

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN HARBOROUGH FORUM

Held on 12th May 2015

Present: Sheila Armstrong, Jeff Bonser, Jadz Bower, Mike Bowers, Jeannie Brightwell, Nick Cook, Mary Daniels, Maureen Douglas, Jo Farnsworth, John Farnsworth, John Hughes, Phillip Jones, Brian Kennard, Clare Kennard, Lin Ball, Barry Osborne, Wendy Osborne, John Pearse, Keith Rugg, Martin Russell, Sylvia Saunders, James Shakespeare, David Tomlin, Peppy Ulyett, Sandra Ward, Brien Wilde, Rose Williams, Mans Yousef, Angela Zemlak,

Apologies: Margaret Bowers, Richard Brand, James Briggs, Gary Brown, Deborah Chaloner, Donald Clinton-Smith, Mary Danks, Phillip Danks, Lindy Kendell, Sue Macdonald, Jill Mann, Jean Molcher, Mel Stride, Alison Tomlin

Following on from the AGM:

1. **WORSHIP** Nick referred to Proverbs 3:5 (trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding). He said that many of us have a feeling of being over-stretched but God keeps coming up with provisions over and over again. He read out a poem from Thomas Merton "My Lord God I have no idea where I am going " which ends with "I will not fear, for you are ever with me, and you will never leave me to face my perils alone."
2. **SPEAKER: Futures Unlocked.** In the absence of Francisca Martinez Phillip Jones gave a report. **(Appendix 1)**
3. **MINUTES FROM 18/3/15** – These were accepted as a true record and signed with the following last paragraph to be added as it had been missed off on the version sent via e-mail – reading ".vii) A Local Charities Day' was to be held on 15th May at Waitrose - details to follow shortly. JS closed the meeting with Prayer
4. **MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES**
 - i) **Liaisons with Local Agencies** – JB reported that local communications with the Council was good at the moment with Helen Nicholls really encouraging CTH to become involved in events within the town. A recent meeting had been held and all organisations (included CTH) had been invited to attend.
5. **REVIEW OF PAST EVENTS**
 - i) **Good Friday's Service on the Square** – JS reported that this had been a great success with a lot of constructive comments. BK said that the changes had gone very well and NC said that the whole atmosphere was good and more friendly. JS said that despite the rain the event had been well received. In the debriefing it was felt that for future events of this type gazebos could be used instead of the hard work to construct stalls, etc. Discussions were held regarding not doing the 'Walk of Witness' this year. AZ reported that this could not be done due to an expensive exercise to get permission to stop traffic, etc. AS to enquire as to see if we can get permission to do this again without the closure of roads. BO asked that it be looked into how CTH do this nationally.

JB reported that the Christian Aid Hunger Lunch had gone very well outside as the soup had run out totally – look at doing this again next year. BO thanked the sub-committee for all the hard work which they had done in the preparations and also on the day.

6. FUTURE EVENTS

- i) **Pentecost** – NC – due to the Pentecost falls on the Bank Holiday weekend it has been decided to have a Family Trinity Celebration from CTH. The Cube are happy to host this which will include children's activities, worship time, refreshments, etc.

- ii) **Harborough by the Sea** – JB reported that this event would run again from 1st – 5th August (Sat – Wed) with a launch on the Friday evening. The Council have asked what we would like to do on the Sunday. Ideas are asked for the time of worship which will be held between 10 – 12 noon. In the afternoon it is hoped that a children's activity something like Messy Church could be arranged. There is to be a Planning Meeting early in June. NC suggested Songs of Praise and JS suggested prayers for the right things and to speak with himself or JB.

- iii) **Holiday at Home** – BK advised that this is to be held on 10th – 14th August and said that help was required for this.

- iv) **Conference on Climate Change (Saving our Planet) on 10th October 2015** – JS advised that there is to be a conference on Global Warming & Climate Change and that the Justice & Peace Group & Andrew Quigley are supporting this event. This is also going to be an event in London on 17th June regarding this same issue.

7. Any Other Business

- i) Father Owen will be celebrating 50 years in Ministry on 13th June. MD agreed to get the details of this to RW to circulate. CTH to recognise this officially.

- ii) There is to be a welcome Service at the Congregational Church on 13th July for the new Minister – Stephen Haward.

- iii) There is to be a U2Charist (in aid of Christian Aid on Saturday evening – 16th May

- iv) AZ – to be a Charities Day at Waitrose this coming Saturday between 10 – 12 and 2 – 4 pm – 16th May.

- v) John Latham's Funeral at St Dionysius on Monday 18th May

8. **Date of the Next Meeting** 23rd September at 7:30pm at Torch Trust

9. **Prayers** JS read out Acts 1 vs 6

Maureen Douglas closed in Prayer