

Minutes of the CTiS Forum held on Wednesday December 9th 2009
at Cornard Christian Fellowship

Apologies had been received from Chris Proffitt, Nigel Ford, David Lamming, Neville Andrews, Diane Badrick and Richard Tifford.

36 people attended from 13 organisations

1 Welcome

A welcome was extended to Chris Baker of Lavenham Salvation Army, Jenny Seggar, curate at St Gregory's, Dorothy Gilks, and to Ruth Woodman who would be speaking about CAP.

Thanks were extended to Cornard Christian Fellowship for their hospitality.

The Chairman suggested that those present might like to contribute to a retiring collection in aid of Mulberry House

2 Worship

Worship was led by Jon Halden

3 CCF Update and prayer

Nick Harcourt-Powell explained to Forum how CCF wants to see God working through people's lives. They were reaching out to the community through Open Doors on Monday and through the Parent and Toddler group on Tuesdays. They requested prayer to help ensure greater gospel impact for the local families. Nick opened the meeting with reflection and prayer.

4 Minutes of the Forum held on 21st September 09

The minutes were approved subject to the correction of the spelling of Jenny Seggar's name, and the addition of Chris Rowe's name to the list of apologies. They were signed by the Chairman.

4.1 Matters arising

EnGp had discussed the proposed restructuring of EnGp and had agreed to trial the arrangement until the next AGM. There was discussion on membership of the committees and it was noted there might need to be some adjustment to membership.

5 Treasurer's Report

The treasurer's report had been circulated in advance. It was noted that Cornard Christian Fellowship and Great Cornard Parish Church had sent their affiliation fees since the report had been written. It was understood that Lavenham Parish Church were sending theirs. Holy Trinity Long Melford requested that they should have an invoice. It was explained that affiliation fees were considered as donations but the treasurer would find a way to sort this out.

The Treasurer asked for approval of:-

- the payments which had been made
- the donation of £200 donation from Way Inn funds to Living Waters and
- the donation of £200 from K&F funds to the RC Church for their Christmas project
- the establishment of an events fund which would be started by £3000 from Kettle & Fish funds.

The Forum approved all these items.

Forum also approved Peter Halden as a new signatory to the CTiS account.

Peter Heard was thanked for all his work as treasurer.

6 Christians against poverty

Ruth Woodman spoke to Forum about CAP. A written report had been made available for everyone. She said that 3 people had been trained to run money management courses. Several courses aimed at helping people to manage their finances had been run – mostly at Number 72. Over 40 people have attended these courses and all have found something helpful. A DVD was shown showing a number of case studies. Ruth made the points that

- courses could be run in different locations
- churches could put up posters advertising courses
- churches could put a link on their website
- it would help churches' understanding if they sent a representative to attend a course
- more financial support would be welcome
- suggestions on how to increase publicity would be welcome

The next course would start on 3rd February at Number 72.

Tim Ayrton, Number 72, expressed appreciation of the work done by the CAP team.

Simon Gill explained that it had been necessary for one church to take responsibility for the CAP team. All Saints was that church.

Thanks were expressed to Ruth for sharing the work of CAP with the Forum.

It was noted that the website which would give even more information was

<http://www.capuk.org/home/>

7 Verbal Reports

Town Pastors – Brian Stenner reported that

- Town Pastors had been operational since the middle of September
- Teams of 2 had gone out from 10.00 pm to 4.00 am every Saturday night supported by prayer teams
- 7 new town pastors were about to complete their training and it might be possible to put teams out on a Friday night.
- There were problems with administration and apologies were expressed to those who had volunteered to pray but had not been contacted.
- Churches were asked to encourage volunteers to train, people to join prayer teams [town pastors would not go out unless they were being supported by a prayer team], and to see if there were any volunteers to deal with administration.

Marriage Focus Group

Jane Kohler reported that this is the third year of the Group which was currently being chaired by Simon Gill. The Group had

- Produced the Marriage Focus booklet which provided information about the facilities provided by churches and costs of church weddings
- Gone to commercial wedding fairs
- Been funded largely by St Andrews Church
- 6 people had attended a course on “Prepare and Enrich”
- The Group was considering how their work should develop.

Easter Story

Eleanor Ridge reported that

- Interest is growing
- Auditions had been held and the majority of parts had been filled although some non-speaking parts were unfilled
- Rehearsals start on 6th January at CCF
- The soldiers would probably be local players
- The police in Sudbury had agreed that policing on the Saturday of Easter Story would be considered as normal duties and not as a chargeable event
- The event had the support of Sudbury Town Council
- People are needed to set up staging
- It was hoped that children from local schools would be involved in dance – and that they would hear part of the message of Easter
- Costs in the past had amounted to approximately £1300. It could be less this year and it would not be necessary to hire a marquee and there might be no additional costs for soldiers.

Forum agreed that “Why Jesus?” booklets could be distributed during the day. Peter Sebbage to organise.

WATCH

Richard Titford had said that he would give a detailed report at the next Forum when there was more to report.

8 Written Reports

Reports from Future Vision, MICs, Christmas Lights and Christmas Hampers had been circulated before the meeting.

9 Future CTiS&D events

The calendar for 2010 had been circulated with the agenda. It was confirmed that the lunchtime service on January 22nd would be held at URC.

10 Any Other Business

- The Chairman said that any ideas on who should be invited to Alive on Market Hill on July 11th would be welcome.
- Peter Sebbage said that Maureen Barsby of the RC Church had asked for names of any people who might like to spend Christmas Day at their Christmas lunch and afternoon.
- Graham Gilbert said that wreaths and plants were available for sale at the Sudbury Resource Centre.
- Tim Ayrton said that copies of the autobiographical book by Godfrey Miller, whose wife suffered with Alzheimer’s, was for sale at Number 72 price £2.00.

The date of the next Forum would be Thursday 4th March 2010 at 7.00 for 7.30 pm at Sudbury Baptist Church.

The meeting was closed in prayer by Malcolm Offord.