

Churches Together in Hemel Hempstead

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting on 22nd June 2021 at 7pm for 7.30pm
via Zoom hosted by New Life Pentecostal Church

Chair: Austin Janes; Minutes: Heather Lewis

Trustees also attending: Paul Boggis, Andrew Brazier, Nikki Daly, Chris Jones and Joel Nanganuri.

1. **Welcome and Prayer and Worship:** After a time of informal conversation, Austin welcomed everyone and Joel opened the meeting with prayer and two recorded worship songs.
2. **Speakers:** Jackie Tuffs and Hannah Luke spoke about the work of Hope UK and in particular a new drug education programme which they are trialing on Zoom with family groups across 3 generations. They would like to find volunteers in Hemel to participate. More details from Hannah at h.luke@hopeuk.org. They also offer one hour online workshops, details of which are on their website at www.hopeuk.org/events
3. **Apologies** were received from:
Heidi Buckell, Owen and Kerry-Anne Cooper, Bob Day, Kim Hobbs, Andrew Masters, Eamonn O'Reilly and Gillian Redman.
4. **Minutes of the CTHH AGM held on 16th June 2020** had been circulated in advance of the meeting with the agenda. These were agreed by the meeting to be signed by the chair at a later date.
5. There were no matters arising from the minutes.
6. **Organisation and activity updates:** Written reports were circulated in advance and posted on the CTHH website – <https://hemelchurches.org.uk>
 - **Christians against Poverty** (Christina Bird)
 - **Cornergate:** As Kim Hobbs was not able to be present he sent the following update:
 - *"The prison is in discussion with us to begin a weekly Debating Society to teach communication, reasoning and presentation skills. This will start within the month. We are excited about this as we hope it will lead to many opportunities to meet with individual prisoners in preparation for their release from prison. It will also dovetail nicely with our new rehabilitation course that launches in September.*
 - *Probation are now sending us referrals of individual offenders with complex needs. We are delighted that probation are trusting us but the need for more volunteers for both this and prison work is growing fast!*
 - **Dacorum Street Pastors:** Mike Wallis emphasised that, as activity is increasing as Covid-related restrictions are lifted, more Street Pastors are needed as well as an additional trustee to manage fundraising especially as more funds are needed. Mike expressed his willingness to speak at church events.
 - **Discovery:** As Andrew Masters was not able to be present he asked that anyone with questions about Discovery contact him.
 - **Expressions Academy:** Daniella Hobbs mentioned two holiday clubs planned for the summer and asked for prayer for plans to restart work in schools.
 - **La Vigna:** Louisa Criscenti-Brown emphasised her vision for the Trattoria to be a place of community and mentioned several activities which had already taken place there.
 - **Liberty Tea Rooms:** Owen and Kerry-Anne Cooper were not able to be present but reported that Liberty Tea Rooms are aiming to reopen to the community on the 3rd August, all being well with restrictions being lifted.

- **Pray Hemel:** (Penny Crosswell). Pat Gosling expressed her gratitude to those who, in the absence of being able to meet in person, had prepared ideas for prayer which were circulated by email at the beginning of each month. Austin suggested that information might be also posted on Facebook to encourage more involvement. A prayer walk is planned for August.
- **Rambles:** Chris Jones highlighted the next ramble on 26th June, the first since February 2020. There are 12 walks which have been planned and tested. With more leaders available these could provide a different walk each month of the year.
- **Youth Across Hemel:** (Damon Harding). Nikki mentioned a BBQ planned for 29th June. More volunteers are needed to continue the work of YAH.

7. Officers' Reports

- **Chair:** Austin Janes
- **Secretary:** Heather Lewis
- **Treasurer** (including accounts for approval): Chris Jones summarised the report which had been circulated, emphasising the reduction in the churches' annual subscriptions from £50 to £40 facilitated by the fact that the CTHH website is now hosted free of charge.

8. **Appointment of Examiner:** Sharon Boyall was thanked for examining the 2020/2021 accounts and had agreed to examine the 2021/2022 accounts.

9. Election of Trustees and Officers:

The following trustees are willing to stand for a further year:

Paul Boggis, Andrew Brazier, Nikki Daly, Austin Janes, Chris Jones, Heather Lewis and Joel Nanganuri.

Austin Janes is willing to serve as chair for a further year.

Andrew Brazier is willing to serve as vice-chair for a further year.

Heather Lewis is willing to serve as secretary for a further year.

Chris Jones is willing to serve as treasurer for one further year.

These were all agreed by the meeting. It was noted that additional trustees would be welcome and could be co-opted during the year pending being voted in at the next AGM. In particular someone was needed to work alongside Chris with the aim of taking over as treasurer at the next AGM.

10. Any Other Business

Mike Wallis reported that Gordon Short had recently taken on the role of Waterways Chaplain along the Grand Union canal.

Norman Spink reported that Ynis Richardson, who had previously been the CTHH for St Mary's church, had recently died. He asked for prayers of thanks for her life and work and for her family and friends.

11. The meeting closed with prayer, led by Andrew Brazier, and a worship song.