



## Minutes of the Quarterly Meeting of Local Preachers, Leaders of Worship and Readers

16 January 2025 at 7.30pm via  
Zoom

and at Hexham West End  
Methodist Church Manse

1. **WELCOME:** Rev Beard opened the meeting.
2. **i. IN ATTENDANCE:**
  - a. **via Zoom:** Rev Marie Beard (in the chair), Rev Gareth Sherwood, Rev Fiona Calveray, Tom Dodds, Ian Warburton, Jacqui Cameron, Sheila Holland, Elaine Goy, Ruth Johnson, Bob McAlpin, Sylvia Waters, Brian Japes, Glen Smith, Rev Tony Buglass, Robin Charlton, Daryl Ralston, Sandra Martin.
  - b. **At the Manse:** none.
3. **APOLOGIES:** Norman Fullard, Rev Michael Holland, Brian Elstob, Valerie Anthony, Roger Anthony, Vicky Herod.
4. **DEVOTIONS:** Rev Tony Buglass: *Next week is Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. Rev 21: 1 - 4. God's 'New heaven and a new earth'. Growing into the people that God wants us to become. As preachers, we lead God's people into a closer fellowship, discovering more about God's plan for us.* Resources for The Week are available on line from Churches Together.
5. **PASTORAL MATTERS:**
  - a. Roger Bland: TD to liaise with Rev Beard re production of a suitable certificate.
  - b. Carol Davies won't be taking further appointments and is ill.
  - c. Mary Hillbourne: funeral in Corbridge 31 January 2025.
6. **MINUTES** of the meeting held on 3rd October 2024 at Hexham West End Methodist Church, previously circulated, were accepted as a true record.
7. **MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES** not otherwise on the Agenda:
  - a. None
8. **NOTIFICATION OF ANY OTHER BUSINESS** not otherwise on the Agenda:
  - a. None
9. **CORRESPONDENCE:**
  - a. Liturgy and Worship Committee volunteering opportunities. TD circulated by email.
10. **PREPARATION FOR SERVICE:**
  - a. Seeking a Note to Preach:
    - i. None. What can we do to encourage people to examine their calling? Jacqui will start something for potential Worship Leaders in the New Year.
  - b. Preachers On Note:
    - i. None.
  - c. Progress of Preachers On Trial:
    - i. Daryl Ralston: Jacqui Cameron is tutoring and Ruth Johnson is the mentor. Jacqui reported on progress. There will be some tutorial support via an on line group. Jacqui will ask Laura to circulate an email for potential Worship Leaders to

- be able to participate in Explore Sessions in March. (Explore Sessions might be arranged at District level soon).
- ii. Ian Warburton heard Daryl on 20 October at Hexham Trinity and fed back. The meeting agreed to Daryl continuing On Trial.
- d. Arrangements for preachers to be heard and a report prepared:
  - i. Daryl Ralston: 23 February at Stocksfield. Jacqui Cameron will hear him and report back. Daryl will take a quarter off the Plan in order to make progress with training.

**11. FUTURE TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES:**

- a. Robin is going on a residential course and will report back as our Training input at the next meeting.
- b. Safeguarding: Nothing to note.
- c. Explore Sessions: Jacqui has this in hand.

**12. PEER REVIEW:** reminder. These happen on an 'ad hoc' basis, but we're always pleased to hear about them at this meeting.

**13. NEWS FROM CHURCHES:** Lent Group Meeting at 2pm at **Prudhoe** in Lent. **Prudhoe, Wylam** and **Stocksfield** will be using the Methodist Lenten Resources. **Wylam's** Wednesday Group is doing 'The Sound of Musings', based on the film of a similar name! **Hexham West End's** Final Service will be on 20 April with a Circuit Service at 3pm.

**14. ANY OTHER BUSINESS** as notified at 7 above:

- a. None

**15. FUTURE MEETINGS:** (all at 7.30pm, unless otherwise stated, *volunteer for devotions*):

- a. Thursday 10 April 2025 at Hexham West End Hall: *Devotions: Rev Sherwood*
- b. Thursday 10 July 2025 at Riding Mill. Rev Beard will confirm. *Devotions: Communion and Reaffirmation.*
- c. Thursday 2nd October 2025 at Hexham West End Hall: Devotions:
- d. *Thursday 15 January 2026 - venue TBA*

**16. DEVELOPMENT:** Rev Sherwood introduced us to TED talks and Attention Spans. We went into breakout groups and had useful discussions on style, sermon duration and holding attention.

**17.** The Meeting closed in prayer with The Grace.