

# CHURCHES TOGETHER IN MARKET HARBOROUGH FORUM

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*HELD ON 24<sup>th</sup> MAY 2018 @ The Methodist Church*

Present: Quentin Appleton, Rev. Nick Cook, Maureen Douglas, Jane Haward, Rev. Stephen Haward, Christine Hodgson, Julie Hyde, Rev. Jane Lewis, Dawn O'Connell, Fr. Owen O'Neill, John Pearse, Janet Smith, David Tomlin, Sandy Ward, Ady White, Jane White, and Rose Williams.

Apologies: Theresa Kendrick, Patricia Kneale-Buxton, Wendy Osbourne, Jill Mann, Rev. Andy Murphy, Keith Rugg, Alison Tomlin, Rev. Bryony Wood, and Angela Zemlak.

Welcome: Rev. Stephen Haward

Devotions: Christine & Dave. Dave spoke about Pentecost enjoyment. A short talk about John Wesleys' life and transformation in 1748. Dave ended his brief talk by asking us to Publicise and witness our Faith. 'May God Empower us to Go Out There and Publicise Churches Together.'

## **1. Previous Minutes**

Previous Minutes: No comments from the Forum. Signed by Rev. Stephen Haward.

Matters arising from the minutes: Jane White- Where can the Food Bags/ Vouchers/ File be stored in the Churches? Would it be helpful is the Food Bank had the names of the Church Contacts?

## **2. Review of Past Events**

### **2.1. Lent Lay Led Lunch Time Talks.**

These all went very well.

### **2.2. Good Friday in The Square**

Different format this year. Pre- Planning and people wanted to get involved. The day was excellent. Outward Focus by enlarge went well. The whole Easter Story and not just the Good Friday story- accepted. Lots to learn and change for another time. Significantly different from other years. Barry has a comments list. It is available if anyone would like to read it by e mail.

Next Year: Hopefully someone else would like to take it on. New readers for 2019? Thanks to Barry for all of this and his hard work. Thanks to Maureen for all the paperwork preparation that Sariah and HDC wanted completing.

### **2.3. Summer in the Forest**

Thanks given to Sandy for organising this at The Harborough Theatre through Octagon Film Club. 80+ people attended on the night. Excellent result.

### **2.4. Women's World Day of Prayer**

This went well. The date having been changed because of the snow.

### **2.5. Christian Aid Week**

Only just happened so nothing to report at this time.

### **3. Interim Reports, Future Events and Notices**

#### **3.1. South Leicestershire Community Sponsorship Scheme**

There will be the central group then sub groups. Propose:

1. ChTog support this group.
2. A 2 Bed home has been offered in Kibworth.

Official launch 5th June 7.30pm at the Baptist Church. Mary Ann Lund is organising some speakers. This is NOT a faith group.

#### **3.2. Remembrance Service**

This year is the 100th Anniversary. Could Ch.Tog be actively involved. St.D's always have a short service of Prayer and Thanksgiving in the Square after their service in Church. Many uniformed organisations take part including British Legion. Barry said he would be delighted if other churches were actively involved in the service in St, Di's. Maybe preaching on the day? He is open to suggestions. We do need to work together. St. Di's Service will stay as is. In The Square- Ch.Tog do something together or something else? If anyone wants to be. If anyone wants to be involved names before September please. If anyone has any thoughts take to Stephen before the next Forum.

#### **3.3. Thy Kingdom Come**

24/7 Prayer in the Old Grammar School. Excellent idea. Well received, Thanks paid to Lizzie Chadwick for organising this event and for making a smaller space in St. Di's for people that would find the access into the Grammar School difficult. A letter will be sent to Lizzie from Rev. Stephen Harward thanking her as such.

#### **3.4. Purple Hills Concert**

Sunday 3rd June Methodist Church 7pm. Maureen Douglas has arranged this concert and asks for the ChTog support. It's an Evangelistic Concert.

#### **3.5. ECO**

Church Meeting 16th June Methodist Church.10-12noon. Working towards a plastic less society. Tesco will be sending a speaker to this meeting.

#### **3.6. Fair Trade Day**

27th October Methodist Church 10-4pm.

#### **3.7. Classic Cars Event in the Town**

This has been organised by HDC. Helen Nicholls would like the Churches to be involved. There will be a Street Party. High St will be closed to traffic. Can will help with supplying tables/chairs? Churches to do their own thing not as Ch.Tog. Theme- Remembrance and Women get the vote. 8th July 2018 all-day event.

#### **3.8. Harborough by the Sea**

Welland Park this year. Organised by Sariah HDC. What can ChTog contribute towards this? Sariah needs to know if we want to be involved. If any Church would like to take this up tell Stephen he will recycle this info.

#### **3.9. Holidays at Home**

Methodist Church 8th/9th/10th August. Do they need more volunteers?

### **4. AOB**

#### **4.1. Pentecost at The Cube**

Went well. All Ages. Weather Brilliant! Thanks given to Nick Cook for organising this and to The

Cube for hosting.

#### **4.2. Naseby Square Waterloo Housing Group**

Residents of Naseby Square Waterloo Housing Group have received a letter to say that some flats and bungalows are to be demolished. More will come later. The meeting about this was residents said that this has been badly handled. Residents have no idea at this stage where they will be next. Stephen will write a letter from Ch.Tog voicing our concern over this. It will be shown to the Forum.

#### **4.3. What's on?**

Rose Williams will now be doing 'What's On' every 3month's.

#### **4.4. Ch.Tog meeting format**

It was announced by Stephen that at every other Forum Meeting the speaker will be from one of our local groups.

#### **4.5. Tristan Styles**

Tristan Styles will be stepping down at the end of July.

DONM.           13th September Baptist Church.

                    12th November Community Church.

*Date of next meeting Thursday 13th September - 7:15pm for 7:30pm - Baptist Church*

*Meeting closed with Prayer given by Rev. Stephen Haward*