Calne Partnership of Churches
Quarterly Meeting and Annual General Meeting
Thursday 10th July 2025 7.30pm
Venue: St Edmunds Church

Quarterly Business Meeting - Minutes

Welcome & Apologies

Representatives in Attendance & Apologies		Updated Rep listing 10Jul25
Steven Colby	- Marden Vale Benefice	Apologies
Rosey Addington	- St Edmund's Roman Catholic Church	
Caspar Bush	- Marden Vale Benefice	
Jenny Colby	- Marden Vale Benefice	Apologies
Lyn Cooper	- Calne Methodist Church	
Father Vincent Curtis	- St Edmund's Roman Catholic Church	
Sarah Errington	- Marden Vale Benefice	
Derek Gard	- Calne Methodist Church	
Elizabeth Hitchens	- St Edmund's Roman Catholic Church	
Craig Manley	- Calne Methodist Church	Apologies
Rob Pickford	- St Edmund's Roman Catholic Church	
Carole West	- Dayspring	
Jenny Woods	- Calne Baptist Church	
Stan Woods	- Calne Baptist Church	
Wayne Lawther	- Calne Baptist Church	Apologies
Carly Taylor	- Marden Vale Benefice	
Joanne Williams	- Calne Methodist Church	Apologies
Actionee Items - righthand column in RED		

Item		**Actionee**
1.	**Opening Prayer – Caspar – everyone was introduced**	
25/001	We welcomed Carly Taylor - new member of the Marden Vale	
2.	**Notification of Any Other Business - See section 8.**	
3.	**Minutes of meeting held on Tuesday 8th April 2025.**	
25/002	Agreed and Signed as a true record	
4.	**Matters Arising**	
25/003	**Ministers Meetings** - Report back – seen as a supportive meeting – had a good lunch!	
25/004	**Social Media Update** - reminder there is now a Partnership Facebook page. A short discussion about social media apps including 'Whatsap'. Agreed that we would retain email for group member communications – Facebook for promotion in the community. **Stan** will ask Wayne about content maintenance.	Secretary

25/005	**Stan** offered to build a free of charge (Weebly.com) website for PoC and maintain it for the time being.	Secretary
25/006	**Reports on Joint Activities** *Joint Services (for info):* -Sunday 26th January at 6pm at Holy Trinity Church -Sunday 27th April at 6pm at Calne Methodist Church ***Note: Next Joint Service in Saint Edmund's Church on Sunday 27th July at 6pm.*** *Week of Prayer for Christian Unity* – There was a service at Holy Trinity just after the week led by the Steven and Jenny Colby. *Good Friday 'Walk of Witness'* Thanks to Caspar for organizing this.	
25/007	**'Filling a Need Group' Calne Methodist** Derek reported that this small home-based women's group started with three members – numbers have increased since – next meeting 17th July 2pm. A place where ladies can feel comfortable to discuss personal issues.	
25/008	**Zion Chapel Report on current situation** Steven reported via Stan that the Bookshop will have to move. He hopes that they will be able to find suitable alternative accommodation. The future of the Chapel continues to be uncertain.	
25/009	**Fairtrade Update –** Stan mentioned that Calne Fairtrade had entered a float again at the Calne Summer 'Calneval' in June. We gave out 200 mini FT choc bars to the children on the Parade route – probably need 300 for 2026. **Fairtrade Fortnight 2025** will be from 22nd September to 5th October. Plans for Calne events during the fortnight still to be determined. Events at other FT towns will be on the Calne FT website, www.calnefairtrade.org.uk	
25/010	**FINANCE Update:** Derek presented the current financial position and bank statement (which are attached to these minutes). Stan and Derek mentioned the confirmed change over from Lloyds bank to the Metro Bank with no monthly account charges.	**1 Attachment**
5.	**Kim Vale - Eden Bridge Christian Festival www.edenbridge.love**	
25/011	Kim had been invited to talk about the 'Eden Bridge' Festival. Kim introduced herself and explained more about the Christian Festival she is organizing. This will be over the August Bank holiday weekend of Sat 23rd & Sun 24th. Sat 23rd will be open from 11am-9pm and Sunday from 11am. The address is Wick Hill Bremhill SN11 9LQ**.** **There is a need for more volunteers**. Kim provided cards to give out to churches and friends etc. To find out how you can help email Kim at iamkimvale@yahoo.com .	ALL

25/012	Tickets and Entry: You need to get free tickets. There is a limit of 5000 on site (Health and Safety). For tickets and all other information about the festival go to www.edenbridge.love . For this first year Kim has self-funded the event. You can donate by paypal on the website. PDF and jpg scans of the card Kim provided are attached with these minutes. Kim is applying for Charitable (CIO) status, currently an unincorporated organization.	ALL **2 Attachments**
6.	**Open the Book - Subscription payment**	
25/013	This expires on 17th July - A vote to approve to pay the subscription coming due for £160, £20 each for the 8 members of the team. It was agreed to pay the sub irrespective of the final number to be confirmed with Steve Colby.	PoC members to inform their respective Treasurers.
7.	**Church Updates**	
25/014	**Calne Baptist:** Building status – final decision in September, working with builder to try to reduce tender price. Currently about £180K shortfall. Church is growing significantly, baptisms are up, new initiatives – two well attended community toddler groups, additional home groups, first Boys Brigade and Girls Association troop formed – already full. Continue to operate the 'Warm Space' (we call it 'The Living Room' in summer) initiative on Monday's and Coffee morning on Wednesday. More at www.calne-baptist.org.uk	
25/015	**St Mary's - Marden Vale Benefice:** Great new building improvement project public launch at the 'Calneval' on 28th June. The detailed brochure of the c. £600K improvements are attached to these minutes. We welcomed Carly Taylor a new addition to the Clergy Team at this meeting.	**1 Attachment**
25/016	**St Mary's -Rex's Funeral:** Elizabeth wanted to give thanks for Rex's life, to Caspar for the wonderful funeral arrangements, for the many who contributed to the 114 cards of condolence Elizabeth received, and all loved the delightful and often humorous eulogy from Elizabeth's son Tim.	
25/017	**Day Spring:** Having shorter meetings over the summer, an autumn Alpha course is being planned, new Blue Bus activity among Canal Boat people, and Blue bus Traveller's activity restarted after a year's absence. Day Spring were providing the Cream Teas at Derry Hill Fete on Saturday?	
25/018	**Calne Methodist:** As part of their 150th celebrations (Calne 150) "Exploring the Christian faith" - A six-session course commencing on Thursday 25th September at 7.30 at the Methodist Church. More details to follow. Some building refurbishments are under way – Worship area floor needed replacing. The Samba band use CMC regularly for rehearsals. As already announced, Craig will be retiring – The process is underway to seek a new minister.	

25/019	**St Edmunds:** Fr. Vincent mentioned they had had a successful Parish BBQ. There are six children due to attend for their first communion, and the mother's prayers continue to flourish. Rob Pickford had mentioned earlier in the meeting that he had not been receiving the PoC email distributions. Stan would look into that.	Secretary
25/020	**Messy Church – A PoC initiative located at Calne Methodist:** We are thankful that Michelle is now feeling well enough to resume Messy Church in September. Derek thanked Jenny and Steven Colby for stepping into the breach. Numbers are down, but with this being the case there have been more opportunities for personal relationship building through valuable conversations with families.	
8.	**Any other Business (long list)**	
25/021	**Pentecost on the Green: Something not done for a while –** Discuss next meeting.	Secretary- agenda
25/022	**Quiet Day Marden House: D**uring the week of Christian Unity 2026 (Saturday proposed)	Secretary- agenda
25/023	**Taize Service in church: S**uggested could use one of our quarterly joint services for this.	Secretary- agenda
25/024	**Outdoor Nativity and/or Big Nativity play from South Wales:** Suggested possibly something to be discussed for 2026/7	Secretary- agenda
25/025	**Blue Bus Update:** Has been added to Day Spring update.	
25/026	**Foodbank Update:** Will be added to the regular agenda for next meeting. Stats report from Kevin Wells attached.	**1 Attachment**
25/027	**Calne Food Festival:** New to Calne to be on Saturday 30th August – for info. See Town Council website.	
25/028	**Fr. Vincent closed the meeting in Prayer**	

Minutes written by Stan Woods, Reviewed by Elizabeth Hitchens