

Churches Together in Leyland
Minutes of the meeting at the United Reformed Church
on 14th May 2014 at 7.30pm

Present

Greek Orthodox	Rebecca Higgs	St Mary's	Teresa Smith
Leyland Methodist	Diane Barnard		Martin Smith
Midge Hall	Millie Worthington		Fr Jonathan Cotton
St Ambrose	Duncan Clarke		Fr Stephen Wright
	Robert Haydock	St James'	Maddy Parkinson
	Eileen Haydock		Nerys Brown
	Rev Graham Ashworth	St John's	Peter Fritton
St Andrew's	Margaret Dixon	United Reformed	Rev David Coaker
	Ethel Barker		Linda Barnes
	Edna Finch		

Apologies

Greek Orthodox	Father Dionysios-James	St John's	Rev Alistair McHaffie
	Father Christodoulos Fyles		Rev Barbara Wilson
Leyland Methodist	Kathy Lamb		Rev Nick Procter
Midge Hall	Eileen Cuerden		
	Deacon Ellen Monk Winstanley		

1. Welcome and prayers

Margaret welcomed everyone and thanked them for coming. Rev David Coaker opened in prayer.

2. Attendance and apologies

As above.

3. Minutes of the last meeting

Food bank (page 2) –

Ways to support the food bank

2. Margaret had written to Morrisons and they had given a £10 voucher. She had also written to Tescos who informed her that they sent their unwanted food to Manchester homeless charities. Margaret to look into the possibility of the Food Bank using the food.

3. The Guardian had reported on the food bank and the recent Walk of Witness. CTL were also very good at publishing the food bank.

If people wanted to support the food bank financially they could be given the bank account and number from Teresa.

For the July meeting Peter Fritton is to contact St Vincent De Paul Society for them to come and give a talk about their charitable work of which includes the food bank.

4. Matters arising

None reported.

5. Treasurers report

Robert reported that there was £914 in the bank and £649 in the special account. There was no activity on the account since the last meeting except for the high vis vests which been purchased for the Walk of Witness.

Fr Jonathan informed CTL had for the Week of Prayer programme a collection had been suggested. After some discussion it was decided that the collection would be added to the CTL funds for the furniture scheme. This was agreed by all.

6. Update on groups

Furniture scheme – The van was only going out on a Tuesday for collection/drop offs due to volunteer shortages. The Council will continue to subsidise the scheme based on throughput. Julie Hunter is doing an excellent job and is willing to continue for the foreseeable future. Long term plans do need to be kept in mind as the van will need to be replaced in due course and if Julie decides to move on a replacement for her will be needed.

Tools for self reliance – The group of six volunteers meets every Thursday evening in the URC cellar. The charity appears to need more specialist tools than that which is donated at present. Tools that cannot be refurbished or are not what the charity require are passed onto other charities.

One voice choir – Mille reported that the choir are practicing for the unity service in the week of prayer. More men are needed for the choir. If you know of any men in your church please do get in touch with Robert Haydock.

Credit union – Rev David Coaker reported that six people come every week to deposit money and that the scheme is moving along quite steadily.

Food bank – The demand for food parcels continues to be high and seems to have plateaued at the high level. A grant from South Ribble Borough Council for £1,000 has been secured which gives a good back up when demand exceeds donations and food is needed to be bought. Thanks are given to all who donate and deliver.

Teresa had seen an article in the Leyland Guardian for Community Awards and had nominated the Food Bank and Furniture Scheme. Teresa reports that the schemes have been put forward and are on the short list. The event is on Thursday 5th June at Salmesbury Hotel. Representatives from St Mary's and CTL will attend.

7. Past Events

Women's day of prayer - The event had been very well attended and the new time of 7.00pm was very well accepted. A collection had been taken of £160 which will be sent to the Women's day of prayer organisers. St James' church has offered to hold the day of prayer next year.

Good Friday Walk of witness – The walk had gone very well considering it was the first "new" walk that had taken place. The weather was good and there had been photographs in the Evening Post. The service in St Andrews was very well attended.

CTL would be keen to hear from cubs/guides/scouts as to how they carry out their walks without what looks like having no marshalling. Anyone who knows such information to pass it onto Margaret.

Duncan had a contact who had funds for paying for marshalling of such walks. Duncan to give name and number to Margaret.

8. Future events

Week of prayer – Fr Jonathan handed out service sheets for churches hosting. The organisers of the week of prayer suggested that a gift be given to each church during the service of unity. Fr Jonathan asked CTL what they thought that this could be. Duncan suggested a cross be taken from church to church and this was agreed. He was to take the cross from St Ambrose to St James' on the Friday.

Leyland summer festival – Saturday 21st June. Teresa had made posters and flyers for the festival which were duly given out. Rebecca encouraged churches to take part and informed CTL that whoever took part in the festival would receive free entry into Worden Park. She asked people to dress in a national costume and contact her with those who would be taking part.

9. Brochure - Robert had a contact, Ken Berry, a local printer and had obtained quotes for printing the CTL brochure. This will be considered.

10. Website – Martin had contacted several companies who could update the website. He had presented this information to the exec who were to make a decision as to which organisation to use. After a discussion CTL were happy for the exec to make the final decision.

Marketing CTL was also discussed in Martin's findings. This to be an item on the July agenda.

11. Any other business

Focus Group – 20th May, 1.00pm at URC. Anybody interested were free to attend.

CT Lancashire had produced their first newsletter after some changes in staff. Margaret would email this newsletter so that Rebecca can circulate it.

Margaret had emailed Anton Mullen the new Ecumenical Facilitator of Churches Together in Lancashire inviting him to attend our meeting but he was unable to attend. A copy of their newsletter will be forwarded in due course.

Craft fair, 12th July, Leyland Methodist. Diane to email Teresa with final arrangements. Diane asked for help at the fair.

Blackburn police had given out warnings not to call back numbers beginning with 0809, 0284, 0876 if messages were left on people's answer machines as these numbers are registered to companies overseas.

Margaret asked if food would be welcomed at the next meeting, it would be and Margaret to organise.

12. Date of next meeting – Thursday 3rd July, Leyland Methodist

13. Closing prayer – Rev Duncan Clarke closed in prayer.