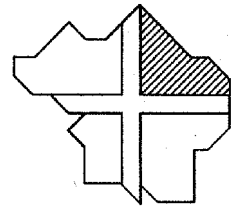


**Stantonbury Ecumenical Partnership (SEP)
Minutes of the Trustees Meeting held on
Thursday 9 June 2011 at 7.45 pm
at Stantonbury, Christ Church**



Document date 12.06.11
Corrections 14.06.11
Redacted 06.10.11

The first part of the meeting was chaired by Revd Andy Jowitt

1. Opening Prayer

Revd Chris Howden reminded members that this time, between Ascension and Pentecost, was for the disciples a period of awaiting the arrival of the Holy Spirit, but they continued to meet together in prayer. May also our meeting and prayers guide decisions made this evening.

3. Election Partnership Officers for 2011 - 2012

Revd Andy Jowitt explained that in accordance with the Constitution the Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer had all been nominated at the Annual Congregational Meeting on 5 May 2011, but formal election is by the Trustees at their first meeting following the ACM.

The following appointments were proposed and elected *nem. con.*

Position	Nomination	Proposed	Seconded
Chairman	Mike Morris	Prue Errington	Michael Kemp
Secretary	John Figg	Bob Cross	Michael Kemp
Treasurer	Maggie Prisk	Mike Morris	Mary Kennedy

Mr Mike Morris took over as Chairman for the rest of the meeting.

4. Advance Notification of Any Other Business

Compilation of contact details of charity members

5. PCC Meeting (if required)

There was no PCC business to be discussed

6. Minutes of Meeting on 17 February 2011 for approval and 5 May 2011 for comment

No corrections or amendments were identified in the minutes of the meeting held on 17 February 2011 and they were signed by the Chairman as being a true record of the meeting. Errors in the minutes of the Annual Congregational Meeting had been notified to the Secretary, a corrected version is attached.

7. Matters Arising

Youth Worker for the Partnership

Revd Chris Howden said that she had met with the applicant who was now considering possible locations for her placement. If Stantonbury is selected it now appears that costs will be significantly greater than originally believed, grant aid from the Parish Council or the Central Baptist Association would need to be investigated. Revd Andy Jowitt commented from the experience of the Bridgebuilder Trust that their centre for Youth Ministry placements had required a significant investment in terms of planning, supervision, liaison with the University and finance, but that the benefits had been significant. Bob Cross reminded trustees that approval of the idea at the ACM on 5 May 2011 was on a basis that costs would be about £100

per month, there would have to be a variation proposal if costs greatly exceed that amount. Revd Paul Smith said that the project would be mutually beneficial to the Partnership and the University.

Sharing Agreement for New Bradwell, St James

(reported by Revd Andy Jowitt) Methodist solicitors had contacted Revd Chris Collinge asking for more information. She had reminded them that needed action was for them to reach

agreement with John Rees, Oxford Diocese, and asked them to copy correspondence to her --- so that she could contact the Bishop to, hopefully, facilitate negotiations.

New Bradwell Community Centre

Revd Andy Jowitt had written to Jimmy MacIntyre, Chairman of the Community Centre Directors, summarising the outcome of the meeting held on 9 March 2011 and enquiring about progress since that date. It is possible that grant aid may be forthcoming from the Community Foundation.

SEP Constitution

Revd Andy Jowitt confirmed that the Partnership are now operating in accordance with charity status although final agreement by Oxford Diocese is still awaited. Mike Morris said that the Mission Partnership had managed to get agreement to essentially the same charity status without encountering the problems delaying Stantonbury Partnership and other LEP's.

Women in the Episcopate

Deanery discussion on this had been held on 8 June 2011 where votes were taken giving majority support for progress of the legislation but also expressing concern that no details of the Code of Practice for parishes opposed were available and that more secure legal protection was not given to those opposed to women in the episcopate. Revd Paul Smith reported that almost all diocese had voted in favour of the proposals and, generally, it was considered that protection measures for those not in agreement were adequate.

8. Ministerial Arrangements

Mike Morris submitted an interim report from the Deployment Group (attached). Crucial to the situation is for the Partnership to develop a clear vision of what is wanted to be achieved and the individual church councils are asked to bring forward their ideas. Meanwhile practical possibilities are for an increased Methodist contribution or, more tenuously, for a trainee Baptist minister to become involved. For the former possibility, Revd Stephen Mosedale, Methodist Superintendent, asks the Partnership to signify their willingness to proceed by the end of June (but it would always be possible to withdraw subsequently). The meeting agreed that negotiations should continue.

Action: Mike Morris

It was agreed that the Deployment Group should investigate further the Baptist possibility with the assistance of Revd Dr Mary Cotes.

Action: Deployment Group

9. Finance

Maggie Prisk presented Profit and Loss Accounts for the year to date and the current Balance Sheet. To improve cash-flow payments to the Mission Partnership have been changed to the 15th of each month. The Soup Run appeal achieved £400 from the Waitrose donations. The Riding Lights production at Stantonbury Theatre resulted in a net surplus of £321; it was agreed that this should be added to the Development Fund. Revd Andy Jowitt suggested that thanks should be recorded to Anne Slee and colleagues for organisation of ticket sales. It is still envisaged that the Partnership will show an overall loss for the year with the required funds being taken from reserves. The meeting confirmed the resolution from the ACM for allocation of an honorarium to Gary Farns, Messrs Mercer & Hole, for the Independent Examination of the accounts.

10. CitizensMK

Election of Trustee from the Partnership

Revd Brian Howden was proposed by Revd Andy Jowitt and seconded by Revd Mindy Bell. Agreed *nem. con.*

Update on Training

The training session arranged for 14 May 2011 was too soon after the ACM for any of the SEP Trustees to attend. However, Mr Mohamed Suleman has offered to organise a special training for SEP. Suggested dates were 15 or 22 October 2011. **Action: Revd Brian Howden** Mr Suleman has also offered to address individual congregations or Church Councils.

Revd Brian Howden said that there is a need to establish a 'link' person in each congregation to also act as 'champion' for CitizensMK

Action: Church Councils

Living Wage for Partnership Employees

It was agreed that this was a necessity if the Partnership is to promote wider adoption of the principle. CitizensMK are to extend actions already taken over Tesco in London with simultaneous approaches to the Tesco stores at Bletchley, Kingston and Wolverton on 15 June 2011. Ten volunteers from SEP are requested to join the action --- Revd Mindy Bell offered herself or husband and Mary Kennedy also volunteered. Therefore, a further eight participants are needed.

Urgent Action: Church Congregations

11. Stantonbury.net Website and NETWORK Magazine

The Standing Committee had recommended that the approved minutes of Trustees' Meetings should be made available on the Partnership website. Not all members were in favour of this idea and it was proposed by Danny Waite and seconded by David Wilson that minutes should be redacted by deleting the names of members recorded as attending or sending apologies. Put to the vote there were 8 in favour, 3 against, with 5 abstentions. *Motion carried.*

Action: Secretary

The editorial meeting for the next issue of NETWORK magazine is due to be held on 10 June 2011. Work schedules have prevented Paul Brookman from re-election as a trustee, but he will continue to offer his expertise for production of the magazine.

12. Child Protection Policy

Revd Chris Collinge had reported that continuing uncertainty over the promised new regulations meant that a number of CRB renewals are now needed in order to update the CRB Register.

13. Reports

Team Leader

The full report from Revd Andy Jowitt is attached. He emphasised that Denominational committees will inevitably become of greater importance now that the Mission Partnership Assembly will be discontinued. SEP are entitled to seven representatives on Deanery Synod. We no longer have automatic representation on the Deanery Mission & Pastoral Committee but there are three vacancies. Maggie Prisk offered to stand for election and her nomination was proposed by Mary Kennedy and seconded by Michael Kemp. *Agreed nem. con.*

Chairman of Trustees

Mike Morris drew attention to sections of his report (attached) dealing with the appointment of a Director of Mission, a leader for the VentureFX project and the Hospital and the Waterways chaplaincies. Lay helpers can be particularly helpful for the waterways ministry.

Evangelism Enabler

Revd Andy Jowitt in presenting his report (attached) said that Stantonbury Civil Parish have now arranged for their 'Road Show' to be mounted at the Oakridge Park estate on different dates from 23 July 2011 and that Stantonbury Partnership are invited to have a presence. The 'welcome pack', copies of NETWORK and a special one-page flyer will be available.

Children and Families

Revd Chris Collinge, together with Alison Drury, will be organising a City-wide training in 'Core Skills' for children's workers.

Creative Arts

Revd Chris Howden expressed thanks again to all those involved in the organisation and production of 'The Narrow Road' at Stantonbury Theatre which had been both a worthwhile and financially successful event.

Week of Accompanied Prayer

Revd Brian Howden reported on the success of the event held this year at Woodhill Prison. Twelve pilgrims had participated in what had proven a humbling experience in an environment where ordinarily the sharing of information is very difficult.

14. Any Other Business

Trustees were reminded that in order to fulfil Charity Law (and the law of the Church of England) our Constitution requires the holding of a full list of members and their addresses, but that the contact details are held in confidence. Discussion had been held with 'Churches Together' in drafting our Constitution and they had agreed that although names must be made available on enquiry, addresses need not be.

15. News From the Churches

Members reminded Trustees of events occurring during the next few days. Events further ahead are:

- 2 July, Cream teas at Bradwell
- 24 July, Choral Evensong at Willen
- 7 August, Service at the Hospice at 10.30 am

16. Dates of Future Meetings

all meetings at 7.30 for 7.45 pm

- 1 September 2011 at Willen, St Mary Magdalene
- 24 November 2011 at New Bradwell, St James*
- 23 February 2012 at Great Linford, St Andrew's
- 19 April 2012 at Stantonbury, Christ Church*

* venues to be confirmed

17. Forward Date

The next meeting of the Standing Committee will be on Wednesday 6 July 2011 at 4.30 pm at Downs Barn, Cross & Stable.

18. Closing Prayer

Mike Morris closed the meeting, praying that this partnership would meet changes making use of the voluntary services and skills of our talented membership. He invited members to join together in the saying of The Grace.