

**Churches Together in Leyland  
Minutes of the meeting at Leyland St Marys  
on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> November 2014 at 7.30pm**

**Present**

Greek Orthodox	Rebecca Higgs	St James'	Maddy Parkinson
Leyland Methodist	Kathy Lamb	St John's	Peter Fitton
	Diane Barnard	United Reformed	Linda Barnes
	David Marston		Eddie Reynolds
Midge Hall	Millie Worthington	St Mary's	Teresa Smith
St Ambrose	Eileen Haydock		Martin Smith
	Robert Haydock		Fr Jonathan Cotton
	Rita Braithwaite		Fr Paul Browne
St Andrews	Margaret Dixon		
	Edna Finch		

**Apologies**

Greek Orthodox	Father Dionysios-James	St Ambrose	Duncan Clarke
	Rebecca Higgs		Rev Graham Ashworth
Leyland Methodist	Rev Phil Gough	St Andrew's	Ethel Barker
St Johns'	Alistair McHaffie	St James'	Nerys Brown
Midge Hall	Deacon Ellen Monk Winstanley		

**1. Welcome and prayers**

Margaret welcomed everyone and thanked them for coming, an especial welcome was extended to new members Rita Braithwaite from St Ambrose and David Marston from United Reformed Church. Fr Jonathan Cotton opened in prayer.

A card was circulated for members to sign, for Fr Theo who will be 93 years old on Sunday.

**2. Attendance and apologies**

As above.

**3. Minutes of the last meeting**

Date on minutes is incorrect, should read 3<sup>rd</sup> July.

2 names spelt incorrectly – Peter Fitton and Ellen Monk Winstanley both will be corrected.

The minutes were approved as an accurate account of the meeting.

**4. Matters arising**

**5. Group work**

Teresa explained about the groupwork deferred from the last meeting.

This groupwork is the beginning of a process to explore issues together over the coming year.

Groupwork in 4 groups – Adult / Secular; Adult / Christian; Youth / Secular; Youth / Christian looked at the following questions

1. What does Churches Together in Leyland mean to you?
2. Why are you a CTL rep?
3. How do you communicate the work of CTL to others?

Thinking about your group (one of the 4 above)

1. What messages should we as CTL reps be communicating to this group about CTL?
2. How should we be communicating with this group?

Everyone reported enjoying the groupwork.

Feedback from the groupwork has been collated and is given below.

## **6. Food bank – Fare Share**

Fareshare and Tesco are again collecting for the Food Bank CTL are supporting 3 days 27-29<sup>th</sup> November, Each church is requested to cover 4 hours as either 2 x 2 hours or 4 x 1 hour. It was emphasised that reps needed to organise the cover for their churches slot with support from their congregations.

Swapping slots with fellow reps in other churches was encouraged, if timings were unsuitable. St Mary's are not covering a slot as they are collecting the food from Tesco's every evening.

## **7. Churches Together in Lancashire**

Information from CTLancs is increasing with new reps in post. Information from CTLancs will be available on the CTL website. Reps were encouraged to visit the new website. Work continues to be done to improve the site it is however being updated regularly. Please have a look and feedback comments.

## **8. Future Events**

Leyland Christmas Festival

29<sup>th</sup> November, Linda gave an update of timings for the afternoon and evening. These details will be included on the website.

Chris Tingle 4.30 – 5.30pm

Switch on of the Christmas Tree lights between 5.30 and 6pm.

Lancashire Sings Christmas

18<sup>th</sup> December 7- 8pm. A venue for this is still being explored. Information will be sent out as soon as available, as well as being advertised on the website.

One Voice Choir

20<sup>th</sup> December 11am -12midday at Tesco Express Leyland, for CTL funds.

## **9. AOB**

Information available for reps to take away:

Posters for Prayer for Prisons 16 – 21<sup>st</sup> November

Posters for Christmas Fair at Midge Hall on 15<sup>th</sup> November. It was identified and acknowledged that many churches have their Christmas Fayres on the 15<sup>th</sup> November.

Linda gave out information for those who wanted it to provide details of Christmas Services to the SRBC Community Involvement team who are producing a booklet.

Diane asked for help at Fusion base on Bannister Drive. They are looking for a leader to support their work with predominantly boys from Yr 5 upwards, especially with craft and cooking skills.

They would accept one off help as a guest speaker or a more regular basis.

Fridays in term time 6 – 7.45pm at Northbrook Barn (a church plant).

## **10. Date of next meeting**

Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> February 2015 at URC, 7.30pm.

(including your feedback on group discussion)

GROUP WORK – collated responses

What does Churches Together in Leyland mean to you?

- Making friends from other denominations
- Good co-operation between churches
- Outreach
- Doing things with other Christians
- Important to get to know other Christians
- To witness to the town that we are one in Jesus
- To pray together and to serve other together, through Food Bank and Furniture Scheme

Why are you a CTL rep?

- No-one else would volunteer!
- Someone nagged me
- Already ecumenical from life experiences
- Drawn to CTL because feel being ecumenical is right
- Come to be together with like-minded Christians.

How do you communicate the work of CTL to others?

- Do not feel skilled at communicating
- Do not have the right environment to feedback to own church
- Not good at communicating especially Christianity
- Rely on posters, notices, noticeboards to do communicating for us
- Not always sure what to communicate
- Do we need guidelines about what to communicate?
- Always feed back to minister when he has not attended meeting.
- Report CTL information back to their church
- Look for opportunities to communicate e.g. at own church activities

*NB - comments / suggestions in Italics apply to all groups*

*Please tick all those you agree with and identify areas of priority for discussion at next meeting also available is a section for comments*

YOUTH / SECULAR

What messages should we as CTL reps be communicating to this group about CTL?

Feedback	Agree (tick)	Priority (Y / N)
Do something enjoyable!		
<i>CTL should be visible on any publicity</i>		

How should we be communicating with this group?

Feedback	Agree (tick)	Priority (Y / N)
Mobile phone messages – text alerts		
Facebook – from young church goes to secular friends		
Through schools – target very young children so it becomes natural to associate with CTL		
Street Theatre by Leyland Cross (Mad Mob- St Ambrose Players)		

YOUTH / CHRISTIAN

What messages should we as CTL reps be communicating to this group about CTL?

Feedback	Agree (tick)	Priority (Y / N)
Promoting Christianity		
Events / Activities from all churches		
Vision / Mission statement – do we know what this is?		
<i>Provide support for Christian Journey</i>		

How should we be communicating with this group?

Feedback	Agree (tick)	Priority (Y / N)
Ministers & others to visit / talk in each others' schools		
Talk to school assemblies about work of CTL , e.g. Food Bank		
Joint schools Carol Service – could this be open to more young people?		
CTL to promote each church's youth groups e.g. Methodist 'Friday Live'		
Possible open invites to other Christian youths?		
How do we learn from successful groups e.g. Longton Community Group		
SVP Mini Vinnies – can groups focussing on visiting elderly be resurrected - Do other churches have similar groups		
What CTL activities can we invite youth to help with?		
CTL focussed youth meeting –at existing youth meetings or services		
CTL reps report CTL information back to youth meetings / leaders		
Link with Runshaw to promote CTL and work of CTL		
Have a Young CTL – How? Have CTL Youth Reps		

ADULT / SECULAR

What messages should we as CTL reps be communicating to this group about CTL?

Feedback	Agree (tick)	Priority (Y / N)
That Jesus loves us. We want to serve Him and we want to serve you as well.		

How should we be communicating with this group?

Feedback	Agree (tick)	Priority (Y / N)
We could approach Social Services to see if we could visit the lonely (outreach to non church goers)		
Supporting events in the community		
<i>Advertise events - Through the local paper, posters in shops e.g. Leyland Leader</i>		

ADULT / CHRISTIAN

What messages should we as CTL reps be communicating to this group about CTL?

Feedback	Agree (tick)	Priority (Y / N)
Togetherness and Fellowship in all we do – in our witness, supporting each others' events		
CTL visible in each church		
Visiting each others' churches		

How should we be communicating with this group?

Feedback	Agree (tick)	Priority (Y / N)
Being known in our own church photo and contact no. visible		
Be an ambassador for CTL in our own church		
<i>CTL Poster in all churches promoting events</i>		
Sharing information / Support each others' events		
<i>Have a calendar on website to support event planning / reduce clash of events</i>		
Sit next to someone from another church at CTL meetings		
Include groupwork / discussion in CTL meetings		
Continue to maintain high profile of CTL - e.g. support for Food Bank by all churches		
Ecumenical Prayer group		

**COMMENTS**

*For you to record your comments about the ideas and suggestions above.*