



## Churches Together in Sudbury & District

### Minutes of the Forum held on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> June at St Mary's Glemsford

The Forum was attended by 20 people from 9 churches.

1	<b>Welcome, Opening Worship and Introduction</b> Rev Patrick Prigg opened the Forum with prayer. He went on to talk about the work being done by St Mary's. He explained that Christians in Glemsford worked together under the title "Christians Together in Glemsford". Messy Church had now been running successfully for 3 years. Although the Sunday congregation was declining, it is a faithful congregation.
2	<b>Apologies</b> Apologies were received from David and Pat Ford, Lynda Sebbage and Margaret Tracey. It was noted that a number of clergy were unable to attend that evening – and that Great Waldingfield had 3 housegroups running that evening.
3	<b>New Ministers</b> There were no new ministers to be welcomed. Congratulations were offered to Lynda Sebbage on her ordination next Saturday as a Deacon in the Stour Valley Benefice. Elke Cattermole would be ordained as a Deacon and would serve at Lavenham & Preston. It was also noted that Rev'd Jennie Ridley would be leaving All Saints' to become Associate Priest at St Andrew's, Great Cornard after her licensing on Thursday 29th June at 7.30pm at St Andrew's church.
4	<b>Speakers: Imogen Sherwood and Cally Boardman – Local Area Co-ordinators</b> See notes of their presentation attached as Appendix.
5	<b>Minutes of the Forum held on 16<sup>th</sup> March 2017</b> The minutes were approved as accurate and signed by the Chairman.
6	<b>Matters Arising from the Minutes</b> There were no matters arising from the minutes.
7	<b>Treasurer's Report</b> The Treasurer's Report had been circulated in advance of the meeting. Malcolm Offord asked the Treasurer about the situation with the Credit Union. He said that he had attended a meeting the previous week with only 4 others. A major concern was that ordinary investors were required to pay a monthly fee which resulted in their money being depleted and those in power would not agree to remove this requirement. Peter Heard said that Alan Boreham from Ipswich would investigate this and attempt to get the requirement removed, but the situation was unsatisfactory. The Rotary Club had withdrawn their investment. It was agreed that the Credit Union in Sudbury needed more visibility. It was suggested that estate agents might hold information about the Credit Union. The Treasurer confirmed that the CTiSD was not losing money on their investment.  Peter Heard was thanked for his work keeping the finances in order.
8	<b>Chairman's Business</b>  Ken and Christine Steel, the Chairman and Ruth Ridge were in discussion on the subject of the

	<p>future leadership of Kettle and Fish. Prayers for this important decision were requested.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✚ At a recent meeting of the Friends of St Peter's, it was suggested that the redevelopment of St Peter's might not take place for 4 or 5 years</li> <li>✚ Help for those in need – a draft plan had been prepared to rationalise the churches' approach when dealing with requests for money or help. It will be circulated to all ministers once it has been agreed.</li> <li>✚ The membership of the Events Committee has dwindled to Gerry Higginson, Ruth Ridge and Peter Sebbage with possibly Canon Collins. They would be meeting on 22<sup>nd</sup> June at 7.30 pm at St John's. New members would be most welcome.</li> <li>✚ Town Pastors had received total donations of £780 [£280 of which came from the collection at Pentecost Praise. Peter Halden commented that he had suggested that the Town Pastor's insurance should run parallel with the CTiSD insurance for which he had been responsible. He had managed to negotiate an annual premium of £224 – subject to confirmation – which was a saving of £276 compared with the premium they had been paying. It was noted that Frank Marsden had suggested a defibrillator should be available in Sudbury. It was also noted that more volunteers to man the prayer base were urgently needed.</li> </ul>
9	<p><b>News and Updates</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✚ It was noted that the Sudbury Advent Art Trail had been an excellent springboard for the Lavenham Art Trail</li> <li>✚ I Spy Easter had been very successful with over 60 children taking part – on a very cold Saturday</li> <li>✚ Foxearth Meadows had been officially opened</li> <li>✚ The CTiSD/Beat the Street walk round Sudbury churches had been well received</li> <li>✚ The hustings had taken place</li> <li>✚ Pentecost Praise was inspirational. Peter Halden said that the Bishop had made no charge for his expenses</li> </ul>
10	<p><b>Your Views</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✚ Malcolm Offord expressed concern at the reducing numbers attending Forums despite excellent speakers. Consideration needed to be given to how to encourage more people. RR said it had received publicity in social media. GH said it was a matter for prayer.</li> </ul>
11	<p><b>Any Other Business</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✚ Thanks were expressed to Rev Patrick Prigg and his congregation for their hospitality.</li> <li>✚ A request was made for the loan of a UV torch. This would be put out through Church News</li> <li>✚ Peter Halden said there would be Open House from 10.00 to 4.00 on Saturday June 24<sup>th</sup> to look at planned improvements at St Andrews. He said St Andrew's had been accepted to apply for a heritage lottery development grant.</li> </ul>
12	<p><b>Closing Prayer</b></p> <p>The meeting closed with prayer led by Rev Patrick Prigg.</p>

## Appendix

### Notes from the presentation by Imogen Sherwood and Cally Boardman – Local Area Co-ordinators

- They are employed by Suffolk County Council Public Health and are in a department called “Locality Partnerships”
- Originally local area co-ordinators started in Australia where it was felt that those with learning difficulties needed more support – they were working in between other services
- In the UK their remit covers those with learning difficulties; those with mental health issues or physical disabilities; those over 65 and their families and carers. They work with these people on their vision for a good life
- Their work is not time bound and there is no formal process
- They do “for” or “to” people, but do “with” them
- They are looking at “prevention” – ie preventing people from making inappropriate use of services. LACs can work with people to solve any immediate urgent problems and then address any deeper issues
- They do not have offices or storage facilities as it is important to be out and about meeting people and identifying needs
- If support from a service is needed, they will help people navigate their way through this.
- A lot of help has been received from churches. It is a good idea to keep Imogen and Cally up-to-date with anything individual churches can offer. Kettle and Fish has proved an invaluable space for meeting people in an informal and relaxed atmosphere.
- People are not just recipients. It is about being part of a community although there is no obligation on people to take part in any specific activity
- They are currently working with about 60 people
- They support people to think and talk about:-
  - What would make life better: your vision for a good life
  - Your strengths, skills and gifts and finding opportunities to use them
  - How to meet new people, connect with old friends and community networks
  - Making practical steps to do the things you want to
  - Being more involved in your community, local activities and groups in your area
  - Getting your voice heard to speak to services and professionals.
  - Getting the right help from services to organise support to live life

Questions and comments were invited.

- They were asked whether they had reached saturation point with 60 clients. They explained that because the appointments were entirely flexible – some frequent and some less frequent – things tended to fit in although they were always busy
- Peter Sebbage referred to the West Suffolk Hospital Chaplaincy Team who were sometimes required to befriend those leaving hospital with little or no support. He wondered whether it would be possible for LACs to work alongside the Team. Cally asked for a contact name/number for the team
- The question was raised whether there were different problems in urban as opposed to rural areas. Imogen said that in this area the problems were not that different – although all people are different. Transport was a real problem for many of the people
- They concluded by summarising 5 ways of increasing one's happiness:
  - Being connected with others
  - Learning something
  - Being physically active
  - Taking notice of things around you
  - Giving to others in however small a way – eg chatting, or helping a neighbour

Imogen and Cally were thanked for their most interesting presentation