



## PETERSFIELD AREA CHURCHES TOGETHER

### Minutes of the Co-ordinating Committee held at The Salvation Army, Petersfield, on Wednesday, 9<sup>th</sup> September 2015

**Present:** Will Hughes (*Chair*), Paula Hudson (*Secretary*), David Barton, John Callaghan, Max Cross, Rosemary Davies, Emma Dean, Brian Edwards, Peter Hollins, David Rice, Richard Saunders, John Studd, Christine Tully, Lindy Young.

1. **Introduction:** Rev Will Hughes opened the meeting with thoughts on the Feeding of the 5000 and with prayer.
2. **Apologies for absence:** Received from Caroline Barton, Hilary Bonney, Helen Mason, Simon Mason, Linda Read..
3. **Additional items for discussion.** The following requested items to be added:  
  
(i) Christian Aid Chair; (ii) Carols on the Square; (ii) Petersfield Herald; (iv) Petersfield Post; (v) Chaplaincy.
4. **Minutes for last meeting (20.6.15):** Minutes agreed – signed by Chair.
5. **Matters Arising:** Chris Tully said the meeting scheduled to discuss **Christmas dinner** planning had been cancelled so there was no report. The next one was due on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> Sept. at St Peters.

David Rice updated committee re. **Foodbank**. The first 12 volunteers have been trained & a September rota arranged. They need 2 more volunteers and then October & November will operate with the new trainees covering 1 or 2 operations a month. Storage system set up in the Methodist church can be re-assembled elsewhere when permanent home established. It enables them to see what stock they have. Working from 2 venues (Methodist Church & Salvation Army premises) has both advantages & disadvantages and is being reviewed. Brian said there was no further progress on purchase of land behind the Salvation Army hall.

At the moment food packs are standardised but they would like to make them specific to the recipient (eg families & single people need different provision.) He said very large packs unusable as packs can't be split (eg pack of 480 tea bags.) PACT reps asked to be kept updated on what stores needed and what overstocked, and also about referral agencies & numbers referred. David said once handover is complete they will be reviewing referral agencies. August is usually quiet but 2 families were helped last week. Needs tend to increase approaching winter.

Will expressed appreciation to the Foodbank helpers & committee.

6. **Report on events since last meeting:**  
  
**Autumn Bank Holiday** We had been unable to provide musicians or drama for the event (no licence available for amplification because the time of day too early, so electric instruments or recorded music not permitted.) Acoustic guitars suggested by Max Cross acceptable. It was emphasised that any contribution PACT made needed to look professional and be well supported by Christians in the Square. John Callaghan committed LCP to provide drama for the Spring Bank Holiday & it was requested churches make support a priority. Brian said Salvation Army Band nos. dwindling.
7. **Accounts** Christine Tully, Treasurer, said Foodbank Bank Account not yet set up – it would be good to separate the accounts before the end of the PACT Financial Year(30<sup>th</sup> Sept) if possible. It requires a letter from the Foodbank, which David Rice undertook to supply. The re-usable shelving in item 5. above cost £500-£600, which was covered by available funds.



## 8. Chairman's items –

**PACT Chair/Vice Chair** Will again asked members to consider volunteering to be next Chair. John reminded the meeting that traditionally the Chair was taken in alternate years by ministers and laity, and it was the laity's turn. Will is going to take 3 month sabbatical.

**Ecumenical Tea** 27<sup>th</sup> Sept. 3pm. Venue St Peter's Church. Will requested churches to publicise the event, and let St Peters know numbers intending to come. It is a 'bring & share' tea & a Taize service. Team of people to help out with washing up etc. suggested.

**PACT Christmas Card** Herne Junior design ing 2015 card. Guidance needed: John Callaghan to email Max Cross with requirements. Choice to be available by 1<sup>st</sup> October. Deadline for printing 23<sup>rd</sup> October. Services Christmas Sunday to Christmas Day to be included. Winning design for card can be chosen from options sent via Internet, and sent to St Peter's Church Office. Prizes: Winning card design: £25; Runner up - £10.

Chris Tully explained size of outer card determined by thickness of card. (If too large & too thin it is too floppy to stand up.) Having services listed on detachable insert more flexible & gave more room. She said most of the money given to PACT used for cards (£600 for outer card, £200 for inserts.) Price unchanged in last 2 years. Reminder that ½ yearly subscriptions due from churches on 1<sup>st</sup> October.

**Carols in the Square** Will proposed Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> December as St Peter's has services on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> & Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> Dec. Brian will check with Steve that Salvation Army band available before date proposed finalised. Sing around the town trialled last year before the service successful & to be repeated.

## 9. Any Other Business

**Christian Aid Chair** Hattie Hughes is standing down as Chair of Christian Aid locally. Will requested volunteer to replace her by next meeting, otherwise churches to take responsibility for their allocated roads. Christian Aid lunches currently rotate between church locations.

**Churches Information page in Petersfield Herald** Secretary asked reps present to check her copy of proposed revised entries. Some amendments made. She apologized for slow progress and asked for contacts in Bordon & Alton churches so that updates not solely from website information, which may not be current.

**Petersfield Post – Faith Comment column** John Studd circulated lists of churches' contributors from March 2009 to Sept 2015, copies of the current rota, & some guidance notes on submitting articles. He asked people to ensure they identified themselves & their churches when sending in articles, the publication date it was for according to the rota, and copy the article to him for the PACT website. As the Post says sometimes it has not received articles, it would be good to have some general articles on hand – ie not specific to a particular time of year or event – from each church, to put in as substitute. The secretary encouraged reps to check how their churches chose their contributors & let her know.

**PACT Website** – Committee agreed the tag line *shades of worship* be amended to *styles of worship*.

**Chaplaincy** - John C. outlined the project, explaining chaplains visited the Market, Rams Walk & Pages Court businesses regularly. He offered to issue information to reps re training, refreshers & skilling. He proposed provision of an out-of-hours defibrillator in the Square (cost £1000 approx.) There is equipment available in Festival Hall, a shop in High Street & each surgery, but these only available when these venues open.

**Refugees** - Peter Hollins spoke re. response to refugee crisis. It is possible that the vacated garrison site in Bordon may be used to accommodate refugees locally. John C spoke re. assessing needs & suggested chaplaincy contact might be needed in the long term.



**Neighbourhood Plan** – this may be affected by the refugee situation (see above re Bordon garrison.) Will said a campaign had succeeded in removing demolition of the Infants School from the plan.

**Canonization** – Will congratulated on his imminent appointment as Canon in November.

**10. Proposed future dates and events (PACT):**

Sunday 27 Sept - PACT Tea & Taize Service

Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> December – Carols in the Square (*proposed*)

**Committee meetings 2015**

Wednesday 18 Nov - Confirm Christmas Carols and new Chair and Vice Chair, set dates for next year

**2016**

Wednesday 13 January – PACT AGM

Sunday 17 January – Induction of new Chair at Service for Christian Unity

**Other Events:**

**Sept 26<sup>th</sup> - 6.30pm Salvation Army – Charlie Green** (winner of *Britain's Got Talent.*) £5 (Max no. 50)

**IMC Quiz** (charity supporting Colombian street children.) Details to be confirmed.

**May 29<sup>th</sup> 2016 – Centenary** . Commemoration of award of Victoria Cross to Captain Loftus Jones. He was from Petersfield and died at Jutland when HMS Shark blown up. Schools projects.

**11. Closing prayer** The meeting ended with saying *The Grace*.