

AGM Minutes for the year
1st September 2020 - 31st August 2021

The meeting took place on 7th March 2022 at The Youth Centre at 8pm

1. Anne Hinds (Trustee) opened in Prayer.
2. The Chairman (Tony Joyce) welcomed all in attendance.
3. Those present: Ray Skinner, Lesley Clarke (Trustee), Stuart Lyell (Finance Trustee), Polly Joyce (Trustee), Anne Hinds (Trustee), Ian Firth, Tony Joyce (Trustee), Berti Frokku (Youth Worker), Karen Cox (Centre Director), Carol Edwards, Phil Edwards, Chris Weller, Kay Dunlop (Trustee and Volunteer Administrator).
4. Apologies were received from Suzanne Lyell (Trustee), Mike Fawcett (Trustee), Cliff Allen.
5. Minutes of the Previous Meeting were presented and approved. There were no amendments. It is very encouraging to see that so many of the things that we had hoped for have come to fruition.
6. The Chairman's Report was presented (see attached).
We give thanks to God and our faithful supporters and volunteers that young people's needs are being addressed in the new centre.
7. The Centre Director's Report was presented (see attached). The Centre Director added that the gentle opening of the Centre, 2 afternoons a week following Covid enabled us to gradually get up to speed. However, the Centre was so popular with the young people that we were very quickly up to 5 afternoons a week.
8. In addition, The Centre Director confirmed that progress is being made in planning for The Noise, that Unite in the Wild was very well received with 60 young people from 8 churches in attendance. Also Unite Live with Chip Kendall (both actually took place in the next financial year) attracted a similar number with 11 young people making a commitment, 6 of whom received a copy of the YFC bible.
9. The Financial Report and accounts for Year-end August 2021 were presented by our new Treasurer, Stuart Lyell. Special thanks were offered to Mike Fawcett for his invaluable service on the accounts prior to his moving away to the West Country. (He remains a Trustee albeit at a distance). Stuart Lyell advised that we need to keep a healthy balance as good husbandry. The Miles from Home fundraiser (The 27-mile

circular walk around Tunbridge wells) had a target of £10,000, yet we were so well supported that we raised c.£15,000. Stuart acknowledged the on-going commitment of supporters. The presentations by Karen to churches has made a significant difference to our contact base.

It was acknowledged that our ministry at Temple Grove, Kent College, St Matthews and TW Christian Fellowship together with all of our other undertakings requires additional help and that there is a need for more youth workers to be trained. This will impact on our future finances.

Thanks were recorded for the faithful work undertaken by Linda Wanniaratchy as independent examiner, from whom Stephen East has taken over the reins.

Thanks also to Kay Dunlop for her amazing book keeping and administration of the charity. Stuart confirmed that despite Covid, support has remained constant.

10. Questions. We were asked if Furlough monies continue into the next financial year. It was confirmed that there will be no further receipts from Furlough. It was acknowledged that the receipts from the walk alone will not bridge the gap between our income and expenditure.

11. Looking to the future:

- We are seeking more chaplaincy opportunities especially at St Gregory's and Bethany.
- We have the Noise at Easter.
- Unite Summer could entail prayer and reflection.
- A 3-day training event for volunteer youth workers is planned.
- Create more 'payer spaces' in schools.
- Strengthening links with year 6 at The Wells School in conjunction with United Emanuel Church
- A vision day.
- Application for a year out student next year (from September).
- The 75th Anniversary of British Youth for Christ.
- We need to plan for a replacement for Emma in 2023.
- We are feeling our way with the Ethos Group (18-25 year olds).
- A new fund-raising initiative called Spring into Spring was proposed.

12. Any other business. There was no other business.

13. Time of Prayer. The meeting concluded with a time of thanks to the Lord for His great gifts and how he has blessed us through this time of challenge and change.
14. The Chair, sincerely thanked all of those for attending and for their on-going support of this important Kingdom ministry.