

# **Churches Together in Hemel Hempstead**

## **Annual General Meeting**

South Hill Centre

Cemetery Hill

7.45 p.m. for 8.00 p.m.

### **Minutes of AGM**

In attendance: Stephen Wood, Norman Spink, Chris Jones, Vaughan Allen, David Chapman, Francis Graham-Brown, Frederica Graham-Brown, Denise Chennells, Laretta Wilson, Pat Marlow, Jenny Wallington, Mollie Tite, Simon Wright, Liz Hughes, Alex James

#### **1. Welcome**

The Chairman Stephen Wood opened the meeting and welcomed everyone.

#### **2. Apologies**

Apologies had been received from Graham Richardson, James Reveley, Chandy Perera, David Lawson and Jacques Venter.

**3.** Francis Graham-Brown led a time of devotion around themes from the pilgrim Psalms of Ascent.

**4. The Minutes of the CTHH AGM held on 17<sup>th</sup> June 2008** were proposed by Norman Spink and seconded by Pat Marlow. Approved.

#### **5. Matters Arising**

Since the AGM the Mustard Seed has ceased trading . The assets had been disposed of in a suitable way.

**6. The minutes of the Forum meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> March 2009** were proposed by Frederica

Graham- Brown and seconded by Pat Marlow. They were approved subject to a correction of a

spelling in section 4 (Jon Neall).

#### **7. Matters Arising**

Pat Marlow gave an update on the work of the Town Centre Chaplaincy. At present she is working alongside Graham Richardson. The retail sector has been badly affected by the recession and the chaplains would value prayer and further volunteers to help with the work. Robin McEwen hopes to return to the work perhaps next year. He is facing two further operations later this year. If anyone wishes to join the team they should contact Garry Jenkins in the first instance.

The Good Friday Joint Witness had gone well. Thanks were expressed to James Reveley and the music group from St George's for their valuable contributions. Stephen would endeavour to procure a megaphone and 10 Hi Vis jackets for next year's event.

## **8. Hospice of St Francis**

Liz Hughes and Alex James outlined a new initiative to support young people who are or will be

facing bereavement. Initially a group based in Northchurch will run fortnightly from late July or

August. It is possible that a venue in Hemel Hempstead will be opened later. The hire costs are

expected to be £16 per session. CTHH would inform churches of the new initiative and have a

link from our website.

## **9. Officer's Reports**

Written reports were circulated at the meeting.

a) The Chairman's report was presented by Stephen Wood. Its acceptance was proposed by

Lauretta Wilson and seconded by Jenny Wallington and was approved.

b) The Secretary's report was presented by David Chapman. Its acceptance was proposed by

Norman Spink and seconded by Chris Jones and was approved.

c) The Treasurer's report was presented by Chris Jones. He brought to the meeting's attention

that in the current year our Public liability Insurance costs would double to £131. Additionally

we now had to pay £200 for an advert to comply with Health & Safety rules regarding the closing

of roads for the Good Friday March. A sum of over £6,000 had been collected for Christian Aid.

This money passes through our bank account. Chris asked that we try to find someone who

could examine the books for us.

The current annual subscription rate stands at £40 of which £12 is payable to Churches Together

Hertfordshire. With increased costs there is a need to discuss the subscription rate that will be

applicable for the year commencing April 2010. A proposal was made by Francis Graham-Brown

and seconded by Chris Jones that the Enabling Group should discuss the subscription rate and set

the rate for 2010/11. The proposal was approved.

d) The Directory report was presented by Norman Spink. It is anticipated that a revised paper version will be compiled in 2010. Chris Jones emphasised the need for us to update our contact

details and to advise of new churches in the town. The meeting expressed its thanks to Norman

and Chris for their hard work. The report was approved.

e) The Publicity/Website Report was presented by Vaughan Allen. The website has been regularly

updated and additional features added during the year. Traffic had increased significantly, especially

during the period of Across Hemel. The meeting expressed its thanks to New Horizon Christian

Fellowship who have been paying for the website for some years. Recently the website had been

affected by a denial of service attack which has meant that it is currently not available.. Vaughan

presented an opportunity for CTHH to upgrade the website with anticipated annual costs of approximately £80. The proposal to accept this opportunity was made by Norman Spink and

seconded by David Chapman. The proposal was approved.

## **10. Across Hemel 2009**

Simon Wright made a presentation to the meeting entitled Mission Impossible showing how with

God's help, prayer and hard work the event had become Mission Possible. The event had positively affected both the churches and the people of Hemel Hempstead. Future plans have not

yet been made but the need for good communication between CTHH and Across Hemel is vital.

## **11. Election of Officers**

a) Chair. Stephen Wood was prepared to stand. Nominated by Chris Jones and seconded by

Lauretta Wilson. Elected unanimously.

b) Vice Chair. David Chapman was prepared to stand. Nominated by Chris Jones and seconded

by Norman Spink. Elected unanimously.

c) Treasurer. Chris Jones was prepared to stand. Nominated by Norman Spink and seconded by

Pat Marlow. Elected unanimously.

d) Publicity & Website Secretary. Vaughan Allen was prepared to stand. Nominated by Pat

Marlow and seconded by Chris Jones. Elected unanimously.

e) Secretary. David Chapman was prepared to stand. Nominated by Norman Spink and seconded by Chris Jones. Elected unanimously.

f) Enabling Group. The following current members were prepared to stand – Norman Spink, Lauretta Wilson, Graham Richardson and Denise Chennells. Their re-election was proposed by Chris Jones and seconded by Mollie Tite. There is one remaining vacancy on the

Enabling Group. No further nominations were forthcoming. Approach Angela Such to see if

she is willing to remain on the Group.

## **12. Any Other Business**

A motion that we should make a donation of £64 to the Hospice project was proposed by Lauretta Wilson and seconded by Pat Marlow. The motion was carried.

**13. Date of next Forum meeting** – Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> November 2009 at Haven House.

## **14. Close**

The meeting closed in prayer at 10.10 p.m.