

CTiC AGM - Minutes

3 pm Sunday 13th October 2019

Life Church



Welcome

48 were present. The following had sent their apologies: Rachel Hewing's, Elizabeth Marshall and Libby Hill from the Cathedral, Gemma Fraser from Moulsham, Jean McAslan from Christchurch Ruth Hughes from Church of Our Saviour and Judy Cecil from Sandon.

David Gilbey, chairman, welcomed representatives and introduced the worship and trailed the other speakers. He also reflected on the legacy of Marconi and the pioneer work with the development of wireless. This initially took place at the end of the same road, Hall Street, where the AGM was taking place. He expressed the belief that Chelmsford is positioned to be a City of communication of the Good News of the gospel of Jesus Christ to the nation and nations.

Open Prayer and Worship

Ben Gardner, committee member, led with guitar and singing with a variety of styles.

AGM Admin

Richard Cecil, secretary, thanked Ivor Moody of the Cathedral and Trevor Fisher and Chandi Macdonald from the Salvation Army for their service to the CTiC committee since they have all retired from it.

He introduced Pete Bardwell from Oasis Church as Vice-Chairman, Rachel Hewings replacing Ivor on the committee and 2 new members to the committee namely, Gemma Fraser and Dan Pierce.

He asked the meeting to endorse the new committee namely:

- David Gilbey, Life Church, Chairman since 20 May 2018 elected at AGM
- Pete Bardwell, Oasis Church, Vice Chairman since 20 May 2018
- Robin Stevens, All Saints', Springfield and Christian Aid, Treasurer since 2015
- Richard Cecil, St Andrew's, Sandon and Street Pastors, Secretary since 2015
- Sue Gibson, Skylark Church
- Ben Gardner, Life Church
- Roy Brackley, Foodbank
- Rachel Hewings, Chelmsford Cathedral
- Gemma Fraser, St John's and St Luke's, Moulsham
- Dan Pierce, St. Francis, Beaulieu.

Ben Gardner proposed, and Sue Gibson seconded, this and the meeting agreed nem con.

Richard than outlined the activities of CTiC over the previous year thus:

- Procession of Witness
- City Prayer Breakfast
- Twice monthly ministry of breakfast

- Revised website
- Developed Contacts
- Dissemination of Events and Opportunities

Financial Report

This was given by Robin Stevens, treasurer, beginning explaining that the accounts are produced on a receipts and payments basis which can produce anomalies with the main expenditure at Easter. He confirmed that the 2018 account have been examined and found to be a fair record. We started the year with about £4,700 in the bank and spent about £1,200 more than our income – so we ended 2018 with £3,500 in the bank. In 2018 we spent £3,036.69 on the Procession of Witness and £278 on the Civic Prayer breakfast. In 2019 we have spent £3,332.35 on the Procession of Witness and £147.52 on the City Prayer breakfast (part of which was supported by Chelmsford 24-7 Prayer now City Prayer).

In 2018 subscriptions from 38 churches and organisations brought in £2,412. This year, so far, donations from 25 churches and organisations have brought in £2,554. So, the bottom line is that, if no more donations come in (and I have contacted another 40 churches and organisations!), then we have enough in the bank to cover a Procession of Witness next year.

Introducing ministry: Made for More

Dave Pye, chairman of Made for More, spoke explaining how the name change from Schools Youth Ministry, SYM, reflecting the conviction that so many secondary school children are not experiencing life as God intends. He commented how Jo Wincott, until recently head teacher at Sandon school observed that 13% of a youngster's time is spent in school. We are made for joy, for laughter and so MFM have 16 mentors to support particular students in secondary schools in Chelmsford. This complements the work of the other MFM staff visiting schools. He then shared a vision for a chaplain in each secondary school in 3 years. He was clear that the need existed, and the limit is both financial and in terms of staff. Grants for Christian related holidays were also included in the vision. He pointed out that it is easier to build a child than repair an adult. Finally, he spoke how Made for More aspire to organise Orange Cube sponsorship so that mentors can be sponsored.

Introducing ministry: Kintsugi Hope

Diane Regan, speaking instead of her husband Patrick, explained that following 21 years with XLP which he has now handed on. The couple founded Kintsugi Hope 18 months ago in Essex. The name is based on the Japanese method of repairing earthenware with gold powder in the glue enhancing the look of the repair. This is a parable for finding treasure in life's scars. She had a slide explaining the vision saying, "A world where mental and emotional health is understood and accepted, with safe and supportive communities for everyone to grow and flourish." She then put the need to find Hope in Jesus at the centre of this and advised how Kintsugi Hope are providing a 12-week training

course to provide this. It has been fully booked and is now across the country and beyond. It is not therapy nor counselling but it is facilitated peer mentoring for which 1½ days training is available. It is based on the theme, Watch it, Hear it, Discuss it, Create it, Do it, Think it, Pray it.

She concluded with a piece by A A Milne from Whiney the Pooh, “Don’t walk behind me, I may not lead. Don’t walk in front of me, I may not follow. Just walk beside me and be my friend.”

Introducing ministry: The Rooftop

Dennis Pethers began by showing a short video explain how the vision he has is to ask God to see a city as God sees it. When Dennis became a Christian, he realised that what was happening in the churches did not match what he was reading in the Bible. There he saw it being all about broken people with Jesus doing everything in public. In Acts 10 we see Peter going on the rooftop to pray and there he began to understand that the gospel is for all. Dennis said that the church needs to wake up to make disciples beyond the walls of the churches. He then spoke of how on 10th October 2020 The Rooftop ministry is organising what is being called The Global Encounter in which Christians from over 100 countries go to a high place in or near their town and ask Jesus, “What do you see and how can we join with you?”

Speaking of location Dennis said how abroad he says he is from London. Living in South Woodham Ferrers though he is effectively from Chelmsford, the birthplace of wireless, in communication terms an ideal place from which to launch the Global Encounter. He concluded by sharing how the despair, when a minister went to a lectern to pray and opened a book, changed to wonder when this same minister prayed, “Help us to knock down the walls that divide us and use the bricks to build bridges into our communities.” That’s a vision.

Ministry/Forthcoming Conference: City Vision

David Gilbey showed a video from the previous City Vision Conference in Coventry, in May. He spoke briefly about how the ministry encouraged those present to come to the Chelmsford Conference, on 2nd November 2019, at Life Church.

Feedback

As Pete Bardwell concluded he reflected how it would be if his were the only church in Chelmsford and whether such a church would be adequate. But as the new banner for the Procession of Witness says it is, “Good Friday – Good News.” Christians are able and are called to bring hope. We might have a problem with too much good news!

Prayer

Sue Gibson then offered prayer in support of the initiatives that had been spoken about.

Closing Song

The meeting closed with worship songs again led by Ben Gardner followed by refreshments of excellent quality.