



MINUTES OF THE MEETING

held via zoom on Thursday 10th February 2022

Present: Rev. Jonathan Burton, John Capper, Rev. Jeremy Trew, Rev. John Goddard Kathryn Fiddock, Val Bowtle, Penelope Cummins, Tony Attwood, Glenys Goodwin, Doris Stacey, Margaret Hurst. and Rosemary Timms.

1. Apologies: were received from, Father David Clemens, Capt. Katrina Thurlow , Elizabeth Tindley, and Jean Mead.

John Capper chaired the meeting in Katrina Thurlow's absence. John welcomed Glenys Goodwin representing the Baptist Church and then opened the meeting with an Australian version of the Lord's Prayer and a short silence.

2. Consideration of the Agenda.

The agenda was agreed.

3. Minutes of last meeting.

Minutes of the last meeting held on 11th November were approved.

4. Matters Arising

Nothing raised

5. Regular Events

- **Lent:** The Leaders had discussed whether to organise joint events but had felt it might be more appropriate for churches to organise their own events this year. Tony added that if churches are arranging anything they would like to invite others to, he could publicise these on the CTSW website if we provide him with the information.
- **World Day of Prayer (4th March):** Will be at Our Lady of Compassion Church at 2.00 p.m. and the material has been prepared by the Christian Women of England, Wales and Northern Ireland. All welcome and there will be refreshments afterwards. Val Bowtle would be providing churches with posters and fliers for this.
- **Easter:** It was agreed we would like to advertise the church services and events in the local paper in the usual way and Rosemary would contact Lisa Knight and check that she would arrange this for us. It was agreed to go ahead with the Walk of Witness on Good Friday, assembling at Abbey Lane for 10.30 am start. St Mary's to provide the wooden cross and hot cross buns!! John Goddard also offered to write something for the local paper to explain the purpose of this event.
- **Christian Aid Week (15th – 21st May):** John shared that it would be up to individual churches to decide if they wanted to do some form of house to house delivery of envelopes or continue with the more low key approach.

6. Finance

John shared that the current balance is £753.27.

7. News from Churches

COMMUNITY CHURCH : Jonathan shared that their focus for 2022 is “Passion for” beginning with ‘Passion for God’. Also holding some listening to God workshops prior to restarting their outreach in the Market Square in April. They will be having a baptismal service on Easter Sunday.

BAPTIST : Numbers attending Sunday morning worship are picking up slowly and live streaming continues when we have someone able to do that for us. It was a blessing to have a baptismal service before Christmas. The buildings are once again very busy, being used by lots of organisations. John shared that he is working with Tina Wilson, a URC Minister in training.

OUR LADY OF COMPASSION : Elizabeth had shared that services continue without social distancing, with doors and windows open and air purifiers. Evening prayers on Sunday evening continue on zoom.

ST. MARY'S : Jeremy Trew shared that they continue to live stream their services and will also be following a quiet Lent series. They have started a “Living in love and faith” course. On Good Friday they would hold a vigil from 2.00 pm – 3.00 pm.

THE SALVATION ARMY : Tony shared that they are undertaking a “Take Time” meditation series from 3rd March to 7th April. The partnership with St Clare Hospice to offer bereavement support locally continues with the Community Hub, offering advice and emotional support and the Bereavement Café. They are also considering a new work offering a café and an area for reflection and prayer open to the public.

Abbey Lane URC : Val shared that this year they will be celebrating their 50th anniversary with a number of events throughout the year and a particular focus later in the year in October.

Society of Friends : It has been really encouraging to have people meeting together again and staying to chat over a cup of tea/coffee afterwards. The children are also able to share in services on zoom. Shared the news that Hope into Action have had their offer on a house in the town accepted.

9. Any Other Business

- Walden Community Action on Refugees: Elizabeth Tindley had asked if we might invite Isabelle Page to our next meeting to give an update on their work and this was agreed.
- Penelope Cummins asked if anyone else was aware that Pope Francis has launched the Synod on Synodality, which is a two-year global process of listening to the faithful of the Catholic Church. No one else seemed to be aware of it.

10. Future Meetings

The next meeting would be on 28th April.

The meeting closed with prayers.