

Minutes of Committee meeting at 18:00 on Wednesday 26 September 2018 in Bangor Cathedral Lady Chapel

Present (14): Anna Jane Evans (Chair), Daphne Russell, Delyth Oswy-Shaw, Diana Boaler, Eleri Jones, Gwyneth Clapham, Jean Ware, Judith Stammers, Mark King, Nathan Jarvis, Peter Thorpe, Sarah McDonald-Howard, Una Tregaskis, Ian Russell (Secretary).

Apologies (14 + 6 leavers): Adrian Morrin, Bo Barrington, Caroline John (now in Cardiff), David Fisher (now in Guildford), Deb Stammers (now in Holyhead), Delyth Murphy, Eirian Howells, Ellie Jones, Elwyn Richards, Freddy Farias-Palacios, Howard Jackson, Jennifer Gibson, Jennifer Roberts, Kathy Jones, Kevin Mundy, Neil Rymer, Olaf Davies (now retired), Paul Rowlinson, Philip Barratt & Llew Moules-Jones (both now in Anglesey).

1 Welcome The Chair welcomed members, especially Sarah McDonald-Howard to her first meeting, & led devotions.

2 Minutes of meeting on Monday 23 April 2018

We **agreed** the minutes of the meeting in St John's Methodist Church Hall as an accurate record.

3 Matters arising but not covered elsewhere

3a Homelessness in Bangor – the Secretary reminded members that local statutory bodies believed their multi-agency approach provided housing for all willing to use it; and **reported** that the Bangor Inter Faith Group, aware that Universal Credit would soon reach North Wales, was preparing contingency plans.

Sarah McDonald-Howard **reported** that St John's Methodist Church had piloted a 'soup run' from 8pm till 10pm on Saturday evenings in preparation for the winter.

3b Wales Nation of Sanctuary (WNoS) – Ian Russell reminded members that he had accepted an invitation from WNoS (who work with Welsh Government etc to improve the welfare of refugees & asylum seekers across Wales), to lead their health group aiming **to improve their access to health care in Wales**. As this was time-consuming, he **asked** members for help in recruiting a local coordinator for the NW Wales Area of Sanctuary, the incipient organisation seeking to work with Gwynedd & Ynys Mon Councils etc **to improve the welfare of refugees across NW Wales**. So it was preferable for the coordinator to be close to the refugee community.

Action Members & Secretary

3c "Sunday Services in Member Churches" – the Secretary **thanked** all churches for updating their entries in time for printing and delivery to the 'Freshers Fair' and to all churches.

4 Inter Faith Week

We **agreed** the following plan:

4a Saturday 10 November in Bangor Cathedral, LL57 1RL:

10am till 1pm – 'Celebrating cultural diversity' ideally including contributions from Christian Aid, Bangor Street Pastors, Open the Book, Wales Nation of Sanctuary, & other Cytun activities.

Action Secretary

1.30pm till 2.30pm – Vigil for peace, as in March 2017 & June 2018.

Action Officers

4b Sunday 11 November at 1100 at Bangor Cenotaph

Civic Ceremony to mark the Centenary of the Armistice in 1918.

Action Officers

5 Carol singing at Morrisons

We **agreed** to ask Morrisons to allow us to sing at their entrance from 6pm till 7pm on Friday 14 December; and to invite members of the Penrallt Band to lead us.

Action Secretary

6 Octave of Prayer for Christian Unity (Friday 19 January to Friday 26 January)

We **agreed** to build on our 2018 successes: Plygain at Cathedral, early service at Eglwys Emaus, intermediate service at Capel Berea, and concluding service at Church of Our Lady. We asked a subgroup including the Chair, Eleri Jones, Mark King and the Secretary to plan events around the 2019

theme "Only justice" (Deuteronomy 16:18) prepared by the churches of Indonesia; and to consider the scope for midweek Bible study, either in Caffé Deiniol at lunchtime or as an international collaboration by Skype, for example with Jerusalem through Revd John Howard, new Minister of St John's Methodist Church, recently returned from duty in the Methodist Liaison Office there. **Action** Subgroup

7 Refugees

Judith Stammers **reported** that the fifth Syrian family were settling well; and Croeso Menai were progressing towards their target of £9000 to bring another Syrian family to NW Wales outside the Government's slowly progressing Syrian Vulnerable Persons Resettlement Scheme (SVRPS). She **invited** Churches to contribute to Croeso Menai separately from their contributions to our SVRPS support fund. **Action** Churches

8 Christian Aid Week 2019

Daphne Russell **confirmed** that we had collected £900 less in 2018 than in 2017. So we **agreed** to build on our 2018 successes: quiz night at Penrallt; initial service & frugal lunch at Capel Berea; all-day breakfast in Deiniol Shopping Centre; & coffee morning at Friends Meeting House. We **asked** a subgroup including the Chair, Peter Thorpe, Daphne Russell, Jean Ware, & the Secretary to consult Church organisers, & to consider: redistributing streets between Churches, especially to cover all rich streets and new housing; asking collectors to collect in their own streets; seeking student collectors; and preparing a brief for collectors that stresses local Christian activities complementing Christian Aid Week, notably foodbanks organised by both Cathedral and Bangor Community Church, the new soup run, the Street Pastors, and Open the Book. **Action** Subgroup

9 News and invitations

- 9a Saturday 29 September from 11am till 1pm in Bangor Cathedral – Modern Slavery Forum.
- 9b Monday 8 October at 7pm in Eglwys St Pedr, Penrhosgarnedd, LL57 2UB – Service to welcome Revd Canon Tracy Jones to both St Peter's & Eglwys Y Groes, Maesgeirchen.
- 9c Friday 12 Oct. at 7pm in Eglwys Emaus, LL57 2SB – Service to welcome Revd Casi Jones.
- 9d Every Thursday from 12:30pm till 1pm in Bangor Cathedral, LL57 1RL – Mindfulness Service.

10 Dates & locations of future meetings

Tuesday 27 November 2018 at 19:30 in St John's Methodist Church, High Street, LL57 1DQ.
Wednesday 13 February 2019 – AGM in Penrallt Baptist Church, Holyhead Road, LL57 2EU.
Tuesday 26 February 2019 in the Quaker Meeting House, Dean Street, LL57 1UR.

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31 October 2018