

Minutes of a Forum and AGM held on Thursday October 7th 2010 at the Roman Catholic Church Hall.

Father Peter Brett welcomed the AGM to the Roman Catholic Church and then opened the meeting in prayer

The Chair thanked Father Peter Brett and the Roman Catholic Church for their hospitality.

A welcome was extended to Rev Chris Ramsey of St Andrews on his first CTiS meeting.

Major Wendy Goodman was then welcomed to the meeting to share her experiences of working in Haiti. She had been called to Haiti to run a camp of 20,000 people in an area the size of The Croft and described her experiences while there, the problems created by the government restrictions; how fresh clean water and sanitation helped prevent disease in their camp; the importance of being able to do little things for individual people. With projected pictures she showed the camp, the distribution of food, the school being used as a hospital; the children receiving their MMR inoculations and gave a graphic picture of the situation in Haiti. She described a scar in the shape of the cross on the hill which reminded her why she was there and she told us that Haitians did not blame God for what had happened, but thanked him that they were alive.

The Chair thanked Major Goodman for her most interesting and informative talk.

- 1 About 50 people attended representing 17 different churches. A welcome was extended to Andrew Stewart-Darling of the Vineyard Church who had just joined Churches Together in Sudbury and District.
- 2 **Apologies**
Apologies were received from Tim and Joy Ayrton, Rev Sam White, Peter Heard, Rev Stephen Earl, Rev Caroline Hallett, Penny Thewlis, Peter and Lynda Sebbage, Sue Kistruk, Diane Badrick, Carol Smith, Chris Rowe, Virginia Bonner, Simon Gill, Jean Willings, Rev Helen Mitchell and Elizabeth Ellis.
- 3 **Minutes of the Previous Forum**
The minutes of the Forum of 16th June 2010 were accepted as correct apart from one typographical error and signed.
- 4 **Matters Arising**
 - No. 72 – an email had been received from Tim Ayrton saying that Charity status had been granted to No.72. It was proposed that that No 72 should be accepted as an associate member of CTiS. This was carried unanimously.
- 5 **Treasurer's Report**
The Treasurer's Report had been circulated
 - It was noted that that £3000 from the Kettle and Fish funds would be earmarked for the Events budget in 2011
 - The purpose of the Dorcas fund was clarified
 - Approval was given by the Forum to all payments listed on the second page of the Treasurer's Report.
 - Forum also approved the allocation of the United Services offerings as listed

- There had been a recommendation from the EnGp meeting that £1000 should be donated, from the K&F funds, towards the cost of replacing the boiler at St Peters. Malcolm Offord proposed and Sheelagh Ruse seconded the recommendation. Forum approved the recommendation.
- Churches were reminded that affiliation fees were now due.

David Ford proposed that the accounts should be accepted and the Chair seconded the proposal. The Forum approved the proposal.

The Chair proposed a vote of thanks to the Treasurer for all the work he did.

6 Annual Reports

All annual reports had been circulated in advance.

- Gay Layburn said that the reports were most impressive and that there was a lot to be thankful for
- The Chair said that progress was being made on Marriage Focus Group
- It was asked that Town Pastors could send a letter of thanks to the Salvation Army for the use of their premises
- The Chair said that all the CTiS activities were going well due to the hard work of several people. He gave credit to Malcolm Snow, Malcolm and Judith Offord, and Eleanor Ridge and others.

The Chair asked for Forum's views on Alive On Market Hill. He asked for opinions on the purpose on AOMH. He asked whether it was evangelistic outreach, or whether it was an opportunity for Christians to enjoy themselves. He asked whether it should be repeated in 2011 or whether it should be replaced with Pentecost Praise on June 11th from 7 – 9 at St Peters. He asked that opinions should be sent to him as soon as possible.

7 Chairman's Remarks

- He appealed to every church present to ensure that they have their representation on the enabling group. If a church hasn't got someone on the committee they were asked to fill that position. He emphasised the need for the reps both to feed back to their churches what is going on and to bring their church's points of view to the meetings.
- He emphasised that the measure of CTiS&D's success was about churches working together in harmony for the benefit of the Kingdom
- He looked ahead to 2011 and confirmed that EnGp will try and follow God's lead. EnGp is very open to ideas and suggestions which should be fed to them through the church's reps or emailed direct to the Chairman.

8 Ratification of Appointments

The Forum ratified the following appointments

Chairman of Kettle and Fish –	Malcolm Offord
Manager of Kettle and Fish -	Judith Offord
CTiS rep on WATCH -	Rev Richard Titford
Christmas Lights Committee -	Lynda Sebbage
Sudbury Town Partnership –	Chris Proffitt
Friends of St Peters -	Chris Proffitt and Malcolm Offord
Local Strategic Partnership -	Peter Sebbage

9 Elections

The Forum approved the following appointments for the next year:

Chairman	-	Peter Halden
Vice Chairman	-	Malcolm Offord
Vice Chairman	-	Lynda Sebbage
Treasurer	-	Peter Heard
Minutes Secretary	-	Gill Phillips

Judith Offord was thanked for all the work she had done as Executive Secretary. She did not wish to stand for a further year but there had been no nominations for Executive Secretary. An appeal was made for someone to volunteer to take this post.

10 Future Events

The calendar for CTiS&D from October had been included in the reports. Specific dates to be noted were:

The next Forum would be held on December 6th and would be hosted by Living Waters. A charity concert in aid of EACH Treehouse Appeal was planned for February 12th 2011 when Jonathan Veira had agreed to sing. A planning group was needed so volunteers would be welcome. The EACH appeals organiser had been contacted.

The Future Vision AGM would be held on November 13th – details will be circulated.

11 News from the churches

- David Ford reported on the arrangements for Operation Christmas Child this year. There were two specific requests firstly for the loan of 12 tables for the duration of the Operation, and secondly for a volunteer driver to collect boxes in the CO10 area.
He reminded the Forum that there would be training on October 16th at Cornard Christian Fellowship for all those wishing to help, including those who had helped in the past. Regulations had changed and it was essential that all volunteers were up-to-date. A DVD was to be shown at the training. David would check and see if it could be made available to churches.
- The possibility of organising I Spy Easter was raised. Robed characters from the Easter Story would be around Sudbury and children would be given I Spy books to see how many they could “collect”. Children who take part would be invited to an event at St Peters.
- Peter Sebbage would like support for the Christmas Hamper Scheme. He would be asked to speak to the Salvation Army so similar appeals could be co-ordinated.
- Caroline Mountstephen reminded the Forum of the cake stall to be held on 9th October.
- Holy Trinity Long Melford said there would be a concert on 30th October in aid of Compassion – an organisation which helps victims of domestic violence
- All Saints said there would be a Jazz Band concert in aid of EACH on Saturday 23rd October.
- Mark Joiner requested stronger links between CTiS &D and the churches in Glemsford.

12 The meeting closed in prayer