MINUTES OF CHURCH MEETING 7th JANUARY 2020 7.30p.m.

1. Members present: Rev. Andy & Kay McManus, Peter Wright, Steven Roberts, Janet Morton, John Wass, Garry, Dawn & Shannon Clewlow, Tom Hamilton, Charles Coupland, George Kuhn, Barry Taylor, Angela Jenkinson, Chris Wilson, Arthur Bates, John & Maureen Edenbrow.

2. Apologies: Rita Wilson, Cheryl Griffiths, Kay Bates, Daphne Cox, Vicky Elsom, Celia Darville, Gloria Taylor, Norrie & Jean Welsh, & Paula Reed.

Andy opened the meeting with a prayer and reading from Romans 8 v31.

3. The minutes of the meeting of 8th Oct were circulated and agreed.

4. Matters arising:

A1- Christmas gift presented to Sarah Jane. A4- Electrical certificates now received and displayed on Notice board. A6- Projector is now fixed and fully operational. A7- Vicky has taken over Social media updates. A8- See Agenda item 8. A9- The Co-op Community Fund has donated £850 to the White Heather Group. A10-Brenda’s monthly Newsletter is sent to Marijke for events to be advertised in Morton Parish magazine.

5. Reports from Church Groups: (a) Tots: Still going well with 15-20 each week….and they sit quietly for the Bible story. (b) Lighthouse: Now 12 regular attendees, up from 4. (c) YYC: Group open for 11-15-year ages. At present there are approx. 10 11year olds and 10 15year olds attending which makes it very difficult to bridge the age gap. Some of the older members are taking on more responsibilities. One special event is planned each month, with Rock climbing being arranged for next month. (d) Sunday school: Again, a difficult age range from 9-15-year olds. Holiday Club to be arranged for 27-29 July. (e) White Heather: Good numbers and good company with developing friendships and fellowship. (f) Coffee morning: Good numbers with some none-church people attending. (g) Shop: Going well. More volunteers needed. Mia and Freya still helping. (h) Study/Home Group: There are no Home Groups at present, but George will be starting a new group at 8A Edenham Rd. tomorrow (8-1-20). Wed study continues to be well attended. (i) Monthly Lunch. These will be resuming in March.

6. Andy’s Report. Andy is now qualified as a National Accredited Minister. He mentioned various activities that have taken place in the last 3 months including: Messy Church; Tom & Louise‘s move to Melton Mowbray; Christmas Fayre; Christmas party with Morton C of E; Carol singing in Care Homes; and 2 funerals.

As well as volunteers needed for Shop (see 5g above), Andy appealed for volunteers to help with Tots, Lighthouse, YYC, Sunday school and involvement on Sunday morning services as Bible readers, Intercession leaders, P.A.desk and coffee rotas. He mentioned that Carol & Ginny are home from The Congo and he hoped that they could arrange to visit us. (C.A.M.)

7. Health & Safety.

!t is important that proper records and good practices are implemented by April 2021 so that we will be in a position to apply for an Approved Governing Document . This in turn will enable us to apply for charitable status as a new Charities Act comes into force. **A11 Nessa Johnson will be meeting regularly with Andy and John E to move this forward.**

8. Finance.

Chris reported that Bank balances stand at £1414 in Cash A/C and £42763 in Gold A/C. High balances are due to recent expenditure being relatively low.

9.Buildings.

Jamie ???????, an Architect, visited the Church this morning. He listened to our needs and his reaction was positive. He will produce some ideas for us to consider. The Church owns an orchard at the back of 29 High St. It has very limited access and we discussed the possibility of selling the land as a building plot. Barry Taylor proposed, and John E seconded that we should look into the sale of this land as the first step in financing any future building work. **A12 Kay M said she would contact Stephen Knight to get a valuation for the land.**

10. A.O.B.

Andy was pleased to announce that 9 people had applied for Membership:

By profession……….Cheryl Griffiths was proposed by Andy, seconded by Kay ;

By Baptism…………..Peter Wright was proposed by Andy, seconded by Arthur;

By transfer…………..Barry & Gloria Taylor were proposed by Andy, seconded by Chris; By transfer…………..Ken Pleasant was proposed by Andy, seconded by Maureen; By transfer…………..Garry, Dawn, Steven & Shannon Clewlow were proposed by Andy, seconded by Maureen; All 9 were accepted unanimously by the members present. 3 other Church attendees were considering applying for Membership. John E reported that the B.M.S. Christmas appeal had raised £144-44. He wondered if we should concentrate on supporting specific appeals in future and drop our support through the Birthday Scheme. The Birthday Scheme is not getting new members. There are 30 members of which 17 respond financially. He would carry on running the Scheme until the A.G.M. when a decision on its future will be taken.

11. Date of next meeting. Arranged for 21st April at 7.30. This will be the AGM.

An additional meeting to be arranged if necessary regarding buildings.

The meeting closed with prayer.