

Exwick Community Church  
Annual General Meeting Minutes  
Exwick Parish Hall, Station Road 17<sup>th</sup> March 2019

Chair: Peter Fowler

Present: 30

1. Devotions: Peter showed a video: *Sacrifice* by Simon Gillebeau: Don't give up. 1 Tim. 4:9 'I have kept the faith . . . a crown of righteousness.' Peter prayed.
2. Approval of last Annual General Meeting minutes 18<sup>th</sup> March 2018: Approved.
3. Section reports: Members received these reports by email or hard copy before the meeting. Thank you to all for their hard work over the year. Thanks were extended to Peter for his ministry over the past year.
4. Safeguarding Policy: The Policy was read out for Members' approval by Marie Langdon, Designated Safeguarding Lead for Children. Harri Sharp is Safeguarding Deputy for Children. Peter Fowler is Safeguarding Lead for Vulnerable Adults, Maggie Goodwin is Deputy. Marie and Harri will meet regularly to ensure that proper procedures are followed, workers and helpers trained, and policies reviewed appropriately. They intend to hold a Safeguarding Sunday soon, in which the congregation will be made aware of the issues.

Exwick Community Church  
Ordinary Church Members Meeting Minutes  
Exwick Parish Hall, Station Road 17<sup>th</sup> March 2019

**Present: 30**

**Chair: Peter Fowler**

1. Approval of last Church Members Meeting minutes: Approved with 6 abstentions.
2. Leadership Team Election: Hilary Webber is standing again, and Marie Langdon has been nominated (her nomination form has been circulated). There are two vacancies on the Leadership Team, so you may vote for both candidates, one or neither. Only those present and voting at this Meeting will be entitled to a vote; no postal votes. Those candidates receiving at least two-thirds' of the vote will be accepted on the Leadership Team.  
Trevor Sharp and Dave Ovenden were scrutineers. They reported that both candidates received more than two-thirds of those present and voting. Therefore they will both start a term of 3 years on the Leadership Team. We prayed.
3. Outreach:
  - a. YMCA Families Worker (Peter) A *draft* Job Description for the post of Families Worker was circulated. The post will be one day per week initially, and the Leadership Team proposes that we appoint a Worker for an initial period of one year starting in September. We would fund the post with the surplus we

have in our bank account at the moment. One day a week would cost £6-8,000.

Questions were asked about how we can provide enough resources to meet the needs which are very great in Exwick among young families. Harri replied that we would start small, and the ideal worker would also help us as a congregation to connect with families and build relationships. Peter confirmed that we would look for someone, in partnership with the YMCA, who has experience working with young families, not someone inexperienced. The YMCA have a similar partnership with another church in Exeter, which is working well.

Phil seconded the Leadership Team's proposal. It was passed unanimously.

- b. Church Twinning Opportunity: John Sumner has been approached by a church in the Czech Republic which would love to build up a relationship with a church in the U.K. This would involve mutual visits and spiritual support. Pastor Radek is pastor of a church in Liberec, a similar sized city to Exeter. His church has twinned before, in the 1990s with St Thomas Baptist Church. He will be coming at the beginning of May to visit.
  - c. Commuter Coffee: We would like to try handing out free coffee to people walking along Station Road to work in the morning. Suggest Wed. 3 April, 8-9 am. Need a few volunteers. Michael and Peter will put a leaflet together.
4. Finance: John handed out the current report. St Thomas had pledged some support for Peter's ministry, and are collecting a Gift Offering for this, but this hasn't arrived yet, so there is a deficit in February. This shouldn't be the case next month. There were some Manse repair expenses last month. There is still £8,000 in the building fund for future Manse repairs (mainly replacement of windows). There was a suggestion that we put some of our surplus funds into a savings account. The Leadership Team will discuss this.
- There was a gift made to Food Bank of £200 for their Christmas appeal. A suggestion was made that we consider supporting ICE. Harri proposed giving ICE £500, Ann B seconded, passed unanimously. The Leadership Team will consider ongoing giving to ICE.
- Thanks were extended to John for his hard work on the Finances.
5. Pastoral: Chris Eastley is struggling again with his leg. Leigh needs prayer. John Geelan has had a chest infection for weeks. John and Ena Lesh continue to struggle. We prayed for these and others.
  6. Dates -
    - a. Easter: We were encouraged to join the Exeter-wide Walk of Witness on Good Friday. There wasn't any interest expressed in having our own service on that day.
    - b. Community Action Day: 6 April. See Peter if you can volunteer.
    - c. Hall bookings: Could section leaders make sure the hall is booked for their activities, or cancelled if their regular activity is cancelled? Please liaise with Harri.
  7. AOB: None
  8. Next Church Members Meeting: 19<sup>th</sup> May 2019 – Lin Alford volunteered to oversee cooking lunch on this date. Michael closed the meeting in prayer.