



*Working together as the Body of Christ*

Minutes of the 98<sup>th</sup> Quarterly Meeting  
Held on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> February 2017 at Oxon Church

Opening prayers were said by Rev David O'Brien

**1. Apologies**

There were 11 apologies

**2. Minutes of the meeting of 17<sup>th</sup> November.**

These were accepted.

**3. Matters Arising**

No matters arising

**4. Feedback regarding Christmas Adverts, Christmas Stall, week of Christian Unity.**

Christmas Adverts: Feedback was positive. The Christmas leaflets were dropped off at tourist information centre, all the hotels in the town centre and posted to hotels out of town. Both the Premier Inn and Lion Hotel asked for more leaflets to give out to guests.

Christmas Stall: Meeting felt it was a wonderful witness and it was great how well the youth of Shrewsbury related to it.

Week of Christian Unity: Some of the prayer meetings weren't that well attended. The annual service was well attended, though it would have been nice if a few more people had come long. This is due in part to several churches still having their own Sunday evening service. Suggested that 2018's service takes place mid-week or is combined with another Church's normal Sunday Service.

**5. Future events:**

Thy Kingdom Come: A Nationwide Scheme, where Christians of all denominations are encouraged to pray between Ascension (25<sup>th</sup> May) – Pentecost (4<sup>th</sup> June) for God's Kingdom to come. A programme is being prepared using hill tops to saturate Shropshire in prayer. Also, looking at prayer trails. Meeting was also directed to the Thy Kingdom Come web-site that has good background resources.

Flower Show: A 9m by 3m stall (opposite the entrance to the food hall) has been booked for this year's show. The Church of England Mission Fund has paid for the stall and several Ordinands have expressed an interest in helping out. Half of the stall will be for children's activities; with possibly balloons being given out. Other half will be for hospitality. Meeting praying that it will be a hot summer and as such only cold drinks will be provided.

Christmas Fayre: There is a Christmas fayre at the West Mid Showground on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> and Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> December. 10:00am - 3:30pm. Agreed to book a 2.5m by 2.5m plot for both days at a cost of £40 and be there on the Saturday. Presence on Sunday will depend on number of volunteers. Stall to consist of Christmas Leaflets and Get the Picture: children dressing up in nativity costume and parents taking picture.

## **6. Lent Groups**

This year's course is: Receiving Christ in 5 Different Ways. 5 groups are running. It would be nice if more people were involved. Meeting thanked Andy Carson and Diana Harmer for all their hard work co-ordinating the course.

## **7. Good Friday Walk of Witness**

This will start at 10:30am at the square and finish at the top of Pride Hill. Speakers are needed to lead the devotional parts of the service. Café Church have said that they will provide palm crosses to give out on the day. Agreed to give out chocolates to passersby

## **8. Financial Report**

Meeting agreed that it is important, we bank with an ethical company. Agreed to move our bank account to Reliance Bank, which is part of the Salvation Army.

## **9. Roofbreakers report and future plans**

Attached. Phil Ramsbotham asked if large print material could be provided at meetings

## **10. Future Meetings / Speakers**

Michael Ipgrave, the new Bishop of Lichfield will be speaking at our next meeting: venue to be advised.

## **11. Any Other Business**

Meeting was told about forth-coming: Women's World Day of Prayer. Praying for the Philippines. Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> March, Shrewsbury Baptist Church Central, 10:30am start.

Shropshire Hope Breakfast: Sat 25<sup>th</sup> and Sat 1<sup>st</sup> July.

Ivan Hacking has agreed to be our new Vice-President.

Someone is needed to help maintain and update the Churches Together web-site.

Mike Haddaway and Katy Anderson told the meeting about the Foodhub. The Foodhub collects surplus food from Supermarkets and distributes it to numerous organisations: The Ark, Hospice, School Breakfast clubs. 2000 people benefit from the Foodhub every week and during the past 10 months 10 tons of food has been distributed.

Rev Chris Densham the Mission Enabler for Churches Together in Shropshire addressed the meeting. He pointed out that the Church is at a tipping point. On one hand numbers attending church are declining. On the other hand schools and councils are keener to work with Churches than ever before. There is a spiritual hunger out there and he sees his role as helping churches engage with these people.

After refreshments, there was a presentation by the Borderlands Rural Chaplaincy Team.

## In Attendance

Richard Ankers	St Georges
Deacon Ron Ball	Cathedral
Deacon Fred Beddow	Cathedral
Andy Carson	Bayston Hill Methodists
Rev Phil Cansdale	Trinity Churches, Meole Brace
Nicola Craddock	Belle Vue Methodist
Norman Davies	St Giles
Rev Chris Densham	Churches Together in Shropshire
Di Harmer	Belle Vue Methodist
Ivan Hacking	Christ Church, Bayston Hill
David Holland	URC
Judith Howland	Oxon
Rev Peter Hubbard	Christ Church, Bayston Hill
Rev David Jones	Bayston Hill Methodists
Ana Lawrence	Oxon
Gill Leah	Emmanuel
Canon Jonathan Mitchell	Cathedral
Dave Mackay	Oxon
Margaret Mapp	Oxon
Rev David O'Brien	Oxon
Dennis Onions	Orthodox
Ian Peake	Christ Church, Bayston Hill
Phil Ramsbotham	URC
Dave Treweeke	URC
Rev Tim Vasby-Burnie	St Georges

## Apologies

Rev Paul Firmin	The Abbey
Beth Holgate	URC
Pastor Daniel Jenkins	Wellspring Apostolic
Pauline Mack	Trinity Churches, Meole Brace
Dave Matthias	Barnabas
Rev David Mawson	Cathedral
Rev Charles Ruxton	Trinity Churches, Meole Brace
Don Smith	Café Church
Rev Mary-Lou Toop	Bicton Churches
Rev. Silas Wood	Belle Vue Methodist
Jeremy Yarnell-Davies	Belle Vue Methodist