

Permission to Cease Worship

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: Stillingfleet **Circuit:** York (29/33)

1. What is the present membership?

10

2. What is the number on the community roll?

14

3. What is the average adult attendance at worship?

12

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.

For year ending August 2021: Income - £1900 Expenditure - £2865

As of March 2022: Current Account: £3265 Reserve Account: £2652

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 the home of one of the current members under the auspices of York Central Methodist Church.

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?

Bishopthorpe and Copmanthorpe. It is intended that weekday services continue in Stillingfleet under the auspices of York Central Methodist Church.

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

Local people have become part of the worshipping community through friendship links.

- 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, and access (by way of steep steps) prevents some people from being able to enter the building.

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

The Stillingfleet congregation will continue to meet monthly, caring for one another with the assistance of a Methodist minister in the York Circuit.

- 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 be sustained through the continuing services in Stillingfleet and in participation with the local Anglican church.

- 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 question of sale and the subsequent use of proceeds are 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.

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