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WORSLEY ROAD METHODIST CHURCH,  
SWINTON.

A HISTORY OF OUR CHURCH FROM 1867 - 1977.

October, 1977.



The first Minute Book of the Trustees has on its first page the following heading - MINUTE BOOK for the TRUSTEES of MOOR LANE, SWINTON, UNITED METHODIST FREE CHURCH - 1867, and on the second page the names of 14 Trustees, as follows :- Timothy Boddington, George Henry Taylor, James Halliday, Joseph Whitehead, William Johnson, John Hardy, Samuel Hardy, Jeremiah Clough, George Higham, Charles Parkinson, Thomas Whitehead, Abraham Rose, Joseph Chapman and John Elmer. After they had all signed the Trust Deed the name of James Holland was included and he was appointed as the Secretary of the Trustees. Some of these persons we remember in their latter years and also we remember them through their descendants.

It was proposed that a meeting of the Trust Board be held every half year, that it should be on a Saturday with tea at 4.30 p.m., the meeting to commence at 6 p.m. and that each Trustee should be served with a written notice to attend. It was proposed that a Minute Book be provided to put down the Minutes of each meeting and it was proposed that James Holland (Secretary) and James Halliday (Treasurer) should act as Chapel Stewards for the ensuing year to see to the letting of the pews and collecting the rents of same when due.

One year later it was resolved that Mr. Healey be paid £5 and the balance at the Anniversary Sermons, and also resolved that refreshments be provided for vocalists and instrumentalists who are assisting in the service and that it be provided at Brother Holland's.

#### 1869.

Proposed that in the event of a Chapel cleaner being obtained we pay him £6 per year for his services.

For the Anniversary Sermons it was arranged to have 700 hymn papers, 300 circulars and 30 posters and that they be provided by James Holland.

It was proposed that the Chapel and School be beautified and that Brothers Jackson and Clough paint the windows, spouts and face boards outside.

#### 1870.

James Holland resigned as Secretary after 3 years and George Higham was elected in his place (which incidentally he held for the next 30 years) and we find three resolutions as follows :-

- (a) The Organist be paid £3 per annum.
- (b) That there be a tea meeting on the 19th. November, 1870, the origin of the Trust Party.
- (c) That all who give Trays provide a waiter. (This is rather puzzling and suggest that the persons who gave food for the party should also arrange for someone to wait on at tea).

#### 1871.

It was moved and seconded that Brethen Higham, Parkinson, Halliday and Hardy see to the repairing of the road.



1872-73.

Agreed that the Chapel be valued at £350 and the fixtures at £150. The question of re-building the vestry was decided and the following year it was resolved that the best thanks of this meeting be given to all who have assisted in the building of the vestry.

1875.

Bro. C. Parkinson get 3 iron rods for the Chapel and a step ladder.

Resolved we purchase the organ at the price named - £18.

The Trustees gratefully acknowledge the sum of £20 placed in their hands by the Teachers' Meeting towards the reduction of the Chapel debt and engage to invest same in the way proposed by the said Teachers' Meeting.

1876.

That Ralph Whitehead be paid ten shillings a year for organ blowing.

That a pulpit cushion be bought.

For the Trust Party, C. Parkinson and J. Halliday cut up the ham.

That Bro. J. Elmer wait upon the cutters-up.

1877.

Peter Brooks be appointed organist.

1878.

That Bro. Higham buy carpet for upstairs Chapel aisle.

1879.

Bro. C. Parkinson be appointed Treasurer.

Moved we vote £3 to School funds towards the beautifying of the School.

That we purchase the organ at the sum of £70.

1880.

The following brethren become acting Trustees :- J. Johnson, E. Gillingham, S. Taylor, P. Brookes.

1881.

Bro. Johnson become the leader of our singing Choir.

1882.

There shall be a Church Meeting to consider the best means for raising funds to pay our debt of £40 incurred by the organ.

1883.

That the Trust pay the sum of £5 as our share of the Circuit debt.

1884.

That the Brethren G. Higham, W. Johnson, and C. Parkinson attend to all minor repairs about the Chapel.

1885.

That the resignation of P. Brookes as organist be accepted and that Peter Whitehead become our organist on the same terms and that J. H. Higham be allowed to practise on the organ.



1886.

(February). Agreed that we have our Chapel beautified and that we accept the estimate as read for the sum of £12.

(May 3rd). That we have our re-opening services on the 30th May.  
(Collection on the day £3.7.0d.)

1888.

The Trust Sermons be held on first Sunday in November and that a coloured student be invited to preach the same.

That Brethren H. Edwards, C. Richards and J. Bennett become Trustees for the next twelve months.

That E. Johnson be leader of the Choir.

1889.

That E. Johnson select all tunes in the future.

1891.

C. Parkinson and G. Higham see Peter Whitehead with a view to entreat him to leave off his Saturday night engagements.

1893.

(June 5th). Trust Sermons be first Sunday in November, Tea meeting on the following Saturday.

(Oct. 23rd). That the Trust Tea meeting be adjourned to a more convenient time and that the following brethren take the Chapel keeping :- R. H. Hardy, H. Edwards, J. King, A. Owrid, Herbert Hardy and J. Clarke, and at the expiration of the strike Thomas Whitehead become the Chapel Keeper for the next 12 months.

In 1891 the need for a more commodious and convenient Chapel was felt and the energy and self-denial displayed by the adherents of this Church was recognised by, and received the sympathy of, members of other Christian communities.

1894.

Trust Tea meeting and that Bros. H. Winkley and J. Bennett solicit all the provisions they can.

1895.

That the Choir be allowed the 2nd. Sunday in July for their Sermons.

1896.

That Mr. Matthew Pickard of Liverpool Street be invited to be Chairman at the Trust Party.

1898.

That Bro. A. Bennett be a member of the Trustees.

1899.

The memorial stones of the new Church were laid on July 29th.



1900.

That Bro. A. Bennett be the Secretary to the Trustees.

The present Church was opened on Tuesday evening, May 15th. 1900. The front gate and doors were formally opened by four of the Trustees who had given great Christian service for many years. They were Mr. J. Whitehead, Mr. J. Hardy, Mr. G. Higham and Mr. C. Parkinson. Messrs J. Gerrard & Sons were the contractors and the cost, including furnishing, was £1,320., which amount was realised in February, 1906, thus leaving us free of debt.

The price per sitting in the new Church be 1/- (one shilling) each.

That a Marriage Licence be obtained.

The rostrum and communion be covered with carpet and linoleum.

That we commence to hold Harvest Thanksgiving Services.

That we have quarterly meetings of Trustees to be held on the last Saturdays in April, July, October and January.

1900 - 1904.

Agreed we have a Christmas Tree.

Peter Whitehead would rather give up playing the organ than miss his Saturday engagements.

Agreed that Mr. J. H. Higham be asked to play the organ free of any salary, to which he consented.

A safe was bought at a cost of £3.

The following year it was arranged that a Bible and Hymn Book be presented to the couple who are the first to be married in our Church, to be purchased by Mr. G. Higham and Mr. E. Johnson, who are at liberty to expend ten shillings.

The Registrar of Marriages to be the Secretary, Mr. A. Bennett.

The first couple to be married were Mr. & Mrs. Harry Edwards in 1902.

The Secretary read a letter from the single persons who presented a Baptismal Font. It was arranged that a special table or stand should be prepared.

That it be left with Mr. Jas. Johnson to see Mr. Joseph Whitehead regarding sitting in the Communion.

An application having been made for the use of the organ on the occasion of Mr. Tom H. Gillingham's wedding, it was decided to grant it and for all future occasions.

Agreed that Joseph Whitehead have a free sitting as long as he shall live.

Tenancy of back garden belonging to the Chapel. Agreed that Sam Burton and Joseph Lane share the garden.

1905 - 1910.

In connection with the funeral of the late Joseph Whitehead no charge be made for the school.

Agreed that Robert Peel and Frank Warrender be accepted as Trustees.

Agreed we pay Mr. Rushworth the balance of the loan of £190 and that Messrs C. Parkinson and A. Bennett go to Southport to pay Mr. Rushworth and receive the deeds from him. The three deeds returned by Mr. Rushworth be in charge of Mr. Charles Parkinson.

It was agreed to have the Church beautified.

Decided that incandescent lights be put into the Church.



The members of the Cricket Club had beautified the old Chapel, etc., and the Club owing the Trustees five shillings for the use of the School on two occasions, it was agreed that the Trustees forego the five shillings and allow the Cricket Club a vestry for their meetings free of charge providing proper order is maintained thereat. The quarterly meeting being rather inconveniently held on Saturday evenings, it was agreed that in future meetings be held on Fridays. Agreed that heating apparatus be installed in the Church and School. It was agreed for the erection of new vestries and the Trustees volunteered to demolish the old vestries and dress all bricks which were used in the new vestries, a great saving of cost. The new vestries were finally completed on December 17th. 1910. (Some alterations have been made since then to the interior but the New Room remains as it was built).

1911 - 1917.

The payment to Caretaker - £2.10.0. for two summer quarters and £3.10.0. for two winter quarters.

The Secretary, Councillor A. Bennett, be asked to try and get the lights improved in front of the Chapel.

In February 1912, in consequence of the severe frost which has affected the heating apparatus as to render it unable to be used, the services be held in the Men's Classroom.

Miss Collinson allowed the use of classrooms for a school at a rent of £5 per annum.

The Secretary, Councillor A. Bennett, had been appointed Chairman of the District Council and would attend a Municipal Service at our Church on Sunday evening, June 1st. 1913.

Many meetings were held to arrange for the Jubilee celebrations of our Church in 1915 when they would be held on two Sundays and all old scholars invited to attend.

Agreed that a Finance Committee be created composed of three persons from the Trust, the Church, and the School.

Jubilee Services, August 22nd. and 29th. Three services each Sunday and a full Church each occasion, with many old scholars, teachers and members joining in praise and thanksgiving for the work of God in the Church and School over the past 50 years.

The Assistant Secretary, Robert Boothman, called up for active service. Insurance taken out against damage by enemy aircraft.

The Secretary reported having been interviewed by a Police Officer as to whether the premises would be used for peace meetings. Agreed that no peace meetings be held during the period of the war.

Two Rolls of Honour placed in Church.

Charles Parkinson, 50 years as a Trustee.

1918 - 1923.

Purchase of organ from Liverpool Street Church per Mr. Matthew Pickard. Fuel and lighting reduced by 25% for war effort.

The Secretary reported two verbal applications for practising on Chapel organ, namely, Wilfred Warrender and Wilfred Hardy.

Resolved that a fund be opened for a new school.

Request for use of a vestry by H. A. Mitchell for holding a meeting of the new Swinton & District Cricket League.



New School Committee formed - five persons from Trust, Chapel and School. The men's Social Club asked for the use of the school for a Tea and Social and that four dances be allowed during the evening. After a long discussion and a secret ballot the result was declared as follows :- 14 votes in favour and 9 against. It was agreed to allow dancing until the Spring, after which the question is to be reviewed, but only four dances allowed. The old organ was sold for £25. In 1921 a new heating boiler installed by Messrs Matthews & Yates at a cost of £154. In order to meet this account and also some work done by John Tonge each Trustee be asked to loan £10 free of interest if possible but if desirable interest at 6%. In 1922 the outstanding accounts have been paid and all loans repaid. The Chairman for all meetings be appointed from the Trustees and that he take office for 12 months. First Chairman - Mr. R. Peel. The electric lighting of the Church was considered. Mr. Frank Sincox accepted as a member of the Trustees.

1924 - 1928.

The two vestries were decorated and the Men's Class asked for floor covering for their room.

W. Warrender appointed assistant organist.

At the March quarterly meeting in 1925, the Chairman, the Rev. A. Rothwell, reported the death of Mr. Charles Parkinson, who had been a Trustee for 60 years. He also held the position of Treasurer for a good number of years and was a teacher and Superintendent of the Sunday School all his life and was a most respected and honoured gentleman of our Church and School.

The question of a new Trust Body being formed and a new Deed which would cover the buildings had been debated several times before and it was agreed we go ahead and that Mr. Wood, of Irlams-o-th-Height, be invited to draw up the Deed.

New tea tables purchased by the School, who paid half the cost and the Trustees the other half.

It was noted that the New School Fund was £552.

The question of dancing and the time allowed for each dance was discussed and it was suggested 15 minutes each dance but only four dances allowed. A notice of motion for the next meeting proposed that 3 dances of 5 minutes each be allowed. The dance called The Charleston be not allowed.

At the next meeting held in December 1927, it was moved and carried that we have unlimited dancing.

The Sunday School had arranged a Social on New Year's Eve and asked could they extend it to 10.30 p.m. as it was intended to hold a supper prior to the holding of a Watch Night Service. Permission granted.

New seating covers for pews arranged.

Congratulations to Councillor A. Bennett on being elected Chairman of the District Council.

The new Trust Deed signed.

New School Account - £787.10.0.



1929 - 1933.

Agreed to defer consideration of the new school for 6 months. The fund had now reached £811.3.3.

Alongside our Church was a portion of land known as Sandon Street and in consequence of the construction of the new East Lancashire Road near to our school and in order to effectually deal with this land the Bridgewater Estates suggested the abandonment of Sandon Street and we could retain half of the street at a small rental of five shillings per annum.

Mr. Fred Meadowcroft appointed Assistant Secretary 6th. January, 1930. The question was asked if any communication had been received in connection with the proposed Methodist Union. None had been received but a short discussion had taken place.

There were many meetings regarding the cost of a new Sunday School and the question of when to build and how much money should be in the fund before any plans were drawn. In January 1932, it was moved that we go in for a new school at the approximate cost of £2,000. Extras to be considered later.

The question of appointing an Architect was next mentioned. Mr. Bennett, the Secretary, was named and he then left the meeting. Mr. A. Rawlinson moved that Mr. Bennett be appointed Architect and this was carried unanimously. Mr. Bennett was informed and stated that as in the case of the erection of the Chapel he would be prepared to make a reduction from the usual scale of Architect's charges.

Plans were prepared and submitted to the Trustees and the new School Committee and, after minor alterations, were agreed to.

Application was made to the Chapel Committee (Connexional) and Extension Fund for a loan and a grant and finally this was approved and the new School Fund received £200 as a grant, and £400 as a loan.

February - April, 1933.

The question of a Stone Laying ceremony was considered and the Architect pointed out that provision could only be made for six stones as a maximum and also stated that the custom was to leave the stones blank and the names of the persons are placed on a bronze tablet in the School vestibule.

Provision was being made for children's bricks to be inserted and for a donation of five shillings each child would have his or her initials on a brick.

Tenders for the erection of the new School were submitted by eight contractors and after long discussion and consideration it was resolved that the contract be let to Messrs J. Gerrard & Sons in the sum of £1,750. Although this was not the lowest tender, various claims were put forth and urged that Messrs Gerrards were a local firm, a firm of repute and one employing several persons connected with our Church and School. The Architect then stated that the above contract included the pointing of the Church and repairs to inside of Church and Vestry. Other items outside the tender included the Architect's fees, extra fencing, new geysers, heating boiler, decorating three vestries, furniture for school, crockery, cutlery and tables, etc., were estimated to cost £433. This made a total amount of £2,183, as against the Architect's estimated cost of £2,215.



It was anticipated that at the end of the year 1933 it will leave us with only the £400 loan to repay.

At the next meeting consideration was given to the names of persons to lay stones at the Stone Laying ceremony and finally the following persons were invited and accepted the invitation to take part in the ceremony :- Mr. E. Gillingham, Mr. A. Bennett, J.P., Mr. A. E. Rawlinson, Mr. R. H. Hardy, Mr. W. Parker, Mr. A. G. Waterhouse, J.P.

Several of our people had contributed the sum of thirty shillings each for the stone laying ceremony and it was resolved to allow all persons who had made such a contribution to lay a brick with their initials on. It was further agreed that all adult persons who donate a minimum sum of ten shillings be allowed to lay a brick with their initials on.

#### 1933 - April.

It was further agreed that in the case of a family where it was desired that more than one child wished to lay a brick the contribution shall be five shillings for the first child, as at present agreed, and 2/6d. for each other child in the same family, the age in each case not to exceed 16 years.

In connection with the ceremony the following Ministers were invited and accepted :- Rev. G. I. J. Cushing, Rev. H. Parish, Rev. R. M. Rutter, and also Councillor Alston, J.P., Chairman of the Council.

The Secretary referred to himself as being appointed Architect and since some of the work had been prepared by his two sons - Norman and Hubert - the latter had recently gained his diploma as an Associate of the Royal Institute of British Architects, it would probably be to his advantage if the appointment could be altered so as to read:- Architects, Messrs A. Bennett & Sons.

It would be nice to mention that some years later Mr. Bennett's youngest son was Knighted and became Sir Hubert Bennett, and to whom we sent our congratulations.

The Stone Laying ceremony took place on 20th. May, 1933, and the laying of the bricks on the 27th. May, when over 100 bricks were laid. The mallet used in the ceremony of the Stone Laying for the Church in 1900 was also used for the Stone Laying ceremony for the Sunday School, and then on 23rd. September, 1933, the School was completed and Miss E.E. Higham opened the school gates, and Mr. Edward Johnson opened the school room. To all who were there it was an unforgettable occasion, one that will live in our memory throughout our lives, and we gave thanks to our Father God for the success and the achievement of his people. Praise ye the Lord.

In the meantime, the question of the alterations to the Choir Stalls was considered. At that time, the Choir faced the congregation and it was thought practicable to place them at the west side of the Church and this would leave a chancel which would add some beauty to the Church.



June 1933 - January 1934.

The Church was being prepared for electric wiring and the plastering of certain parts which would involve different positions for certain lights.

The provision of an electric organ blower was discussed and it was decided to have one installed.

Opening Services were held in the Church on Sunday, 24th. September, and the two preachers planned were Mr. Leonard Hall, B.Sc., for the morning, and Miss M. Sunman, B.A., for the evening. On the following Sunday, the 1st. October, the Rev. Herbert Cook, a former Minister (then living in Bristol) came and conducted two memorable services. In the Sunday School, special services were held each afternoon and enjoyed by scholars, teachers and friends.

In November, the Rev. W. C. Jackson, Secretary of the General Chapel Committee, wrote Mr. Bennett to say that we should receive £400 from the Chapel Loan Fund. A letter was sent to Mr. Jackson, wherein the Trustees promised to repay the loan of £200 in half-yearly instalments of £10 on the first day of May and November, and we further promise that a reasonable system of seat rents shall be carefully maintained, that the Trust property shall be kept sufficiently insured against loss by fire, that the surplus income arising from the property shall be devoted to either the support and extension of the work of God in our own Circuit or neighbourhood or in aid of our Connexional Institutions. It was signed by the following persons :- A. Bennett, J.P., E. Johnson, F. Warrender, C. Elliott, F. Ashton, G. Hopwood, D. Savage, A. E. Rawlinson, J. W. Meadowcroft, R. Peel, W. Warrender, F. Meadowcroft.

The Secretary pointed out that since the Deed appointing new Trustees had been drawn up a few years ago, some had resigned on account of removal and it was felt that as there were a large number of young men attending the Church and School it might be advantageous to consider the question of appointing additions. Resolved that we obtain a list of male Church Members over the age of 21 years.

January 1934 - July 1937.

At this meeting the Trustees received a deputation from the Sunday School to ask if the Trustees could suggest a way of separating the School for purposes of grading. A Committee of four was suggested to visit the school and see for themselves the difficulty under which the school is working and the following were agreed :- Messrs A. Bennett, D. Savage, T. Fish and G. Hopwood.

At the next meeting, held on the 22nd. March, before the ordinary business of the meeting was commenced, the Chairman, Mr. E. Johnson, in the course of a few remarks, moved a resolution that we send a congratulatory message to our Secretary, Mr. A. Bennett, J.P., on account of the honour conferred upon him at his election as Charter Mayor of the proposed new Borough of Swinton & Pendlebury. This was carried unanimously and the matter was left in the hands of the Assistant Secretary, Mr. F. Meadowcroft. Mr. Bennett responded and thanked the meeting for their congratulations.



Mr. D. Savage reported re School grating and his report suggested that an elaborate division was unnecessary. After several views had been put forward it was agreed that the Secretary obtain the price of sufficient folding partitions - 6-ft. high - and report to the next meeting.

Persons who were invited and signified their willingness to become Trustees - Messrs A. Anderton, N. Fish, R. Ashton, S. Waite, M. Jeans, T. Worsley, H. Drury, C. Webb, H. Bennett, and F. Simcox. Unfortunately, four decided to retire from the Trustees.

Agreed that the two vestries be decorated during the summer when Miss Collinson's school is closed for holidays.

The Sunday School appealed to the Trustees for a grant towards a new banner. Resolved to make a grant of £2.

There were many meetings during the years regarding repairs to Heating Boiler, Tuning and repairs to organ, appointment of Carotaker and Organ Blowers, and then in February, 1937, the following persons were received as Acting Trustees - Messrs E. Smith, H. Meadowcroft, E. Peel, V. Hollinshead, E. Boardman, and R. Sykes.

#### July, 1937.

The Secretary read a letter from the Cricket Club stating that they were in debt to the extent of £21 and asking the Trustees to forego the usual donation of £1. Resolved to leave the matter over for the time being. (A footnote says £1 paid Feb. 1938).

It was noted that Mr. R. H. Hardy had been a Trustee for a number of years and it was resolved that a letter of congratulation be sent to him on the occasion of his Golden Wedding.

The Secretary gave a statement of the New School Fund Account which showed that the balance in hand stood at £252.0.11d., being 11d. in excess of the amount required to totally pay off the balance of loan and contributions to the Connexion.

A suggestion was put forward that the balance of loan should now be paid to the Connexion instead of the half-yearly payments going on until 1943. After discussion it was moved and seconded that the whole amount of £252 be repaid.

#### 1938.

The Secretary referred to the Chairman, Mr. Edward Johnson, who had celebrated his Golden Wedding and it was decided to place on record our appreciation of his services and to tender him our congratulations. Resolved we send hearty congratulations to Messrs E. Hollinshead and R. Ashton on their respective recent marriages.

#### 1939.

Owing to the War conditions now prevailing it was decided to abandon the holding of the usual Trust Tea Party.

A verbal application was made on behalf of the Sunday School for the use of the room under the School platform for children in the event of an air raid and the request was granted.

An application by Mrs. Smith of Meadow Bank, Worsley Road, on behalf of the Women's Auxiliary Defence Association for use of a room and kitchen in the event of minor cases of accident during an air raid. The object



was to provide a cup of tea, etc., to revive people suffering from shock, etc. It was resolved that the Ladies Vestry and kitchen be placed at the disposal of the Association.

1940.

Mr. H. Smith moved, and Mr. V. Hollinshead seconded, that all socials and concerts on weekday evenings should be permitted to carry on until 10.30 p.m., but that other activities during the week should cease at 10.00 p.m.

Some further monies had been received for the new School Fund amounting to £11.5s.9d. It was agreed that £11 be borrowed for the Trust Fund and that 5/9d. be left for a Decorating Fund and that it appear on the agenda each quarter.

The Secretary read notices re Schedule 'A' Assessment for the private school run by Miss Collinson and also a private streets account amounting to £75 for the paving of Harrowby Road. There were several meetings and many discussions regarding the payment which Miss Collinson should be asked to make, and finally she offered to pay one half of the amount of the rates and half the cost of the paving.

1940 - June.

Three letters were read from the following at the June meeting :- Women's Voluntary Service, the Medical Officer of Health, and Women's Voluntary Defence Service. The Secretary read these letters in which the School and Church were mentioned as being requisitioned in connection with the war and it was resolved that we raise no objection to the use of our premises.

Harrowby Road Paving Account. A letter from the Town Clerk, Mr. W. Carter, who had been given details of the rooms used by Miss Collinson, and also the amount of rent she paid, stated that future instalments of the Paving Account would be cancelled in the event of our school being used solely for religious purposes.

1940 - July.

Miss Collinson urgently requested that the door between the Ladies Vestry and the Sunday School be left unbolted in order that her scholars may find shelter under the school platform in the event of an air raid. Resolved we grant permission during the war only and that no responsibility be attached to the Trustees of the Church.

1940 - September.

The Secretary called the meeting to discuss the question of holding the evening service at the Trust Anniversary in view of not only the black-out but the intensification of air raid alarms since the decision in June to hold an evening service. Several members spoke expressing divergent views stating they could not attend in the evening owing to their wives being unwilling to venture out in the black-out. It was agreed to cancel the evening service and ask the preacher, Mr. J. E. Smith, to take the morning service on the 22nd. December.

A letter was read from Miss Ethel I. Winkley, making an appeal on behalf of the Comforts Fund Committee for financial assistance to render aid to any of our young men serving in the Forces. It was intimated that other Departments connected with our place of worship had assisted. Resolved we contribute the sum of one pound.



The Secretary had written to four Trustees who were away on active service and had received a reply from Mr. F. Meadowcroft which was read to the meeting. The Secretary was thanked for his interest in the matter.

April 1942.

The Secretary reported having written to W. A. Boardman, the organ tuner, to tune the organ ready for the Sunday School Anniversary, and had received a reply stating the organ was too dirty for satisfactory tuning, the mechanism was old and out-of-date, and suggested that we have the organ thoroughly cleaned and modernised. After much discussion it was pointed out that Ellesmere Street, Pendlebury, were contemplating disposing of their premises and there might be a chance of acquiring their organ.

Warship Savings Week. The School had been used for one week by two lady sellers of certificates. The Secretary had enquired at the Town Hall regarding payment for the use of the school and was informed that no places of worship had made any charge. Resolved that if the school is required during the war we help as much as possible in the war effort. At a special meeting of the Trustees, reference was made regarding the Chapel organ and the report of its condition at a previous meeting and the Secretary gave a report of his interviews with Mr. Joseph Walton, on behalf of the Ellesmere Street Church, which indicated that Ellesmere Street was definitely closing on 12th. July, 1942, and that there was a possibility of us being able to acquire the organ. After the matter was discussed for a little time, especially with reference to finances, it was proposed and carried unanimously that we negotiate for the organ. A recent account of a Wedding Reception held in our school was described in "The Journal" as being held at the Rydal Mount School (Miss Collinson). It was suggested that the Secretary inform wedding parties that the correct description is Worsley Road Methodist Sunday School. The Secretary read a letter from Mr. Raymond Ashton, who is a Radio Officer, being a reply to one sent to him on behalf of the Trustees. Regarding coal and coke supplies, we read from a newspaper that Churches should combine their services to save fuel and light. Suggestion - Carry on.

It was decided to launch an Organ Fund and the Secretary then outlined the progress of the building of the organ and reported it would be ready for opening on Sunday, 22nd. November, 1942, and it was resolved that we have organ opening ceremonies on two Sundays, the 22nd. and 29th. November. Agreed that the afternoon services commence at 3.00 p.m. and that the preachers already planned shall conduct the respective services. It was agreed that the following organists be asked to officiate at the respective services :-

Sunday morning, 22nd. Nov.	- Mr. J. Rushton, former organist Ellesmere Street.
" afternoon, "	- Mr. Alan Platt, Westwood Methodist Church.
Sunday morning, 29th. Nov.	- Mr. W. Warrender.
" afternoon, "	- Mr. F. Brockes, Worsley Road Congregational.

It was agreed that to augment the Organ Fund we arrange a Bring & Buy Sale on 5th. December, 1942, and that the Committee for the organising of same