



IN SAFFRON WALDEN

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 7th November 2024

Present: Tony Attwood (Chair), Val Bowtle (Minutes), Kathryn Fiddick, Glenys Goodwin, John Goddard, Chris Hall, Margaret Hurst, Shawn Martin, Doris Stacey, Jeremy Trew

Devotions: Tony opened with the scripture 2 Corinthians 3:6.

1. **Apologies:** Julia Attwood, Jonathan Burton, John Capper, Jill Gunsell, Jean Mead, Father David, Elizabeth Tindley

2. **Consideration of the Agenda:** None

3. **Minutes of the previous meeting** – These were agreed.

4. Outstanding Issues

- a. Covenant wording: minor edit agreed at last meeting JG to pass amendment to TA to put on the web. Addition of a prayer to be used at the United Service

JG

5. Future Meetings

Change to 3 times a year - Jan, April and September, starting at 1:30pm for a 2pm meeting in the Salvation Army Hall. Include a time of worship before the actual meeting starts which could include a hymn or song with tea/coffee. Make it a more sociable gathering, with an open invitation. If a vote is necessary on occasions, reps will be available. Agreed to try this format for a year and review. It was further agreed that ad hoc meetings such as the one we had with UCAN could be scheduled on a weekday evening where it would be open to anyone from the churches, and more time made available.

6. Coming Events 2024

- a. **Late Night Shopping:** Friday, 6 December: CTSW will not be having a presence. Community Pastors will have a stall
- b. **Christmas Advert** to go on 11th Dec issue of Walden Local. Val contact Lisa. Send info to Lisa Each rep checks own info and confirm with Lisa (VB has since contacted Lisa who is happy to prepare the advert)
- c. **Weekly Column:** Peter Sebbage enquired about CTSW support for writing a weekly column in Walden Local. Some concern about frequency, quality and quantity of the article, articles need to be approved in some way. Val to let him know our thoughts and suggest he makes enquiries with the paper.

ALL

VB

7. Coming Events 2025

- a. **Week of Prayer for Christian Unity Service** 10.30am 19th Jan at URC. Julia Attwood to preach and worship led by Alison Jiggins

- b. **Agape Meal** in Parish Room (tbc) Mon 20th Jan 7.00 for 7.30pm hosted by Our Lady of Compassion OLC to confirm arrangements. (URC also to check availability) OLC
 - c. **World Day of Prayer** 7th March in URC, time tbc VB
 - d. **Easter:** Walk of Witness (John Goddard) followed by service at St Mary's (Jeremy Trew) Val investigate idea of handing out hot cross buns VB
 - e. **Christian Aid Week.** 11th – 17th May Street Collection 11th May, if that is not possible, on 17th. In the New Year the churches will be asked what materials they want to support the work in that week.
 - f. **Lent:** Plans not yet in place for most Churches but, if possible, will open up to others.
8. **Finance:** £522.10 in the Building Society & £118.20 in Barclays
9. **News from Churches:** (to be emailed for inclusion)
- a. **URC:** Winter Fair 16th November 10.00 until 1.00pm. We have received a Bronze Eco award. We have sent off 35 shoeboxes to Samaritan's Purse. Still waiting a Minister.
 - b. **The Salvation Army:** The toy appeal is now underway. There is a collection point in 'Premier Travel' until 6th December and there will be a collection in the salvation army hall on 23rd and 30th November from 10am to 2pm.
 - c. **Friends:** Have white poppies available in the Meeting House and will be laying a wreath of them at the War Memorial on Sunday morning.
10. **Any Other Business:** Tony will stand for one more year, Julia has agreed to be Vice chair and take over in 2026.
11. **Date of next meeting.** In the Salvation army Hall Mondays and Tuesdays available Date tbc
12. **Close.** Jeremy Trew closed in prayer.

Future Discussions/Reviews

Review of the covenant	11/29
Review of Meeting format	11/25
Agape Meal	11/25
Elect new Vice Chair	11/25
Next Paper Advertisement	Clarify proof-reading communications