



Minutes of Annual General Meeting Forum held on 7 October 2009

The meeting was attended by 20 members representing eleven churches.

Apologies were received from the following: - Rev Elaine Rawlings, Rev Georgina Brotherton, Capt Lisa Goble, Margaret Pratley and Rev Roy Fowler (Wiltshire Churches Together).

- 1. Opening Prayer:** - Rached Pound opened the meeting with worship.
- 2. Speakers** – Rachel Faldipe from SAT7 gave a very interesting talk about the Mission work the television station does in the Middle East and Africa. There are 20 million Christians in these areas, mainly in Egypt who cannot read, so television is their only way of finding out what is happening in the outside world and particularly Christian knowledge. 95% of homes have television. Three channels run twenty-four hours a day in the three main languages. There is a local office in Cyprus. There are programmes for women, children (3-12), Youth (under 21), Bible Teaching/Discipleship and Church Services.

Rachel would be happy to speak in any of the churches in Chippenham to explain more fully the valuable work of SAT7.

Break for refreshments

- 3 Minutes of Forum held 16 June 2009:** - The minutes were accepted as a true record of the meeting and duly signed.
- 4 Annual General Meeting:** -
 - 4.1 President's Report:** - David Spink thanked everyone for attending the meeting. David said the Executive Committee had continued work outlined in the Review Group Report in 2007. He felt membership of CCT could be improved and should we ask non-represented denominations to join the ranks? The Executive had not had clergy representation for half the year and he felt that this did not help communication

between clergy and laity. Communication via the web site had improved with information such as the Revelation Christian Centre and Prayer Rooms being on the site. This was accessed by people outside Chippenham and the UK.

A series of talks on Christian outreach and mission has been arranged at Forum Meetings as a means of ensuring that churches might be aware of other opportunities to exercise their Christian work and recognise how to contribute to the wider witness in Chippenham, such as Christian Aid and the campaign to make Chippenham a Fair Trade town. There was still much to be done including the a newsletter.

4.2 Treasurer's Report

Rex Waghorne presented the Financial Accounts for the year 2008/9 and this was adopted by the meeting. There is £911.58 in the bank account.

Christian Aid – total amount raised was £11,867.32 for Chippenham. These Accounts were accepted by the meeting.

4.3 Secretary's Report

Jenny Guy reported that the Forum had met three times including the last Annual Meeting, with an attendance of 23 members at each meeting representing twelve Churches. The speakers were Jonathan Brain and Rachel Flynn talking about their Youth Work, Debby Whitby enlightening us on all aspects of the Revelation Bookshop and Rev Kate Sax, who is the Ecumenical Development Officer for Wiltshire. We also heard from Trevor Ranger on his children's project for this autumn.

We held ecumenical house groups during Lent which were well attended. David Spink and Jenny attended a Seminar on 'Reaching out to the Community' We now have a representative/liaison officer from the Wiltshire Churches Together, Rev Roy Fowler from Calne. Future events – Rev Andrew Gubbins will be inducted as Priest-in-Charge at St Peter's Church, Lord's Mead on Saturday 21 November at 2 p.m. The Joint Advent Service will be held on Sunday 29 November 4 p.m. at the Central Methodist Church.

4.4 Election of President

David Halls spoke to the meeting representing the Ministers' Meeting. He reported that in the view of the ministers, the current pattern of Forum meetings was not central to pushing forward ecumenical activity in Chippenham; that if we looked at the considerable growth in Christian enterprise in the past decade, it had been as a result of groups with shared interests getting together. With this in mind it was felt by the ministers that there would be a benefit in not having the normal two Forum Meetings. During the year essential business could be carried forward by the officers and the ministers. Dave would, with the ministers, make proposals for the future and circulate them to the churches by July with a view to bringing them to the AGM in October 2010.

The Proposal by David Halls is “The CCT Forum accept the proposed course of action for the next twelve months as outlined by David Halls on behalf of the Ministers’ Meeting which is that: a)they make proposals for the future of CCT which will increase the quality of communication within the Christian Community; b) submit these proposals to the churches for approval and c) bring these proposals to the Annual Meeting to be held on 6 October 2010.

This was accepted by the meeting with 11 in favour and two against..

Rev David Alderman proposed David Halls as President and this was seconded by Caroline Rice. Agreed by the meeting unanimously.

A vote of thanks was given to David Spink for his work during the past two years.

4.5 Election of Honorary Secretary

Jenny Guy agreed to continue as secretary. Proposed by Rev Simon Tyndall and seconded by Maeve Opie.

4.6 Election of Honorary Treasurer

Rex Waghorne agreed to continue as Treasurer. Proposed by David Spink and seconded by Rev Simon Tyndall.

4.7 Election of Vice President

Dick Spencer agreed to continue, although no election is formally required.

4.8 Election of the Executive

The Ministers’ Meeting would act as the Executive.

5. Report on Christian Aid

Beryl Fox explained to the meeting that there was a fall in collections for Christian Aid overall – it was universal. An event is being held to make Christian Aid more visible and to encourage more people to recognise the need for Christian Aid. The ‘Big Sing’ is from 11 – 13 December when all Churches are encouraged to have as many people sing together.

6. Dates of Future Meetings

Wednesday 6 October 2010 – Annual Meeting – venue to be agreed.

7. The meeting closed with Grace



GENERAL INFORMATION 2009

ADVENT SERVICE

Sunday 29 November 2009 at 4 p.m. to be held at the Central Methodist Church,
Chippenham

INTER-CHURCH FELLOWSHIP MEETING

Friday 20 November at 7 p.m. Salvation Army

ST PETER'S CHURCH, LORD'S MEAD

Licensing of the new priest, Rev Andrew Gubbins, will take place on Saturday
21 November 2009 at 2 p.m.