

PRACTICES AND GUIDELINES FOR CHURCHES TOGETHER IN EWELL

BASIS OF FAITH AND AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

Churches Together in Ewell unites in pilgrimage the churches in our area which acknowledge God's revelation of himself in Christ, confess Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour according to the Scriptures, and in obedience to God's will, empowered by his Holy Spirit, commit themselves together to:

- Explore Christian faith and belief together
- Maintain strong relationships between the churches
- Promote deeper understanding of one another's churches
- Fulfil Christ's Great Commission to proclaim the Gospel through common and shared witness and service
- To worship and pray together for one another and the local community we are called to serve

ANNUAL REVIEW AND OFFICERS

An Annual Review will be held each year in the Autumn, to receive both the financial statements and the annual reports of the hon. Chair and Treasurer.

The business part of the Annual Review evening will normally be facilitated by the Chair or a member of the Executive, with the agreement of the Executive.

If the post of Chair is due for re-election, the Executive will appoint another member to officiate at and oversee the election process. (see below)

Officers are elected at the Annual Review, and will hold office for two years before standing for re-election.

Executive members and a representative from the leadership team of each church may vote, with a maximum of two votes per church

The Executive Committee will decide on the number of Officers needed, and on their specific role.

The Officers elected for a fixed term are Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary, Treasurer and Communications Officer.

On alternate years Officers will be stand for re-election. The term of office for some Officers will overlap to provide continuity.

Notice of election or re-election of officers will be sent to member churches at least 4 weeks before voting, along with notice of the Annual Review meeting.

The date of the Annual Review evening will normally be agreed and publicised 12 months in advance.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

All participating churches are entitled to send one representative to Executive meetings. Each church will decide locally how their representative is selected. A member of each church leadership team will also be invited to attend. The Executive will meet a minimum of three times a year. Minutes will be recorded and circulated to all member churches.

An extraordinary meeting may be called if requested by at least 5 members of the executive. At least two weeks' notice will be given to members of such a meeting

In an emergency Officers may meet if the time required for a decision to be made does not permit an extraordinary meeting to be called.

The aim of all meetings will be to reach decisions by consensus of all present. If not possible, a formal vote will be taken.

A current list of participating churches will be published on the CT Ewell website. www.ctewell.org.uk

Members of the Executive, with local clergy and church leaders, will make decisions regarding the admission or exclusion of a church from Churches Together in Ewell. Notice of changes to membership will be brought to the Annual Review.

FINANCES

Each member church will be asked to pay an annual subscription as set out by the Treasurer and agreed at the Annual Review.

Accounts and financial updates will be presented to the Executive at least three times a year and circulated to member churches after each meeting.

The Treasurer, together with the Chair, may agree the payment of expenditure relating to an activity previously agreed and sanctioned by the Executive, within an agreed budget. In addition, they may at their discretion sanction a "one off" additional expense for a sum not in excess of £70 without the consent of the Executive. Details of any such "one off" payment will be circulated to members of the Executive.

All other expenditure will be agreed and sanctioned by the Executive.

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