

**CHURCHES TOGETHER IN LEYLAND AGM 7<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2021 AT 7.30PM**  
**MEETING HELD AT MIDGE HALL METHODIST CHURCH**

1) **Welcome** Chairman Teresa welcomed everyone, especially Rev Paul Robinson present, the new minister at St Ambrose newly in post and Pastor Liz Hamilton in post at Leyland Baptist Church.

**Prayer** Opening prayer from John 21:1-6, and a reflection based on the reading were read by Diane Barnard. (Reflection attached).

2) **Attendance:**

Leyland Methodist	Kathryn Grannell, David Marston, Brenda Marston
Midge Hall Methodist	Muriel Butler
St Ambrose	Rita Braithwaite, Rev Paul Robinson
St Andrews	Margaret Dixon
St James	Maddy Parkinson, Nerys Brown, Rev Margaret Jones
St Johns	Diane Barnard, Peter Fitton
St Mary's	Fr Jonathan Cotton, Martin and Teresa Smith
United Reformed Church	Christine Holmes, Eddie Reynolds

**Apologies:** Rev Gill Welsh, Rev. Andy Meeson, Eileen Cuerden, Mike Cowburn, Rev Marc Wolverson, Rev David Whitehouse, Deacon Ellen Monk-Winstanley & Rev Barbara Wilson.

3) **Minutes of the 2020 AGM** were circulated electronically with the Agenda. These were approved and signed.

4) **Matters arising** – Teresa noted that there were two from the 2020 AGM but neither needed following up.

5) **Election of Officers** – The current Officers have agreed to remain in post for another term (3 years). This is good news, no elections need to be held, but it is also bad news because that means there are only 3 years before all the posts need new volunteers.

There is no Secretary, so Teresa currently has to fulfil this role along with fund raising lead. Teresa cannot do this role also, please can Reps consider volunteering? Christine spoke about difficulties within the United Reformed Churches and about people's priorities.

There is also no Minute Secretary, Kathryn Grannell volunteered to take the minutes for this meeting. Reps were also asked to consider volunteering for this role. Teresa set a deadline of next meeting for a minute secretary.

6) **Treasurers Review** – sent out by e-mail, prior to the meeting

There are balance sheets for CTL, Food bank and Furniture .

The Foodbank account had been held by St Mary's church, but now passed over to CTL. Food purchases of approx. £700 per week being made in the last few weeks, because food donations have decreased.

Teresa would like a new word to describe payments from the churches to CTL instead of Subs. The word needs to represent that it is not an optional payment. The payment is principally used to pay for the furniture scheme van insurance.

A question was asked about the Furniture Scheme account. For explanation, see 2020 AGM minutes regarding which accounts the money should be in.

The Balance sheets were approved.

7) **Chair's Review** – Copy attached to the minutes.

*Points of note from the report are*

Goodbye's and thanks to Sandra and Tony Crawford, who are now living and ministering in Essex. Welcome already said earlier.

Despite the disruption of the last year and repeated lockdowns, CTL events had happened for the most part virtually or on Leyland Radio, all were well received. Thanks were expressed to David Marston for his hard work in organizing the Tesco Fare Share volunteer rota in July and also his hard work over last several years. Foodbank donations are down by about a third and leaflets requesting that particular foods are donated were available for reps to take and publicise in their churches.

### *Changes and Challenges*

CHALLENGES AS WE ALL KNOW ARE A PART OF LIFE, HOW WE OVERCOME THEM, I BELIEVE, SHOWS THE STRENGTH OF THE PERSON OR ORGANISATION

St Mary's Priory has been handed back the parish and is to become a Community Centre. It is now also the home of the Foodbank and will soon be the home of the Furniture Scheme.

Rooms in the newly named St Mary's Community Centre are available for hire, by groups or individuals.

Website hosting has been changed. Thanks to Mike for producing a new website, positive feedback was received from some reps who had visited the website.

Foodbank and Furniture Scheme changes in how these are managed and how the finances are managed by CTL Treasurer were explained. Implications of these changes highlighted including the need for Public Liability Insurance (this is being investigated as we meet).

Heartfelt thanks expressed to St Mary's on behalf of all the churches in Leyland as they have for many years supported financially and practically both schemes. This has saved CTL a huge amount of money in rental / room hire, insurance and for a large number of volunteers.

Fundraising for CTL and the (newer) furniture Scheme van are a priority and will be picked up at the next meeting.

CTL leaflet a decision to be made at the next meeting about how to continue with this. Numbers to be printed and distribution?

Looking Ahead How does CTL increase the number of reps and plan for the future? Fr Jonathan said that volunteers should come from outside of the churches for the foodbank and the Furniture Scheme.

Also it was suggested that advertising in church notices with a description of role, should be tried.

Teresa asked all reps to bring someone new to the next meeting.

8) **CTL Constitution** – The constitution had been circulated for review, however due to the current discussions about Public Liability Insurance and its implications, the Constitution will not be reviewed at this meeting it will be held over to a future meeting.

### 9) **Churches Responsibilities**

*Tesco Fare Share* 18 – 20<sup>th</sup> November, Diane take over from David and be in touch with church reps to organize the rota.

*Lighting of the Christmas Tree* with One Voice Choir at The Cross no information yet, Christine will make enquiries.

*Lancashire Sings Christmas* 16<sup>th</sup> December, a new venue required. Roccoco on Chapel Brow suggested.

*Week of Prayer for Christian Unity* 18<sup>th</sup>-25<sup>th</sup> January 2022. Main service 3pm St Mary's on Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup>. Service at lunchtime on 18<sup>th</sup> January at URC and evening of 25<sup>th</sup> at St Ambrose offered, one venue required for Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> or Friday 21<sup>st</sup>.

*World Day of Prayer* Friday 4<sup>th</sup> March 2022, St James will organise service.

*Good Friday Service* 15<sup>th</sup> April, St John's will organize this service at Leyland Cross.

*Leyland Summer Festival* 2<sup>nd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> June to coincide with the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. Information about events will be known later.

10) **GROUP REPORTS** – circulated prior to meeting by email  
No queries raised

11) **AOB**

*Afghan Refugees* 50 are expected to come to South Ribble, St Mary's SVP group are liaising with the Council about what help may be needed. Details will be circulated by Teresa as they become available.

*Climate Change* initiatives about this ahead of the G20 summit in November 2021 will be circulated as available.

*Remembrance Service organised by Harvey's Funeral Directors* at St Mary's church on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> October at 7pm, for all those who have lost loved ones during the pandemic.

*Churches Together in Lancashire* have circulated information about a night of united Praise and Thanksgiving at The Beacon Church Blackburn on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> October.

12) **CLOSING PRAYER** - Teresa closed the meeting with a prayer from the World Day of Care for Creation which was 1<sup>st</sup> September 2021 (copy attached).

#### **DATES FOR FUTURE MEETING**

**Wednesday 17<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2021**

**Thursday 24<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2022**

**Tuesday 14<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2022**

**all meetings will begin at 7.30pm**

**AGM Saturday 10<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2022 10am – 1pm (including lunch)**

**NB venues for these meetings are required**