***943 Closure of Chapels.*** *(1) Public services may not be discontinued in any chapel or preaching-place, nor any preaching-place removed from the circuit plan, until permission has been given by the Synod on the recommendation of the managing trustees, the Circuit Meeting and the district Policy Committee. The Circuit Meeting shall submit any such recommendation to the district committee before any steps are taken to carry the intention into effect.*

**Church: Hampsthwaite Circuit: Nidd Valley**

**1. What is the present membership? 12**

**2. What is the number on the community roll? 5**

**3.  What is the average adult attendance at worship? 10**

**4. What other activities take place on the premises? Monthly coffee morning**

**5. Provide a financial overview – e.g. income vs expenditure.**

**Hampsthwaite are in a healthy position financially, with large reserves but a dwindling cash flow, reliant on interest from investments. However their people resources are diminished significantly.**

**6. If a new building is not to be provided, what provision will be made for the present congregation and other activities?**

**Present congregation will attend either the local Anglican Church (with which there are good relationships) or the Methodist churches in the circuit, only 5 members reside in the village.**

**7.   What impact will the closure have on the local community?**

**The local community is well served by a growing Anglican Church, which has good links with the local church school and wider community, as well as organising local events such as the annual feast service, remembrance and interactive nativity. Methodist involvement in these will continue through relationships with the members; the building closure won’t impact significantly on village life.**

**8.    What other Methodist Churches and Sunday Schools are there in the neighbourhood and what are their distance from the property to be sold?**

**Killinghall Methodist Church is in the neighbouring village (2.2 miles by road) and has an active Sunday school and a membership of 25 (with another 20 on the community roll)**

**9.    What initiatives have the membership tried, if any, to encourage the residents of the community to become part of the worshipping family?**

**They have trialed family services, run open the book, and dementia friendly cafes.**

**10.   Does the membership consider that their mission is complete from this building and why?**

**Yes, as an ageing congregation they feel it is no longer possible to continue to operate mission ally, or to fulfil their roles as trustees.**

**11. Who will offer Christian worship, mission and on-going pastoral care of the community?**

**The Anglican Vicar is incredibly supportive of ecumenical relationships, and will support the Methodist Minister in continuing to care for Methodist members, as well as the wider community.**

**12.  What arrangements have been made for on-going pastoral care in the community?**

**An offer has been made for informal worship and fellowship, either in the village hall, or the Anglican churches community room, church members are currently deciding whether they would like this to happen. Several are meeting informally at Killinghall coffee mornings.**

**13.Have discussions taken place with other denominations in order to maintain a Christian presence in the locality and what was the outcome?**

**Discussions have taken place with the Anglican Vicar (whose benefice covers both Hampsthwaite and Killinghall, as well as Birstwith where some members live) about support to continue work together where possible and offer support where we can.**

**14.   What is to happen to the building? If it is to be sold, how will the proceeds of the sale be used to promote an effective presence in the community the Church once served?**

**The circuit leadership team will form a Management Group to determine the future of the building. It is likely that the building will be disposed of, as there is plenty of other community resource within the village.**

**15.    Has the District Archivist been consulted regarding records and artefacts and records that might need to be conserved?**

**No, but this will happen in due course.**