

OXFORD SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH
BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES (Via Zoom Video conferencing)

Date: Saturday 11th March 2023 - **Time:** 19:00 pm **Attendance:** 38 (approx) **Quorum Required:** 21

Chairperson: Pastor Rudi Puskas **Secretary:** Alan Hudson

Devotion: Elder Andrew Adongo **Prayer:** Andrew Adongo

1 Minutes of previous meeting and matters arising

- a. The minutes of the previous Business Meeting held on 30th July 2022 were reviewed.
Voted, accepted.
- b. Use of zoom: Please refer to previous minutes for details.
- c. Toilets refurbishment update: This project will now be handed to the newly formed Church Building Committee.
- d. Heating system update: heating system has now been fully flushed and is operating effectively.

2 Treasurer's Report

- a. The Business meeting viewed Oxford Church bank statement to 31-12-2022.
- b. The church finance report and the departmental working budgets and balances were reviewed by the treasurer.
- c. Correction; the sum taken by Stanborough Press should show £525.72 annually (£43.81 monthly) rather than £350.48. The treasurer stated that further clarification is required regarding the purpose of the £525.72 annual payment as originally the charge was to help support Stanborough Press during lockdown, but now it seems to cover the quarterly provision of The Messenger publication.
- d. Subject to the correction of £525.72 being inserted in place of £350.48, the report was **Voted, accepted.**

3. Oxford Church Budget for 2023

- a. The business meeting viewed the church budget forecast for 2023.
- b. The meeting was informed that the budget contains provisional figures, set by the finance committee, based on the projected total church income for 2023. Where departmental plans require additional funds, these proposals can be reviewed at the next business meeting which should take place mid-way through the year.
- c. It was pointed out that Banbury Group budget is not included in the Oxford church budget because this is managed as a separate entity and will appear as a separate budget.
- d. Banbury Group requested a projected budget outline for 2023 from oxford treasury.
- e. Oxford Church budget was then **Voted, accepted.**

4. Banbury Church Group report and plans

- a. The group started with approximately 15 regular attendees including children and has now grown to approximately 30 regular attendees. At their last communion service there were 42 adults and children in attendance.
- b. The weekly objective; "To work with, and include the local community in our activities".
- c. General Moto; "Each One to Reach One".
- d. The group meet in a local childcare centre twice a month where they have an opportunity to connect with the locals.
- e. Visitation of a local Elderly Care Home has occurred a few times where the group will sing and witness to the residents.
- f. The group plan to bring a youth program to the elderly care home.

- g. There is a plan to distribute books in the surrounding area of the meeting hall.
- h. Long-term plan; to purchase a meeting hall. A disused hall has now been identified.
- i. Banbury Group is now financially self-sufficient. Ultimately the aim of every church plant is to be self-sufficient. Oxford Church Board agreed that Banbury Group may approach Oxford Church for further financial assistance as the need arises.

5. Departmental Reports and Plans

- a. Personal Ministries Council Plans
 - 1. 2023 mandate; “Make Disciples, Building Communities, Winning Souls”.
 - 2. 7th May, coronation outreach – book distribution.
 - 3. 8th May, “Big Help Out” day – in-reach & outreach opportunity.
 - 4. Design an “Impact” monitoring form template.
 - 5. PM Dept to provide training in discipleship for all other depts.
 - 6. Book distribution program.
 - 7. Consistent community visitations to elderly members.
 - 8. Building community links – go out into the community regularly evangelising, then invite the community to fellowship with us on the last sabbath of each month.
 - 9. QR codes with book packages.
 - 10. Revive the Prison Ministry program.
 - 11. Friday Vespers – small localised bible study groups.
 - 12. Elders to lead Sabbath afternoon bible studies.
 - 13. Request for all departments to develop their plans in conjunction with the PM mandate and for insertion in the PM calendar.
- b. Youth Department report
 - 1. Regular Friday bible study/ meetings, 5-8pm, (or possibly 6-9pm).
 - 2. Assisted Pastor in “Questioning Christianity” series.
 - 3. Youth visited Milton Keynes Church.
 - 4. The department organised two Youth socials.
 - 5. Global Youth Day, 18th March. Youth will be casually dressed as they will spend time with the homeless during the day.
 - 6. Youth day moved to 15th April 23.
 - 7. Youth Praise, Worship and Prayer Night will be on the 22nd April.
 - 8. Youth Banquet, third week of June.
 - 9. Trip to Hungary; will be moved to July.
- c. Deaconry Department
 - 1. Vote of thanks to the active deacons.
 - 2. Communion service; 18th March
 - 3. Provisional Spring Cleaning, external; 16th April
 - 4. All new church officers or those who are new to serving within this church please ensure you complete the KCFS training at your earliest opportunity. See Debra Chokwenda or Cynthia for date details.
- d. Prayer Ministries Department
 - 1. Q2 plans; Tuesday prayer meetings will continue via Zoom.
 - 2. 1st Sabbath of each quarter will be a day of prayer and fasting.
 - 3. A team will be available in church from 9am to start the day with prayer.
 - 4. The GAP (God Answers Prayer) initiative operates daily at 6am and 2pm, now uses a free conference call App. Please contact Bro Joseph for further details.
 - 5. Social Media services will continue, WhatsApp, Oxford SDA Prayer Media.
 - 6. Prayer chain program will continue
 - 7. Prayer Band initiative.

8. Utilise PM Spot to share our plans.
 9. Collaborate with sister churches, Oxford International and Aylesbury.
- e. Community Services Department
1. ADRA are proposing a Local Ambassador program. Further details to follow.
 2. Team consists of Patience, Cynthia, Mee Yee, Ida Ker, Bestman and Elder Maxwell.
 3. Reach out to Oxford community.
 4. Street Witnessing.
 5. Helping the homeless.
 6. Food Hampers include; food, snacks, toiletries, Steps to Christ,
 7. Get more involved with Gate House.
 8. Connect with Porch, Homeless and vulnerable care project.
 9. Provide clothing etc for Turkey and Syria disaster.
 10. Reinstate ACOBBS food kitchen.
 11. Start a food Bank/community larder on Chester Street.
 12. Invite the local community members to lunch on a Sunday, once each quarter.
- f. Turkey and Syria Disaster report
1. £252.90 was collected in envelopes and online. This will be forwarded to ADRA.
- g. Music Ministries Department
1. All members to be given an opportunity to take part in a praise and worship program.
 2. Praise and worship starts at 9:45 on sabbath mornings.
 3. In reach and outreach through choral programs.
 4. Childrens choir will continue with plans to be included in meditational once a month.
 5. Home visitations; Worship programs taken to those unable to attend church.

6. Next Business Meeting

Date to be determined by the church board.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 21:00 with prayer by Bro Joseph Galabuzi.