

Notice

**The Annual Church Meeting
of the Stantonbury Ecumenical Partnership**
incorporating
**the Annual Meeting for the election of Churchwardens and
the Annual Parochial Church Meeting**
will be held on
Thursday 20th April 2023 at 7.30pm at Christ Church Stantonbury

Agenda

Present:

1. **Opening Prayers** *Paul S*
2. **Apologies for absence**
3. **Notification of Any Other Business**
4. **Annual Meeting for the election of Churchwardens** (*chaired by the Anglican Team Rector*)
5. **Annual Parochial Church Meeting** (*chaired by the Anglican Team Rector*)
 - a. Election of PCC members (*PCC only*)
 - b. Nomination of Deanery Synod members
 - c. Delegation of powers of Parochial Church Council to the Partnership Council
6. **Annual Congregational Meeting of the Stantonbury Ecumenical Partnership** (*chaired by the SEC Lay Chair*)
 - a. Current Membership numbers and lists 2023
 - b. Minutes of the Annual Congregational Meeting held on Thursday, 28th April 2022
 - c. Matters arising
 - d. Annual SEP Report - Team Leader
 - e. Appointment of Anglican minister
 - f. Appointment of Baptist minister:
Approval of the initiation of the process to appoint a Baptist minister.
 - g. CIO Report
 - h. Treasurer's report
 - i. Financial Report and Consolidated Accounts for 2022
 - ii. Independent Inspector (Adrian Yardley)
 - i. Safeguarding Report
 - j. Other Partnership Reports

This concludes the last meeting of the Partnership under the 1984 constitution.

Prayer *Nicola*

The Partnership will now transfer to the new governance and management structures. There is greater emphasis on governance and leadership of the Partnership as a whole and a reduced expectation of formal governance in local congregations, while maintaining effective local management.
Please see Appendix 1, CIO Transition.

1. Nominations and elections:

- a. Election of Partnership Council reps (*two from each congregation*)
- b. Nomination and election of Trustees (*six plus one*)
- c. Nomination and election of Partnership Council Officers:
 - Chair of SEPC
 - Secretary
 - Treasurer (Including Expenses Coordinator and Gift Aid Secretary)
 - Partnership Safeguarding Officer
- d. Appointment of Leadership Committee
- e. Election of representatives (3), to MK Methodist Circuit
Next meeting will be held on 14th June at Freeman Memorial Methodist Church in Bletchley
- f. Names of those interested in forming the partnership Mission, Evangelism and Discipleship Team.

2. **Suggested Partnership wide Service** on Pentecost 28 May, led by Tim Norwood, supported by all Ministers either available or originally planned to lead worship in any of the six congregations. Venue tba.

3. Churches Together MK

4. GDPR

5. Any Other Business

Note of future meetings:

Proposed next meeting of SEPC: May 25th, 7.30pm, venue TBC.

Proposed future SEPC dates: July, September, November, January, March

Future Leadership Committee dates: May 11th, 10.00am on Zoom

6. Closing Prayer *Adrian*

Appendix 1

CIO Transition

The Stantonbury Ecumenical Partnership was registered as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) in October 2022 with a new constitution and a Partnership Agreement setting out arrangements between the four denominations in the Partnership. Operating Procedures setting out governance and management structures for the CIO have now been approved by SEC, the Ecumenical Oversight Group for Milton Keynes and the initial Trustees who are in place until the first AGM of the Partnership as a CIO on 20th April 2023.

From the date of the AGM, the Partnership will transfer to the new governance and management structures. There is greater emphasis on governance and leadership of the Partnership as a whole and a reduced expectation of formal governance in local congregations, while maintaining effective local management. The main changes will be:

- Four whole Church (i.e. Partnership) meetings each year including the AGM
- Stantonbury Ecumenical Council becomes the Partnership Council, still involving reps from each "Congregation" (i.e. local church)
- At local level, each Congregation (local church) will have a Congregational Leadership Team, replacing the Church Council where those currently exist, potentially with a reduction in size depending on current arrangements. Membership and function is set out in the Operating Procedures.
- The holders of two Church Officer/Warden positions in each congregation will now be recognised as also fulfilling the Methodist, Baptist and URC denominations' equivalent requirements.
- A group of Trustees will oversee the operation of the Partnership and its governance. The Trustees will include six elected Trustees to be elected at the AGM.

There is an indicative annual schedule of meetings in the Operating Procedures along with detail of each group.