

## CHURCHES TOGETHER in BRIDPORT & DISTRICT

### Minutes of the Meeting held at 7.15 pm on 16<sup>th</sup> October 2018 at St Mary's Church, Bridport

**PRESENT:** Rev. Philip Ringer (Chairman), Daphne Ekins (Secretary), Christine Hatton (Treasurer), Rev. Peter Clark, Rev. Pete Stone, Rev. Kay Watters, Peter Glanville, Lesley Hill, Marcia Machin, Tish Beamish, Kathy Hince, Valerie Payne, Elizabeth Welch, Sally Brown

**APOLOGIES:** Canon Richard Meyer, Rev. Janis Moore, Rt. Rev. Deb Smith, Rev. Ann Ayling, Caroline Cooke, Sue Herman, Pat Jones

1. The meeting was opened with readings and prayers.
2. **Apologies** were given as above.
3. The **Minutes** of the 9<sup>th</sup> July meeting were agreed and signed by the Chairman.
4. **Matters Arising** Philip Ringer said he had enjoyed the Induction Service for Deb Smith.
5. **Treasurer's Report** Christine Hatton reported that, financially, we are on a better footing than we have been for several years. All subscription letters have been sent out but there are still two outstanding. Christine distributed copies of her Report to 30<sup>th</sup> September 2018 and explained the items. Available funds at 30.9.18 were £700; balance at bank was £3,258.32. There was some discussion on which projects should receive available funds. Philip Ringer said that the Silent Soldier project will be self-financing. Regarding the Youth Worker, Valerie Payne said they would be always happy to receive any money available. Pete Stone thought it would be good if some money could be given to another youth worker who is coming here from Blandford to help. It was agreed the available funds should be carried over to the New Year when it can then be assessed where it is needed most.
6. **Review of Past Events**
  - a. **Pray Bridport - Prayer Walk** Peter Clark reported that this was a nice variation on Pray Bridport. They started in Bucky Doo Square and walked round Bridport churches, ending at the Christian Fellowship, praying outside the churches. The next Pray Bridport will take place at Bridport United Church on 6<sup>th</sup> November at 7.30 pm.
  - b. **West Bay Summer Services** Philip Ringer reported that they all went off according to plan apart from the last one which had to be cancelled as there was no one to lead it.
  - c. **Melplash Show** Daphne Ekins read out a report received from Veronica Downey who runs the Rest Tent on behalf of Churches Together. In general, all went well and over 200 people used the facilities. Tish Beamish has been working with her and Veronica hopes Tish will carry on running it as Veronica hopes to begin to retire. Almost all local churches were represented helping on the rota.

It was commented that people seem very pleased to have the facility, especially being near the water and the loos. Pete Stone suggested there could also be a chaplaincy team added to this. Philip Ringer thought it would be good to have some information about 'getting married in a

church near you'. Pete Stone also suggested having details there from the group "Rural Hope".

d. **Holiday Club** Peter Clark reported that they had two good days with the children. It was good fun and went well. They could do with some more volunteers.

## 7. **Forthcoming events**

a. **Week of Prayer for World Peace** Marcia Machin said there would be a Peace Vigil in the Meeting House tomorrow morning (details had been sent to representatives and pewsheet editors).

b. **One World Week Barn Dance** This had been organised for 7.30 – 10.00 pm on Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> October at BUC.

c. **Silent Soldiers – 1<sup>st</sup> November** Philip Ringer said that the Bishop of Sherborne is coming to lead the Service on this date at 4.00 pm in St John's Church, West Bay. The Wessex Military Band will play and some horses will be coming. The Silent Soldiers will be on Harbour Green until 15<sup>th</sup> November.  
If anyone can help steward on that day, they would be welcome.

d. **Christmas Services** On 2<sup>nd</sup> December there will be the lighting of the Christmas tree at West Bay at 3.00 pm.  
The Churches Together Carol Service will take place at 7.00 pm on 13<sup>th</sup> December at Bridport United Church.  
A Taize Service will take place at 3.00 pm on Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> December at Bridport United Church.  
On Boxing Day, 26<sup>th</sup> December, St John's at West Bay will host cake, coffee and carols at 12.30 pm.

e. **Nativity** Philip Ringer reported that they are going to try once again to hold this in Bucky Doo Square; in the event of bad weather it will be held in Bridport United Church. It will take place at 11.00 am on Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> December. It will cost more this year because of needing a sound system etc. It was suggested they might have a collecting box. Philip Ringer said there will also be a new script.

## 8. **Reports from Sponsored Groups**

a. **Pathways to Care** Sue Herman sent a report with Peter Clark. She said that the Good Neighbours scheme is as busy as always and can still do with more drivers. The AGM is on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> November in the Inner Hall at BUC; bring and share lunch from 1.15 and AGM at 2.00 pm.

b. **Tea & Chat** There will be 2 more sessions this year and then they will see how things are regarding numbers attending.

9. **Youth Worker Project Update** Peter Stone reported that people at Colfox are very pleased with Aaron's input, reaching a group of young people that other people cannot get near. He is doing transition work at present with children moving up to Colfox. Valerie Payne said that everything is very positive from the schools. She said that they would like more of his time but we can only offer them the hours as they are at present.

10. **Correspondence** There was no correspondence.

11. **Any Other Business** Peter Glanville reported that there will be an event in the Lyme Bay Deanery entitled “Caring for God’s Creation”, 9.45 am to 4.30 pm on 5<sup>th</sup> November in Beaminster Church.

There will be a Hallowe’en Light Party at Christian Fellowship, 6.00 – 7.30 pm on 31<sup>st</sup> October.

Peter Clark said that the County Ecumenical Officer would come to a meeting and speak if members would like that. This was agreed.

12. **Date and venue of next meeting** 7.00 pm for 7.15 pm on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> February at St Mary & St Catherine Catholic Church, Bridport.

13. The Meeting closed with prayer.