

**Whitehaven Circuit Meeting on Wednesday 15 March 2017 at 7.30pm at
Cleator Moor**

Present: Grace Adamson, Philip Adamson, David Andrews, Alistair Bell, Katie Bell, Alan Coyles, David Davies, Jackie Davies, Gwynneth Everett, Robert Fearon, Lindsay Gray, Allison Hanshaw, Wendy Kilworth-Mason (chair), Lorrie Larkham, Andy Lennox, Doug McDevitte, Linda McDevitte, Katrina MacEwan, Jean Millie, Gill Mitchell, Alan Moore, Mavis Moore, Mary Snape, Michael Watts
Apologies: Cyril Atkinson, Neil Bingham, Gillian Bounds, Ian Coates, Barbara Coyles, Margaret Hargreaves, Karen James, Sandra McAdam, John Pryde, Nan Pryde

1. **Opening devotions** included remembering the life of Peter Brown, a former member of this circuit and meeting whose funeral is next Monday. Alice and Peter's daughter Ruth has asked for a commemoration of their lives at Seascale on 28 May, probably with lunch followed by a time of memories and thanksgiving. Alec Bounds was asked to give our best wishes to Gillian for a speedy recovery.
2. **Constitution of the meeting:** the list circulated with the attendance sheet was confirmed.
3. **Minutes** of the meeting of 15 December were approved.
4. **Matters arising** minute 5d Ron Pond bequest: A letter from the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (TMCP) was read saying that differing opinions had been expressed on where the bequest should be placed and asked for a definitive decision from the circuit. Philip Adamson said that he had simply pointed out to TMCP that previous bequests had gone to Hensingham. It was said that the intention is that the money should be available to enhance the mission of the circuit and churches. In the light of the discussion Philip and Gill Mitchell agreed to write further to accept the minute of the last meeting.
5. **Networking**
 - i. **Living waters:** pizza, puddings and praise evening with Phoenix Praise – circuit service at the Meeting Place 26 March 6.30pm in support of the circuit charity Water Aid. Bookings to Katie Bell katie@sandwithbells.plus.com would be useful.
 - ii. **Growing together** (God for all) Whitehaven Mission Community launch event 30 April 3.30pm Civic Hall. Philip Adamson reported on developments to date and that the group has reached the launch point.
 - iii. **Circuit fundraising** Saturday 20 May at Cleator Moor 2 to 4pm. Tickets will be available later.
6. **Resources**
 - i. **Finance** Share offers, district offer and budget: a summary of the accounts to date and the budget for 2017/18 showing next year's income of £69,950 (£63,800 of it from share offers) and expenditure of £76,617, leaving a projected balance of £54,550 at the end of the year. The district share will again be £15,800. The budget was agreed.
 - ii. **Property**
 - a. **Moresby Parks** land sale is awaiting final signatures.
 - b. **Quinquennials** are due for Hensingham and Gosforth this year and Cleator Moor and the manse next year when the Day Cummins contract ends.

- c. **Manse** Ian Coates is trying to replace a radiator. Roof work will take place at Easter.
- iii. **People**
 - a. **Property steward** vacancy
 - b. **Circuit steward** vacancy from September including a financial steward from September 2017.
 - c. **Children and families worker** Katrina's annual report was received. The post was extended by a further year until August 2018.
 - d. **Letter of thanks** from Rev Bert Clark was read.
 - e. **Annual renewal of authorisations to preside** were recommended for Alan Moore and David Andrews (second year).
- 7. **Worship: Leaders of worship and preachers' meeting** 8 March: Doug McDevitte reported that Cleator Moor and Egremont have asked Phoenix Praise for an evangelical service regularly. Around Aldersgate Sunday there will be love feasts around the circuit. Safeguarding provisions were reviewed. Easter offerings would be dedicated in individual churches on 7 May and money brought to the June circuit meeting. Barbara Hunter and David Andrews reach 40 years as local preachers this year and this will be celebrated at Egremont on 11 June.
- 8. **Mission**
 - i. **Circuit mission priorities** were approved (see below). It was noted that Café church and Egremont had asked for some help from the circuit (see the December agenda). As part of this Egremont is already using Katrina at baptisms. Other circuit support including what had already been asked for would be discussed at the next meeting. Andy Lennox would add the priorities to the website. Churches would review their priorities in the autumn and report briefly to the December meeting.
 - ii. **Moving mountains** Alec Bounds reported on the launch meeting - see godforall.org.uk/moving-mountains-2018.
 - iii. **Thy kingdom come** 24/7 prayer at St Nicholas 4-11 June.
 - iv. **Moresby Parks future arrangements** There was an informal meeting last month with members of the parish looking at the future with increasing activities and attendance. It is hoped to improve the facilities and exploration of how this might be done.
 - v. **Public issues** Alec Bounds' report was received.
- 9. **Other business** previously notified - none
- 10. **Dates of meetings** 21 June at Seascale, 20 September at the Meeting Place and 6 December at Gosforth all at 7.30pm.

The meeting closed at 9.00pm

Please send items and reports for the June meeting to David Andrews by 31 May.

The June meeting is also the copy date for the next *Link*.

CIRCUIT MISSION POLICY

As a community of Christians in Whitehaven Methodist Circuit, we commit ourselves, together with others, to make the love of Christ known in word and deed...

(Each Church in the Circuit has identified its primary task(s)...)

At Café church by...

- engaging with those with little or no church affiliation by meeting with them on neutral ground
- exploring God's relevance in the world today through discussing current and topical affairs both from a secular and Christian viewpoint.

At Cleator Moor by...

- caring for those within our church community and outside it
- reaching out into the community, with the priority of supporting and encouraging work with children and vulnerable adults.

In Egremont by...

- reaching out in new and existing ways into the community through evangelism, service and worship
- strengthening our links with other organisations (including Calderwood House and Foodbank)
- creating a welcoming and inclusive environment for all.

In Ennerdale, Kirkland and Lamplugh by...

- researching the needs of the people of the parish
- reaching out to former members, especially young people and their parents

In Frizington by...

- developing opportunities for outreach to people through special services and social events.

In Gosforth by...

- expanding our work with children
- promoting Fairtrade, thus responding to needs in the wider world.

In Hensingham by...

- being a community at worship
- welcoming those who request baptisms and funerals in the Church
- working with others in the development of the Whitehaven mission community.

At Moresby Parks by...

- building a community Church through worship and outreach
- establishing a wide range of all-age activities

In St Bees by...

- providing a welcome for visitors by making the purpose of the church more evident
- making available a valued and quiet space in the heart of the village

At Seascale by...

- reaching out to the community
- reviewing the accessibility of our building and refreshing our worship, to build a people of God in this place.