

Minutes of the Whitehaven Methodist Circuit Meeting on Wednesday 9 June 2010 at Moorsby Parks at 7.30pm

Present (30) Philip Peacock (Chair), Grace Adamson, Philip Adamson, David Andrews, Katie Bell, Jean Bitcon, Christine Bradshaw, Keith Bradshaw, Ian Coates, Alan Coyles, Barbara Coyles, Keith Gurney, John Hall, Judy Hall, Chris Kelly, Lorrie Larkham, Andy Lennox, Doug McDevitte, Linda McDevitte, Jean Millie, Gill Mitchell, Alan Moore, Mavis Moore, John Pryde, Nan Pryde, Mary Snape, Edith Stephenson, Brenda Walker, Betty Wilson, Mabel Wilson

Apologies (14) Tom Bitcon, Sandra Cassell, Jackie Davies, Celia Davis, Elizabeth Graham, Karen James, Val Johnston, Judith Lawson, Sandra McAdam, Mary Moody, Joe Peile, Rob Quayle, Joan Richardson

Devotions were led by the Chair including remembrance of those killed the previous Wednesday

1. **Constitution of the meeting** The circulated list was agreed.
2. **Minutes** of the 10 March 2010 were confirmed. Mavis and others were thanked with their help with Ministerial Synod.
3. **Worship** The Chair reported on the Leaders of Worship and Preachers' Meeting. Jean Millie has been admitted as a local preacher and Don Hunt has resigned. There was discussion about worship issues arising primarily from conversations about *Planning for now and the future*. Syl Hunt is now available as a worship leader at Seascale on Sunday mornings.
4. **Networking**

A way forward for mission Priorities are being collated prior to being presented at the September Synod. Please forward to Philip Peacock by 14 July.

Called to serve A taster evening will be held on 30 June.

Images of faith spirituality meeting will be held at St Thomas' church, Kendal on 9 July.

Ecumenical Pilgrimage to the Holy Land will be on 16-26 May 2011.

Methodism in Patagonia There is a chance to meet Bishop Frank and Myriam de Nully Brown at Rydal Hall on 18 June at 630pm – bring own barbeque food.
5. **Mission**
 - a. **Review of circuit objectives**
 1. **To support and become more informed about Lebone House, South Africa** Tom Luke spoke at Egremont on 7 October and wrote an article for *Link*. Churches have been raising money – any more should be sent to Alec and Gillian Bounds by 31 July.
 2. **To try to establish a cafechurch in Costa Coffee in Whitehaven** A monthly cafechurch was launched in Whitehaven in partnership with Elim Pentecostal Church.
 3. **To hold a Fresh Expressions Vision Day for West Cumbria** This is planned for 19 June
 4. **To seek to avoid clashes of local church events (where possible) and publicise them more effectively through the Link magazine** Few events have been recorded in the diary or passed to *Link* for publication. Generally churches are not trying to avoid clashes.
 5. **To enrich vision through attendance at the District 'Going for Growth' day** 23 people travelled to Penrith Methodist Church on 30 January for 'Wild about Jesus'.
 6. **To organise some Circuit event(s) to bring people together** These have included 1 and 5 above and a day on prayer. There have been two local preacher admission services. It is hoped local churches might plan events open to the circuit.
 - b. **Public issues** Keith Bradshaw reported that his last district Public issues notes have been circulated including an update on donations for Haiti and comment on the study guide on climate change. Cumbria is a strategic area where financial inclusion is a priority. Whitehaven and Egremont Credit Union is looking for additional service points. There is concern about the government's plans relating to our local hospital rebuilding.

- c. **Sellafield chaplaincy** South West Cumbria circuit are not looking to continue the arrangement with another deacon. A circuit minister could fulfil the role which could also help to sustain having two ministers. This could include continuing district financial support. Alternatively we could make a separate appointment for a day a week. It was agreed that the staff and stewards would look at a lay appointment, Methodist or otherwise, at least initially and bear in mind the possibility of it as part of a future ministerial appointment.
 - d. **Moresby Parks:** it was agreed to seek permission for Rev Stephen Griffiths to be authorised to serve as a Methodist minister.
 - e. **Fresh expressions vision day** 19 June 10am-4pm at Whitehaven United Reformed Church.
 - f. **Circuit objectives 2010-11** The following were agreed:
 - 1. **To support and become more informed about a charity in Britain** The circuit charity will be Pride of Cumbria Air Ambulance.
 - 2. **To promote 'The Year of the Bible' and be involved with Biblefresh 2011** has been designated as 'The Year of the Bible' as it marks 400 years since the publication of the King James version and provides an opportunity to focus upon the Bible.
 - 3. **To support local churches, as necessary, in the fulfilment of their 'Priorities' arising from the District Planning for Now and the Future initiative.**
 - g. **Mission collections** Please let Maureen Pyke have outstanding money by the end of July.
 - h. **Safeguarding** Vetting and barring details are being circulated.
6. **Resources**
- a. **Finance**
 - i **Financial Steward's report** - Barbara Coyles reported a balance in the Circuit Model Trust Fund of £47,200 and general funds £11,400 (including £10,000 transfer between them). Both income and expenditure so far this year is £65,000 but there is considerable expenditure still to come and we need more raising through church contributions or otherwise.
 - ii **Fundraising at St Nicholas Tower** is on 10 July.
 - b. **Sabbatical** Solway Circuit was thanked for its help with supplying preachers. Plan dates including Christmas arrangements need to be with Philip Peacock by 11 July.
 - c. **Property:**
 - i **Lowca** sale – waiting for updated surveyor's report.
 - ii **Cleator Moor** scheme is almost complete with £71,000 raised and expenditure of £81,000, covered by an interest free loan from Carlisle circuit. The sale room has also been upgraded for £2,100. The official opening is on 10 September. Already increased use is indicated.
 - iii **Egremont** renovations – costings indicate work should be done in a single phase, selling the hall at the end. £14,000 has been raised to date before grant applications.
 - iv **Manses** Chris Kelly reported on minor items.
 - v **'Faith in Maintenance' training day** Doug and others had attended this and details are being circulated.
7. **Appointments**
- a. **Authorisation to preside at Lord's Supper** for Alan Moore was approved at District Synod, subject to confirmation by Conference.
 - b. **Circuit steward from September 2010** No name at present.
 - c. **Independent examiner** No name at present.
 - d. **Additional Annual Development Review (ADR) Reviewer** Staff and stewards had appointed Jackie Davies for Gerry.

- e. Synod representatives** Grace Adamson and Jean Millie were appointed (one vacancy).
- 8. Dates of meetings** Cleator Moor Wednesday 15 September 730pm (reports to Hilary Wilson by 18 August) and Egremont Wednesday 8 December 730pm (note change of venues).
The meeting closed at 855pm