



**Minutes of the meeting
held on Thursday 10th November 2022**

Present: John Capper, Rev. John Goddard, Val Bowtle, Julia Attwood, Tony Attwood, Kathryn Fiddock, Glenys Goodwin, Jill Gunsell, Margaret Hurst, Shawn Martin, Doris Stacey, Elizabeth Tindley, Father David Clemens, Penelope Cummins and Emma Turner.

Present on Zoom: Rev. Jonathan Burton, Rev. Jeremy Trew

John opened the meeting with a period of silence followed by a few words from Quaker Life and Practice. John also spoke about the significance of white poppies as well as the usual red.

1. **Apologies:** Jean Mead

2. **Consideration of the Agenda**

A question was asked regarding the Christmas advert and who will arrange this and when for. It was agreed that Emma will contact Lisa Knight and see if she is happy to arrange this as she has previously. It was also agreed that the advert be in the 7th December issue of the Walden Local.

3. **Minutes of last meeting**

Minutes of the last meeting held on 8th September were approved.

4. **Coming events**

2022

a) **Advent Service:** Sunday 27th November, 6.30 pm at St. Mary's.

b) **Late Night Shopping:** As previously stated we would only take this on if someone was willing to organise it. There were no offers so we will not take part. There would have also been a £10 fee.

2023

a) **Week of Prayer for Christian Unity Service:** 22nd January, 10.30 am at St. Mary's.

b) **Agape Meal:** Monday 23rd January 7 for 7.30 pm at Baptist Church. John Goddard may produce a poster. Ideally, he would like numbers a week before, but nobody will be turned away.

c) **World Day of Prayer:** Friday 3rd March, 2.30 pm at Friends Meeting House.

d) **Easter:** Arrangements as this year.

e) **Christian Aid Week:** May 14th – 20th. A street collection will take place on 20th May.

f) **Lent:** Churches to open their own meetings etc. to other churches.

5. **Finance**

We are almost ready to send our documents into the Saffron Walden Building Society.

Signatories are the Chair and Secretary along with the Ministers of St. Mary's and the Baptist Church.

6. **Relationship between CTSW Council and Church Leaders Meeting**

As previously discussed, Jeremy explained that the Ministers shouldn't be making all the decisions which then come to a Council Meeting to be agreed. Julia also agreed with this saying that there is a wider experience at the Council Meeting which would then free up the Ministers Meeting for prayer and support.

Jonathan agreed in principle but highlighted that when the Council agrees to something it needs to be clear who they are committing to doing it. Jeremy hoped that the minutes would highlight who has the delegated decision to action items.

John Goddard said that Ministers must make Council Meetings a priority. It was agreed to go ahead with this next year.

7. Update on Warm Meeting Place

John Capper informed the meeting that the Town Council will be opening up the Committee Room in the Town Hall from 28th November until 19th December, Mondays only, 10-3pm. They will supply tea, coffee, biscuits and soup and all we have to do is supply people to man it. You can sign up in 1 hour slots and if 1 hour total is all you can cover that's fine. We are basically there as a warm welcome. The Council would like some to have done the Level 1 Food Hygiene Certificate but there is no pressure to do it. John has completed his. It costs £10 and the Council will reimburse your church. If you know of anyone who would like to offer their time, please contact John Capper who will co-ordinate the schedule. Individual churches are encouraged to still offer alternatives to this. Salvation Army will continue to offer their drop in on a Wednesday and will offer toast and the Baptist Church are looking at a Friday.

John will need to let the council know if we don't have enough volunteers so please let him know within 10 days if you can help!

There are still some ongoing issues regarding ownership of the Garden Room, in Jubilee Garden, but it is hoped that by Springtime Café Cornell will use the space for a few days a week as well as their current location but that means that if needed, we could extend our warm meeting place days and use the Garden Room.

Please publicise the Warm Meeting Place and the need for volunteers.

8. Future meetings – day, time 9.30 am, blended/zoom only?

Cases were put forward for what suited them, but it was agreed that the blended meeting did not really work and so meetings will be in person unless in an emergency, like poor weather, when zoom would be arranged. Thursdays still seem to be the day that suits but it was agreed that we would try the next meeting at 2pm.

9. News from Churches

Community: They are halfway through an Alpha course and are also looking at consolidating groups to be more effective in the community.

Baptist: Messy Church is just beginning in conjunction with URC. John has posters available for Messy Advent.

They are in the process of becoming a Charitable Incorporated Organisation.

Our Lady of Compassion: Ken Lowe is running a course until Easter which is similar to Alpha.

Friends: They will be moving into their tearoom as it is smaller and easier to heat.

Salvation Army: They continue to work with local charities and will be running the annual Christmas toy appeal. Further details to follow.

St. Mary's: Recently they held a Confirmation Service and are currently training folk for pastoral work. They are also looking at teamwork. Their Christmas Fair is on 26th November 9-1pm.

URC: Their 50th anniversary exhibition was very successful. They have their Winter Fair this Saturday, 10-2pm. On 26th November at 5pm they hold their Service of Remembrance. A service to remember anyone that you have lost. Their candlelight service takes place the week before

Christmas. URC are trying different types of service including café church, children led and recently having a local Minister to preach.

10. Any other business

Mailing list: Tony Attwood confirmed that the mailing list is now all set up and everyone should be receiving emails.

11. Next meeting

Thursday 9th February, 2pm. Coffee and cake available from 1.45pm.

The meeting closed with a short period of silence