

**Minutes of CTiS & D Open Forum held at All Saints Church Hall at 7.30 pm on  
Monday 21<sup>st</sup> September 2009**

The meeting was attended by 62 people from 18 different organisations.

**1. Welcome, Reading and Prayer.** The welcome was given by Major Neville Andrews who thanked All Saints for providing a venue at very short notice. Major Andrews also led the opening worship.

**2. Apologies** Apologies for absence were received from: Rev Nigel Ford and Val Ford, Rev Sam White, Rev Canon John Nurser, Barbara Tyler, Andrew Stuart-Darling, Rev Richard Tifford, Deacon Hilary Smith, Pat Cassidy, Major Yvonne Andrews, Penny Thewlis, Arthur Finch, Alan and Valerie Theobald, Sue Kistruck and Rev Ian Friars.

**3. Welcomes** A warm welcome was extended to Rev John Boardman, the newly appointed minister of St John's Methodist Church and to his wife Ann. He told the meeting a little of his background and said he was looking forward to working in Sudbury. A warm welcome was also extended to Rev Jenny Segger who is a curate at St Gregory's. She too gave a little of her background and how she came to be in full time ministry. People who had not attended a Forum before were also welcomed

**4. Minutes of the Forum held on 17<sup>th</sup> June 2009** The minutes of the previous Forum were approved and signed as a true record.

**5. Treasurer's Report** The Treasurer's report had been circulated to the meeting. The Treasurer had no additional comments. A request for a donation of £500 had been made by the Town Pastors in order to clear some debts. The money would be taken from the K&F profits. It was proposed and seconded that this donation should be made. The meeting agreed unanimously.

**6. Annual Report** The Annual Report had been circulated. It gave a summary of all the action that had taken place over the year under the banner of CTiS. The Chairman suggested it could be put on Church noticeboards for the information of all congregations. No further questions were asked.

**7. Other Reports – Oral and Written** Written reports had been circulated in advance.

- K&F – it was noted that quite a few ministers had offered to come to K&F on a Thursday to be available to talk to people.
- Marriage Focus Group – no additional comments
- MiCS – MiCs was now meeting twice a month. Martin Sparks thanked churches for publicising the meetings. Several ideas were in the pipeline. More men were invited to join; prayers were requested and support.
- Town Pastors – Peter Avery explained the work that was being done and said they were looking to recruit more pastors and more pray-ers. The scheme was growing and succeeding.
- Live on Market Hill – a presentation was given showing the variety of activities and acts by and for all ages. The meeting agreed how valuable this event was.
- Chilton Woods Development – Jane Kohler said there may be a meeting in November to talk about the proposed development.
- Christian Aid – It had been a good year. It was noted that collections in Sudbury were slightly down, but Long Melford collections were higher.
- Website and emails – the team effort was working well. It was hoped that people would visit the site and comment on the issues raised.
- Eden's Project – the operations manager, Neil Holmes had been off sick for 9 months and was still seriously ill. Prayers were requested for him and for Edens. Volunteers were needed in various posts. At 7.45 each Sunday evening, a group called Sanctify meets.
- It was noted that Revive a group for 18-30 year olds had been suspended.
- Prayer Breakfasts – David Ford said that the breakfasts do make a profit and donations were being made to Edens and to the Town Pastors.
- The Market Town Partnership – no additional comments or questions
- Friends of St Peters – Chris Proffitt emphasised the welcome to Malcolm Offord who had joined the group.
- WATCH – there had been a serious development in that beds at Walnuttree were to be closed by Christmas and people would be moved to places where they would not receive the same level of care. Guidance on what needed to be done was awaited and Rev Richard Tifford would advise.

- Social Enterprise Company – Rev Greg Webb was the CTiS representative in this company which would be involved in the new Healthcare facility promised in Sudbury. Rev Greg Webb was asked to write a short note about this for the information of CTiS members.

#### **8. Chairman's Remarks – the Chairman said:-**

- The officers had been magnificent
- EnGp was 100% committed, active and working together
- He thanked all ministers who had been able to give their support
- The army of volunteers was essential – as were those who pray
- The involvement of church members depends on how they perceive the work of CTiS
- As he left, he felt immense gratitude to God
- As he saw it, the unfinished business was work with the 18 – 30's [he drew members attention to the article on the website written by Rev Greg Webb] and the need to be aware of and help struggling churches.

#### **9. Jamie's Farewell – Jane Kohler gave the "Farewell to Jamie" [copy attached]**

She referred to his gifts of insight and vision and how Jamie had been able to turn vision into reality. She talked about his infectious enthusiasm, and said he brought blessings wherever he went.

Rev Jamie Allen, in response, said he wished to pay tribute to Roger Pullan and the warmth of the welcome he had received. He felt that the church should aim to heal the harassment and hurt of others. He noted it was an exciting time with so many initiatives.

Rev Simon Gill led in prayer for Rev Jamie Allen and his family.

#### **10. Elections**

**Chris Proffitt** was proposed as Chairman by Tony Wheeler and **Peter Halden** was proposed by Malcolm Offord. Following an opportunity to question the candidates, a secret ballot was held. Peter Halden was elected as the next Chair of CTiS&D.

Malcolm Offord explained the proposals which EnGp were currently considering to allow EnGp to be more effective. He explained that it was planned to set up four groups with a Vice Chairman of EnGp to head up 3 of them.

Malcolm Offord was proposed and appointed as Vice Chairman. Forum were asked to agree that in line with the restructuring proposals, EnGp could appoint 2 further Vice Chairmen to head up the committees with ratification of their appointment at the next Forum. There were 2 abstentions to this proposal and one vote against. The proposal was carried by a majority.

Peter Heard was proposed and appointed as Treasurer.

Judith Offord was proposed and appointed as Executive Secretary. Lynda Lunn was thanked for the work she had done over the last year.

Gill Phillips was proposed and appointed as Minutes Secretary.

#### **11. Appointments**

**Kettle & Fish** Malcolm Offord and Judith Offord were appointed as Chairman and Manager of Kettle and Fish. There was one abstention. It was noted that there were unfilled posts of Deputy Chairman and Deputy Manager which needed to be filled.

**WATCH** – Rev Richard Titford was prepared to stand as CTiS&D representative on this group again and was appointed.

**Christmas Lights Committee** – Lynda Sebbage was re-appointed to this group. The work she had done and the changes she had achieved were recognised.

**Sudbury Town Partnership** – Chris Proffitt was re-appointed as CTiS&D representative to this group

**Friends of St Peters** - Chris Proffitt was re-appointed as CTiS&D representative to this group

**Local Strategic Partnerships** – Peter Sebbage was re-appointed as CTiS&D representative to this group.

**Social Enterprise Company** – Rev Greg Webb would continue to represent CTIS&D on this project.

Peter Halden took the chair, thanking the meeting for its trust and faith in him.

Malcolm Offord thanked Roger Pullan for all the work he had done as Chairman. He said that under Roger's chairmanship, the growth of CTIS&D, spiritual as well as organisational had been phenomenal. Roger was presented with plants for the garden and Jill, in recognition of her support received a bouquet of flowers.

## 12. Quarterly Joint Service Collections

It was confirmed that the collections at the quarterly services would be for:

|         |   |
|---------|---|
| October | Edens   |
| January | n:vision  |
| May     | Christian Aid                                       |
| July    | [not decided yet whether collection would be taken] |

## 13. Future Events

October 18<sup>th</sup> – would be a joint service at St Gregory's led by Edens

November 27<sup>th</sup> – Christmas lights would be switched on. It was hoped to have a good Christian presence with the Town Pastors present, a Christian mime artist, K&F and a Christian bookstall

January 17<sup>th</sup> – a united service for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

January 31<sup>st</sup> – Education Sunday

### Easter Story - Eleanor said

- It was hoped to have a rep from every church
- The first committee meeting had been held and auditions will take place on 2<sup>nd</sup> December. Someone to act the part of Jesus still needed to be found.
- Rehearsals will start in the New Year.
- Manpower would be needed for stage management. It was suggested that MICS might be asked
- Help would be needed with catering, with prayer, with props and publicity
- The Town Council and the Police were very supportive
- Market Hill would not be an appropriate site for the crucifixion – it was agreed this should still take place at the Croft.
- At the March Forum it was hoped to record "Thine be the Glory"
- It was hoped to include children following a Dance Day at the Baptist Church on 20<sup>th</sup> February
- It would start at 11.00 am – it usually took about 1½ hours
- Rev Greg Webb will give the final message.

It was emphasised that total commitment was needed for this project – with prayer, passion and presence.

## 14. News from the Churches

Rev Malcolm Hill reminded the meeting of the importance of United Nations and the need for everyone to become involved in changing the world. He commended the Conference '**Taking Humanity from Fear to Hope: New Directions for the Worldwide Community**' on Saturday 24 October at Sudbury Town Hall, 10-15 am to 1-30 pm.

- It was noted that the Causeway Group would be starting on 28<sup>th</sup> September
- The Christmas Hamper project would be starting on November 30<sup>th</sup> and gifts and volunteers would be required
- Tim Ayrton said No 72 would be a shoe-box collection zone again this year.

The Chairman exhorted members to look at the events, to pray for them, to participate in them, and to help pay for them.

The meeting closed with the grace being shared round each table.