

Churches Together in Settle and District AGM Minutes
Wednesday 19 October 2016 at 7pm
St Mary & St Michael Catholic Church

Present: John Diggles (Chair), Stephen Normanton (Vice Chair), Sally Waterson (Secretary), Keith Waterson (Treasurer), Fr Francis Smith, Hilary Young, Mark Houston, Maggie McSherry, Edith Diggles, Dan Bavington, Ruth Bavington, John Lewis, Joan Lee, John Raubenheimer, Judith Allinson, Richard Pike, Alison Tyas, John Asher, Joy Orwell, Denise Hayton, Derek Hewitson, Mary Hewitson

Opening Devotions: John Diggles took the reading from Galatians 3 vv 26 - 29, which talks about our unity through believing in Jesus Christ. He followed with a prayer, committing us to mission and service together.

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

1. **Apologies:** Tony Hayton, Stephen Dawson, Stuart Stobart, Chris Yates, Lesley Emsley
2. **Minutes of last AGM meeting:** Held on 20 October, 2015. These had been circulated, and were approved and signed.
3. **Secretary's Report, given by Sally Waterson**

Reps' Meetings: 20 October, 2015, 26 January 2016, 12 April 2016.

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 still deemed to be very necessary for the success of our endeavours. A Community Prayer Guide has been produced and distributed to aid our praying.
- Justice & Peace Group (2nd Wednesday), which is thriving, with speakers and discussions on various topics of interest, and also plan our One World Week event.
- Settle Big Breakfast (3rd Saturday), a social event with a variety of speakers, now meeting mainly in the Catholic Hall. It has a break over the summer and mid-winter.
- Messy Church (3rd Sunday), which continues to attract mainly unchurched families for an informal church experience, offering support and a listening ear.
- Limestone View Songs of Praise (3rd Thursday), which continues to be a blessing to both residents and others who join them in the Lounge. Zion's gift of hymn books to this outreach work are well used.
- Anley Hall service (last Sunday) has been running for over a year, with volunteers planning and running it. It attracts visitors from our community who join the residents for a simple service.
- A 'monthly events' notice is sent out with ctisad happenings: I hope it is helpful!

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

- We have publicised our Christmas greetings on CPO Publicity Posters: Emmanuel, God is with us. We used a short greeting on the posters, with each church name printed. The main Services information was published in the local Community News.
- We held Community Carol singing outside Ye Olde Naked Man, using our Bethlehem Carol sheets, on the last Saturday before Christmas.
- Lent was marked together by 5 reflections from Les Miserables, led by Rev Stuart Stobart.
- The main Easter witness was the Good Friday 'Journey to the Cross' passion play, with a new team of directors, with the final scene in the Parish Church grounds.
- We delivered an Easter greeting card to most households in the area.
- We celebrated together at the Easter dawn service, with a welcome brazier to warm us as we sang. A simple breakfast at Friends Meeting House followed.
- Pentecost fell on a Messy Church Sunday, so folk were invited to join in that celebration.

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

- The Justice and Peace group organised the One World Week simple meal, with a talk by Dr Phillip Lewis on Christian-Muslim relations.
- We led carol singing for the Settle Switch-on event in late November
- The Week of Prayer had several events, including the simple lunch, which raised about £262 for Christian Aid. The Unity Service collection of £204 was given for the Street Children Feeding programme in Tanzania, which SCF are providing.
- The Barn Dance was held at the Catholic Hall in April. 54 people came. Profits of £376.50 were given to support the Street Children Feeding programme, which now houses some of the boys as well as feeding them and providing some education.
- Our local communities (including the villages) gave a total of £2736 during Christian Aid Week, through envelopes, Coffee Evening, street collection, quiz sheets & Big Brekkie!
- The summer Holiday Club, Olympic Fun, attracted 17 children. We had arranged to avoid the local school's holiday programme. We had quality time with small numbers.
- Songs of Praise was held outside in the sunshine, with an Olympic theme, led by Rev Stephen Normanton.

The major news this year has been the opening of the new premises for St John's Methodist Church, in early December, 2015. We are all benefitting from this new resource, and wish them well.

4. Treasurer's Report, given by Keith Waterson

CTISAD Accounts Summary				
From 1st Sept 2015 to 31st August 2016	Income	Expenditure	Net Income	Budget
	£	£	£	
Subscriptions and donations	815.00		815.00	800.00
Week of Prayer for Christian Unity				
Lunch and donation to Christian Aid	261.92	261.92		
Collection at Unity service for street children	204.15	204.15		
Total	466.07	466.07	0.00	100.00
Barn Dance				
Ticket sales, donations and raffle	561.50			
Expenses Caller and food		185.00		
Profit to SCF for street children fund		376.50		
Total	561.50	561.50	0.00	150.00
Holiday Club				
Expenses claimed for Aug 2015		122.41		
Donations Aug 16	10.00			
Expenses claimed for Aug 2106		138.37		
Total	10.00	260.78	-250.78	-150.00
Messy Church				
Donations	69.82			
Expenses for food and craft materials		277.51		
Total	69.82	277.51	-207.69	-150.00
Lent and Easter				
Hire of microphones Good Friday		108.00		
Donation for coffee	4.40			
Total	4.40	108.00	-103.60	-150.00
Advertising for Christmas and Easter				
		339.90	-339.90	-300.00
Insurance				
		200.55	-200.55	-180.00
Justice and Peace Group				
One World Week meal donations	202.00	202.00		
Speaker costs		24.00		
Total	202.00	226.00	-24.00	0.00
Admin and Miscellaneous				
Postage stamps		6.48		
2 Benches for Townhead and plaques		838.00		
Total		844.48	-844.48	-40.00
Totals	2128.79	3284.79	-1156.00	80.00
RECONCILIATION				
Opening Bank balance Sept 2015	1722.69	Closing Bank Balance August 2016	630.39	
Opening Cash	26.15	Cash in hand	15.18	
Cheques presented from 2014/15	-91.64	Cheques not presented by Aug 2016	-144.37	
Surplus from 2015/16	-1156.00	Funds available 31 Aug 2016	501.20	
Funds available 31 Aug 2016	501.20			

Historically, both the Unity Service collection and the Barn dance profits have gone into our account. It was suggested by the Chair that, although it would be good to make a charity donation from the Barn Dance profits, the Unity Service profits should revert to being put into ctisad's account.

Adoption of the Accounts was approved nem con. Our thanks to Keith were recorded. Joy Orwell asked for thanks to be recorded for the donation of the Unity Service and 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. Our available money is low this year, as we have paid for the benches, but the additional donations have been adequate for our needs.

5. Web Editor's Report, given by Judith Allinson

www.ctidad.org.uk *The second and main part of this report is similar to previous years.*

In the first part I will mention new things:

Social Media:

1. **Tweeting:** Does anyone tweet or do any churches tweeting? I would be keen to link in with this.

I do a lot of tweeting on behalf of the national organisation Green Christian @greenchristian_ (note underscore at end) which now has 1875 followers, and I occasionally mention Settle Events where relevant (I occasionally also tweet as @jallinson and @cravenspeakers. I do not see at this time the necessity of tweeting for CTISAD.

2. **Facebook:** Vicki Jenkins has set up a Facebook group: Settle Messy Church

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1770915609863681> which has 10 members including 4 parents and 6 helpers

3. **Publicity on Dales Radio:** If you are organising an event in your church and would like it to be announced on Dales Radio, Julian Hotchkiss is keen for people to make a recording on a Smartphone and send it in to www.dalesradio.co I find that I can say about everything I need to in 1 minute. Or you can go and record your message at The Settle Hub, at the site of the former archway bookshop, Tuesday am or Friday pm. Dales Radio is found at 103.9 FM.

Website and Emails

We continue to use free space allowed us by Daelnet, which is now spelt Dalenet (Their office is near Hetton).

Since October 2010 I sent out

- 5 (5) "CTISAD news emails" to people on my "Church contacts" (slightly different to Sally's list)
- 18 (20) "Events emails" to my long list (This includes people with secular interests as well as church interests, so is an opportunity to publicise a few selected events). This list is then copied onto <http://www.settle.org.uk/category/local-news/>

If you are not on my "Church contacts" email list I would be happy to add you. This is a separate list to the one Sally has for the CTISAD committee. I am happy to add people to my Events around Settle list.

I have been running the website since 2000.

We currently receive 4 visits a day or 120 visits a month (100 in 2011, 150 in 2007). (St John's Methodist Church website gets 6 visits per day or 160 visits per month.)

Please tell me if you want to publicise events on the website or in my news email, and I would like to help if I have time. The events need to be church events that you would like CTISAD people to come to – they don't have to be an official CTISAD event.

Please tell me how you would like to see the website updated, and tell me if you see mistakes.

We have to pay c£10 for the domain name ctisad.org.uk every two years – next payment due April 2018

6. Chair's Report:

As I have come to the end of my three year tenure as chairman of Churches Together, I am taking the liberty of looking back, not just over the last year but over that three year period.

I have always been encouraged by the number and range of activities and events in which members of our various Churches, working together, are able to connect with the wider local community. I do think that this is the most valuable role of Churches Together. It may not always seem to bear obvious fruit in bringing more people to our Sunday church services, but that is not necessarily the main purpose. I do believe that it sends out the right signals into the community about the Christian message of unity and love. For many local people, even in the churches, the distinctions between the various church denominations are a mystery but events like the Passion play, our One World and Christian Aid week activities, Community Carol singing, Messy Church, the Big Breakfast and the activities of our Justice & Peace group all help to at least make people aware that there is a united Christian presence in the town that is singing from the same hymnsheet - most of the time.

Just after I took over as chairman, Ursula Deith was instrumental in getting us to embrace "Hope 14", an ecumenical initiative to encourage local churches to work together to give something to their community. From about twenty initial suggestions we narrowed it down to one which we thought might be achievable: Providing a new bench to replace the dilapidated one at the bottom of Town Head. Well, it looked achievable but this project eventually took nearly three years to come to fruition. So I am delighted to be able to report that, this year, only two years late, we finally managed to install not one but two new benches, to replace the one, which virtually fell apart in the meantime. My thanks to Keith Waterson for his help with the installation, and to Rebecca Hill at Settle Town Council for help and advice in the purchase. The benches each have a plaque on them with parts of Matthew 11 verse 28. One says "Come to me all you who are weary", the other says "I will give you rest", and both also say "Churches Together in Settle and District 2016". If you haven't seen them yet, do go and look. I am so pleased that we managed to get them installed before I stepped down as Chairman. I see that there is now a new "Hope 18" initiative, so maybe we can start all over again!

I can't step down from the chair without thanking all the other officers of Churches Together, who have worked so hard to make it look as if I was actually doing something. But most of all I must thank Sally, who works tirelessly, seemingly around the clock, and certainly around the world, to keep Churches Together here in Settle on track. I have done what I can, through sarcasm and insults, to try to keep her grounded, otherwise she'd have had us all completely worn out, but we all owe Sally a great debt of gratitude for all the effort she puts in on our behalf.

Finally, one event this year, which really is worthy of note, is the opening of the new St John's Methodist church, which has already become established as a valuable Christian and community resource in the town. Our congratulations to Stephen and his congregation, who managed to achieve this in a mere fraction of the time it took us to install two benches. I think you have the right man proposed for the new Chair of Churches Together.

7. Election of Officers:

Chair: Stephen Normanton (proposer John Diggles, 2nder Keith Waterson) was elected.

Vice-Chair: Joy Orwell (proposer Ruth Bavington, 2nder Dan Bavington) was elected.

Treasurer: Keith Waterson (proposer Dan Bavington, 2nder John Diggles) was elected.

Secretary: Sally Waterson (proposer Edith Diggles, 2nder Alison Tyas) was elected.

Examiner: Ken Barton (proposer Keith Waterson, 2nder Joy Orwell) was elected.

Web Editor: Judith Allinson (proposer Ruth Bavington, 2nder Stephen Normanton) was elected.

All were elected nem.con. –with no objectors

8. Date and venue of next AGM Meeting:

**Tuesday 17 October 2017
7pm at the Friends Meeting House, Kirkgate, Settle**