

Minutes of Marlborough Churches Together Annual General Meeting 2018

Feb 7th 2018 7.30 pm St.Mary's Church Hall

Heather Cooper led us in opening prayer

1.Present: John Blacker, Janneke Blokland, Heather Cooper, Michael Dain, Hugh de Saram, Barney Rosedale, Rachel Rosedale, Andrew Studdert Kennedy, Helen Stokes. Ann Yates, Biddy Foley, Reg Foley, Brian Castle

2. Apologies: Charles Graham, , David Maurice, Rachel Maurice, Gillian Watson, Laura Willis, Martin Hamer, Brenda Smith, Maurice Smith, Kate Trowbridge, Andrew Trowbridge, Gill MacDonald

3. The Minutes of the AGM 28.6.17 were accepted and signed.

4. Reports:

Written reports had been received as follows and are attached to the minutes.

Chair: Heather Cooper

Treasurer: Martin Hamer

Mustard Seed: Rachel Maurice and Deborah Reynolds

MAPAG: Rachel Rosedale

Marlborough Foodbank Distribution Centre: Ann Yates

Devotion: Andrew Studdert Kennedy

The Filling Station: Helen and Vincent Stokes

Marlborough Community Passion Play: Helen Stokes

Lent Groups: David Maurice

Communications Group: Barney Rosedale

St. Non's: Barney Rosedale

Tower and Town: Hugh de Saram

A verbal Report on Christian Aid was given by Brian Castle: in Summary

Thanks were expressed to the community of Marlborough, especially to the clergy who remain enthusiastic supporters of CA.

For 2017 the total income was £8,429 of which Christian Aid week raised £1817, important not only for money but PR. Donations were received from Marlborough College £2595, Preshute £765, St. Mary's carol services £ 320, Rohingya appeal £392 and Annual Easter lunch £225 and there were sundry others. The total includes Gift Aid and CAF. It was acknowledged that Marlborough citizens also donated direct to CA HQ. Thanks to all donors.

The retiring collection for the late Deidre Rix was for CA and will be sent through the Marlborough Group.

The CA committee representing all churches in Marlborough is incomplete in representation and most are over 70 years, including the chairman, over 80. Several have given notice of their desire to stand down after the 2018 CA week. We need your help to find new reps from all the churches, particularly Christchurch and Preshute.

Christian aid week starts on Sunday 13th May and our speaker at the service in St. Mary's Church will be Katrine Musgrave, the CA rep for all of Wiltshire including the Bristol Diocese.

The reports show the wide variety of work done by MCT in the community and thanks were given to all for their reports and in particular to Janneke for collating them.

5. Women's World Day of Prayer:

We record a vote of thanks to Gillian Watson for her service to the Women's world Day of Prayer. She is standing down after many years of service and as yet no names have come forward to replace her. This year a service will be held in St. John the Baptist Church, Pewsey on 2.3.18 at 2pm. All welcome.

6. Election of Officers:

Chair: Heather Cooper: proposed Rachel Rosedale, seconded Brian Castle

Treasurer: Martin Hamer: proposed Janneke Blockland, seconded John Blacker

Secretary: Rachel Rosedale: Proposed Andrew SK, seconded Ann Yates

7. WCT: We did not subscribe in 2017 should we consider this in 2018? Janneke to follow up.

8. Filling Station:

Helen began by thanking everyone for their support of the Passion Play. She explained that Filling station is not a church but a place where Christians can gain 'spiritual top up'. It is now meeting in the newly refurbished Youth Centre and they are thinking of how the Youth Centre can be further encouraged as a community meeting space. She would like to see some public recognition of input from MCT as a whole and suggested we might donate some equipment, such as a screen for projection that could be used by a variety of groups. Brian emphasised that it is primarily for the youth of Marlborough. Lots of ideas were pooled. On March 21st Filling Station are showing the film 'The Shack' and hope the Churches will advertise this and encourage their congregations to attend. At the end of the inspiring discussion we were encouraged to go out and spread the word.

Contact re Youth Centre and for bookings is Sue Fry and the Council Offices in High St, Marlborough.

9. Procession of Witness:

Andrew offered to organise this as he has done in the past. He feels that underpinning it is a silent, solemn, witness. He challenged us to think whether there was anything between this and the Community Passion play held past year. After some discussion Helen offered to write some short pieces that could be acted out in 3 or 4 stations along the High street. Janneke will liaise with Helen about this and the possibility of using some of the actors involved in the Passion Play from last year.

10. Date of next Meeting Feb 2019

The Meeting closed with the Grace and thanks for the use of St. Mary's Church Hall and those who had brought food and drink to share.

Rachel Rosedale 10.2.18

Attachments:

Calendar for next few months

MCT Report 2017