

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN LEYLAND
Minutes of the meeting Thursday 4th March 2020 at St Ambrose Hall

1) Welcome and Prayers

Chairman Teresa opened the meeting.

Diane Barnard read from Ephesians in The Message Bible and led the meeting in prayer.

2) Attendance:

Leyland Methodist	Kathy Lamb, Kathryn Grannell
Midge Hall Methodist	Deacon Ellen Monk-Winstanley
St Ambrose	Eileen and Robert Haydock
St Andrews	Edna Finch
St Marys RC Church	Fr Jonathan Cotton, Teresa and Martin Smith
United Reformed	Christine Holmes (V/Chair) and Eddie Reynolds
St James	Maddie Parkinson, Nerys Brown
St Johns	Peter Fitton, Diane Barnard

Apologies

Holy Apostles	Rebecca Higgs
Leyland Methodist	Rev Gill Welsh, David Marston
Midge Hall Methodist	Muriel Butler
St Ambrose	Rita Braithwaite
St Andrews	Margaret Dixon
St Johns	Rev Andy Meeson, Rev Barbara Wilson

3) Minutes from the 14th November 2019 were agreed and signed after correcting the AGM date to **Tuesday** 8th September 2020.

4) Matters Arising There were no matters arising.

5) Past Events

- Leyland Band and One Voice Choir Concert at Vehicle Museum Saturday 1st December.
- One Voice Choir sang at Tesco 11-12 Saturday 7th December.
- Christmas Decoration Workshop and art exhibition at Leyland Methodist Church Saturday 7th December raised £404 for the Furniture Scheme Van.
- Lancashire Sings Christmas Thursday 19th December was enjoyed by those attending.
- Week of Prayer for Christian Unity services at St James', St John's, Leyland Baptist's & St Mary's. Numbers in general were low. The Baptist's service was a first for CTL and was truly uplifting.

The Joint Sunday evening service at Leyland Methodist Church on 16th February was both thought-provoking and inspiring.

6) Future Events

- **World Day of Prayer Friday 6th March 2pm** at the United Reformed Church.
- **Good Friday 10th April 10am** at The Cross led by Midge Hall Methodist Church.
- **Leyland Festival** a 3 day event. **Saturday 20th June**. Not enough support for Messy Church. To just have a Prayer Tent. Teresa to check with St Andrew's and the Baptists. (St Andrew's are having a float in the procession to celebrate their 800th anniversary).

7) Outreach Leaflet – Martin Smith spoke of his investigation into the numbers and locations of proposed new dwellings. Most areas will be about 40/year over 5 years. It is very important that records are kept of where we deliver. The Test Track development estimate 80/year. Martin is happy to organise but he needs volunteers to do the delivering. Ellen Monk-Winstanley volunteered that Midge Hall church's walking group could be responsible for the Test Track development over several years as it is near their church.

It was decided to order 1,000 copies as changes may be needed to the text in future years. Possibly 220 houses in 2020 and 480 in 2021.

Each church would also have a few for new parishioners.

8) Holiday Hunger - Sandra Crawford who was not present was going to speak about this new initiative. The Council have contacted all schools. Teresa to contact Sandra to discuss this.

9) Dementia Friendly Churches Christine Holmes brought a pack for each church about the South Ribble Dementia Charter, detailing its 4 aims and with an application form. They want groups and churches to sign up. The URC and St Ambrose have already signed and St Andrew's is on its way. It would be good to see all the churches sign up.

10) Fundraising for the Furniture Scheme van Teresa has worked very hard applying for funding. Helped by her nephew, she has produced a Corporate & Individual application pack. So far we have £400 from the Co-op and £1,000 from Churches Together in Lancashire. Martin suggested we all use, and encourage others to use "Easyfundraising" where a % is given to a specified charity when shopping on line.

The organ concerts at Midge Hall church on Monday 23rd March and Monday 27th April are in aid of the Furniture Scheme van.

The Furniture Scheme is only able to operate one half day a week with the present volunteers. Reps were asked to advertise for more volunteers to enable the scheme to help more people. Packs were distributed with posters for the organ recitals and the Good Friday service. Teresa to send by e-mail.

11) Churches Together in Lancashire – Teresa sends on any information as received

12) AOB The Syrian Bistro at the Roccoco Cafe was recommended. £16 for a 3 course meal cooked by Syrian refugees, all included.

Fr Jonathan spoke of his dream to have accommodation for homeless people in Leyland. He handed out leaflets - Homeless 'pod' in search of a church. All churches to consider how the dream could be made possible. SVP Mike Cowburn to see County Councillor Jane Bell. Teresa to access the link and put it on the agenda for the next meeting. To possibly contact churches already involved.

Kath Lamb said she was leaving Leyland to take charge of churches in Wigan. She had hoped to introduce Emma Nolan, the Catholic Chaplain at Wymott Prison, who will take over some of her duties. She asked for prayers for the work in the prison, for volunteers for 1:1 help with bereavements also for any donations of musical instruments. Teresa thanked Kathy for her help over the years and wished her well in her new ministry.

Leyland Lions invited members of CTL to an evening of networking at the Fox Lane Sports and Social Club on Tuesday 24th March. Names to Teresa who will pass on numbers.

Finally Teresa said how disheartened she was at the meeting attended by only 14 out of the 40 reps and clergy. Only a few of the absentees had sent apologies and several had not been seen for months. The number of meetings has been reduced to 4 per year so this makes it more important to attend. She will email her thoughts also the handouts so that those not attending can see them. She reminded us to all help with the fundraising and with advertising the events at our churches.

13) Closing Prayer - Teresa closed by reading 1 Corinthians 12 14-26 and with a prayer from 'Call to Community'.

DATES OF NEXT MEETINGS

MONDAY 1ST JUNE BAPTIST CHURCH

AGM TUESDAY 8TH SEPTEMBER LEYLAND METHODIST CHURCH