TRINITY CHURCH ABINGDON AGM
Meeting to be held in the Church on
Sunday 22 November 2026 at 11.45am

AGENDA

Welcome and apologies for absence
Opening Prayer

1. **Approval of Minutes of 16 November 2025 –** *(see attached)*
   Matters Arising

2. ***Conversation on the Ministry and Witness of the Church***
   - Circuit Showcase & Communications Day
   - Growth Action Plan
   - Trinity Toddlers
   - Extended Communion
   - Worship
   - Dog Policy
   - Caring for God's World and Eco Church
   - Working Together Group

3. ***Finance***
   Please see pages 15 - 18, and 26 - 29 of the Trinity 2025/26 Annual Report

4. ***Property***
   Please see pages 19 & 20 of the Trinity 2025/26 Annual Report

5. ***Election of Trustees***
   Lynnette Seymour-Jackson
   Neil Oastler
   Heather Townsend
   Stuart Townsend

   have completed three years as Trustee

   We are seeking up to two further nominations.

6. ***Representation at Circuit Meetings***

Dates of Church Meetings 2027:

Sunday 21st February 2027after church
Tuesday 15th June 2027, 7.30 pm in the church
Others to be agreed, but normally in September & November (AGM)

Trinity Church Meeting

Sunday 16th November 2025
After the morning service

Present: Revd. Georgina Bondzi-Simpson (Chair), Caroline Atkin, Cynthia Bartlett; Ian Brawn, Rebecca Brawn, Tricia Cook, Val Dalby, Ruth Dams, Cate Davis, Barbara Deakin, Torika Draumasei, Alastair Fear, Griff Fellows, Scilla Fellows, Judith Fear, Chris Foskett, Sarah Gibson, Margaret Greaney, Carolyn Hawkes, John Hutton, Sue Kyffin, Tom Kyffin, Margaret Langsford, Alwyn Langsford, Clare Megarity, Eve Newton, Elizabeth Oastler, Neil Oastler, Leif Rasmussen, Petronella Rasmussen, Rosemary Richards, Lynnette Seymour-Jackson, Heather Townsend, Stuart Townsend, Roberta Tyles, Olive Vaughan, Reg Williams.
Apologies for absence: Lindsay Busby, Pauline Main, Judith Payne, Nigel Payne, David Perrow, Gloria Sandford, Mike Sandford, Ruth Sillitoe.

1. Approval of the minutes of 17th November 2024

These minutes were approved and signed by Georgina.

2. Conversation on the Ministry and Witness of the Church: Growth Plan

Georgina reminded the Church Meeting that two documents including the last Growth Plan Trinity for 2018-2021 has been circulated in September and the Church Meeting had been asked to consider these. It was important 'that we can listen to what God is doing and how he wants us to partner him in this plan.' The Circuit will be asking churches to complete a Growth Plan. These will then be fed into the Circuit so that it can decide how best to support these plans.
A sheet had been circulated in the meeting which showed the headings which The Trustees had agreed. Worship, Learning and Caring, Service and Outreach. These were very similar to those in the Growth Plans Trinity had discussed in the past and were also reflected in the aims and priorities of the Methodist and United Reformed Church which were also set out on the circulated sheet. The Trustees will continue to consider these issues. The Church Meeting were asked to look at the headings and consider areas for growth with a view to discussing this further at the next Church Meeting. All were asked to pray about this.
Action: Cynthia to ask Eluned to put the Growth Plan on the agenda for the next Trustees and Church Meeting meetings.

3. Finance

The meeting was guided to refer to pages 17, 44 and 45 of the Annual Report.
Tom Kyffin presented the accounts which had been signed off by the independent examiner. These had been approved by the Trustees earlier in the week. Almost half the income has come from freewill giving and lettings income has risen this year. Income also includes some payments back for expenditure incurred. In terms of expenditure, half is accounted for by the Assessment. Repairs this year have also accounted for more than expected. The deficit this year is £17,000 and a prediction for next year would be a deficit of £25,000. The Church also holds within the accounts, the Toddlers Funds and the donations to charities.

In terms of the Restricted Funds, this sum would probably help to enable the church to continue for another four to five years. The Church Meeting and the Trustees will be considering ways to increase income or reduce expenditure in the coming year.

£210,000 of restricted funds came from the URC before Trinity became an LEP. It is possible that they could be unrestricted in the future but there are technical and strategic reasons for not

doing so. If unrestricted, the funds would then form part of income and the church would be charged more in assessment. However, Trinity is able to use the interest on this investment. Tom was thanked for all the work he has done this year as Treasurer.

4. **Property**

The meeting was guided to refer to pages 18-19 of the Annual Report. Neil Oastler confirmed that the biggest property problem currently was keeping the roof watertight and repairing the guttering. Trinity was grateful to Adam for his monitoring of the heating. The electrics had been given a significant overhaul.
Georgina thanked Neil for his work and all those who have supported and undertaken as part of the team.

5. **Annual Reports**

Georgina thanked everyone who had contributed to the Annual Report. The report reflects well the work Trinity is currently doing. She also expressed her appreciation of all the work that Eluned, the Church Administrator, had completed in putting the report together and publishing it.

Two additional items were referred to:
Gift Day: The Trustees were planning to hold a Gift Day in the spring. All Saints had held a successful one fairly recently and the Trustees would talk to members there to get advice.
Trinity's charity for next year 2026:
This year (2025) Trinity had chosen a local charity 'Reducing the Risk'. It had been suggested that the charities chosen should alternate between international charities and more local ones. One charity which had been put forward that that of the Mercy Ships charity. A number of members had been present when Scilla and Griff Fellows' daughter, Rachel Buckingham, had described her work as a doctor on one of the ships, providing necessary operations for people in parts of Africa who would otherwise not have access to life changing treatments.
A charity, 'The Fund for Human Need' was also suggested and it was thought this might be considered for the following year.
This information was received post meeting: ''The Fund for Human Need (FHN) is a small Methodist affiliated charity established in 1960 to relieve poverty and hunger.''

6. **Election of the Trustees.**

Alastair Fear had completed three years as Trustee and expressed a willingness to serve another term. The Church Meeting approved unanimously his election for a further three years and Alastair was thanked for all the work he was currently undertaking. There are up to two more places for Trustees and anyone who is interested in discussing this further should contact one of the existing Trustees.

Dates of Church Meetings 2026:
Sunday February 8th after church
Thursday 4th June 7.30pm in the church
Others to be agreed, but normally in September and November (AGM)

Cynthia Bartlett