

**Calne Partnership of Churches Meeting**  
**Thursday 7th April 2016 at 7.30 pm**  
**Venue: Calne Methodist Church**

**Minutes of the Meeting**

Elizabeth Hitchens welcomed everyone to the meeting.  
Sam King opened the meeting in prayer.

**Those Present (in alphabetical order):** Pauline Appleby, Fr Vincent Curtis, Patricia Davies, Derek Gard (Treasurer), Elizabeth Hitchens (Chair), Rev Bob Kenway, Rev Sam King, Kathryn Miller, Terry Mills, Rob Pickford, Carole West, Stan Woods (Secretary).

**Apologies (in alphabetical order):** Morcia Booton, Francis Bosworth, Ann Gell, David Halls, Rev Wendy Tucker.

**1. Minutes of Annual General Meeting held 21<sup>st</sup> January 2016**

*(Note this meeting included a general business meeting and these matters arising refer to that).*

No omissions or errors raised.

The meeting agreed the minutes as a true record.

**2. Matters Arising from the business meeting minutes at the AGM**

*a. Alternatives to Lent Course 2016 (Report Back Bob/Sam)*

Sam said that there could be an opportunity to do something together in the Autumn (rather than replace as Lent course) because there had not been a Partnership Lent course in 2016. Bob suggested the possibility of an evening performance of Marks Gospel at St Mary's in September. This could be linked to the churches study groups/Christianity Explored series.

**Action:** Stan to place on the agenda for next meeting to agree details.

*b. Food Bank Report*

Eleanor and the Foodbank team were grateful for the thanks received and the responses to the report that were made.

It was noted that some regular donations of common Foodbank needs, of tea, instant coffee, sugar, tinned meats and fish, long life milk, etc would be welcomed.

*c. CPC/Foodbank Logos (Agree Choice)*

*After showing all four of the logos it was agreed unanimously to use the first shown described – “coloured broad aspect”. A copy is attached to these minutes.*

It was agreed that this logo would be modified as the “Calne Foodbank” logo as well.

**Action:** Kathryn Miller to arrange for the Foodbank version to be created.

*d. Churches Centre Proposal (All – responses)*

Sam reiterated this was about a centre of town presence. We should reflect over a period of time on what form this might take. Sam suggested that members might like to visit the Westbury model - see details at [www.crosspoint-westbury.co.uk](http://www.crosspoint-westbury.co.uk) Rob Pickford said he would go, and Stan Woods said he would accompany him if available on the day chosen.

**Action:** Rob and Stan (and any others wishing to visit)

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fill agenda item for next meeting! Go – any other offers – email to all.

*e. Guinness Book of Records Event (Update Sam)*

Sam reminded us that at the Christmas “Festival of Lanterns” last year there were camels and a nativity scene (the Town council having reverted to the Christmas Festival theme. A plan for this December, endorsed by the Town Council, is for a Guinness book of Records attempt at the “Biggest Nativity”. The idea came from the Media director of (a member of Calne Baptist Church) The Bible Society. The Bible Society has agreed to sponsor the GBoR fee of £6,000 required. Calne Town Council will take responsibility for organising the event and work to meet the GBoR criteria for such an event.

There will be a need for volunteers to make costumes, schools to be encouraged to become involved, especially as actors in the nativity. A Bible reading competition to be promoted in schools to select readers for the event.

We expect there will be a Taut-Liner (long open sided lorry) in the centre of the town as a centrepiece to the event. A Bible Society employee is expected to be in Bethlehem around the selected day for the event, and this presents an opportunity for a live video link to Bethlehem assuming funding is possible.

The event will take place on the first Saturday, that is, December 3<sup>rd</sup>.

What could the churches do as a joint activity to link in with this on that night? A mass/flash choir performance was suggested.

**Action:** Stan to put on agenda for next meeting to agree form and details.

*f. Christmas Day Lunch - 25<sup>th</sup> December 2016 (Update - Stan)*

Not to be generally advertised until the Mayor’s inauguration on 9<sup>th</sup> May at the Town Hall.

Stan has been attending meetings with the Town Council and the Mayor elect on this initiative. The Mayor elect (Tom Rounds) will make this one of his charity activities for his year of office. The event will be entirely volunteer run, not run by Town Council employees, although council employees can of course volunteer in their own time. The Mayor elect asked that the churches provide their input on guest profiles and connections to potential guests. Tom particularly wanted the guest profile to be inclusive and felt the churches would be able to provide insight into this.

See slide attached to the minutes for details.

**Action:** Stan to put on agenda to provide an update.

*g. Dayspring subscription (Update - Carole)*

The treasurer explained that this was an error on his part. He apologised and corrected the accounts to show that Dayspring had paid their subscription for 2015.

*h. Item 8 – read (clarification)*

This item referred to the reading of the CPC’s Foundation Statement

*i. Confirmation of DONMs & AGM 2017*

The July meeting date has been amended at St Edmunds to Wednesday 20th July.

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The AGM for 2017 was set for Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> January 2017.

**Action:** Stan to put on agenda for next meeting.

**Action:** Stan to update the Events Calendar

*j. Item 10 – see emails (clarification)*

This referred to the email about the Foodbank report.

*k. Welcome card to Fr Vincent*

Elizabeth reported that she had sent a welcome card to Fr Vincent, and Fr Vincent confirmed he had received it with thanks.

*l. Open Blue Bus (Update – Terry)*

Terry explained the purpose of Open Blue Bus project – that it aimed to provide services to isolated communities around Calne. The bus offered a coffee bar and soft play area for toddlers groups and youth in the evenings, etc,etc. The original project bus had outlived its usefulness and that another used bus had been purchased and was in the process of conversion. Daily conversion time is limited as it is on a farm and cannot be worked on during the time animals need to sleep. Terry mentioned that the bus would be in need of a permanent parking location once ready for service.

**Action:** All to keep this need in mind and prayers.

Bob mentioned that the Calne Motor Museum had skilled volunteer motor engineers who may be able to help in the conversion work.

**Action:** Bob Kenway to enquire and report back to Terry.

**Action:** Stan to add to next meeting agenda

*m. Signatories to the CPC account & Standing Orders (Stan)*

Stan pointed out that there were only three signatories to the account, and that as Sam was going on sabbatical in May, this should perhaps be rectified by adding a fourth. Patricia Davies offered and it was agreed to add her to the signatory list at the bank

**Action:** Treasurer to arrange forms and accompany Patricia to the Bank.

*n. Vice Chairman appointment – Constitution (Stan)*

Stan mentioned the anomaly in the constitution re vice-chair appointments. Kathryn explained there was a later version which corrected this.

**Action:** Kathryn Miller to send a copy to the Secretary.

**3. Treasurer's Report (Summary of Accounts)**

Derek provided a short printed summary of accounts.

Current Balance on account £393.67

Derek handed out invoices for the 2016 subscriptions and asked for Subs by cheque or bank transfer.

**Action:** All to request payment from their respective Church Treasurers.

**4. Prayer**

Elizabeth led the meeting in a time of prayer.

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### 5. Discussion about Taize and “Open The Book”.

The meeting agreed to have a Taize style service – Sunday 18th September 4pm at St Edmunds.

**Action:** Stan to place on agenda of next meeting to discuss details.

**Action:** Stan to add to the calendar of events.

**At this point in the meeting (as no agenda item for this was included)** Elizabeth asked for feedback on the Good Friday “Walk of Witness”.

*Comments offered:*

- Women as well as men could have been included in the readings and prayers.
- We could have encouraged other churches to become involved on the walk.
- The carrying of a cross and a banner or two could have served to better identify the walkers and their purpose
- The location outside Iceland was mentioned – It was felt that the lady selling the “Big Issue” magazine outside was helped and blessed by our presence, not to mention her sales.

Sam mentioned that at the same time, in the pedestrian area near Iceland, some members of Calne Baptist Church were giving out “TGI Good Friday” chocolate eggs and engaging in conversation with those around – some had received some encouraging stories from those receiving the eggs.

Elizabeth thanked Sam for the joint service after the walk.

Sam pointed out that much of the poignant music and dialogue was thanks to Paul Ogden who had written the texts and composed the music. Sam said that Paul would be interested in developing an outdoor passion play in the future.

It was agreed to send a letter of thanks to Paul.

**Action:** Elizabeth Hitchens

### 6. Proposed EU Referendum Hustings – Methodist Church

Derek Gard said he had taken no action yet. Who should be invited? What form should it take? It was suggested that it should take the form of a debate and that James Gray (MP) and Clare Perry (MP) should be invited (and possibly two others – non politicians. A chairman for the debate was suggested - Edward Barnham. The date to be set for the end of May.

**Action:** Derek Gard to invite/organise and set the date ASAP and circulate details.

### 7. Proposed ecumenical walk during a Summer Sunday afternoon (Elizabeth)

Need to ask what the invitee has in mind.

**Action:** Bob Kenway to ask him and report back.

**Suggested meet for a** packed lunch first, followed by a walk – others to be invited to come to lunch even if they are not walking afterwards.

**Note:** Bob Mentioned that on the 12th June there would be a Civic Service at St Marys followed by lunch at Marden House.

**Action:** Stan to put details on the events diary.

### 8. Christians Against Poverty Initiative - CAP (Stan)

Stan explained that Calne Baptist Church was starting CAP Money courses.

[www.capmoneycourses.org.uk](http://www.capmoneycourses.org.uk) or our local site [www.calnexion.org.uk/cap](http://www.calnexion.org.uk/cap)

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See slide attached with details.

Sam mentioned that this could be broadened to become a partnership project. Although CAP requires partnership with specific churches, we could register more churches and/or just cooperate on this.

**Action:** Stan Woods to circulate poster to all.

**9. Website Proposal (Stan)**

Stan explained the purpose of and showed the draft web site [www.calnexion.org.uk](http://www.calnexion.org.uk)  
A useful up to date resource for community activities.

Stan asked if the CPC would be prepared to fund the site: Cost Weebly Web hosting £78 per two years (£3.25/month) plus the Domain Name (calnexion.org.uk) initially £9.58(inc VAT) for two years, subsequent two year periods £13.98

See slide attached for details.

It was agreed to fund the website and for Stan to send the bill to Derek

**Action:** Stan to send invoices to the Treasurer.

Links suggested to be put to all church web sites and vice versa.

**Action:** All

**10. Wiltshire Churches Together**

- a. Subscription - As we have not been asked for a subscription we have held off on a payment for 2016.
- b. Quiet Day – two people are going.

**11. Any Other Business**

- a. Service at St Marys - Same weekend of twinning anniversary.

**Action:** Stan to put details in events diary.

- b. Sam thanked Stan for work done so far as secretary.

- c. Healing Seminar Day at Calne Baptist Saturday 23 April (all welcome)

**Action:** Stan to put details in events diary.

Bob Kenway closed the meeting in Prayer and all said the Grace together.