

Louth Methodist Church

Reaching Out and Bringing Hope

Church Council Minutes

Minutes of the General Church Council held on Thursday 5th March 2026

(Action in Bold)

Opening devotions were led by Rev Margaret Asiedu

Present: Rev Margaret Asiedu, Kath Adams, Nancy Cartwright, Ken James, Heather Jeffery, Ros Malyon, Jean Pridgeon, Chris Rolph & Catherine Rolph .

1. **Apologies:** Nick Adams, Gwenda Burgin, Alison Fox, Paul Fox, Karen Morris, Bryan Utteridge & Elaine Watkinson
2. **Minutes:** of the meeting held on 11th December 2025 which had already been circulated, were approved.
3. **Matters arising.**
4. **Agenda 6.**
 - 1) **Safeguarding:** A report was received on the November safeguarding audit. More training is available, for in recent days we had to deal with drug users appearing on the premises.
 - ii) **Family Worker:** A report for the year to be given for the AGM.
 - iii) **Our Church's Future Story:** Thoughts on this topic being sought from church groups.
5. **Our Calling**
 - i) **Worship:** See worship meeting notes. On 10th May there will be a baptism incorporated into the morning service and family communion.
 - ii) **Pastoral Visitors:** The meeting received Heather's report.
 - iii) **Bible Course:** Members were encouraged to use this course which starts the following Monday.
 - iv) **Mens Breakfast:** The first of these starts this Saturday.
 - v) **Service**
 - a. **Stewards:** Nancy reported that we still need volunteers.
 - b. **Finance:** The reserves policy document was signed. Donations have been received for the foyer roof repairs.
 - c. **Letting fees** have been reviewed and the meeting agreed no change required. Two new users, a French Group & foot treatment service.
 - d. **Circuit:** In Bryan's absence Margaret noted that members requested that meetings be held during the day using a central point in the circuit.
 - e. **District Synod:** Rev Margaret reported that discussions being held with a view to working towards combining existing districts into one. This is important for from next January the district will only have 12 full-time ministers.
 - f. **Our Calling**
 - i. **Lighthouse:** No formal report.
 - ii. **Messy Church:** This continues to attract a number who are not otherwise attached to our church activities.
 - iii. **Purple Cow:** It was agreed that from the June activity the name be discontinued and in future offer Bible study and worship at the meeting.

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- iv. Annual reports required for the AGM on Sunday 5th May.
- 6. Communication.
 - I) Newsletter: Katherine to speak with groups using our premises, for them to have an opportunity to contribute.
 - II) Website & Facebook/Instagram: Paul to assess possibilities for using these forms of communication.
- 7. Churches Together
Nick advised that no meetings have been held and a decision is needed on how to effectively use the large balance accrued in the funds.
- 8. Church Secretary & CTLD Treasurer:
Ken asked that consideration be given to obtaining a replacement for these duties as soon as possible. To be raised at our AGM on 10th May.
- 9. Next CC meeting to be held on 18th June.

Rev Margaret closed the meeting with a blessing and a shared grace.