Calne Partnership of Churches
Quarterly Meeting
Thursday 8th Oct 2025 7.30pm
Venue: Calne Baptist Church

Welcome & Apologies

Quarterly Business Meeting - Minutes

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

Actionee Items - righthand column in RED

Item			**Actionee**
1.		**Opening Prayer – Wayne opened the meeting in prayer.** **Welcome – Elizabeth welcomed everyone to the meeting.**	
2.		**Notification of Any Other Business – see section 8**	
3.		**Minutes of meeting held on Thursday 10th July 2025 to be agreed and signed.** **These were agreed and duly signed by the chair.**	
4.		**Matters Arising**	
	a.	Ministers Meetings - Report back Not met since the last CPC meeting – pending.	
	b.	Social Media Update - reminder there is now a Partnership Facebook page - please put all events etc. on this and encourage Facebook users to view it. (Wayne) No new things given to Wayne yet – please keep this in mind. Wayne does put things he sees from churches on to the page. Currently named the Calne family of Churches because Wayne will post things from Free Church and Calne Evangelical Church. Send things to Wayne for this Facebook group.	

	c.	Reports on Joint Activities We had a joint service at St. Edmund's on 27th July – all said it was a lovely service. The comment was made that it would be good to involve people from other churches in the joint services.	
	d.	***Joint Service*** ***Note: Next Joint Service in Calne Baptist Church on Sunday 26th Oct at 6pm.*** As a church once every couple of months Calne Baptist Church will have an informal worship evening service. The first one of these will be on 26th October, the date of the joint service. The services will be from 6pm to 7pm, on the last Sunday of the month. There will be some musicians from the church and people can bring a reading to the service. There will be a short talk in the middle. No formal request for participation. All are welcome.	
	e.	'Filling a Need Group' Calne Methodist- Feedback Derek reported on this. It has gone from strength to strength, name now changed to 'CHAT' Come Hear And Talk. Held at the Methodist Manse on every 3rd Thursday, next dates 9th October, 30th October, 20th November and 11th December Meetings at 2 or 2:30pm.	
	f.	Zion Baptist Chapel – Update Steven reported that the Christian Bookshop has now decided on the last trading dates in the current building. These will be Saturday 29th November for the whole shop. Then from after that date just selling from the downstairs part of the shop until Saturday 20th December. This will allow the volunteers to clear things from the upstairs of the shop ready to move out completely around mid-January next year. It is hoped to have a unit for the shop in 20 Church Street (where the Marden Community Hub used to be). This is being converted into an 'arcade' of 6 retail units and a café. The shop has expressed interest in one of the units. However, the work on this building will not be completed until February next year. There are plans to put the stock being taken to the new retail unit in storage until the new unit is ready. In order to reduce the stock levels in the shop there is a sale on old books. Any books that came into the shop in 2004 or before are 50p, any before 2014 are half-price; all CDs are 50p and all DVDs £1. Do please let your church members know about this so they can pop into the shop and grab a bargain.	All
	g.	Fairtrade Fortnight Update (Stan in writing) Nothing received for the meeting, report to next meeting.	
	h.	Messy Church Derek reported on this. Thank you to Jenny and Steven and all the volunteers while Michelle was receiving treatment. Only one family at the first one in September. Please advertise the dates in your churches, Derek can give full details. Next Messy Church this Sunday, 12th October.	All
	i.	Calne Food Festival in Calne on Saturday 30th August (1st time) People who went said it was interesting! Not necessarily something for us.	
	j.	**and from last meeting AOB** a. Pentecost 2026 – on the Green? Any ideas – 24th May 2026 Sunday – but this is the date of the 150th Anniversary of Calne Methodist Church. They will, therefore be busy, could	

		participate in the afternoon but not able to help. The meeting decided therefore to park for this year, plan for 2027. b. Quiet Day at Marden House during Week of Prayer for Christian Unity In previous years it was prayers and hymns, meditations, ending about 3pm. Perhaps 10am to 1pm would be less onerous. Instead of a service? Could each church organise something? Could split up the organized service into parts. It would be Saturday January 24th in 2026. Sunday service could be 18th or 25th. On 25th there is a CPC service set at St. Mary's. Would we also have something on Sunday 18th? Caspar to ask Rev Teresa of she can run a quiet day on Saturday 24th. Move the CPC service to Sunday 18th 6pm at St. Mary's. If Rev Teresa cannot do it we will shelve this until 2027. c. Taize Service in Church This will be when the CPC service takes place in St. Edmund's. Set the date for this at the AGM in January, it will be some time in July. d. Outdoor Nativity and/or– Big Nativity idea from South Wales This idea was from Stan Woods, no update on this. Needs someone inspirational to head this up. Keep this on next agenda. e. Foodbank Update Nothing to report – need to ask a representative for info.	**Caspar**
5.		**Finance Report & Metro Bank Update (Derek)** **Balance – £552.41** **Major expense – Open The Book** Metro bank – Wayne, Stan and Derek spent a morning at Metro bank Swindon to set up an account for CPC to avoid bank charges. After 3 months they received a letter to say Metro Bank will be charging bank charges - £3 per month, small compared to other banks. The proposal is to remain with Metro bank who will charge us £3 per month for facilities, proposed by Derek, seconded by Rob Pickford, all agreed.	
6.		**Eden Bridge Christian Festival https: Report Back** A very good first year – about 290 people attended. Worship groups from London and Birmingham, children's activities, bouncy castle and food stalls. It is going ahead next year on Saturday 22nd and Sunday 23rd August. Kim now has charitable status for the event. Kim is planning to do an outdoor nativity on the farm at the vineyard on Sat 6th Dec.	
7.		**Church Updates**	
	a.	Calne Baptist Still undecided about whether to go ahead with the redevelopment. Getting revised tenders, but still out of reach financially. Will contact smaller builders for tenders. Planning permission ends in April. Boys Brigade and girls association - going well. This is for boys and girls of primary age. A really good start. About 14 baptisms in the last 12 months.	
	b.	Calne Methodist They have started the search for a new minister as Craig retires in July. They hope to have a name for a look to visit by end of this month. Putting on a performance about Herod's last days – Friday 14th Nov evening and afternoon of Saturday 15th. Preparation for next year's 150th anniversary – raising £150,000 to update the church. Possible plan to employ a part-time lay worker. Five new members at a service soon. Launch in Feb of the 150 year celebrations, including a special hymn.	
	c.	DaySpring - & Blue Bus Update Carrying on as normal, will be at the Derry Hill Christmas lights switch on. Sat 6th Dec. Will provide activities for the kids, also look at giving away Bibles and kids books.	

		Open blue is going well now serving 8 communities, 4 weekly, 4 monthly. One is Cotswold services centre, an after school club for the children. Also working with those who live on the canals in Bradford on Avon. Continues to come to Calne on a Friday night – average of 14 kids, working closely with the Rise Trust.	
	d.	Marden Vale Benefice Letters to Heaven post box, idea from a lady whose Dad died in the spring. A white post box in which you can put a letter to someone who is not around any more. Rev Caspar has been involved by the lady. He said will burn the letters in the Easter fire outside the church. He has come up with a form of words to use for this. Jemima Palfreyman has been appointed as St. Mary's director of music. Being confirmed in Nov with some others. Has started a children's choir age 9 upwards – 'Young Voices'. Bereavement Café started by the new curate Rev. Carly. Leaflets about this were given out by Rev. Caspar, contact him or Rev. Carly for more information. Rev Carly researched to ensure this is not clashing with anyone else. Will advertise soon, first Wednesday of the month, will start in Nov. Toddler group SMUFs, numbers are quite low at the moment. Mums, Grans, carers come. Sometimes 2, sometimes 12, happens at Church House, Tues 10am.	
	e.	St. Edmunds Nothing to report, all going well. 20 people for children's liturgy every Sunday, takes place during the service on a Sunday.	
8.		• **AOB – To be advised** • CPC stall at lantern parade – has this been organized? • Open the Book – call for volunteers, especially men. Thanks to the partnership for their support. Also the Baptist Church for storage of costumes and props and to the people there who have made the costumes. • Christmas services leaflet – if we want to do this again get the information to Stan by end of October ready to put together for production. Keep the same artwork and printer. • Lent groups – Rev. Caspar has run a course by Justin Welby called the 'Difference Course'. A 5 session course about living well with people you don't necessarily think the same as. Anglicans have various groups running at different times. Could this course be run on a wider basis with more people running groups? Create a list of all the different groups and allow people from other churches to join whichever group they would like to go to. All to discuss this within their churches, look up the course on-line – all free. Decide by the meeting in January. Put a link in the minutes.	**Stan** **All** **All** **All**
9.		**Closing Prayer** **Elizabeth closed the meeting in prayer.**	