

Resolution for Christ Church Huntingdon on male leadership...

Resolution of a meeting of the Council of Christ Church Huntingdon on Thursday 7th February 2019, 7.30pm at [REDACTED], Huntingdon, [REDACTED].

This Church Council requests on grounds of theological conviction, that arrangements be made for it in accordance with the House of Bishops' Declaration on the Ministry of Bishops and Priests.

The reasons for this are ...

1. To seek alternative episcopal provision in the event of a woman being consecrated to be a bishop in the Diocese of Ely.
2. To advertise for a male only pastor to lead Christ Church Huntingdon in the event of a vacancy.

The Theological rationale for this is...

- A complementarian understanding of Scripture's teaching on headship in the church and family, which, believing men and women to be completely equal in dignity and worth as children of God, understands the Bible to restrict the role of the presbyter and bishop to a man.

The Church Council would also like to ...

1. ...make clear that a headship position on leadership does not in any way denigrate the worth or value of women in the church, and notes their many and varied crucial ministries, for which we give thanks to God.
2. ...note that there are individuals in our congregation who do not hold to a complementarian view of leadership. We have sought to listen to those who believe that there should be no restriction on women becoming presbyters or bishops and have committed to seek to maintain the unity of the body through the bond of peace (Eph 4:3).
3. ... note that two members of our Church Council who are theologically convinced of the Scriptural basis for complementarianism chose to abstain from the vote out of a desire to signal how they value the Christian commitment and ministry of an ordained female family member who interprets this secondary issue in a different way.

The vote was carried 6 votes for, 0 votes against, and with 2 abstentions.

Signed

Charlie Newcombe

Charlie Newcombe
Minster in charge

Jon Gilbert

Jon Gilbert
Church Warden

Hannah Casey

Hannah Casey
Council Member

Date

7/.