***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:** New Earswick **Circuit:** York **(29/33)**

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

 18

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

25

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

14

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

 None. The premises have not been used for two years.

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

 The finances of NEMC are currently in an unsustainable state, with the last two years showing overall financial losses of around £8,000. These issues are further impacted by several property works, and while there are funds in trust, they are not substantial enough to ensure long term continuation.

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

 The congregation will continue to meet monthly for a weekday service at New Earswick Folk Hall under the auspices of a neighbouring church in the circuit. The congregation is being encouraged to consider which churches they would like their membership transferred to.

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

 There will be no impact on the current situation because the premises have not been used for the last two years.

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

Central, Haxby, Huntington and Heworth are all within 3 miles. It is intended that weekday services continue at New Earswick Folk Hall under the auspices of one of the neighbouring churches.

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

It is hoped that by connecting with a neighbouring church this might encourage others to be part of the local New Earswick congregation.

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

Yes. The resources of people and finance are not available to maintain the building.

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

The New Earswick congregation will continue to meet monthly, caring for one another with the assistance of the local Methodist minister.

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

See 11. above

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

A Christian presence will continue through the continuing services at the Folk Hall

**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?**

Investigations are taking place as to whether the building could be purchased by another denomination or by Joseph Rowntree Housing Trust for affordable housing. The use of proceeds is still to be explored and determined.

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

 Not as yet.