

**Churches Together in Leyland**  
**Minutes of the meeting at Leyland Methodist Church**  
**on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2014 at 7.30pm**

**Present**

|                   |                                 |                 |                  |
|-------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| Greek Orthodox    | Rebecca Higgs                   | St James'       | Maddy Parkinson  |
| Leyland Methodist | Kathy Lamb                      | St John's       | Peter Fritton    |
| Midge Hall        | Deacon Ellen Monk<br>Winstanley | United Reformed | Rev David Coaker |
| St Ambrose        | Duncan Clarke                   |                 | Linda Barnes     |
|                   | Robert Haydock                  |                 | Eddie Reynolds   |
| St Andrew's       | Margaret Dixon                  |                 |                  |
| St Mary's         | Teresa Smith                    |                 |                  |
|                   | Martin Smith                    |                 |                  |
|                   | Fr Jonathan Cotton              |                 |                  |

**Apologies**

|                   |                            |             |                     |
|-------------------|----------------------------|-------------|---------------------|
| Greek Orthodox    | Father Dionysios-<br>James | St Ambrose  | Eileen Haydock      |
|                   |                            |             | Rev Graham Ashworth |
| Leyland Methodist | Malcom Thomson             | St Andrew's | Edna Finch          |
|                   | Rev Phil Gough             |             | Ethel Barker        |
| Midge Hall        | Millie Worthington         | St James'   | Nerys Brown         |
| Lisieux Hall      | Sr Kathleen Page           |             |                     |

**1. Welcome and prayers**

Margaret welcomed everyone and thanked them for coming. Fr Jonathan Cotton opened in prayer.

**2. Attendance and apologies**

As above.

**3. Minutes of the last meeting**

Food Bank – It was noted that if people wanted to support the food bank financially they could be given the bank details from Teresa.

Teresa reported that St Mary's only had one bank account and it would not be prudent to give the account details out. She gave two alternative options. One to put money into an envelope with "food bank" on it or people could buy vouchers from the market and take the vouchers to St Mary's.

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

#### 4. Matters arising

##### Publicity

The CTL website had now moved to a new company and domain. As part of the process of finding a new company for the website Martin was presented with someone who would be willing to help CTL with their publicity at reduced costs. This help would cover whatever CTL wanted the following were offered:- updating the website, support with social media (facebook, twitter) and adhoc marketing. It would be up to CTL to manage the website and social media.

The Exec asked CTL if they wanted to go ahead down this route.

A question was asked did we know how often the previous website had hits. Teresa was unsure but it was noted that enquires had come from the Council via the website. After a discussion it was decided that facebook would be a good idea but people were unsure about twitter.

If CTL go ahead with the publicity it would cost £340 per year. This would balance out as the same cost as the previous website.

Margaret asked all those in favour to raise their hands. All present raised their hands. The Exec to meet up with the publicity guy and keep CTL informed.

#### 5. Treasurers report

Robert reported that no money had been spent since the last meeting. However, a banner for the Leyland festival and pizzas after tonight's meeting had been purchased.

There was £914.60 in the bank.

#### 6. Update on groups

**Furniture scheme** – Peter Fitton reported that there had been no real change and that the furniture scheme continued to be a good outreach.

**One voice** – Robert reported that the choir were singing in Bretherton on Friday to help raise funds for the parish and then they would have a break over summer. In the autumn the choir will be singing at the URC harvest festival on Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> September at 7.30pm. The choir is open for invites to sing at events/churches.

**Tools for self reliance** – Martin Smith reported that TFSR continues to go well. More tools are needed especially in particular Singer sewing machines. Tools can be collected.

**Credit union** – Dave Coaker report that the CU continued to go well. There is to be a meeting on 21<sup>st</sup> July, 7.30pm at URC where the general manager of CU would talk about the history of CU for those who want a loan.

Dave also reported that a new board has been erected which will have information about different social groups such as Amnesty International and Christian Aid.

**Food bank** - The demand for food parcels continues to be high. It is great that all the churches are so faithful in bringing the food along.

We are grateful to those who give up their time so willingly to sort the food and if necessary go out and buy food. We have had to buy food three times in the last six weeks to supplement what we have been given.

We have been given the chance to collect with Fareshare in Tesco on the 3rd, 4th and 5th of July please prayer we will have enough volunteers. Please thank those who donate and those who deliver.

Margaret reported that there were just about enough volunteers to help out. Fareshare have said that CTL could do the collection again in December. Margaret said that she would probably shorten the time for people volunteering so it would be an hour but emphasised that more volunteers would be needed.

Tesco would be willing for CTL/One Voice Choir to carol sing outside the store in December.

It was thought that maybe some of the people who used the food bank may benefit from cookery classes Deacon Ellen Monk Stanley had had this idea after talking with people from her church. Teresa agreed to make enquiries with the Council to find out the name of the community person who could further help with this idea.

Margaret asked if Ellen would be happy for the Exec to talk this through and take forward. She agreed to this.

## **7. Past Events**

**Week of prayer** - This was the first year that the week of prayer had been moved from January to May and attendance had been the same. It was noted that St James' missed not having it in the winter.

Rev Phil Gough (who was not present but Deacon Ellen Monk-Stanley passed on the idea) suggested an idea of instead of the week of prayer ie going to different churches over a week that once a month a prayer or the like service be held in each church thus spreading it over the year.

Fr Jonathan commented that it would be a good idea to get the young people of our churches involved in the week of prayer joint Sunday service.

**Award evening** – Teresa had applied for a community award organised by South Ribble Council and CTL had been short listed. Lesley Raven, Walter Courteney and Margaret Dixon attended the award evening and were presented with a certificate and plaque acknowledging the food bank and furniture scheme's contribution to the local community. Margaret thanked Teresa for all of her hard work in applying for the award.

**Leyland summer festival** – Rebecca reported that in total there were about 20 people who walked in the parade. She said she found it difficult getting support for this. The day went very well the weather was exceptional. People dressed up in different costumes from around the world and flags were waved. Thanks goes to the Knights of St Columba for the loan of their flags which really helped bring colour. There were some of photos of CTL in the Leyland Guardian.

**Food bank collection Tesco 3<sup>rd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> July** – Margaret had been at Tescos for most of the day and reported a huge contribution of food which was taken St Mary's.

## **8. Guest speaker – Mike Cowburn, St Vincent de Paul Society**

SVP is an international Christian organisation, Catholic in origin and is dedicated to helping anyone in need. It has been going internationally for 181 years and 82 years at St Mary's.

Mike was invited to talk to the group about SVP. He began with a brief testimony and shared how SVP help the needy. This is done by several ways, personal visits, crisis visits to St Mary's Priory House and the furniture store. SVP provide a listening ear, practical help and limited financial aid.

Mike asked CTL if they knew of anyone who needed help from SVP to get in touch with him. Mike Cowburn 07787 944737. Or there maybe people who would be interested in joining the SVP team again please get in touch with Mike. Margaret thanked Mike for coming and sharing the work of SVP.

## 9. AOB

Lack of volunteers – this was not an AOB as such but Margaret reported that there did seem to be a lack of volunteers for several events ie Foodshare collection at Tesco and the Leyland festival. Margaret encouraged CTL to pass on the information that is shared at the CTL meetings with their churches so that more people are involved and that events CTL organise can run more smoothly. People were encouraged also to think of younger people that could be involved with CTL and perhaps for one meeting bring along a young person from their church so that they can see what CTL do.

Constitution – Teresa asked CTL to read through the constitution, there was one error which had been noted. People were to vote at the AGM if they are in agreement with the constitution.

Harvest festival dates of note

21<sup>st</sup> September – Midge Hall

27<sup>th</sup> September - URC

13<sup>th</sup> October – St Ambrose

19<sup>th</sup> October – St Mary's

Linda asked CTL if people would like the sheaves of wheat which were used last year for harvest festival. It was confirmed that they would and Linda would organise three sheaves to be available. Could people let Linda know the dates of their harvest festival and if they would like to borrow the sheaves.

**Tour of Gobal Renewables** – Margaret informed CTL that Global Renewables had invited local community groups for tours. Margaret held the details and people to contact her if they were interested.

**Adult fellowship week – Leyland Methodist 21<sup>st</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> July**

Contact Deacon Kathy Lamb for further details.

## 10. Date of next meeting

AGM Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> September, St Andrews, 7.30pm.

## 11. Closing prayer

Rev Dave Coaker closed the meeting in prayer

The evening finished with pizza, cake and tea and was greatly enjoyed by all!