy to become associate Secretary and William said he would like to shadow Keith to see the Treasurer's role.

**Anniversary Service:** The service was discussed. And a buffet similar to the Christmas service was talked about and to be arranged by Simon.

**Worship Space:** Reverend Michael said he had spoken to Heather at Dorset Gardens Church, during the World Aids Day service about using the church for our services. They have their board meeting in February. Reverend Michael asked us what did we think about worshipping there, varying views were made.

**Retreat 2020 & Network Gathering:** Reverend Michael said he wanted to look into doing a full weekend retreat this year, but understands finances are tight. He said he was going to speak to the Rainbow Fund to see if they could help. He did say that the two day format used for last year, could be used again.

The network gathering is being held in Northern Ireland this year in September. We will advertise it in the church however we do not have the financial resources to send anybody.

**Any Other Business:** Reverend Michael said how nice it was to have Tony and Bill on the board. And also thanked Keith for his work and Simon for remaining for another term.

Reverend Michael closed in prayer

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### **Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of The Village Metropolitan Community Church. December 8<sup>th</sup> 2019 at The Somerset Day centre, Kempton, Brighton.**

**Members in Attendance:** Reverend Michael Hydes, Reverend Peta Evans, Keith Fish, Simon Markham, Sarah Barber, Wendy Burgess, Stephen Crowther, Charlie Notley, Will Mason, Tony Wares, Robert Douglas, Dameon Loukas, Nigel Utting, William Tinsley, and David Nichols.

Deacon and board member Wendy Burgess opened in prayer.

**Voice Rights for Non Members:Proposed by;** Reverend Michael Hydes **Seconded:** Sarah Barber  
**Vote:** All in favour

**Apologies:** Isla Munroe and Shelia Roche

**Minutes of Last Meeting:Proposed by:** Robert Douglas **Seconded by:** Wendy Burgess  
**Abstentions:** 2 (were not present at the last AGM) **Vote:** All in favour.

**Nomination of Board Members:** Simon Markham Secretary 1year term **Proposed by:** Reverend Michael Hydes **Seconded by:** Keith Fish  
Wendy Burgess Board Member 1 year term **Proposed by:** Reverend Michael Hydes **Seconded by:** Keith fish  
Tony Wares 2 year term **Proposed by:** Reverend Michael Hydes **Seconded by:** Wendy Burgess  
William Tinsley 2 year term **Proposed by:** Simon Markham **Seconded by:** Keith Fish

**Acceptance of Annual Reports(including accounts)** All reports were discussed. And Keith talked us through the accounts in depth, explaining that although the church had grown in numbers, funds hadn't. Reverend Michael thanked Keith for his hard work on the accounts,as did Sarah who said at every board meeting the accounts were always easy to understand.

Robert asked about funds for Pride, and for 2020. Reverend Michael said we were not doing Brighton Pride in 2020, that we were going to focus on smaller local events.

**Proposed by:** Dameon Loukas **Seconded by:** Sarah Barber **Vote:** All in favour.

**Acceptance of Proposed Budget:** The proposed budget was discussed in detail.

**Proposed by:** Reverend Michael Hydes **Seconded by:** Sarah Barber **Vote:** All in favour.

**Voting results for Board Members:** Simon Markham and Wendy Burgess were voted in for a 1 year term. And Tony Wares and William Tinsley were voted in for a 2 year term.

Charlie Notley closed in prayer

## Pastor's report

The focus for January was naturally our 5<sup>th</sup> anniversary service and saying goodbye to Rev. Peta.

Rev. Peta preached their final sermon on January 5<sup>th</sup> and on January 12<sup>th</sup> we held a special service to thank them for their time with The Village MCC and bless them on their continuing MCC journey. The congregation very generously gave a financial gift and the deacons laid hands on them in a blessing.

At the beginning of January Keith and I took the collected toiletries to the Beacon. Photographs were taken and Chris wrote a press release that was picked up by the local papers and MCC. It was also reported in February's issue of G-Scene.

Our anniversary service was on Feb 2<sup>nd</sup>. Thank you to everyone who took part or helped out, especially Chris and Will for their work with the choir, the choir members (who sang so beautifully), Simon (for an amazing spread), and Rev. Elder Innes-Paul for their visit. It was good that the church leadership were able to meet with Innes-Paul for a couple of hours on Sunday afternoon. It was only a brief visit as they only arrived late Saturday afternoon and left early Monday morning, but they did spend some quality time with The Village members and friends, and met also briefly with MCC Brighton. I think there was 35 in attendance at our anniversary service, including Labour MP Lloyd Russell Moyle.

I didn't make any pickle payments during January, however Isla did make one pickle payment of £20 to someone in dire need.

I have been supporting one person, (an occasional visitor to The Village), long distance with email and telephone support. During the month I also met with two Village members to talk about faith.

The prayer meetings and bible studies are going well. The prayer time speeds by very quickly with between 7 – 12 in attendance. The bible study is equally well attended and Charlie is a wonderful host. An exploratory hospital procedure laid me out for a few days but I had planned for it and fortunately it didn't get in the way of any planned church services or events.

I have had to begin the charity application again as I ran out of time the first time round (you get 3 months to complete the application and there were things needed along the way). I have also begun to look at our church retreat 2020 and have received a £930 grant from the rainbow fund so that church members can afford a weekend fee. I think all told the costs will be subsidized to around £60 per person for the weekend, including food and board. I will let you have further details as I move ahead.

The annual Holocaust memorial was well attended and very moving speeches were given by the families of holocaust survivors and survivors of Rwandan Genocide. The Rabbi sang a really beautiful holocaust memorial prayer.

The deacons and I met at Charlies at the end of the month. Ill health for Wendy, Isla, Charlie, and I, has meant it's been a while since we were able to meet. We set meeting dates for the rest of the year and made a commitment to prioritize our time together.

Dorset gardens Methodist church board meet on Sunday and will be looking at the possibility of us worshipping there. I will keep you posted.

I can't believe how soon we move into Lent and then Easter! I pray that God continue to go with us.

Rev. Michael.

January '20 Board Accounts for The Village Metropolitan Community Church

Balance in account 31 December 2019 £6276.63

Income

Collection

05 Jan	65.00	32	
12 Jan	75.00	30	
19 Jan	81.81	24	
26 Jan	54.00	35	
<u>Standing Order</u>	<u>751.50</u>		<u>£1027.31</u>

Expenditure

Rev Michael	500.00		
Rev Peta	50.00		
Ufmcc tithe	150.20		
<u>Rent Sundays Jan + 2hr</u>	<u>180.00</u>		<u>£880.20</u>

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*(conference transfer £100.00)*

Balance in account 31 January 2020 £6423.74

Forecast.

Est Mthly Exp

Rev Michael	500.00		
Rev Peta	50.00		
Ufmcc tithe	150.20		
Costs expenses December 2019	217.93		
Costs expenses January 2020	116.56		
<u>Rent Sundays Jan + 2hr</u>	<u>180.00</u>		<u>£1214.69</u>

Forecast Balance £5209.05

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Allocated

<u>PickleFund</u>	<u>£1386.27</u>
<u>Sleep Safe</u>	<u>£87.03</u>
<u>Conference Fund</u>	<u>£ 509.48</u>

**General funds**      **Avail** £3226.27