

Churches Together in Boscombe  
Minutes of the Meeting held at St Andrew's Church, Florence Road  
Tuesday, 21<sup>st</sup> September 2010

Present: Geraldine Elliot-Smith (Chair – St. Andrews), Miranda O’Gara (St James), Rev Bob Vernon, Neil Houlton (St James & St Andrews), Valerie Goulding (St. Andrew’s), Alison Overton, Jo Harmsworth, Maurice Hawkes (Rosebery Park), Rev Kevin Arkell (St Clement’s), Rev Sue Gowling, Rosemary Horrell (St Georges), John Dodwell (Quakers), Fr Denis Blackledge, Benjamin Theobald (Corpus Christi), Maj. Peter Mylechreest, Handel Everett (S.A. Boscombe), Denis O’Shea (Boscombe Baptists).

1. The chair welcomed everyone and gave an opening prayer.

2. Apologies: George Haines, Kate Harris, Sheila Cumber, Jo Outten.

**3. Minutes of last meeting** – Neil stated that he’d only received two replies regarding the Interfaith Tea. Bob Vernon said that Faithworks are holding an Interfaith Tea so maybe that fulfills the same function as we are trying to achieve.

**4. Hope FM – Christmas Project**

**Nativity Procession** – Sat 11<sup>th</sup> December, starting 3pm top of Old Christchurch Rd and finishing 3.45pm at base of the Balloon. Approx 50 people needed from our Boscombe churches (5 per church) to dress as angels/shepherds in the procession. Our choirs in robes could also join in. Churches to bring their banners and walk in between the two CTIB banners.

**Action** – each church to provide 5 people in costume and choir/banner if possible.

**Covered stall** – approx 20 churches are being asked to give 3 hours of their time to staff a market stall between 4 and 11 December.

**Action** – churches to tell Geraldine if they are willing to staff the stall and she will email Sheena @Hope. St Andrews, St James, St Georges, Boscombe Baptists and CTIB all stated they were willing to take a turn. Further details on this will be discussed at our November meeting.

**Stage** – there will be a large stage as part of the event and anyone wishing to can book a time slot on the stage.

**Costs** – Hope FM are asking for £50 per parish towards costs. Cheques to be made payable to Bournemouth Deanery and sent to Hope FM.

**5. Carols in the precinct** – the date 18<sup>th</sup> December at 11am was suggested for this event.

**Action** – Geraldine to check with council authorities/shopping centre management as per last year to confirm if this can go ahead and if this date is suitable.

**Action** – Jo Harmsworth to ask U3A Vintage Brass if anyone is available on this date/time.

**6. Facing Christmas** – Change of date for this service to Tues 14<sup>th</sup> December at 7pm, Corpus Christi.

**Action** - Fr Denis, Rev Kevin Arkell, Rev Sue Gowling and Miranda O’Gara to meet on Tues 12<sup>th</sup> October to start discussing the service content.

**7. Update on ‘Open the Book’ Project** – Alison now has 11 names registered on the ‘Open the Book’ team but would ideally like several more. Please pray for the team on Wednesday mornings as they go into schools and engage with the young people.

**Action** – Alison to contact the Faith Matters page of the Daily Echo to increase publicity for this scheme and encourage more volunteers.

**8. Update on ‘Boscombe Angels’ scheme** – this was a pilot scheme run for 6 weeks over the summer, on Friday nights from 7-11pm. The idea was for the team to be a Christian presence on the beach/promenade. The scheme was a success and the police stated they received no call-outs on the Fridays the Angels were there; and a reduced number of call-outs on the Saturday nights too.

A formal committee has now been set up to look into the future of the scheme.

Future possibilities include:

Sponsored litter pick on Hengistbury Head beach

To be outside the O2 in Boscombe after events

**Insurance** – Geraldine to fill in Bournemouth Council form to apply for funding towards this cost.

**28<sup>th</sup> Sept** – open meeting at Rosebery Park to promote the scheme to new volunteers. There are 13 on the team now, ideally 30 people are needed.

**Action** – Geraldine to email the churches to include this meeting in their weekly bulletins.

**Action** – Neil to call Hope FM to promote the meeting before 28<sup>th</sup>.

**9. Sexual Entertainment Venues Regulation** – we have missed the consultation deadline on this issue (31 Aug 2010) as it fell between our meetings. We do not agree with these premises and will write to the council to state our opposition.

**Action** – Bob Vernon to draft an email to the council and send it to Geraldine/other CTIB members for their opinion.

**10. Appointment of Chair and Secretary** – Neil Houlton has agreed to chair CTIB next year (2011). Sue Gowling has suggested she will chair the following year (2012). A secretary has not yet been appointed.

**Action** – each member to ask at their church to see who would like to be our secretary for 2011.

**11. Any Other Business** – George Haines sent in his concerns that our Minutes are openly available on the CTIB website. On discussion we decided that the Minutes are a public document and should be available; if anything specific is confidential then it will be minuted as confidential and will not be included on the website Minutes.

**AOB (cont..)**

4<sup>th</sup> October – prayer meeting at Rosebery park 7.30pm.

3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of each month, St Andrews is now holding an evening Taize service.

**12. Food for thought** – Alison and Denis shared their experiences of The Pope’s recent visit. “Moved, privileged, historical”.

**13.** Geraldine closed with The Grace.

**Future meetings: Tues 16<sup>th</sup> November 7.30pm (St Andrews)**

**Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> January 2011 – meeting to hand over the chair to Neil at St James 6.30pm**

**Tues 18<sup>th</sup> January 2011 – first CTIB meeting of the year, to be held at St James, 7.30pm.**