

Notes of a meeting held on Tuesday 14 September 2016 at Eltham Green Community Church

AGENDA

There was a Prayer time from 12 - 12.30pm

1. Welcome, Introduction and apologies:

Apologies: Segun Adenuga, Becca Bickley, Susan Blackall, Margaret Cave, Sandy Christie, Tina Jones, Kim Hitch, Duncan MacBean, Pat Mann, Chris Moody, Liz Oglesby, Eddie Scrase-Field, John Twidale, Ariadne Van den Hof, Brett Ward

Present: Clement Adebisi, Susan Boorman, David Chick, Tim Cross, Claire Crowley, Mike Leader, Victor Lambert, Israel Olofinjara, Andy Masters, Christine Ridgwell, Alan Robinson, Paul Rogers, John Watson

2. Matters arising from last meeting (which are not agenda items)

London Churches - Housing Crisis. One day seminar. Thursday 20th October 10.30am to 3.30pm. Lunch provided. at Anchor for All Souls RCG Church, Artillery Place, Woolwich SE18 4AB. Mike explained that this was aimed at Church Leaders but that anyone interested from our congregations was welcome. Please register by email at londonchurches@btinternet.com. [Flyer attached]

3. Claire Crowley (Ecumenical Officer, South London Churches Together) explained her role and offered support to any local churches. She highlighted the Facebook page - www.facebook.com/ctsouthlondon.

4. Updates & reviews:

Education: Prayer for schools (next meeting Thursday 22 September, 11am at St Nicholas, Kidbrooke). Tim said that anyone not able to attend could send in prayer requests for schools.

Greenwich Youth for Christ - Becca Bickley has resigned as CEO. Joseph Crisp-Hihn is now in charge. Thanksgiving Service for 21 years on 5 October at 7.30pm in St John's Blackheath.

Foodbank: Alan Robinson (CEO Greenwich Foodbank) gave an update. Foodbank continued to feed large numbers of needy people and Greenwich was something of a showcase for Trussell Trust. A Transit Van had been purchased through donations from Greenwich Ward Councillors.

Regular drivers for the Transit were required and church leaders were asked to see if there were any possible volunteers from their congregations.

Winter Night Shelter: Kim Hitch want to remind all churches that volunteers (new and old) must complete the training, even if they have done it in previous years. Training sessions are as follows:

- Sat 8 October, 9.30 - 11.00am
- Wed 12 October, 8.00 - 9.30pm
- Sat 5 November, 9.30 - 11.00am
- Wed 9 November, 8.00 - 9.30pm
- Wed 30 November, 8.00 - 9.30pm
- Sat 3 December, 9.30 - 11.00am

Street Pastors: Update from Christina Agin (Administrator). One new person was in training to be a Street Pastor but there was still a desperate for more. In Woolwich it appears that the main problem was now homelessness. Problems with drunkenness had waned especially since Tesco started closing at midnight. Team leaders report that their teams are almost always welcomed by local businesses. Paul suggested that the Police should be asked where they thought SPs would be most effective. A number of stories were shared of successes.

Mike pointed out that there was still a need for churches to donate core funding. Greenwich Street Pastors were working towards becoming a Charitable Incorporated Organisation to help with fund raising. Victor suggested that a single fund to which churches could contribute to cover all of our local projects might be helpful.

5. Area round-up:

St Michael's Blackheath Park were running an "Open the Book" meeting (which encourages the telling of Bible stories in local schools) on Monday 26 September from 12.30 to 1.30pm with lunch provided. Speaker will be Nigel Langford.

Charlton United Reformed Church would like to invite anyone interested to the induction of their new part-time Minister, Andrew Willett, on Saturday 1 October at 2pm. Charlton URC is in Bramshot Avenue SE7 7HX.

Christ Faith Tabernacle are holding a meeting for ministers and church leaders on Monday 26 September 7 - 9pm called "Prophetic Voice of Ministers", hosted by Apostle Alfred Williams. Christ Faith Tabernacle, Cathedral, Ebenezer Building, 186 Powys Street, Woolwich SE18 6NL.

6. Any Other business

Jasmine Martinez, Assistant Psychologist within Greenwich Memory Team, is trying to get a small group of ethnic minority church leaders together to discuss Memory issues and services. Further details from Jasmine (jasmine.martinez@oxleas.nhs.uk)

Friendly Places. The last meeting of London Churches was considering how churches can work with people who have mental health issues. Mike gave out some information called "Friendly Places" from Faith Action (www.faihcation.net). [Attached]

Provisional date of next meeting: **12 noon on Tuesday 22 November 2016. Offer for venue?**

Website: www.churchgreenwich.org.uk