

Bridlington Circuit 29/10

Skipsea Methodist Church, Skipsea: Permission to cease worship

1. What is the present membership?

8

2. What is the number on the community roll?

15

3. What is the average adult attendance at worship?

6

4. What other activities take place on the premises?

'Toddle Time' – pre school meet for mums & dads with pre-school children

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

Income for year £ 3,596 Expenditure £5,351 inc circuit payment

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

Most members will transfer to another Methodist Church. 'Toddle Time' to village hall.

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

Only local community involvement comes at outdoor services on the village green (2 or 3 a year). There is a strong village community focused at the village hall.

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

Beeford 3 miles: Barmston 3.8 miles: St. John's Burlington, Bridlington 9 miles

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

Regular flyer distribution in the village and posters in shop, pub and village hall advertising special services. Open-air services on the village green.

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

Yes. The members have worked faithfully in God's service for many years in the life of Skipsea Methodist Church. Most are now elderly or suffering from ill health and are no longer able to hold office. The coronavirus pandemic has taken its toll on numbers attending and on the social structure of village life.

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

The membership and adherents are very pastorally caring of one another. The presbyter for St John's Burlington and Barmston will continue to offer pastoral care.

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

Members are still deciding where to worship in the future. Some elderly attendees are seldom able to come to church any longer. The Circuit ministers will be attentive to the wishes of worshippers at Skipsea and offer pastoral care to those remaining within the circuit.

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

The Anglican church along the same street has also been struggling over the past 2yrs due to Covid-19 restrictions and staffing issues within the diocese. A recent email from the vicar simply conveyed her sadness that the Methodist church was closing.

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?

As yet no decisions have been made. Proceeds of any sale would be the subject of a discussion within in the Circuit as to how the value released might be utilised in furthering mission initiatives. The Circuit Leadership Team have agreed to fund the 'Toddle Time' initiative for the next 12mths.

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

The Superintendent Minister of the Circuit will notify

The Revd. Ian Greenfield
Presbyter - Bridlington Circuit