

# Churches Together in Harborough

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Held on 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2014

**Those Present:** Jeff Bonser, Donald Clinton-Smith, Nick Cook, Mary Daniels, Judith Devine, Maureen Douglas, Jo & John Farnsworth, Christine Hodgson, Robert Knapp, Lindy Kendell, Brian Kennard, Sue MacDonald, James Briggs, Suzanne Nockels, Owen O'Neill, John Pearse, Sylvia Saunders, James Shakespeare, John Sparks, John Stride, David Tomlin, Peppy Ulyett, Sandra Ward, Rose Williams, Angela Zemplak

**Apologies:** Sheila Armstrong, Jadz Bower, Margaret & Mike Bowers, Richard Brand, Deborah Chaloner, Mary & Phillip Danks, Kimberley Ford, Clare Kennard, Keith Nockels, Erica Hall, Wendy Osborne, Andrew Quigley, Keith Rugg, June Sperry, Alison Tomlin

1. John Pearse welcomed everybody to the AGM.
2. Suzanne opened with a time of worship. She referred to the last CTH when the Council gave a presentation on local relationships and linked it to the Council for World Mission and asked - 'what does it mean to be a Christian in Europe?' Two issues which she raised were i) EU has public relation problems and also problems with Health & Safety, and ii) what other churches are doing in Europe. She reported that the EU had inspired the Foodbank to be 'born' and therefore the EU is closer than we think. Christians believe in the Kingdom of God. Non-Christians think 'what have Christians ever done for us?' The answer is probably only 5 minutes away from any CTH project. The Kingdom of God is breaking out all through Market Harborough and passionately believe that God is closer than we think. A time of open prayer was followed with the hymn: In the Lord I'll be ever Thankful.
3. **Reports from Groups:** All reports (unless indicated otherwise) had been received and had made up a full report as an Appendix to the Agenda for this meeting.

**The Bower House:** C.Hodgson added that the work was going well and thanked all the support workers. There is to be two fundraising events i) Sat. 28<sup>th</sup> June (Ladies Making Music) at the Methodist Church, and ii) Sat. 5<sup>th</sup> July (Quenby Hall Fayre). There is also to be an Away Day on 7<sup>th</sup> June for all volunteers at the Methodist Church.

**Street Pastors:** A.Zemplak reported that since the issue of the report the numbers who are now trained up to be Street Pastors is 19.

**Justice & Peace and Credit Union:** D.Clinton-Smith reported that the Credit Union is moving into the Methodist Church Activities Room. A new leader is required for this as he is stepping down after 7 years of service. John Pearse gave thanks for Donald's work and commitment.

**Holiday at Home:** John Pearse reported that about 40 people had attended each day of last year's event. Brian Kennard indicated that a new leader would be required in 2015.

**Jubilee Foodbank:** S.Nockels reported in Keith's absence that the support and prayers from CTH was appreciated. A request had been circulated for an Administrator (approx. 5 hours per week) when Keith leaves the area. B.Kennard asked if the fruit and vegetable vouchers were still being used? S.Nockels would take this back to the committee and this would be reported back on how they were being used and managed.

**ACTION**

**Harborough Improvement Team:** No report had been received and nobody was in attendance at the meeting.

**Publicity:** J.Bonser reported that in addition to his report there had been excellent co-operation from Harborough FM and he would be writing to them to officially thank them for their support.

**The Cube:** Although N.Cook hadn't submitted his report prior to the meeting this was handed out and has subsequently been circulated after the meeting. He reported that the building was now open and had been completed under budget. Rob Knapp was thanked for his help with clearing up the premises in preparation for 20<sup>th</sup> May, where there had been an Opening Evening. Thanks were expressed to the Methodist Church for accommodating the Cube since the move from the Settling Rooms. The Cube will be hosting the Pentecost event this year on Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> June. The Cube will be open on Wednesday and Friday evenings and Jenny is hoping to run a 'girls only' night on Tuesdays. It was felt that the new building was a witness of what is happening in Harborough from CTH. Angela was thanked for her help in the Cube.

4. **Treasurer's Report:** The annual reports had been submitted and a letter of thanks would be sent out to thank Bob Perkins for help over the many years he had carried out the annual audits. He has now retired but he assured that somebody else from the firm (E.T. Pierson & Sons) would continue to do this. It was proposed that the subscriptions would stay the same. N.Cook would be approaching Living Rock to join CTH. The accounts were proposed to be accepted by S.Nockels and seconded by J.Bonser.
5. **Chairman's Report:** J.Pearse gave his last report to the meeting and this has subsequently been circulated.
6. **Election of Officers:** The following were nominated and seconded:

Position	Officer	Nominated	Seconded
Chair	James Shakespeare	John Pearse	Angela Zemplak
Vice-Chair	Maureen Douglas	John Pearse	Nick Cook
Secretary	Rose Williams	John Pearse	Sue MacDonald
Treasurer	Sue MacDonald	John Pearse	James Shakespeare
Publicity Officer	Jeff Bonser	John Pearse	Brian Kennard
Christian Aid Co-Ordinator	Rose Williams	John Pearse	Donald Clinton-Smith
Accounts Examiner	E.T. Pierson Firm	James Shakespeare	John Pearse
Bower House Governing Body * One vacancy to be filled	Margaret Bowers	John Pearse	Nick Cook

7. The meeting closed with prayer.