



IN SAFFRON WALDEN

**Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> April 2024**

**Present:** Tony Attwood, Val Bowtle, Jonathan Burton, John Capper, Kathryn Fiddock, John Goddard, Glenys Goodwin, Jill Gunsell, Margaret Hurst, Shawn Martin, Jean Mead, Elizabeth Tindley

Tony opened the meeting with devotions founded on Hebrews 10:19-25.

1. **Apologies:** Julia Attwood, Emma Turner, Doris Stacey.
2. **Consideration of the Agenda** - services of Remembrance
3. **Minutes of last meeting**  
Minutes of the last meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> February 2024 were agreed.
4. **Matters arising**
5. **Review of Easter 2024** – Walk of Witness went well but how effective and what purpose, Jill “So people know it’s Good Friday”. Discussion about handing out hot cross buns and leaflet explaining their significance. To look at next year. (CPO for paper napkins). Thanks to Stephen for the publicity in the Walden Local. All
6. **Regular Events and outstanding issues**
  - a. **Christian Aid Week** 16th May Prayer Stations and service in the URC church 3.00 – 8.00pm, poster given to each church. Bucket collection on 18th May in the town, collectors needed. Please contact John Capper for details/to volunteer. All
  - b. **Covenant:** still to be discussed by leaders. Leaders
  - c. **Hustings:** possible meeting to be held shortly. John Capper
  - d. **Nativity:** clarity on its purpose. Suggestion that New Life might be invited to join in purely as a church initiative. Friends, Our Lady of Compassion and St. Mary’s said that their involvement was undecided. All
7. **Visit from St Clare Hospice:** representative to be invited to speak for the first 15/20 minutes of our meeting. Who plans to discuss their services and share some of their future plans for St Clare Hospice in Uttlesford and would also like to start a conversation regarding how we can work together.
8. **News from Churches**
  - a. **BAPTIST:** 250th Anniversary year so lots of celebrations of past events but also looking forward to what the future holds.
  - b. **COMMUNITY CHURCH:** church growing, pop-up in Jubilee Hub. Outreach in the market and prayer walks. Looking to employ another full or part time Minister. Growing number of young people. Successful Alpha course completed.

- c. **URC:** still seeking a Minister. Successful Coffee Morning. Hoping to start Alpha Youth course.
- d. **ST MARY'S:** looking to improve their lighting system and their carbon footprint. Very successful Supper organised by young people of Aftershock raised over £3k. 5th June lunchtime concerts resume. Stamp sale on 27th April.
- e. **FRIENDS:** they support a Quaker Community in a poor area of Nepal, and 2 of their representatives will travel to South Africa for a world conference. The travel fees for one of them will be provided by the Friends in Saffron Walden. They are holding a series of discussions on a variety of topics over a shared lunch.
- f. **TSA:** The Hope into Action House has been purchased and now needs to be prepared for a family who should move in during the latter half of the year. They continue to run their weekly activities; the Craft group is proving popular. 6th July they are holding a Fellowship Band Concert in the URC church.
- g. **OUR LADY OF COMPASSION:** work on the Hall goes out to tender and will hopefully be in operation by the autumn. Congregation including children is increasing and becoming very international.

9. **Any Other Business:**

- a. Val asked if other churches held a service of Remembrance in November. St Mary's hold one on a Sunday near All Souls Day. Also "Blue Christmas" Service in December. No other churches hold services.
- b. Mention of inaccurate dates in Walden Local Adverts was made. Although Lisa sends it out for proof-reading, maybe she should be given 2 contacts for each church.

All
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10. **Next meeting** – 20th June 2024

11. Jonathan led a closing prayer for us.

**Future Discussions/Reviews**

Review of the covenant  
Agape Meal – Catholic Church

Review APAP – Then 11/29  
Review 11/24