

Newport Street Congregational Chapel, Swindon

Meeting minutes and Roll of members - 1835

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STOP PRESS !

New Members: James Morris, John Norton from Bushtown. Lucy King, John Pruce

Occasional communicant: Parks

Dismissed: Mary (Jonⁿ) Hollich, Weston, Thomas Glead, Chambers as now preached at Wootton Bassett

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Church Meeting held 1st January 1835

23 present. Thos Strange, the Minister being ill.

Brethren. Laurence, Wm Kent, Jno Kent, Nash, Sharps, Jefferies, Wheeler, R Wollford, Weston, Gibbs, Barrett, Miller.

Sisters. Mary Strange, My Hollich, King, Mayor, Hardwick, Moens, Tidd, Ellborough, Snow, Barrett.

The minutes of the last meeting being read.

James Morris, Bookseller, Wood Street was a new proposed, and was unanimously admitted as a member of this Christian Church.

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Church Meeting held 24th February 1835

23 present. The Minister

Brethren. Strange, Horn, Glead, Jno Kent, Woolford, Wm Kent, Jeffries, Weston, Sharps.

Sisters. Sh Strange, Tait, Mayor, Barret, Tidd, Ellborough, Osman, Moens, My Strange, Hardwicke, Hollich, King, Snow.

The Minister proposed that as according to the 5th rule of the Laws of the church, the deacons keep regular account of all monies received & paid which account shall be made up once a year or oftener & be submitted to the inspection of the church or its deputy who must be a member Brother Thomas Horn was requested so to do and the Minister was requested to join Brother Horn & to report at the next church meeting.

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Church Meeting held 21st April 1835

19 present. The Minister

Brethren. Strange, Laurence, Horn, Glead, Nash, Wheeler, Gibbs, Morris, Sharps, Jefferies.

Sisters. Barret, Hollich, Osman, Moens, Snow, Hardwick, Tidd, Sharps.

The minutes of the former meeting having been read, Brother Horn & the Minister reported, that they had examined the Deacons' account of the receipts and expenses of the Chapel & found them perfectly correct for the last 12 months leaving a balance in the hands of the Treasurer Brother Strange of four pounds.

The Minister reported that, as according to the By law of the church no. 2 any believer should be allowed to sit down with us residing in this town or neighbourhood, being members of other churches. Elizabeth Speckman's time was expired and not being able as yet to determine whether her residence in this neighbourhood would be short or long & yet desirous to communicate with us, it was resolved that under

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Her peculiar circumstances, she should be allowed 6 months longer with the understanding that after that time it could not again be renewed.

The Minister reported, that charges of a very serious nature had been circulated respecting Mary (Jonthn) Hollich, it was resolved that the Deacons should be requested to inquire & report concerning it, this day week.

Church Meeting held 28th April 1835

28 present. The Minister

Brethren. Laurence, Strange, Horn, Barrett, Gleed, Gibbs, Jeffries, Wm Kent, Wheeler, Miller, Godwin.

Sisters. My Strange, Sh Strange, Hardwick, Moens, My Hollich, My (Jon) Hollich, Snow, My Sharps, Ellborough, Tidd, Mayor, Barrett, Smith, King, Osman, Tait

The minutes of the last meeting having been read & the members having been reminded of the faithfulness they owed to the church of

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*Christ & their conscientious regard to what may be brought forward, called upon the Deacons to state the result of their inquiries . When it appeared, that, two charges being brought against Mary (Jon) Hollich that of swearing, & of taking up a hatches to strike the Constable, who, on a recent occasion, with others, came into her house, to claim goods, said to belong to another person the first thereof was witnessed by one young woman, but this charge, upon My Hollich being heard, was dropped.; the second charge being substantiated by at least two credible witnesses, she (M H) positively denied, & at last left the chapel in a **prassion**.*

It was then put to the church whether any member, conducting herself in such a manner should be continued a member, especially after having been spoken to on two former occasions, according to our Lord's words Matthew 18/15-17. it was resolved that Mary (Jonⁿ) Hollich , should henceforth be no longer considered as a member of this church praying the Lord to keep each of the members by his power.

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Church Meeting held 30th June 1835

22 present. The Minister

Brethren. Strange, Laurence, Horn, Barrett, Gleed, Nash, Sharps, Jno Kent.

Sisters. Sarah Strange, Mayor, Hollick, King, Smith, Snow, Godwin, Tidd, Moens, Hardwick, Mary Strange, Sharps.

The minutes of the last meeting having been read, the Minister stated that John Norton from Bushtown, desired to become a member of this church, and that from conversation had with him & the reports concerning his Christian like conversation from Brethren living in his neighbourhood he had no hesitation to propose him as a member of this church, to stand over till next month.

Parks member of the Baptist church at Stroud, now living here, was desired of being admitted as an occasional communicant was admitted as such for 6 months.

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Church Meeting held 28th July 1835

17 present. The Minister

Brethren. Lawrence, Barrett, Glead, Nash, Jeffries, Sharps, Jno Kent, Morris.

Sisters. Hollick, King, Osman, Smith, Snow, Tidd, Moens, Tait.

The minutes of the last meeting having been read.

John Norton, was a new proposed & admitted as a member of this Christian church.

Lucy King of Prospect Place, having applied to be admitted as a member of this Christian church; the minister stated that from conversation had with her, & the reports concerning her walk & conduct, he willingly proposed her as a member of this Christian church.

The Minister reported that as reports of an evil nature had gone forward respecting Brother Woolford he having been previously spoken to, thought it right to speak a new to him in the presence of Brother Nash, Brother Woolford shewed great contrition & sorrow of mind, requested an interest in our prayers that he might be kept from further falling.

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Church Meeting held 1st September 1835

20 present. The Minister

Brethren. Lawrence, Weston, Godwin, Jeffries, Wm Kent, Jno Kent, Gibbs, Glead, Wheeler, Horn, Sharps.

Sisters. M King, Tidd, Tail, Hollich, Moens, Sh Strange, Smith, Snow

The minutes of the last meeting having been read the case of Robert Woolford was again brought before the church, & as it appeared that, notwithstanding his apparent sorrow, he had a new indulged in drinking and singing worldly songs, and having had notice to be present at the meeting, it was resolved according to our Lord's command Matt 18 – vs 15-17 to expell him from the christian Society.

The minister reported that Brother Chambers through distance & advancing age & having the Gospel now preached at Wootton Bassett & felt it inconvenient to attend here & therefore wished for his dismissal from this christian church which was accordingly granted.

Mr Packs Wood St having applied to be admitted as an occasional member, the church thought best

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For the present not to consent to it.

Lucy King was a new proposed as a member and admitted into communion with this church

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17 present. The Minister

Brethren. Lawrence, Strange, Jeffries, Horn Wm Kent, John Kent, Nash, Sharps, Glead.

Sister. King, Tidd, Tait, Sh Strange, My Strange, Snow, Barrett.

The minutes of the last meeting having been read, the ~~Brother~~ Minister a ~~new~~ proposed John Pruce as a member of this church, several members spoke of their conviction as to his being a fit subject, he is, as is customary, to stand over till next monthly meeting.

Brother Weston having more than one mentioned his conscientious scruple, in not being able comfortably to continue a member of this church on account of his feeling concerning the ordinance of baptism, & now again desired to have his dismissal, the church

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Not wishing to create any unpleasant feeling in his mind, & considering, that every one should be fully convinced on every subject, - granted him his request – yet feeling that any external rife should separate Brethren in the Lord – praying that the Lord might lead & bless him – and is therefore no longer considered a member of this church.

Church Meeting held 27th October 1835

25 present. The Minister

Brethren. Lawrence, Strange, W Kent, Glead, Horn, Jno Kent, Barrett, Nash, Sharps, Jeffries, Morris.

Sister. My Strange, Sh Strange, Major, Smith, Hollich, King, Snow, Moens, Sharps, Tidd, Hardwick, Tait, Barrett.

The minister having read the minutes of the last meeting. John Pruce, was admitted as a member of this christian church.

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Special Church Meeting held 15th December 1835

24 present. The Minister

Brethren. Strange, Wm Kent, Horn, Barrett, John Kent, Nash, Sharps, Jeffries, Godwin, Pruce, Wheeler.

Sisters. Hollich, King, Snow, Moens, Sharps, Tidd, Barrett, Tait, Hardwick, Osman, L King, Ellborough, Godwin.

The Mimister having read the Minutes of the last meeting stated that as Brother Gleed had been dismissed from his employ at the Wharf, under very unfavourable reports, the deacons with himself had considered it right before the last ordinance to request him not to sit down with us, and now had called this special meeting together to consider his case he having had due notice thereof by the following note sent to him.

Thomas Gleed, As it has been thought necessary to bring the circumstances, which caused you to be dismissed from the Wharf, before the church of which you stand as member, it is right in me to give you notice that to morrow evening, being tuesday.

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a church meeting will be held, after prayer meeting, and give you an opportunity to disprove, if you can, any charge to be brought against you:- At the same time, as you have thought proper to make use of my name in an unbecoming manner, this will be giving you an opportunity of bringing forward publicly before the church any thing you may have to say.

May the Lord, if it be His will lead you in the truth.

Monday 14 Dec 1835

F B M

At the meeting Thomas Gleed was not present. Brother Horn stated the acts of dishonesty and mistrust of which Gleed had been guilty, upon the most undeniable & convincing proofs, it was unanimously resolved that Thomas Gleed be no longer a member of this Christian church recommending him in prayer to the mercy of God.