

**Minutes of Calne Partnership of Churches Annual General Meeting
Thursday 21st January 2016 at St Mary's Church.**

1. APOLOGIES: Morcia Booton, Wendy Tucker, Father Vincent Curtis, Dave Halls
2. Minutes of last meeting agreed and signed.
3. MATTERS ARISING:
 - OPEN BLUE BUS Terry
 - 2 Notices from Bob
 - 1 Notice from Kathryn
4. Possible Lent Course based on 'The Way'. After a feasibility study a decision was taken that this was not suitable without much work which nobody was willing to undertake. At this stage it was felt no-one was willing to prepare a course so the partnership would recommend visitors to existing ecumenical groups which meet during Lent.
NB: Possibility of doing something together at another time of year ie follow up: to dramatic representation of Mark's Gospel. **ACTION BOB AND SAM.**

NOTE TO SECRETARY: LENT GROUPS AND COURSES MUST BE DISCUSSED AT JUNE/JULY MEETING FOR A DECISION TO BE MADE IN OCTOBER MEETING.

5. CHRISTMAS FEEDBACK.

Appreciation that the Council had initiated the change back to 'Christmas' and booked the Camels.

Ongoing discussions with the council and Bible Society who may be willing to sponsor a Guinness Book of Records attempt for the largest **live Nativity**. Cost would be £6000. Rachel Rounds (Head of Media at the Bible Society) and local church member is negotiating with Council. Bible Society may be filming in Bethlehem at that time and there is possibility of a live link.

ACTION ALL. ANY IDEAS SUGGESTING WHAT THE CHURCHES COULD DO TOGETHER AT THE EVENT?

Next Christmas the Council is investigating the idea of offering Christmas Lunch in the Town Hall. **ACTION ALL** THEY MAY REQUEST VOLUNTEERS?

6. ACCOUNTS:

Agreed: Dayspring querying lack of subscription. **ACTION Carole**

Subscription from each Church held at £50.

Signatories any 2 from Sam, Elizabeth and Kathryn.

Dave Treviss a retired banker and not a member of any local church will check the accounts.

7. OFFICERS:

Chair. Elizabeth Hitchens

Vice Chair Sam King

Secretary Ann Gell (since the AGM: new secretary appointed: Stan Woods)

Treasurer Derek Gard.

8. Read

9. Dates: Provisional at present (secretary needs to be available)

ACTION: Stan Woods please check.

Thursday. April 7th Methodist Church

Tuesday. July 19th St. Edmund's Church

Thursday. Oct 13th Baptist Church.

Wednesday. Jan 18th 2017. AGM St. Mary's.

Sam King was thanked for his chairmanship and Linda for her secretary role.

10. See e- mails.

11. Printed report on Food Bank shared.

Request for volunteers to the churches yielded 5.

NB. Repair Academy and Waste Not Want Not are good resources for 'people in need'.

12. Changes in Fraternity meant no events arranged.

Partnership will send a welcome card to Father Vincent. **ACTION Elizabeth.**

ACTION ALL: NEXT YEAR'S OPENING SERVICE FOR WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY WILL BE 22nd JAN 2017 AT: ST MARY'S CHURCH

13. Time of prayer focused on Unity of the Churches.

14. Good Friday.

A) At 9.30am there will be a prayerful Procession through Calne – starting at the 1st Station of the Cross (sited at the Methodist Church), onwards through Calne to the 14th Station of the Cross (sited at St. Edmund's Church).

B) At 11am there will be a United Service in the Methodist Church, which will be focused on The Stations of the Cross.

Elizabeth asked for volunteers to go with her to possible 'Stations' locations. **ACTION: Bob and Kathryn**

1 banner to go in Methodist Church Foyer.

Printed leaflets to go with Stations. **ACTION: Derek** investigating and costing the printing. **Bob** has a basic design that could be used.

Discussed use of the 'Station banners' in schools and having them in a Church and inviting schools to come in.

ACTION: Stations of the Cross put around town 9.30am Good Friday.

B) Hustings.

Feedback was that it was superb.

Possibility of Hustings for EU referendum.

M.E.P. Living in Calne.

ACTION Stan Woods Next agenda discuss the idea of debates on moral issues.

c) PENTECOST.

NB. No Hymns on the Green instead: there will be a special Choral

Evensong honouring St. Edmund, with the Bishop of Salisbury:

Rt. Rev. Nicholas Holtam, held in St. Mary's Church on Sunday 15th May at

4pm. **This Service is open to everyone.**

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15. ACTION: Stan Woods

April 7th meeting discuss Taizé and Open The Book.

July 17th meeting discuss the Lent groups and Christmas.

16. 6th Feb visit from Susan Erb re: Syrian refugee crisis. All reps sent Separate e- mail.

17. Carole updated after Terry was called away re: Open Blue. Decision taken to buy a new bus. The Trust has money to buy and start the conversion but will require more funding to complete it. Also will require More volunteers. **ACTION: Terry to finish this update at next meeting.**

Next meeting 7.30 April 7th Thursday at Methodist Church