

MEANWOOD VALLEY BAPTIST CHURCH
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (AGM) HELD AT 8.00 p.m. on TUESDAY
27th APRIL 2010 at MEANWOOD INSTITUTE

PRESENT: 25 members, 2 non-members
APOLOGIES: 9 members

Rev. Andy Hobbs opened the meeting by reading from Matthew, followed by worship and prayer.

1. MINUTES

The minutes of the AGM held on 28th April 2009, and the minutes of the quarterly church meeting held on 18th February 2010, were agreed as true records. Proposed - John Bell, seconded - Andy Hobbs.

Roger Turner requested a copy of the fuller version of the minutes of the February meeting. *Action: Hilary or Andy*

3. GROUP REPORTS

- a) Prayer
- b) Manna for Meanwood
- c) Worship
- d) Youth and Children's Work
- e) Cafe

Copies of the above reports had been made available prior to the AGM so they were not read out, although additional comments were made as follows:

d) YOUTH AND CHILDREN'S WORK

Charles reported that he had visited housegroups presenting the new options for youthwork arrangements and obtained feedback. All the comments had been taken on board. There were significant issues about introducing a Saturday Club and continuing the Sunday groups in the same format. It had been decided to pilot a 6 week "dance" session on Saturday mornings, followed by a slot in church one Sunday morning. Adult helpers would be Sue W, Ness, Miriam and Sara with 10 places for young people.

Charles thanked everyone involved in Youth and Children's work. It was an important work which contributed to the lives of the young people.

PALS - The PALS group held on Friday mornings was very well attended. However, after the summer there would be no-one from MVBC involved in running the group. Sue Woolmore would soon be attending a meeting to try to form a management group to oversee the work. Thought and prayer was needed concerning the future of PALS and if anyone from MVBC felt called to this work they were asked to contact Sue or Andy.

FAMILY SERVICE - Thanks were extended to Paula for organising and leading the family service each month.

f) Pastor's Report

Andy reported that his last Sunday as Pastor of MVBC would be on 5th September 2010. In line with YBA advice, he and Norma were considering 1 or 2 options away from MVBC for the first six months to enable a new Pastor to settle in. However, they would remain members of MVBC and would return to regular attendance in due course.

Concern was expressed about Andy & Norma's wellbeing during this time of change for them and how much they and their gifts, experience and commitment would be missed.

g) Child Protection Statement - read out by Sue Woolmore

4. FINANCIAL REPORT

Paul reported that at the last Church meeting he had presented the accounts for the year ending December 2009. The accounts had since been audited and signed off and were now accepted as a true record by the meeting.

Paul presented the accounts to end March 2010. He thanked Hilary for her role as Assistant Treasurer.

5. STRATEGIC REPORT

a) The Way Forward

Chris reported that as a result of the Away Day the following initiatives had been introduced or were progressing:

- Regular meetings of Housegroup Leaders
- Discipleship Course had been run
- Appointment of new Pastor
- Men's work

With regard to Men's Work, it was noted this was something church said they would embrace to draw in men from the local community. As part of this Bill and Andy had met with Carl Beech, Christian Vision for Men. Consideration was being given to gathering relevant information, undertaking training and setting up some suitable events.

It was agreed that a budget of £1,000 be established to develop Men's Work.

b) Appointment of new Pastor

Charles reported that the process was not as far on as had been hoped. The Elders had had a very useful meeting with Ernie Wallie when wide-ranging questions had been dealt with. Three profiles had been provided by YBA which would be reviewed by Mel, Mike B, Angela, Olu, Rosemary and Paula. This group would process the applications in confidence, with the church becoming involved at a later stage.

It was noted that discussion was still needed to indicate to Ernie whether we were open to receiving applicants who were newly qualified or who were women. Concern was expressed about progressing this matter quickly. It was suggested that a special Church meeting be held soon, or that we broke into small discussion groups at the end of the AGM or discuss in Housegroups

It was agreed that the Elders would discuss this at their next meeting and arrange a special church meeting one Sunday morning before the July Church meeting. Action - Elders

Everyone was encouraged not to worry about this process and trust God that the right decisions would be made at the right time. It was important that the 6 people identified should be allowed to get on with their task of matching our Church profile and Pastor profile to the individual profiles of candidates.

6. ELECTION OF DEACON

Hilary Wilson had been nominated to stand as Church Secretary. A vote was taken and it was unanimously agreed that Hilary be elected as Church Secretary.

7. DATES FOR DIARY

3 July Trip to Scarborough
11 July Party in the Park

8. FREE TO BE SUNDAYS

On the 5th Sunday of the month people were free to do church in a different way. A discussion followed on whether a "mini service" should be offered at MCC on the 5th Sundays.

It was agreed that no service would be offered on the 5th Sundays. A member of the Leadership Team would be at MCC between 10.30 - 11.00 a.m. to explain to anyone who might turn up and to leave a sign on the gate.

9. MEMBERSHIP

Andy had recently visited the following people who wished to resign their membership of MVBC - The Pounders, The Brights and A Fogg. *On a show of hands it was agreed that the above names be removed from the church membership list.*

10. RETIRING DEACON

Georgina was thanked for her time and contribution to the work of the Leadership Team.

The meeting ended in prayer.