

PETERSFIELD AREA CHURCHES TOGETHER

Co-ordinating Committee Meeting



TIME & DATE: 7.30pm Wednesday 23rd June 2021

VENUE: via Zoom

Chair Ivan H-T

Attended: Carolyn Barton, Ivan H-T, Josh Thomas, Christine Tully, Jennifer Parkes, Brian Edwards, Amanda Greenlee, Vanessa Dowse, John Studd, Madeline King, Peter Hollins, Lindsay Clegg, Jenny Ballinger.

Purpose of meeting:

A forum for 'communion' and communication between PACT churches, PACT organisations and local Christians, to facilitate events aimed at increasing opportunities for joint worship, witness and work between PACT churches.

1 Introduction, Bible reading and prayer

Ivan opened the committee meeting with a reading (Psalm 103, verses 1-6) and prayer prepared by Josh Thomas.

2 Apologies for absence

a. Helen & Simon Mason, Judith Bee, Mike Harris

3 Actions from Previous Meetings

November Meeting:

2. OPEN/ONGOING Develop/complete History Section of the website.

- Joyce Perry had some material but this was unfortunately lost. The hardcopy of PACT historical records appear to have been misplaced at some point over the last few years.
- Simon Mason and Steve Field hold, between them, quite a long continuity of history of PACT so will meet (post-meeting request that this be after lock-down) to compare notes and then Simon to write up the results.

February Meeting:

2. OPEN/ONGOING Ivan H-T to draft the amendments to the constitution, have them approved by Tim Concannon and present at a future meeting for acceptance.

- **Addition This Meeting:** Ensure that the constitution defines a Quorum

4 Refreshing the PACT Website (continuing progress) URL= <https://pact.org.uk/>

Issue: The PACT website is in need of updating and refreshing.

Discussions & Decisions:

- The new Website Policy was presented for discussion:
 - There were a number of questions about the document but unfortunately there were no members of the Web Team available to answer them. It was therefore decided to carry this forward to the next meeting.

5 Treasurer's Report

Issue: A financial position update was presented.

It was reported by the Treasurer that:

- Homestart Butser have now given thanks for our donations.
- There have been no financial actions since the previous meeting.
- Claims for website expenditure are expected but haven't been received yet.

6 **Good News Stories From Member Churches:**

Issue: This initiative is to give a spirit-raising 'Good News' story from a different member Church each meeting.

Good News from URC:

- The URC began meeting in the garden at the beginning of May. We decided to begin worship in the Sanctuary again, starting on 23rd May – Pentecost. A joyful hum was raised in praise and thanks to the Lord. We met up in the garden afterwards, for 'Picnic and Praise', to share refreshments and sing a couple of the hymns from the service. We intend to continue to 'Picnic and Praise' until we can sing in the Sanctuary once again.
- We have been receiving plenty of bookings, by phone or Reservio. Services have been full to Covid capacity, with others of our congregation able to follow on Zoom.

Good News from St Peter's:

- The reopening of the Refresh Café every Thursday has gone really well.
- St Peter's is open for longer during the day to visitors during the week
- Holding three services each Sunday, with one on-line.
- Lots of Christenings have been booked.
- Really pleased that bell ringing has been able to restart, although with only 6 ringers and for $\frac{3}{4}$ of an hour at a time.

7 **Upcoming Events**

Harvest & Thanksgiving Service:

Ideas for thanksgiving once the virus disruption is mostly over were discussed:

- The 4th September was agreed as the event date
 - Outline plan of: start ~3pm; picnic ~5pm; & service ~ 6pm
 - Josh has obtained some initial quotes for equipment
- A planning team is needed to organise the event.
 - **ACTION:** Find volunteers for Thanksgiving Planning Team

Dementia Education Day:

- URC are hosting this event on 2nd July
- For those who have not already done so, please pick up leaflets from Winton House to publicise.

Christmas Events:

- Options for Christmas Events were discussed:
 1. Printing Christmas Cards vs. pages in the Petersfield Post
 - The Petersfield Post was more expensive than cards (Treasurer's note: cards at Christmas and Easter are the most expensive item in the PACT annual budget)
 - The general feeling of the committee was leaning in favour of cards over spending on the Petersfield Post.

- The PP will always print some content, can still ask if they are willing to host more content we provide.
- 2. Carols in the Square vs. individual carolling around town
 - All were in favour of focusing on Carols in the Square, but could always do some supplementary activities in addition.
- 3. Christmas Lunch
 - The experience of last year showed how important this event is to the town.
 - Must not forget that the primary benefit is not the food but providing company and human contact.
 - ACTION: Josh to convene the first meeting to start organising and planning.

8 AOB & Comments

Vicar of Sheet:

- Due to a reorganisation of the Diocese that is in progress it is unlikely that a replacement for Revd. Richard Saunders will be appointed for at least a year.

Eco-Church (<https://ecochurch.arocha.org.uk/>)

- Sheet Church has recently been awarded the 'Bronze Award' for Eco-Church.
- They are now working towards 'Silver Award' but need to engage and encourage other churches to become more eco-friendly.
- Please visit the website link above to find out more.

Debt Advice Service

- Peter Gault of the Debt Advice Service is interested in becoming a PACT Partner.
- They are part of the 'Agencies Working Together'
- ACTION: Engage and invite to the next meeting in September.

9 Next Meetings

- Next meeting proposed for 22nd September, hopefully in person. Suggested venue St Peter's, TBC nearer the time.

10 Close

The meeting was concluded by sharing of The Grace.