

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN HARBOROUGH FORUM

Held on 16th May 2016

Present: Donald Clinton-Smith, Mary Daniels, Phillip Danks, Brian Davies, Maureen Douglas, Dilys Few, Stephen Haward, Christine Hodgson, Patricia Kneale-Buxton, Jayne Lewis, Sue Macdonald, Jill Mann, Dawn O'Connell, Owen O'Neill, David Palmer, John Pearse, Keith Rugg, James Shakespeare, David Tomlin, Sandra Ward, Brian Wilde, Rose Williams, Angela Zemlak

Apologies: Shiela Armstrong, Jeff Bonser, Jadz Bower, Gary Brown, Deborah Chaloner, Nick Cook, Mary Danks, Jo & John Farnsworth, Brian Kennard, Andrea Kenny, Barry Osborne, Andrew Quigley, Mel Stride, Gordon Temple, Alison Tomlin

1. **WELCOME:** Maureen Douglas, as the newly appointed Chair, thanked James Shakespeare for his commitment to CTH and also thanked all the churches for their involvement.
2. **REPORT:** Mission Shaped Ministry (John Dowman & Jill Marsh) **Appendix 1**
3. **MINUTES OF FORUM HELD ON 9th March 2016** - Signed as an accurate record.
4. **MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES**
 - i) **Christian Aid Week** - RW reported that the collection had just started after the Commissioning Service which had been held at St Hughes Church the previous evening led by Andrew Quigley. Prayers are requested for the collectors as they go out and do the door to door visits. The Congregational Church had done a Sponsored Walk and was to hold a 'Big Brekkie' this coming Saturday. Stephen Haward advised that there were still spaces available. Clarification for this that it was open for all rather than just for men as the poster had ready 'arranged by the Men's Group'. DF asked that the Foxton roads be marked up on the website which are to be covered in future years.
5. **REVIEW OF PAST EVENTS**
 - i) **Lent Services** - John Pearse reported that these had been held at the Methodist Church with approximately 70 – 80 people each Friday. A good time of fellowship and JP thanked all who led and assisted with the Worship. Over £1,000 had been raised which would be donated to Overseas Missions. Thanks to the Methodist Church for hosting and the Catholic Church for providing lunches afterwards.
 - ii) **Saving the Planet** – Brian Davies reported that there had ben an Eco Question Time at the Baptist Church on 15th April with Edward Garnier being part of the panel for questoins. There had been approximately 75 people in attendance. More people are needed to become involved. Also encouragement for each church to become an Eco Church. There is to be an Eco Church Day in Leicester on 23rd June. There is also to be a Workshop Day on 1st October at the Methodist Church (more publicity for both these events will follow). PD asked why there were contradicting information from the media. BD & PD to speak about this after the Forum.

6. FUTURE EVENTS

- i) **Harborough by the Sea** - JS reported that this is to be held between 29th July and 1st August and again the Local Authorities have asked for the CTH involvement on the Sunday.
- ii) **Holiday at Home** - KR said that there is a programme for this in place but it is to be opened up this year to the wider community other than those who have attended in the past.

7. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- i) **Homelessness** – MD reported on a gentleman who had visited the Bower House but after trying various sources within the town accommodation could not be found for him. She suggested a 'working party' to put a structure in place in readiness for any incident which might occur again. CH said there was a dilemma as to handing monies over to people as to whether this would be spent appropriately. MD, RW, AZ, JS, & SH would form the working party and feed back to the Forum.
- ii) **Tea @Three** - due to the length of the meeting David Palmer was asked to bring this to the next Forum in September.
- iii) **Maranatha Community** - MD reported that the Community was to say the Lord's Prayer each day at midday during the run up to the referendum and beyond for Britain and Europe.

8. DATE & VENUE OF FUTURE FORUMS:

September 2016 – venue to be arranged.

- 9. **CLOSING PRAYERS:** Maureen Douglas closed in prayer followed by the grace.

