

Minutes of the CTiS& District Forum held on Wednesday June 25<sup>th</sup> 2014 at St Andrews,  
Great Cornard

44 people were present representing 16 churches

**1 Opening worship**

Rev Chris Ramsey welcomed the Forum to St Andrews and Jon Halden led the Forum in opening worship

**2 Apologies**

Apologies had been received from Peter and Lynda Sebbage, Ann Smythe, Liz Webber, Rev Greg Webb, Margaret Tracey, Andrew & Emma Stewart-Darling and Patrick Kohler.

**3 Minutes of previous Forum**

The minutes of the Forum held on March 13<sup>th</sup> 2014 were accepted as correct and signed by the Chairman.

**4 Treasurer's Report**

The Treasurer's Report had been circulated. The Treasurer commented that there was still money allocated to MICS in the account. Paul Roach said that he would like to keep the JagFest money intact for the time being. Thanks were expressed to the Treasurer for all the work he did to keep the finances in order.

**5 Chairman's Business**

- It was good to welcome Agape Café under the umbrella of CTiS & D
- Rev Matthew Lawson had just been installed at Holy Trinity, Long Melford. It was hoped that he could be welcomed at the next Forum
- It was important that church reps ensure that CTiS news gets back to their churches. They need to be more pro-active
- A concert to raise funds in part for Christian Aid had been held at St Gregory's. £450 had been raised for Christian Aid which will be quadrupled by the EU, and about £450 for St Gregory's
- There would be a concert at Shimpling on 1<sup>st</sup> July to raise funds for Christian Aid and local churches
- On 29<sup>th</sup> July, the Kistrucks and John Boardman would be taking part in a canoeing event to raise funds for Christian Aid
- [Malcolm Snow thanked everyone in Sudbury and Great Cornard who collected for Christian Aid. Their efforts had resulted in £5160 being collected]
- Living Waters were celebrating 50 years of being in Sudbury over the following weekend. The Chairman encouraged everyone to support Living Waters and to go to the service at 6.00 pm on Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> June. There would also be a tea at 4.00 pm on Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> when it would be possible to learn more about their work.
- Future Vision would like support for the cake stall they would be running on 12<sup>th</sup> July. Cakes could be delivered to the stall at 9.00 am
- On 22<sup>nd</sup> July Tim Ayrton was arranging an event at 7.30 pm at Great Waldingfield Village Hall to commemorate WW1. There would be many activities for everyone. WW1 gospels would be given out
- [Chris Ramsey pointed out that there were several WW1 commemorative services – 3<sup>rd</sup> August at 10.00 am at St Andrews; in Sudbury town centre at 3.00 pm and also at Great Waldingfield]
- Peter Halden explained that Jeff Lucas would be coming to Sudbury on November 25<sup>th</sup> at 7.15 to launch his new book "Faith in the Fog". Tickets were available online at a reduced rate until the end of June. It was suggested that CTiS should purchase a block of tickets at the reduced price and sell them at a date nearer the event

- Thanks were expressed to Stephen Mudd (Suffolk Road Church) for his maintenance of the CTiS google calendar
- Natalie Wiggins (New Life Church) was training to become a Christian counsellor. She had completed one year. New Life Church was giving her £300 towards the cost of her second year. She was keen to use her skills by helping at Kettle and Fish on a regular basis. The Chairman proposed that CTiS & D should also donate £300 towards the cost of her fees. The training would lead to accreditation. The Forum agreed unanimously.
- The East Anglian Preaching Academy was putting on a course to help preachers and potential preachers
- A message had been received from the Suffolk Christian Police Association which was re-forming and are very supportive of town pastors. They would be holding a meeting on 11<sup>th</sup> July at the Stowmarket Salvation Army at 7.30 and they would like prayers
- There would be no service at All Saints on Sunday morning as one of their members was being ordained
- Congratulations were expressed to Frank and Faith Marsden licensed as readers last week. Rev Stephen Morley has been appointed Vicar of Bures with Assington and Little Cornard. He will be instituted and inducted on Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2014 at St Mary's Church, Bures, at 7.30 pm

## 6 **Reports from our cafés**

### ***Kettle and Fish***

Eleanor Ridge outlined the history of Kettle & Fish

- It arose out of a Christian supermarket
- It was opened in September 2005 by Rev Lawrence Pizzey
- Volunteers came from all churches and learned to work together
- Over the years a number of organisations have been involved
- Malcolm Offord started as Chairman in 2007 and Judith started as Manager in 2009
- Kettle and Fish is so successful it is often asked to provide refreshments at other events at St Peters

Malcolm Offord then explained how Kettle and Fish is set up

- On Wednesday a team sets up ready for Thursday – seating for 78. [On more than one occasion more than 300 had come through Kettle and Fish]
- Before opening, everyone shares a time of prayer
- He introduced team members and the individuals who were part of Kettle and Fish
- Thanks were expressed to the Friends of St Peters who let Kettle and Fish have St Peters at a reduced rent
- Eleanor said that they have had hundreds of prayer requests over the years. These requests are taken to Prayer Breakfasts.
- Malcolm said that Kettle and Fish played a very important role in Sudbury and used the poem “I stand by the door” to illustrate his point.
- Kettle and Fish makes quite a lot of money – 10% of which goes into the Dorcas Fund. The cost of many CTiS activities are covered by Kettle and Fish profits
- More volunteers for all aspects of Kettle and Fish work were needed
- Malcolm and Judith would be standing down in September. There were deputies but more help would be needed. Prayers were requested

### ***Agape Café***

Jon Halden said that

- There were about 30 volunteers – mostly from Cornard churches
- It was 2 years old this year
- In February it had split into two sections
  - Agape Live which met on Sundays and had acoustic music and
  - Agape Café which met on Tuesdays from 1.30 – 3.30 and served mostly the older

generation and also on Wednesdays from 9.00 to 12.00 which was more popular with mums and children

- People who come are not necessarily church attenders
- The next Agape Live would be on July 13<sup>th</sup> with live music and a strawberry tea. Funds raised from this event would be going to Breast Cancer Care
- They would be doing the catering for JagFest - for free. Help with the provision of cakes, or help on the day would be appreciated

### ***Soul Café***

Roger Thackeray, a team overseer from Fellowship Football said that Paul Tamsett had stepped down from Fellowship Football and there had been a number of changes but the season had gone well. Two Soul cafes had been held. About 50 people attend, a lot of whom are teenagers. Sometimes it started with a sports quiz. A meal is then provided and this is followed by a small faith presentation. A 5 a side tournament had been held which raised £380 towards a charity.

Paul Tamsett reported on Fellowship Snooker. A group play on two evenings a month at a snooker club in North Street. Of the 70 or so players, about half are not Christian. At half-time there is a prayer time followed by food. People are being drawn to God and the prayer time was valued.

## **7 Updates**

***Jagfest*** - Paul Roach spoke about Jagfest which this year is to be held on 10<sup>th</sup> August. It was an opportunity to showcase customers' cars and at the same time to highlight the Christian outreach in the area. Money had been raised for a number of charities last year. This year, Paul said the focus would be on providing support to soldiers who come home with combat stress and those who are living rough. It is not a small problem so funds will be given to the Army Benevolent Fund. Paul said this was the first time a Christian organisation has become involved with this particular problem. When asked what help CTiS could give, he said practical support on the day – for example marshals – but most importantly, prayers for the event.

***WATCH***- Rev Richard Titford updated the meeting on the progress being made with the new Sudbury Medical Centre which was due to open this September. He emphasised this would not have happened without WATCH and the people of Sudbury. He said that the Centre was the only NHS new build in Suffolk. He said that there will be a better system than Sudbury had had before and there was the possibility of further improvements. The meeting expressed appreciation of the work he had done.

## **8 Brainstorming**

This session was postponed as it was getting late.

## **9 Any Other Business**

Thanks were expressed to St Andrews for arranging the barbecue and for hosting the Forum.

## **10 Date of Next Forum**

The next Forum, which would include the AGM, would be held on Thursday October 2<sup>nd</sup> at St Gregory's Church Hall.

## **11 The Forum closed in prayer.**