

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN CLAPHAM

MINUTES OF FORUM

Monday 9th July 2018 at 7.45 for 8pm at the Church of the Holy Spirit

1.0 Opening prayer by Helen Harknett

2.0 Apologies from: Zac Guy, Clare Turner, Chris Watson, Eleanor Jackson, Ruth Burge Thomas, Anna Foxley, Carol Graves, Sarah Miles, Rob Cowley

3.0 Minutes of Forum on 9th January 2018 corrected for spelling mistakes and agreed.

4.0 Chair's report: Mark Potter welcomed everyone particularly Revd Canon Jonathan Boardman whose Collation and Induction at St Pauls had been held a week earlier. And Claire Crowley from Churches Together in South London who spoke to the meeting. All churches were encouraged to appoint their full quota of reps – there is no age limit .

5.0 Treasurer's Report: Robert Faulkner made his report as Treasurer: £651 in the bank and only outstanding subscriptions were Holy Trinity and Church of the Holy Spirit.

6.0 CTiC projects:

6.1 Robes: St Pauls, Christchurch, Holy Trinity, Ace of Clubs and Church of the Holy Spirit are all likely to host during the winter of 2018/19. Sleepout in 2018 on 30th November. More details in the autumn

6.2 Ace of Clubs: Particularly seeking donations of underwear! And looking for champions for Ace to be named in each CTiC Church.

Sarah Miles reports: We continue to serve between 80-100 lunches a day and have at least 1-2 new people coming to the centre daily.

Our work includes a lot of support for those who are suffering benefits sanctions etc and assessments and we do this in partnership with South London Law Centre and Z2k who have just published an interesting report.

<https://www.z2k.org/news/z2k-publishes-new-report-on-disability-benefits>

Our health work continues to be an important part of the centre, we now have our nurse on Tuesday's and a healthcare worker on Thursdays who specialises in working with NRPF clients. We have been invited by Kings Hospital liver team to be in the set up team for a new Hep C outreach unit working with vulnerable people.

On Monday mornings I run a "diary" at Streatham Jobcentre for hard to reach/work with clients.

Following the implementation of the new Homelessness Reduction Act in April this year councils are supposed to be more client friendly and offer prevention advice as standard as well as prevention and relief support. Due to staffing issues the system is just starting to be implemented at Lambeth and we had a positive meeting with the head of homeless services and hope to do some shadowing in the housing dept.

We are as ever grateful to all CTiC churches and individual congregation members for their continuing support. As usual we are out of pants!

Other needs in the heat are water bottles, sun cream and hats.

6.3 The Hub: Very busy on Friday and Saturday nights. Always need more volunteers particularly from churches to be a Christian presence. Alistair Macfarlane (Hub coordinator) will come and speak at the CTiC Forum on 15th October at the Methodist Church

6.4 Lifeline Christmas Party planned for 24th November 2018. Please think about local people who might like to attend.

6.5 Christian Aid: 13th/19th May 2018 – no report

7.0 Communications: Kit updated meeting on website. CTi Clapham now has a facebook page. Please send material particularly pictures to be put up to Helen Harknett curate@holyspirit-clapham.org.uk and “like” the page.

7.1 Talk on the work of Churches Together in South London by Claire Crowley: Works as intermediary body involved with 70 networks in ecumenical activity helping amplify activity and coordinate with Churches Together in England. Holds two forums in May and November (7th November in 2018 at Trinity House). All encouraged to attend discussions which range from practical works such as water bottle filling opportunities outside churches to working with other faiths. Also working with Autism charities to make churches more understanding and welcoming places for those with disability.

8.0 News from the churches (reported by CTiC reps)

8.1 Christchurch: Robert Faulkner ordained as priest on 7th July. Researching the possibility of becoming a multi faith “safe space”. Involved in many community events: world picnic during Refugee week, open air mass for Patronal festival and a presence at the Stockwell Festival in Larkhall Park.

8.2 Church of the Holy Spirit: Successful Abbeville Fete. Looking for volunteers and contributions of craft materials for summer refugee holiday project running on Mondays for four weeks from 30th July from 10-12. Service of Hope for LGBTI on 7th June at which Sam Wells spoke has started many positive conversations about inclusion.

8.3 Baptist Church: no report

8.4 Methodist Church: Eleanor Jackson is a great blessing and reviewing all operations.

8.5 Holy Trinity: Clapham Sundae on 1st July welcomed many to one service with three speakers (instead of Common Fayre). Piloting course for children’s group leaders on responding to those with disability.

8.6 Orthodox Church: Patronal festival has taken place, visit from the Bishop being planned for November. Icon workshops run in the church and displays and talks about icons available to all churches.

8.7 Power of the Living Word Ministries: offering summer bible study school from 6-17 August

8.8 St James’: International service in May including a shared meal held encourages church to launch a summer fair in 2019. All age Bodywave classes hosted in the church on Mondays from 1230-1330.

8.9 St Marys: Summer fair is being held on 15th July from 11-5 (competing with tennis and football!). New curate from Zimbabwe starting later in the year

8.10 St Pauls: Thanks given to all local clergy who have helped cover the interregnum before the arrival of Revd Canon Jonathan Boardman. Lots going on: summer fair in June, opera weekend and Shakespeare performance (Measure for Measure) on 10th August – bring a picnic.

8.11 St Peter's: no report

8.12 The Everyday Church:..no report

9.0 Programme and forthcoming events:

20th and 21st July Lambeth Country Show in Brockwell Park on– please look out for Deanery presence in café area. ANY VISITORS WHO COULD VOLUNTEER ON THE STAND VERY WELCOME.

1st September Clapham Town Fete: Ace of Clubs will have stall maybe with Holy Trinity. Volunteers needed.

12th September Ministers' meeting

15th October Forum at Methodist Church

28th October Racial Justice Sunday service at Holy Trinity at **6pm**

10.0 Any other business:

10.1 Please see if you can support and volunteer to help on a stall run by the Ace of Clubs at Clapham Town fete in Clapham Old Town near the bus halt on Saturday 1st September

10.2 Alan Mundy reported on the Faiths Together in Lambeth AGM. Holding annual interfaith walk on 15th September starting from St Marys and ending in Brixton.

10.3 Clapham Relief fund seeking a new trustee.

10.4 Composition of CTiC Standing Committee was raised at the AGM. Currently members include past and present officers of CTiC and constitution allows for nine members.

Mark Potter, Chairman; Clare Chalmers, Secretary; Robert Faulkner, Treasurer.

Rosy Skinner, Clare Turner, Alan Mundy, Kit Gunaskera, Chris Watson, Eleanor Jackson

10.5 Melanie Ryan raised number of beggars by Clapham Common Tube and whether Street Pastors could have a role in supporting them?

11.0 Closing prayers – Father Richard Reid

