

## **From the Circuit Meeting**

A Circuit Meeting was held on 17<sup>th</sup> March, hosted by Acton Hill Church.

Rev Steve Day welcomed those present and opened the meeting with a reading from Psalm 23.

---

### **Building a vision for our future together**

The Circuit's "listening process" continues to move forward. The first phase, involving gathering information and data from churches across the Circuit, has now largely been completed, with only a small amount of financial information still outstanding. Rev Steve thanked churches for the significant work that has gone into this stage.

Attention now turns to Phase 2, which will involve a questionnaire for churches to reflect on together. Responses will then be collated to help inform future priorities and discernment.

A Circuit Away Day will take place on Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> June at Ealing Green, open to members from all Circuit churches. The day will bring together the findings from the listening process and help shape the next stage of the Circuit's shared vision.

The meeting also agreed in principle to a Circuit-wide worship series during June. Churches across the Circuit will explore the same themes on the same Sundays, creating a shared experience while allowing local churches to reflect together on the envisioning process.

In addition, the Circuit agreed to participate in the Methodist Church's "Missional Fruitfulness Pilot", which encourages churches to reflect on growth, inclusivity, evangelism and justice.

---

### **Property Matters**

The former manse at Costons Avenue in Greenford was sold in January for £700,000. Following deductions and the Connexional levy, the Circuit retained approximately £435,000. Part of the levy may now be reclaimed through the King's Hall redevelopment project, which has been recognised as a "replacement project".

## **King's Hall**

A substantial update was received regarding King's Hall following the fire damage and ongoing redevelopment discussions.

The meeting approved plans for additional security fencing around parts of the site, with an estimated cost of around £20,000. The Circuit is also exploring the possibility of installing a remote monitoring camera system to improve site security and demonstrate that trustees are taking all reasonable steps to protect the property.

Further work is planned in the coming months, including:

- obtaining public liability insurance
- commissioning a structural review of the fire-damaged areas
- arranging an ecological survey of the site, including bat assessments where required
- continuing detailed record-keeping and regular site inspections.

## **Pitshanger Methodist Church**

The Circuit agreed to appoint Rapleys as commercial agents to market the property more widely for either lease or sale. This process should take until early June, and will hopefully result in several offers being received for consideration.

---

## **Safeguarding and EDI**

Foundation Module safeguarding training sessions continue to take place, and churches are encouraged to ensure that all relevant officer holders and volunteers attend.

The meeting also discussed safeguarding concerns relating to WhatsApp groups and digital communication within churches. While messaging groups can be helpful community tools, concerns were raised about privacy, the sharing of personal information and ensuring appropriate boundaries when including newcomers in church communication channels.

Churches are encouraged to review their communication practices carefully and to remember that safeguarding responsibilities extend into digital spaces as well as physical ones.

---

## **Local Preachers & Worship Leaders**

Plans are underway to organise the annual Retreat for Local Preachers and Worship Leaders, which is expected to take place in September and will be shared with our friends in the Chelsea, Hammersmith & Fulham Circuit.

---

## **Human Resources**

The meeting approved an increase in the Circuit Manager's hours, rising from 32 to 36 hours per week from April, and then to full-time hours from September.

The meeting additionally approved four supporting HR policies linked to the Circuit's updated employment contracts.

---

## **Circuit Treasurer**

The meeting was reminded that the role of Circuit Treasurer becomes vacant at the end of the Connexional year, and no nominations have yet been received. If no-one is appointed the responsibilities of the role will default to the Superintendent, which will impact Rev Steve's capacity to perform his other duties. It is therefore vital for the smooth running of the Circuit that a new Treasurer is appointed.

---

**YOUR CIRCUIT  
NEEDS**

**YOU**



**OUR  
TREASURER  
WILL RETIRE  
IN AUGUST  
2026**

**CAN YOU HELP?**

**COULD YOU BE OUR NEXT  
TREASURER?**

**A VITAL ROLE. A GREAT OPPORTUNITY.  
PLEASE SPEAK TO YOUR MINISTER  
OR A MEMBER OF THE CIRCUIT LEADERSHIP TEAM  
TO FIND OUT MORE.**