



IN SAFFRON WALDEN

### Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2024

**Present:** Tony Attwood (chair), Shawn Martin (minutes), John Goddard, Glenys Goodwin, Margaret Hurst, Jean Mead, Chris Hall, Julia Attwood, Elizabeth Tindley, Kathryn Fiddock, Jeremy Trew, John Capper, Glenys Goodwin, Sophie Davis.

Tony opened the meeting with devotions founded on Ephesians 4:15-16 reminding us that as we are seen to work together, love each other, and have compassion on those around us the truth of the Gospel will be seen and felt by those around us and this truth will go beyond our churches and towns.

1. **Apologies:** Jonathan Burton, Fr David Clemens, Jill Gunsell, Val Bowtle, Doris Stacey
2. **Consideration of the Agenda** – None
3. **Minutes of the meeting held on 20th June 2024.**

SM corrected 8b. Should read "...on fourth Sundays from 6:30pm [or 4pm in Winter]"

4. **Visit from UCAN**

Sophie Davis, from UCAN (Uttlesford Community Action Network), outlined the work of UCAN . UCAN works with GPs in North Uttlesford for vaccine at Lord Butler and will this winter. Comments noted "It's exemplary how it's run". UCAN works for the good of the community. It has 'Community Responders' from its Community Response Hub. 'The Ticket Home Project' to help people back from Addenbrooke's and Princess Alexandra hospitals, with 6 weeks support by telephone offering friendly practical non-medicine intervention. UCAN manage Social Prescribers.

Offers coffee & chat Monday – Thursday, 10 – 12:30pm.

Essex Shed Network has Little Canfiled and 'The Fellowship' at Saffron Walden.

Ukrainian Welcome Hub, 9am – 2am, for transport, safeguarding, etc incl gunshot trauma.

UCAN have a quarterly Newsletter.

Sophie asked if the churches could inform people of UCAN, identify people needing help and inform UCAN of any activities happening for people to attend, via

T: 01371 404474,

E: [sophie.davis@ucan.org.uk](mailto:sophie.davis@ucan.org.uk),

w: [www.ucan.org.uk](http://www.ucan.org.uk), [www.saffronwalden.gov.uk/the-jubilee-hub](http://www.saffronwalden.gov.uk/the-jubilee-hub).

5. **Regular Events and outstanding issues**

- a. **Covenant**

(JG) Drop a "definite article" ("we, the as churches of..."). The 5 yearly signing of annual covenant in our service. 7 people sign. Covenant copies are to be sent to all Reps to read and sign.

- b. **Hustings (what we learned)**

JC: stated that he felt the Church (St Mary's) was the right place for the Hustings.

JG: Stated it was well organised and well run. Although very stressful and

uneasy. Desperately edgy.

JA: Stated it was “brilliant”. It was stated that there had been no training for public unrest and manning doors.

JG: Not keen to do again.

TA: A possible support could come from UCAN to Steward in the future.

c. **Incarnation**

JG: Stated “A good idea”. It was agreed that this item would be dropped.

6. **Future of this meeting (for conclusion next meeting)**

- a. Timing during the day was discussed. It’d be helpful to know who the Reps are and if there would be any possible Reps that would attend other times/days?

ET: Meeting together and sharing what’s going on, in newsletters and notices.

TA: Asked if reps were able to raise awareness of Churches Together.

ET: We should make known in our church newsletters the need for a Secretary for SWCT. There’s a laptop available.

7. **News from Churches**

- a. **Friends** JC: Bardfield, Stansted, Dunmow and Saffron Walden meet on Sundays.

- b. **St Marys** KF: St Mary’s have their Lighting Project and Macmillan Coffee Morning.

- c. **Our Lady of Compassion** ET: Parish Hall rebuild not yet started. So, may not be able to host next year’s Agape Meal. Question was asked when St Mary’s last did. To minute: Review where to hold. JA: Salvation Army are collaborating with others. URC had a concert.

- d. **Community Church** JM: SWCC are running an Alpha course. Jubilee Hub has an informal service, which suits some. Young people from SWCC & SWSM enjoyed DTI (Dreaming The Impossible).

- e. **URC** MH: URC had a Heritage Day, coffee morning and sale. They were open for the Ride & Stride day.

- f. **Baptist** JG: Pride Service was held on 23rd June. 30th June saw the 250th Anniversary of the SW Baptist Church. There was a Baptist Union celebration. Boys Brigade leaflets were distributed. 7th – 8th December has Cribfest Nativity sets. JG: John Hardwicke Youth Ministry celebration, 17th September, 2pm at URC.

- g. **TSA** JA We are all about collaboration and this works well for us. In July we had a band concert hosted by our URC friends which was a great success. We’re encouraged and in good heart.

8. **Next meeting** – Thursday 7th November 2024 2pm, URC Vestry, Abbey Lane..

9. **Close**

TA closed the meeting with prayer.

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**Future Discussions/Reviews**

Review of the covenant

Agape Meal – Catholic Church

Next Paper Advertisement

Review ASAP – Then 11/29

Review 11/24

Clarify proof-reading communications