Churches Together in Harborough Executive Body. Moving Forward – specific and general roles

Please share this with your churches

Following the publication in January 2024 of the document '**Reigniting Vision,'** written by Andy Murphy, various suggestions were offered for consideration about the future of CTH and our commitment to it as member churches in both prayer and action. In thinking about a way forward for the Forum, the document acknowledged that in recent years it had been "hampered somewhat by a lack of forthcoming volunteers to take up the positions of Chair and Vice-Chair, which in our unwritten convention had been that these roles should alternate between 'lay' and 'ordained' and our inherited understanding had been that these roles should be for 2 years at a time, leading to a person being on the Executive Committee for a total of 4 years, with the Vice-Chair automatically being nominated as Chair after the first two years as Vice-Chair. This was off putting to some, and so in 2024 a more flexible approach was considered. It says in CTH's constitution that that Executive roles are **annual appointments**. It was acknowledged that there was and is therefore, room in our existing constitution for a lot more flexibility to fit the changing needs and commitments of our members."

The CTH Executive in 2026

The Executive Committee is not set in stone! Think of it more as CTH's Steering Group. The current executive positions are that Maureen and Jan co – chair Churches Together, Maureen is also the secretary. Jackie is the treasurer. Janet attends as the Minutes secretary and will be standing down from the Exec at the AGM in June but will continue to take the minutes and Jeannie is a member in a supporting role.

Maureen and Jan as the co – chairs are responsible for leading Churches Together, representing the vision and purpose of CTH, uniting member churches in common witness and service. They are responsible for setting the agenda for each Forum meeting and then chairing it. They act as spokespersons for CTH and will sometimes represent CTH in the community at certain specific events and are usually involved in overseeing any practical elements for specific events or projects like Good Friday's Easter Live on the Square and the Lent Lunchtime services and lunches. Jackie as Treasurer sets and manages the budget and deals with the day to day running of CTH finances. Maureen as Secretary arranges Forum meetings (venue, speaker, agenda, calling notice), acts as a 'point of contact' for the organisation, prepares and circulates a regular monthly newsletter to members.

The current Executive are keen that going forward it operates in a more a more fluid, flexible and dynamic way and are keen to see others put themselves forward to come and be part of the Executive to serve for a year (or more if desired) in a non – specified role or for specific occasions and projects. If you are interested in doing this then please come and speak to Maureen or Jan.

A note on CTH Representatives

Representatives to the Forum (usually two from each member church) attend the CTH Forum meetings, vote on proposals made at the Forum on behalf of their Church. (Note: The charity representatives do not have a vote i.e. Bower House, HYACT (The Cube) and Jubilee Foodbank). They feedback information regarding CTH events and ensure publicity is included in church notices / magazines/social media and offer to help at CTH events as well as encouraging their church family to do so as well.

Janet Smith