

## **CHURCHES TOGETHER IN SCARBOROUGH**

Minutes of a meeting of the Steering Group of Churches Together in Scarborough held at Northstead Methodist Church, Givendale Road, Scarborough on Tuesday, 15<sup>th</sup>. March, 2022 at 12 noon.

**PRESENT:-** Mr. Bruce Clark (Vice-Chair) (Burniston) in the Chair, Reverend Graeme D. Parkins (Vice-Chair) (Elim), Mrs. Ruth Dale (Secretary) (Northstead), Mr. Colin T. Adamson (Minutes Secretary & Treasurer) (Westborough), Reverend Geoff. Bowell (Scarborough Christian Fellowship), Mr. Joe Coates (St. Mary's with Holy Apostles), Reverend Tony Hand (St. Laurence's, Scalby & St. Peter's Hackness with St. Margaret's, Harwood Dale), Mrs. Celia Hare (St. Laurence's), Reverend Emma Morgan (Northstead, Scalby Sherburn & Snainton), Reverend David Nellist (Maranatha), and Mrs. S. Mary Walker (St. James with Holy Trinity)

**22/11 OPENING DEVOTIONS:-** The Chair opened the meeting focused on the Sufferings of Jesus for us and our closeness with God resulting in our being willing to suffer with others. Verses were read from Isaiah 53, followed by an exposition on the theme and concluding with a prayer.

**22/12 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:-** Apologies were received from Reverend C. John Hartley (Chair) (Burniston), Reverend Steve Blower (Sidewalk), Ms. Christina Bramley (Faith in Scarborough Schools & Burniston) Canon Mrs. Ros. Brewer (Scarborough Deanery & St. Mark's), Mr. Thomas R. Clayton (Lay Community Worker) (Queen Street), Mrs. Catherine Duffton (Faith in Scarborough Schools & Ebenezer), Mrs. Hester Miller (Quakers), Reverend Richard J. Walker (St. Mary's with Holy Apostles), and Reverend Graham R. Morgan (Methodist Superintendent, Queen Street & Westborough).

**22/13 MINUTES:-** The Minutes of the last Steering Group meeting held on Tuesday, 18<sup>th</sup>. January, 2022; having been circulated, were taken as read, approved and signed by the Chair.

### **22/14 ANY OTHER ITEMS FOR INCLUSION ON THE AGENDA:-**

- a) **Church Resources and Activities** - Mrs. Mary Walker requested this matter be discussed.

### **22/15 MATTERS ARISING:-**

- a) **Syrian Refugees** - (22/05 a)) - In the absence of the Reverend Richard Walker, no update was available.
- b) **A Borough of Sanctuary Status for Scarborough** - (22/05 b)) - The Minutes Secretary reported that there had not been any further communication received since June, 2021. It was felt that the

demise of Scarborough Borough Council at the end of March, 2023 could mean that this matter was not a high priority. It was agreed that individuals send e-mails to the councillors allegedly dealing with this matter and to also include reference to Ukrainian refugees.

- c) **'AS ONE'** - (22/05 c)) - the absence of the Reverend Richard Walker, no update was available.
- d) **Afghanistan Refugees** - (22/05 d)) - In the absence of the Reverend Richard Walker, no update was available.

Regarding items 22/15 a), c) and d), it was agreed to try and obtain reports from the Reverend Richard Walker and attach them to the Minutes for circulation.

It was also agreed to invite Miss Laura Cooper to the next meeting to talk about refugees generally.

- e) **Chaplaincy** - (22/09 a)) - The Reverend Graeme Parkins reported that he is talking to people in the area with a view to bringing things together and that he will report back further. Related to this subject, he also reported that it is important to recognise the stress being currently experienced by people in ministry.

- f) **Website** - (22/09 b))  
Mr. Bruce Clark reported that he is updating and renewing the website and has obtained some webspace. He is awaiting further responses from churches.

## **22/16 PAST EVENTS**

- a) **Week of Prayer for Christian Unity Service** - (22/06 a)) - It was considered that the service had gone well. It was agreed for future years, to look again at meeting daily in different churches during the week and to discuss this matter further at the September meeting.
- b) **World Day of Prayer Service** - (22/06 b)) - Mrs. Mary Walker reported that 32 had attended this service and that £171 had been raised for the charities supported by the World Day of Prayer organisation. It was confirmed that the 2023 service will be held at Scarborough Christian Fellowship on Friday, 3<sup>rd</sup>. March, 2023.
- c) **Prayer Vigil** - There had been a very good turnout. There had been other vigils around the town.

## **22/17 FUTURE EVENTS**

- a) **Good Friday Walk of Witness** - This will be held on Friday, 15<sup>th</sup>. April, 2022. Mr. Bruce Clark reported that a planning meeting had taken place and that progress is being made. There will be a flash mob choir. A first aider is required. Actors are required. Volunteers are required to give out eggs and postcards. Everyone to encourage people to turn up and participate. It will be a repeat of the previous format.
- b) **Pentecost Service** - This will take place on Sunday, 5<sup>th</sup>. June, 2022 at St. Peter's Roman Catholic Church at 6.30 p.m. No further information was available.

**22/18 TORCH TRUST : SIGHT LOSS FRIENDLY CHURCH:-** (22/07) The Reverend Emma Morgan stated that she would make contact again and invite a representative to give a presentation at the Annual General Meeting in November.

**22/19 TREASURER'S REPORT:-** The Treasurer reported that the cheques to the organisations supported by C.T.I.S. had been sent and that four very appreciative letters had been received. One of the cheques has still not been cleared. The annual insurance has been paid. The offering at the Christian Unity service has raised £237.47. Letters had been sent to all churches regarding the renewal of the membership subscriptions and some donations have started to be received. The current reconciled bank balance is £794.58, but with further subscriptions and at offering at the Pentecost service, it should be possible by the next Annual General Meeting, to be able to make donations in the usual way. Reference was made to the bank charges and the Treasurer confirmed that a minimum of £5.00 is being charged per month and that in a month when transactions take place, this is slightly greater. Consideration to be given to look at other available facilities for banking.

## **22/20 ANY OTHER BUSINESS:-**

- a) **Church Resources & Activities** - Mrs. Mary Walker raised a matter considered at the St. James' Parochial Church Council, asking whether C.T.I.S. could produce a list of activities being offered by churches in the Scarborough area which are open to anyone – church attendees or not – such as children's clubs, companionship groups, drop ins. It was stated that the update of the website and the use of Facebook could provide this information. Mr. Bruce Clark will take this on board and report back.

**22/21 DATES OF THE NEXT MEETINGS:-** The dates of the next Steering Group meetings will be held on 14<sup>th</sup>. June and 20<sup>th</sup>. September. 2022, at Northstead Methodist Church at 12 noon.

The A.G.M. will be held on Tuesday, 8<sup>th</sup>. November, 2022, at Queen Street Methodist Central Hall at 6.30 p.m. for 7.00 p.m.

There being no further business, the meeting closed, with the Grace.