



PETERSFIELD AREA CHURCHES TOGETHER

Minutes of the Co-ordinating Committee held at The Salvation Army, Petersfield, on Wednesday, 12th November 2014

Present: John Callaghan (*Chair*), Paula Hudson (*Secretary*), Carolyn Barton, Hilary Bonney, Tim Colcannon, Rosemary Davies, Brian Edwards, Peter Hollins, Linda Read, John Studd, Simon Mason, Christine Tully, Lindy Young.

- 1. Introduction:** John opened the meeting with prayer.
- 2. Apologies for absence:** Received from Judith Bee, Emma Dean, Vanessa Dowse, Will Hughes, Helen Mason, Richard Saunders.
- 3. Items for discussion under Item 12.** The following items were added to the agenda: Soup run; provision of teaching in English as a Foreign Language; Accounts; Rota of Churches providing articles for the Petersfield Post.
- 4. Minutes for last meeting (10.9.14):** Carolyn Barton had sent apologies for absence for the last meeting which had not been noted. With this amendment, minutes agreed & signed by Chair.
- 5. Matters Arising:** None raised.
- 6. Report on events since last meeting:**

Remembrance Sunday As the Chairman was absent from the service in the square last Sunday, he asked for feedback. Appreciation was expressed by many of Will Hughes' leading of the service and his talk. John Studd noted that there were too few marshals, including chaplains, to ensure that access from the square was cleared as the clergy led the way to the War Memorial. John Callaghan noted this for action next year.

7. Accounts

On 9.11.14 Chris Tully had emailed the PACT accounts & Holiday Club for YE 30.9.14. The Chair asked for any questions or comments. Explanations of figures in the accounts were given as below:

PACT Holiday Club: £0 was entered in Payments this year where people had donated the materials they used and had not claimed for them. Registration expenses of £158: Another group was using the TPS site at the same time as Holiday Club, so lanyards had been bought to identify Holiday Club helpers & children.

PACT Accounts: Expenditure decreasing due to: fundraising by Marika at the Good Intent which had raised a lot of money towards the Christmas Lunch, and the Waitrose Green Token scheme has also contributed funds. Leaflets that used to be printed now emailed. Craftbank ceasing. £50 was received from Foodbank to compensate for increased insurance costs to cover its operation. At the Christmas Lunch funds were raised for The King's Arms. Additional funds enabled support to be given to homeless. The Chair thanked the Treasurer & undertook to convey thanks to Mr Town.

Food Bank Brian Edwards said that the Foodbank was doing well, having support from Waitrose with a nationwide collection, from a project by Bedales 6th form, and from the Bishop of Portsmouth with a generous £750 donation. There was a planned interview with Radio Solent (broadcasting details requested).



8 Chairman's items –

King's Arms. The Chair recommended the website for the impressive list of activities, including support for young carers and the autistic & their families, and invited visitors. He asked the committee if they would ask their churches to confirm the amount they intended to give over the next few years, & when it would be given, as this would assist Caroline Lacklison with planning & fundraising. He thought 3% of the £100,000 running costs were provided by PACT, and would like to see this rise to 10%. After discussion further clarification of the sums received was requested. John Callaghan said that following the abortive application to build new premises at the Avenue, locals who had been consulted in that area about the proposed development had come forward to support the King's Arms, including help with identification of other sites. A building committee was needed and he asked the churches to put forward members.

PACT Chair/Vice Chair. The next PACT Chair will be Will Hughes; no Vice Chair has yet been appointed.

PACT Christmas Card. John Callaghan requested book tokens as prizes for the winning card and the 3 runners up, totalling £50, from the Treasurer. He said the art project at TPS to produce the design meant he had the chance to explain the Incarnation to TPS pupils who took part in the competition. He will deliver cards to the Salvation Army building in time for bundling on Wed 18th November..

Christian Week of Unity Helen Mason had sent study booklet she & Patsy Robinson had prepared for the Unity week to church leaders for consideration. Ministers will discuss at Fraternal on 13th November 14. They need a venue: St Peter's prayer room suggested.

Carols in the Square. 7pm Thursday 18th December. Proposal to meet at 6pm at St Laurence's Church & process to the square singing hymns was accepted. Drinks & mince pies to be provided at St Peter's. Each church to bring 1 or 2 dozen mince pies to St Peter's at 5.30pm, if St Peter's would agree to open up the church & allow use of their kitchen facilities. LCP would set up, man the kitchen and clear up. John Callaghan to confirm these arrangements with Will Hughes.

Venue for AGM Wed 14 Jan and Unity service Sun 18 Jan 4:30pm As Will Hughes will be the next Chair of PACT, it was felt that it would be appropriate to hold services at St Peter's, as normally this takes place at the Chair's home church. John Callaghan to confirm with Will Hughes.

Lent Courses. The Chair requested ministers get back to him with details of Lent Courses. Peter Hollins said that it was too early & these were not yet available. It was stressed that a co-ordinator was still needed to chase for details to go in a leaflet. Alternatively, each church could put details of their individual courses in the PACT Newsletter.

9. *See above, item 8: Christian Week of Unity*

10. **Website** John Studd has sold the company that set up the PACT website, but is still maintaining it. However, it has been more difficult to update email addresses on the contacts lists. Costs will reduce as he is not charging for his services.



11. Any Other Business

Soup Run Operated by Salvation Army in the Square on Mondays (7-8.30pm) since March, but in need of more volunteers. (A minimum of 3 or 4 is required for insurance purposes.) It was suggested they ask for help in the PACT Newsletter. Their permit from the Council continues to December. New volunteers to contact Linda Read, but they will need to have CRB check organized by their own church. There are reported to be 10 homeless people in Petersfield.

English as a Foreign Language Peter Hollins said that they were intending to run classes in the new year – dates to be confirmed. It was suggested that he approach the schools to advise them as they may know of children who are translating for their parents. The Library may also be able to help with information. Eg what foreign language books are being borrowed. Hilary Bonney also able to notify possible contacts.

Petersfield Post Rota Some copies of the revised rota were circulated for comment. After the loss of the Friday Focus column in the Petersfield Herald, the opportunity was taken to distribute dates more evenly. With the loss of the Unity Bookshop, suggestions were invited for other contributors. Simon Mason suggested St Mary's Bramshott – he will speak to the vicar. Froxfield Church was mentioned but as it was linked with All Saints' Steep it was felt that they may have enough slots to fill.

Christmas Dinner Hilary Bonney said they were now fully subscribed with volunteers.

12 Proposed future dates and events:

Thursday 18th December 6pm Meet @ St Laurence for carols & process to Square for 7pm service of Carols in the Square, followed by refreshments @ St Peter's

14th January 7.30pm PACT AGM – *venue to be confirmed (St Peter's?)*

18th January 4.30pm Service of Prayer for Christian Unity - *venue to be confirmed (St Peter's?)*

Committee meetings 2015

Wednesday 11 Feb – plan for Easter card, walk of witness, Lent studies and Holiday Club

Monday 9 March – bundling of Easter cards at Salvation Army

Wednesday 18 March – confirm Easter Arrangements and Spring Bank Holiday Service in Square

Sunday 25 May – Spring Bank Holiday in the Square 11-11.50 am: all welcome

Wednesday 10 June – confirm Holiday Club and August Bank Holiday Service in Square, select school for Christmas card design

Sunday 31 August Bank Holiday in the Square, churches from 11-11.50am

Wednesday 9 Sept – Christmas card and Carols in the Square

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

2016

Wednesday 13 January – PACT AGM

Sunday 18 January – Induction of new Chair at Service for Christian Unity

13 Closing prayer

Members of the committee thanked John Callaghan for his Chairmanship of these meetings, and he closed in prayer.