



PETERSFIELD AREA CHURCHES TOGETHER

Minutes of the Co-ordinating Committee held at Methodist Church, on Wednesday 26th April 2017

Present: Tim Concannon & Simon Mason (*Co-Convenors*), Paula Hudson (*Secretary*), Christine Tully (*Treasurer*). David Barton, Rosemary Davies, Father Peter Hollins, Rev Will Hughes, Anna Olliffe, Patsy Robinson, John Studd (*PACT Ministers & Reps*) and visiting speaker Jim Apted from FitzRoy Support.

1. **Introduction:** Tim Concannon opened with prayer.
2. **Apologies for absence:** Received from Carolyn Barton, Rev Judith Bee, John Callaghan, Lindsay Clegg, Emma Dean, Vanessa Dowse, Amanda Greenlee, Helen Mason, Capt Linda Read, Rev Richard Saunders, Stephen Wright.
3. **Items for discussion under Item 8 (Any other business):** David Barton – Foodbank, Christian Aid, Paula Hudson – Petersfield Post Rota; Tim Concannon – Halloween.
4. **Minutes for meeting of 8th February 2017:** Amendments: *Para 5 Light Party* – delete date 31st December 2017 and insert **31st October 2017**; *Para 7 PACT Subscriptions* – add **The King's Arms** to charities receiving funding in the last sentence.
5. **Matters arising:** Chris Tully reported on PACT subscriptions for March 2017. Six churches made voluntary contributions totalling £760 (see para 7 *PACT Subscriptions* in minutes of 8.2.17.) Therefore £190 each given to: Petersfield Counselling Service; PACT Holiday Club; Holiday at Home (URC) and The King's Arms as agreed.
6. **Guest – Jim Apted from FitzRoy Support.** Jim Apted outlined the history of FitzRoy, for which he is Community & Fundraising co-ordinator. The charity was founded in Hampshire, and has 2 local sites – Dorec Mews in Grayshott & Whitegates in Liss, giving homes & support to mentally handicapped adults. Countrywide, FitzRoy now support over 700 people, who are referred from Social Services, or through local contacts, schools etc. Recent initiatives include: rebuilding to move from large homes to smaller family style living; encouraging employment & attaining qualifications through initiatives like the Rural Skills Project; and the Love4Life programme where people can learn about relationships, friendships & be made aware of potential dangers with online contacts. As there are cuts in benefits to those considered to have 'moderate needs' and to charities, Jim outlined needs & fund-raising events for which he invited support (*dates - see 11. below. Other potential supported events – Portsmouth Festival Dragon Boat racing – 17 people needed per boat; Butser Challenge.*) It was agreed to add a Fitzroy link page on PACT website, and to give £160 to Fitzroy, which has been done. Contact details: Jim Apted: 01730 711104; Jim.Apted@fitzroy.org; FitzRoy Support, FitzRoy House, 8 Hylton Road, Petersfield GU32 3JY.
7. **Report on events since last meeting:**

Womens World Day of Prayer: 3rd March. Led by and held at St Laurence's with support from the local churches. It was well attended.

Easter Cards: Amazing artwork completed by Sheet Primary, which made choosing a "winner" difficult! Printed and delivered by local churches.

Christian Aid Lunch: Sally Smith raised £53 and £420 (including Gift Aid) was taken on the day.

Prayer Days: Prayer Days have been held at St Laurence, URC and Salvation Army churches since last meeting. It was agreed to continue and more PACT Prayer Day dates/venues agreed (*see 10. below*).



Easter 2017 Salvation Army had arranged several Prayer Walks through Lent. 150 people attended PACT Service in the Square; Max Cross, the Salvation Army Band and members from local churches took part in the outdoor service led by Simon Mason and the feedback received was very positive. It was good to have the Petersfield Post sent someone to take photos which then appeared on the front page the following week. Problem with megaphone on Walk of Witness noted. Buriton Walk of Witness Families bring children & after walk they do activities in St Mary's. There was a good turn out, and relaxed atmosphere. Souvenirs related to Bible readings distributed.

Ladies Brunch: The second brunch at HFLC on 22.4.17 was well attended. Jill Hall gave a lecture on *Confidence*. Another brunch will be held on 21.10.17.

Volunteer Sector Meeting: Steve Field helped lead a collective of organizations concerned with Petersfield Community, John Studd & David Barton attended. John Studd distributed list of organisations & help provided by voluntary sector – the meeting had noted that churches were significant contributors. Petersfield Job Centre is closing – facilities relocating to Havant. Housing Dept rep from Council Office in Havant has been invited to next meeting. This is an ongoing process that PACT is happy to support and in the longer term could be a replacement body for the now folded Social Concerns group.

8. Reports/Updates/Actions

Spring Festival Organisers have invited PACT to contribute 11am-12noon. John Callaghan responded. Salvation Army band to play.

PACT Welcome Cards PACT cards with details of the local churches had been discontinued because of the need to continually update and much of the information is available online. However, with many new houses being built locally it was decided to update and print leaflets to distribute to new residents & estate agents. These could refer to websites for each church for current service details. John Studd & Simon Mason took on updating.

Holiday Club Regi organising this year but she now has a job so unable to continue next year. Simon said Life Church office available to help with registration again, although moving to new address (see 11. below.) Peter & Will to encourage support, Helen & Emma available to advise on Messy Church element. Regi to be invited to PACT meeting in June. Regi would like a committee to assist her, to which she could hand on organisation next year. Will to put out Notices in Church to invite.

Social Concerns Group Hilary Bonney has stepped down as PACT representative for St Mary Magdalen and as chair of the Social Concerns Group, which was wound up at their meeting on 13th April, and also from the Christmas Lunch Committee. The Pact Steering Committee has overall oversight and responsibility for the Foodbank, Easter & Christmas Card distribution, & Christmas Lunch. David Barton will speak to Julie Pejnovic about overall organisation of the 2017 Christmas Day lunch and Will Hughes will speak to Katie. Julie, if willing to take on CDL to be invited to Sept PACT meeting. Will was keen to expand Christmas Day lunch – the Fish & Chip shop in Sheep Street are also thinking of doing something for Christmas Day. Marika & Katie have been nominated for a Town award; they need to be asked if wish to do next Christmas lunch.

Light Party: Alternative to Halloween 31st October 2017. Tim Concannon outlined background to Halloween, and queried need for alternative. Bad experience of trick or treaters discussed and need for positive alternative for children – eg Christian Union resources, Service of Light.



Fairtrade Group Will encouraged churches to review their Fairtrade status – St Peter’s is bronze. Permission sought & given to add this group as linked group on PACT website.

PACT Newsletter Susanne Irving had requested more items be submitted for monthly newsletter. Although newsletter on PACT website, several churches said they no longer received their email copy. John Studd volunteered to send each church an email stating when it was available. Simon to talk to Susanne re. distribution. Submission deadlines stated on previous issue for next one.

Cuppa & Co Though started as bereavement support, meeting on first Tuesday of month at URC, people just in need of company are encouraged to come.

HOTS - Healing on the streets. Simon invited those interested from PACT churches to take part each month – speak to Mike Gibson from Life Church.

9. Any Other Business

Replacement Reps: Hilary Bonney’s replacement as PACT representative for St Mary Magdalen is Lindsay Clegg. Rosemary Davies of the Methodist Church is being replaced by Patsy Robinson. Rosemary & her husband are moving to Sweden at end of June. Amanda Greenlee will represent All Saints’, Steep. Simon thanked Rosemary for her dedication and hard work in all PACT activities .

Foodbank – David Barton: 21 adults & 9 children helped in January; 16 adults & 6 children in February. The Foodbank now has sufficient help with 38 volunteers including new helpers from the Catholic Church and Waitrose staff (given 1 hour off by store.) There is also enough money to increase fresh food cash from £5 to £10: £211 cash available & £2534 in Bank Account.

Petersfield Post – Faith Comment Rota Secretary circulated comments from Linda Cawsey about origins of arrangement with the Post. It was agreed to refer to the Ministers whether rota should be expanded to include more non PACT churches, PACT linked organisations, and other faiths. This will be discussed again at Wed 28th June meeting

10. Future dates and events

PACT Committee meetings 2017

Wednesday 28th June – Tim Concannon’s

Wednesday 20th September– venue TBA

Wednesday 15th November – venue TBA

PACT Meetings 2018

Wednesday 17th January: PACT AGM

Sunday 21st January: Unity Service

Other PACT events 2017

PACT Holiday Club Monday 31st July – Friday 4th August at TPS

Proposed event Tuesday 31st October: Light Party (Halloween Alternative)

Thursday 21st December 7pm Carols in The Square

PACT Prayer Dates 2017

Prayer Days: Dates arranged as follows:

25th May – 1st June 24/7 prayer at St Mary Magdalen, Sheet

14th June – St Peter’s

27th July St Mary’s, Buriton

Date TBA: Aug – **Life Church Petersfield Office, note new address at: 16d Chapel Street,**

Petersfield GU32 3DZ - the Petersfield Bookshop site. Drop in Prayer Day between 8am & 8pm.

Date TBA: Sept - All Saints’, Steep

Other Events 2017



3rd May All Saints' Portsmouth - Haslar Support/Friends Without Borders (David Barton attending & suggested asking Michael Wooley to speak to PACT committee re refugees.)
Tuesday 20th May - Christian Aid: street collection (admin in St Peter's)
Sunday 25th June – Jim Apted does sponsored abseil down Spinnaker Tower for Fitzroy; Simon Mason has also volunteered to abseil, if anyone else wants to support this event please volunteer online - £25 entry fee & £150 sponsorship required per volunteer
Monday 21st August – Wednesday 23rd August: URC – Holiday at Home
Saturday 21st October - Ladies' Brunch, HFLC 10am-12noon
Sunday 22nd October – Great South Run – Jim Apted of Fitzroy does 10m fundraising run.
