



MINUTES OF THE MEETING
held via zoom on Thursday 29th April 2021

1. Present: , Capt. Katrina Thurlow, Rev. Jonathan Burton, John Capper, Kathryn Fiddock, Tony Attwood, Elizabeth Tindley, Val Bowtle, Jean Mead, Doris Stacey, Penelope Cummins and Rosemary Timms.

Katrina welcomed Doris and Penelope to their first meeting. Katrina opened the meeting by focusing on 'Safe and Welcoming Spaces' and the poem 'Jesus died at Charing Cross' by Linda Watson.

2. Apologies: were received from Rev. John Goddard, Father David Clemens, Rev. Jeremy Trew, Helen O'Neill and Margaret Hurst.

3. Consideration of the Agenda.
Tony Attwood wished to add the CTSW website to the agenda.

4. Minutes of last meeting.
The minutes of the meeting held on 11th February were approved.

- 4 Regular Events

- Christian Aid Week: Once again, due to COVID restrictions, there will be no street collection for Christian Aid from 10th – 16th May. Several local churches, however, have taken up the offer of church collection envelopes. Another group of local churches have decided to take 'delivery only' envelopes this year to see what response they get. John has written to the Reporter to publicise the event and encourage giving.

5. Finance

Since the last meeting we have paid the insurance premium and purchased a farewell gift for Rev Caroline Vodden. The current balance is £ 486.

6. News from Churches

BAPTIST : Rosemary shared that there is a service in the church at 10.30 a.m. and a zoom service at 11.15 a.m. Cameras are now being installed along with the technology to allow live-streaming of worship soon. The Boys Brigade will be camping on the Isle of Wight in August and take up for that from the boys is encouraging.

OUR LADY OF COMPASSION : Elizabeth shared that their Sunday services are live streamed and well attended and there is also a zoom prayer group on Sunday evenings. There are also daily services at 10.00 a.m. They hope to have a Coffee Morning for the World Day of Prayer in June or July if circumstances allow.

COMMUNITY CHURCH : Jean shared that their 'blended services' and zoom groups are continuing. Their planned Outreach Event in the Market Place, starts this coming Saturday and they will be offering the opportunity to talk and receive prayer fortnightly.

ST. MARY'S : The church is open for services which are live-streamed and available on zoom. Rev. Jeremy Trew has now been installed and Rachel will be back and preaching this coming Sunday. A civic service was held to commemorate the death of the Duke of Edinburgh.

SALVATION ARMY : Tony shared that their services are on YouTube. A five week introductory course 'Taketime' starts on the 10th May which is meditation based on gospel passages and primarily aimed at non-Christians Their charity shop is currently closed and they are advertising for a shop manager.

URC : Are using zoom for worship and are set up for live-streaming their worship but are not expecting to re-open for worship until Pentecost Sunday. They will officially be in an interregnum when Roy Fowler leaves in July. Katrina asked Val if one of their members would be willing to join the Leaders at their meetings while they have this pastoral vacancy.

SOCIETY OF FRIENDS : Meetings at the Meeting House re-commenced on Easter Sunday and continue to be available on zoom as well. They are planning to meet on 16th May in their gardens for those still not comfortable with meeting indoors. Doris shared something of a recent meeting with Uttlesford District Council in relation to the arms trade and creation of an ethical policy. They hope also to be able to pursue this with our MP.

9. Any Other Business

- CTSW Website: Tony asked if church leaders could take a look at the content in relation to VBS and Well Café and advise him of any changes that should be made.

10. Future Meetings

Katrina raised the question of the ongoing format for future meetings. It was apparent that there were advantages and disadvantages with the current zoom approach, as there are with meeting in person. Zoom doesn't allow for relationships to develop, while physically meeting can prohibit availability to attend. Tony Attwood was asked to explore what might be involved in a blended approach. Possibility to try this by meeting at the Friends Meeting House and on zoom. John confirmed they have the equipment to enable that and would put Tony in touch with someone who might help. Jonathan highlighted potential issues with a blended approach.

The next meeting is on 17th June.

Jonathan closed the meeting in prayer.