**The Oldham Circuit Property Forum**

Report of the meeting 8th September 2021 at Hollins Methodist church (Glennis Kirkwood)

Adrian opened the meeting with a prayer.

1. **Update on Honeywell Lane Methodist church.** All being well the sale of Honeywell Lane will go through on Thursday 16th September. Two companies offered £380,000. We went with Mr Kamran Ghafoor. Who is a local business man in Oldham who is known to both our solicitors and Kirkhams. Mr Kamran Ghafoor solicitors are also based in Oldham. Which means everything is local and less of a challenge. (Glennis)
2. **Update on St Paul’s Methodist church. Shaw.** Adrian gave an update on ST Paul’s. To say they are still awaiting the final sign off of the contracts and the date keeps changing. Which is very challenging and frustrating. But we are hoping it will be done soon. Due to the condition of St Paul’s and all the various expenses incurred. It was necessary to get a loan from TMPC. Which will need to be paid back. This means there will be no money coming to the circuit, when the sale goes through.
3. **Property returns (formerly Schedules A, C and D).** You can now access the church property return online. There are instructions online [www.methodist.org.uk](http://www.methodist.org.uk) Search Property, then select Methodist Online Suite of Applications (Help and Guidance document is at the bottom of the page) To access the Methodist Online Suite of Applications, go to: <https://online.methodist.org.uk> Anyone has any issues with logging onto the system. Please let Adrian know.
4. **Circuit Manses.** Glennis, talked about Circuit Manses. We have 6 Manses. Four are occupied by ministers and the pioneer missioners. Two Manses (Brae Side and Bannach) are let out. Both are on short-term leases. Bannach will be needed for the new minister in September 2022. (If we are matched with a minister in the March 2022 stationing committee).
5. **Property issues in the circuit.** Greenfield currently have a problem with there building and are looking into what can and should happen next and how to fund the repairs.
6. **Quinquennial inspections.**  Four Manses had Quinquennial reports done in the last twelve months by Norman Shepley along with one church. The reports have been very basic and some areas not inspected. However, he is the cheapest, so basically you get what you pay for! We have nine churches that need to have Quinquennial done as soon as possible as they are overdue, and one church next year. We agreed that it would be of benefit for the circuit and churches to have a more thorough report done, that will give us as realistic status of our buildings. Glennis has obtained a couple of quotes already and we are looking between £14k to £20k plus Vat. It is proposed to the Circuit Meeting that the Circuit cover the cost of this initial QQI for each of the churches as a one-off decision. This would give us a more comprehensive report, to be able to plan for the future.
7. **Trade people and companies**. We would like to update the circuit contractor directory with companies and individuals that churches are impressed with. It would be good to know about any that we should avoid. Please let us have a list of people you use and are impressed with, so we can share the details with other churches.
8. **Going forward** we will look to have another meeting in six months’ time. If you have any issues, concerns etc about property. Please ask and we will try to help and support you.
9. **The meeting closed in prayer**