

Churches Together in Settle and District AGM Minutes
Tuesday 20 October 2015 at 7pm
St John's Methodist Church

Present: John Diggles (Chair), Stephen Normanton (Vice Chair), Sally Waterson (Secretary), Keith Waterson (Treasurer), Hilary Young, Dan Bavington, Ruth Bavington, Edith Diggles, John Raubenheimer, Judith Allinson, Richard Pyke, Lesley Emsley, Tony Boylan, Mark Houston, Maggie McSherry, Chris Yates, Alison Tyas, Joy Orwell.

Opening Devotions: John Diggles took the reading from John 17v6-9, 20-23, focussing on our unity in Christ. He followed the reading with this Prayer:

Heavenly Father, we offer our prayers for each other, The Churches Together of Settle and District, an earthen vessel, fragile, flawed, and incomplete yet with a vision of unity.
We recognise that what unites us is stronger than what divides us.
We recognise that we all need the Spirit to guide us further into truth.
We commit ourselves to move towards that common witness to the Gospel to which our Lord calls us.
We commit ourselves, as Christians in this locality, to work together to meet human need.
We commit ourselves to pray together with one another and for one another.
We commit ourselves to work together for reconciliation, justice, peace and the integrity of creation.
May your Spirit guide and strengthen us in mission and service to your world, for we are pilgrims together on the way to your kingdom.
Amen

The Chair read out our Constitution (2011) to begin the meeting.

1. Apologies: Tony Hayton, Fr Francis Smith, Stephen Dawson, Stuart Stobart, Derek Hewitson, Mary Hewitson, , Wendy Holt, Pat Whitton, Jean Nicholas.

2. Minutes of last AGM meeting: Held on 21 October, 2014. These had been circulated, and were approved and signed (proposed by Alison Tyas, seconded by Stephen Normanton).

3. Secretary's Report:

Reps' Meetings: 21 October, 2014, 20 January 2015, 14 April 2015, 14 July 2015.
Our Church leaders have also met regularly, to plan some of our joint ventures.

We have had our usual wide range of 'Together' activities, with spiritual, social and service to the community events. Our 'Regular events' consist of:

- The monthly Prayer meeting (1st Monday), to pray for the activities of CTISAD. This is not well attended, but deemed to be very necessary for the success of our endeavours.
- Justice & Peace Group (2nd Wednesday) which is thriving, with speakers and discussions on various topics of interest.
- Settle Big Breakfast (3rd Saturday), a social event with a variety of speakers, now meeting mainly in the Catholic Hall, which provides more space for the growing numbers
- Messy Church (3rd Sunday) which continues to attract mainly unchurched families for an informal church experience.
- Limestone View Songs of Praise (3rd Thursday), which began after the Lent series was hosted there. After Zion closed in August, they gifted hymn books to this outreach work.
- Anley Hall service (last Sunday) has been re-instated after Zion relinquished responsibility, and attracts visitors who join the residents for a simple service.

Through the year we have marked the Christian calendar with special events:

- We have given a united Christmas message to our local community by publicising our Christmas Service times by CPO Publicity Posters, with co-ordinated posters for our churches, as well as information in the local Community News.
- We held Community Carol singing outside Ye Olde Naked Man, using our Bethlehem Carol sheets, and with the Catholics' Nativity figures in the café window.
- Lent was marked together by the York Lent Course called 'Praise Him'.
- The main Easter witness was the Journey to the Cross' passion play, which again attracted a large crowd. We also celebrated together at the Easter dawn service.
- Pentecost Together brought a few folk from our different church communities to sing and fellowship as one church group.

We have also come together to support various events through the year:

- The Justice and Peace group organised the One World Week meal, with a talk by a speaker from CAFOD (an Old Giggleswickian), which 50+ people attended.
- The Week of Prayer had several events, including the simple lunch, which raised £370 for Christian Aid.
- The Barn Dance was held at the Catholic Hall in March. It was well attended, and a raffle was held, as all monies were going to support Pastor Tony Hayton's work feeding street children in Tanzania. £485 was raised

for the feeding programme, which Pastor Tony carried to Tanzania and has been able to establish regular meal provision.

- We organised a General Election Hustings, with all five candidates attending. Questions had been submitted, and the evening was well attended and instructive.
- A few new folk offered to deliver envelopes this year for Christian Aid Week, again with the offer to drop off envelopes at various local shops. There was also the successful Coffee Evening, street collection and proceeds from a talk and lunch at the Friends Meeting House. Our local total sent was £2853.90.
- The summer Holiday Club, Seaside Special, attracted 32 children. We had managed to avoid the school's holiday programme this year!
- Songs of Praise was held outside in the sunshine!
- Prayer walks for the environment were held through the summer.

The major news for our group has been the closing of Zion Congregational chapel in August, after 199 years. We are grateful for all their Christian support through the years.

Our web-site continues to be well used: www.ctisad.org.uk

4. Treasurer's Report: Presentation of Accounts:

CTISAD Financial Statement for 1st September 2014 to 31st August 2015

Summary

Income £	Expenditure Expenditure £	Net Income £	Budget £ £
Subscriptions and donations			
13 members		815.00	
815.00		800.00	
Barn Dance 26th Jan			
Tickets and Raffle		692.00	
Caller and food		206.95	
Gift to SCF for street children work	485.05	0.00	150.00
Week of prayer for Christian Unity			
Collection for Christian Aid		368.82	
Paid to Christian Aid		368.82	
0.00		100.00	
Justice and Peace Group			
Drones talk from 2013/14		70.00	
-70.00		0.00	
Holiday Clubs			
Donations		10.00	
Leader's expenses		55.64	
-45.64		-150.00	
Messy Church			
Donations		90.01	
Craft materials and food expenses		124.22	
-34.21		-150.00	
Advertising			
Christmas and Easter posters		260.54	
-260.54		-300.00	
Administrative costs			
Lent Course and Good Friday		163.80	
WYEC donation		36.00	
Unity Week leaflets	51.00	-250.80	-190.00
Insurance	194.14	-194.14	-180.00
Total	1975.83	2016.16 -40.33	80.00
Bank statement 31st August 2014		1735.89	
Net income		40.33	
Cheque 291 presented from 2013/14		38.36	
Current balance		1657.20	
Bank statement 31st August 2015		1722.69	
Cheques not presented in 2014/15		91.64	
Cash in hand		26.15	
Current cash available		1657.20	
Examined and found to be correct by Ken Barton, 23 October, 2015			

Adoption of the Accounts was proposed by Dan Bavington, seconded by Hilary Young and carried nem con. Our thanks to Keith were recorded. Joy Orwell asked for thanks to be recorded for the donation of the Barn Dance profits to the street children feeding programme.

Subscription Rate:

It was decided to keep the subscription rate the same this year (£50/£25) but to request an additional donation at each Church's discretion in order to cover our extra costs. This has worked very well for the last few years' expenses.

5. **Web Editor's Report:**

Judith Allinson reported that our website, www.ctisad.co.uk, has had the same format for 15 years now. Judith would like to hear from anyone who may have ideas to reform it. It is still well used, carrying service times, notice and reports of our events, together with past photos and the ability to correspond with our web editor.

6. **Chair's Report:**

Looking back on the past year, it was very sad to see the closure of Zion church, but it was a pleasure to attend such an upbeat celebration of their 199 year history in Settle. It is also good to know that some of the Zion congregation have found homes with some of our other Christian communities especially at St John's Methodist Church. On a more heartening and positive note it is good to see the new St John's Methodist Church rising up in our midst.

As I said last year, it is always encouraging to see the number of activities and events in which our Churches working together are able to connect with the wider local community. Many people in the area do not recognise the distinctions between the various church denominations but events like the Community Carol singing, the Passion play, our Christian Aid week activities, Messy Church and the Big Breakfast all help to make people aware of a united Christian presence in the town.

A few years ago, a group of individuals from Churches Together felt the need to set up an ecumenical action group with the aim of highlighting, and taking action over injustices and conflicts between peoples, around the world and closer to home. Over this last year and indeed over recent weeks we have seen the world situation getting so much worse, and I think we can be proud of the work of our Justice and Peace Group and we should congratulate them on their vision and their continuing commitment to this cause. The latest example being the Simple Meal this Thursday evening, at Settle Parish Church, with the talk by Philip Lewis about Christian Muslim relations. (See Alison Tyas or Chris Yates if you haven't booked in yet.)

7. **Election of Officers:**

Chair: John Diggles (proposer Stephen Dawson, 2nder Jean Nicholas) was elected.

Vice-Chair: Stephen Normanton (proposer Stephen Dawson, 2nder Pat Whitton) was elected.

Treasurer: Keith Waterson (proposer Joy Orwell, 2nder Stephen Dawson) was elected.

Secretary: Sally Waterson (proposer Susan Houston, 2nder Joy Orwell) was elected.

Examiner: Ken Barton (proposer Jean Nicholas, 2nder Keith Waterson) was elected.

Web Editor: Judith Allinson (proposer Joy Orwell, 2nder Sally Waterson) was elected.

All were elected nem.con. – no objectors

8. **Date and venue of next AGM Meeting:**

Wednesday 19 October 2016
7pm at St Mary & St Michael Catholic Church, Tillman Close, Settle