

MEANWOOD VALLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

MINUTES OF QUARTERLY CHURCH MEETING HELD at 8 pm on WEDNESDAY 28th JANUARY 2009 at MEANWOOD COMMUNITY CENTRE

PRESENT: 23 members + 1 new member voted in
1 non-member

APOLOGIES: 12 members

1. WELCOME

Rosemary Laxton opened the meeting by talking and praying about “unity in diversity” and reading from Ephesians, Psalm 133 and Ezekiel 37. Everyone present participated in symbolically binding some twigs together as a sign of commitment to unity. Rosemary encouraged everyone to read Ezekiel 37.

2. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

The minutes of the church meetings held on 8 July and 30 October 2008 were agreed as a correct record.

3. MATTERS ARISING

a) Carols in the Park - It was noted that Carols in the Park was a very successful event

b) Fifth Sunday – On Sunday 29th March there would be no official service at MCC. People were encouraged to do something different e.g. have a family day out, invite friends/family round for a meal. The Centre would be open for something very low key for those who wanted to go along. A review would be carried out to decide whether to continue with this arrangement.

4. FINANCIAL UPDATE

Paul Smith presented the accounts for 2008 and the projections for 2009. Comment was made about the effects of the recession. An appeal would soon be heard about Housing Benefit for the Careforce Workers. The accounts were accepted unanimously and Paul was thanked for his work as Treasurer.

5. NEW MEMBER

Andy Hobbs reported that he and Hilary Wilson had visited Deborah Baboolal with regard to her becoming a Church member. The church unanimously endorsed the recommendation for Deborah to become a Church member.

6. DIGGLE UPDATE

Brian gave an update on the plans of the Diggle Family. Linda’s health was greatly improved and they would be leaving the UK on 1st April 2009.

7. BUILDING STEERING GROUP

Chris Baker gave an update on the deliberations of the Steering Group. Discussions continued with the City Council. It was suggested that the Steering Group should decide whether to pursue this matter when the time was right.

8. YOUTH & CHILDREN'S WORK STEERING GROUP

Charles Laxton gave an update on the work of the Steering Group, including background information, membership of the Group, structure of the Co-ordinators, Team Leaders and Volunteers and a general overview of the youth and children's work in the church.

9. THE WAY FORWARD

Chris Baker reported that the Elders continued to work with Kieron on the following areas:

Community

Pastoral

Resources, Infrastructure and Overview

Leadership

10. PASTORAL TRAINING

It was noted that Richard Duckworth was undertaking training with a view to becoming an accredited lay preacher. Later in the year the church would be asked to affirm Richard in this calling.

The meeting closed in prayer.