

Minutes of Committee Meeting

in North Wales Baptist College at 1930 on Tuesday 15 November 2016

Present (12): Elwyn Richards (Chair), Anna Jane Evans, Delyth Murphy, Delyth Oswy-Shaw, Gwyneth Clapham, Jennifer Gibson (who had taken the place of Mary Hurst), Judith Stammers, Mark King (who had taken the place of Christine & Colin King), Neil Rymer, Peter Thorpe, Una Tregaskis, Ian Russell (Secretary).

Apologies (16): Adrian Morrin, Anne Jackson, Daphne Russell, David Fisher, Diana Boaler, Eleri Jones, Ellie Jones, Howard Jackson, Jean Ware, Kate McClelland, Kathy Jones, Kevin Mundy, Martin Pritchard, Olaf Davies, Paul Rowlinson, Roshni Verghese.

1 Welcome & opening prayer

The chair welcomed Jennifer Gibson and Mark King, and thanked Christine & Colin King and Mary Hurst for their invaluable service to Cytûn.

2 Minutes of previous meeting

We agreed the minutes of the Committee Meeting on Monday 19 September 2016 as an accurate record.

3 Matter arising from Minutes – Financial Strategy

The Treasurer tabled an updated balance sheet estimating that the income of £650 already received in 2016 would exceed the likely expenditure of £642. The improvement since the previous meeting was due to the receipt of outstanding subscriptions and a current surplus on the Refugee Account. Fortunately the Past Secretary had reported that, when the subscription increased to £35 in 2014, several churches had added donations to cover years of distributing 'It's Your Move' (IYM) books to the 6 primary schools across Bangor. This had ameliorated concern that the subscriptions of £385/year bore the cost of IYM (£280 in 2016). As the current bank balance was £800, we **agreed** to ask the Treasurer to signal when that fell to the point where we needed further donations to underpin IYM.

Action – Treasurer.

4 Future events

4a Carol singing from 18:00 till 19:00 on Thursday 15 December 2016

The Secretary reported that Morrisons had confirmed the same arrangements as in 2015: their foyer has a suitable electric socket, provided our electric instruments are 'PAT tested'; & all participants must register at their kiosk. We have collection buckets and carol sheets from last year. We **agreed** to ask member churches to recruit as many musicians & singers as possible, by attached posters & church notices on 4 & 11 December. We **agreed** to ask member churches to update by Wednesday 30 November last year's 'Christmas card' listing services over Christmas (circulated; reattached for easy access).

4b Week of Prayer for Christian Unity from 18 till 25 January 2017

We **agreed** to use World Council of Churches booklet (circulated; reattached for easy access) & to arrange services thus:
Wednesday 18 January: Service on pp11-17 of WCC booklet – Penrallt Baptist (host) with Bangor Community Church;
Friday 20 January: Service based on Days 1-3 on pp 18-21 of WCC booklet– Capel Berea with Our Lady & St James;
Sunday 22 January: We invited churches to use the material for Day 5 on pp22 & 23 of WCC booklet within own services;
Monday 23 January: Service based on Days 4 & 6 on pp21-24 of WCC booklet – Capel Emmaus with St John's Methodist;
Wednesday 25 January: Day of Prayer for Refugees, ideally in Deiniol Centre, including lunchtime act of worship using material for Days 7 & 8 on pp24-26 of WCC booklet – Friends, Bro Deiniol & Hope Church.

4c **Women's World Day of Prayer 3 March 2017** – arranged by Judith Stammers, Una Tregaskis & Anna Jane Evans

4d **Good Friday Walk of Witness on 14 April 2017**

4e **Easter Dawn Service on 16 April 2017**

4f **Christian Aid Week from 14 to 20 May 2017**

4g **Pentecost Praise on Sunday 4 June 2017**

4h **Praise on the Pier on Sunday 9 July 2017** (no clash with Wimbledon)

5 Bangor as City of Sanctuary?

The Secretary reminded members that, in response to the Bishop, Cytûn had agreed to work towards an Area of Sanctuary across Gwynedd or even North West Wales. To this end he was in discussion with potential stakeholders,

notably Bangor Islamic Centre, Bangor University Students Union, Hope not Hate and Pobl i Bobl, about convening an open meeting early in 2017. Suggestions for other potential stakeholders included Gwynedd Council., Bangor City Council, Bangor Oxfam Shop, and Bangor Peace & Justice.

Action – Secretary and interested members.

6 Refugees

Judith Stammers reported that the first 2 refugee families were gradually settling into Bangor and the next 2 families were due early in 2017. Gwynedd Council had thanked Cytûn for complementing the very basic grant from HM Government to the first 2 families, and made a similar request to bring the next 2 families to a minimal level of household equipment. Though our Refugee Account was currently in surplus (Minute 3), we agreed to appeal to member churches for further funds early in 2017.

Action – Judith Stammers and Secretary.

7 Open the Book

The Secretary reported that Jennifer Roberts (local Children's, Youth & Families Ministry Enabler for the Church in Wales, and thus Cytûn's coordinator for Open the Book) had recently recruited a further 8 readers; this would enable her to strengthen the teams who conducted regular religious assemblies in 4 primary schools in Bangor, and to create an extra team for Ysgol Faenol.

8 Invitations from Churches

8a North Wales Calendar of Christian Events (<http://www.north-wales-christian-events.co.uk/>)

8b Escape from Egypt (<http://www.christianaid.org.uk/Cymru/news/escape.aspx>):

Christian Aid Cymru including Anna Jane Evans need walkers & sponsors for their sponsored walk from Bethlehem in Carmarthenshire to Egypt in Denbighshire from Sunday 4 December until Thursday 15 December.

8c St John's Methodist Church

Exhibition of Christmas Cribs: Friday 9 December 1030-1230, 1400-1600, 1830-2030; Saturday 10 December 1030-1530.

9 Future meetings (all at 1930)

We confirmed the dates of the next 4 meetings:

Wednesday 15 February 2017 in Capel Berea Newydd – Annual General Meeting; Delyth Murphy will become Chair & Anna Jane Evens will become Vice-Chair.

Thursday 23 February 2017 in Bangor Cathedral (to be confirmed)

Tuesday 25 April 2017 in Quaker Meeting House

Wednesday 12 July 2017 in Church of Our Lady & St James (to be confirmed)

10 Any other business

The meeting closed with prayer.