

Notes of a meeting held on Thursday 20 November 2018  
Christ Church, East Greenwich

## AGENDA

There was a prayer time at the beginning of the meeting

Present: Timmy Ajayi (St Michael's Blackheath Park); Joseph Boadu (Christian Life Fellowship); Susan Boorman (Charlton URC); Peter Brown (Woolwich Central Baptist Church); Margaret Cave (Parish of East Greenwich); Sandy Christie (St Michael's Blackheath Park); Joe Crisp-Hihn (GYFC); Belinda Dey (Blackheath & Charlton Baptist Church); Richard Grocott (Methodist Church); Kim Hitch (St James, Kidbrooke); Mike Leader (Charlton & Blackheath Christian Fellowship); Israel Olofinjana (Woolwich Central Baptist Church); Andrew Woodward-Russell (Parish of East Greenwich)

Apologies: James Bryson; David Chick; Brett Ward; Andrew White; Andrew Willett

Dates for 2019:	Forum Meetings:	Prayer for Greenwich School (Thursdays)
January	Tuesday 22 January	31 January
March	Wednesday 20 March	28 March
May	Monday 13 May	16 May
July	Thursday 25 July	11 July
September	Tuesday 17 September	TBA
November	Monday 18 November	TBA

Prayer for Greenwich Schools meets on Thursday of this week (22 November) at St Nicholas Vicarage, Whetstone Road, SE3 8PX

*Please diary this dates.*

### Churches Together in South London - Bi-Annual Meeting Wednesday 7 November

Paul Morrison from Joint Public Issues Team (an initiative of the Baptist, Methodist and URC Churches and the Church of Scotland) speaking on Universal Credit. Mike had attended this meeting and gave a brief outline. Paul Morrison had summarised the situation with Universal Credit which was causing a great deal of concern. For details see the full briefing at:

<http://www.jointpublicissues.org.uk/uc-poverty-by-design>

Paul described Universal Credit as "Designed by the wrong people to do the wrong thing".

Also information from Trussell Trust:

<http://www.tusselltrust.org/what-we-do/research-advocacy/next-stage-universal-credit/>

One of the suggestions from the meeting was that churches should consider training people who could give advice and signpost those experiencing difficulties to find help and support. CAP centres were mentioned. There is one in Thamesmead and also someone in Eltham. We were reminded that there is a Pro Bono Legal Centre operating at Christ Church, East Greenwich to provide people who do not qualify for legal aid with access to legal justice ([www.eglac.org.uk](http://www.eglac.org.uk)). Margaret Cave pointed out that there was the capacity for a couple of volunteer lawyers to join the EGLAC team.

Churches Together in South London Big Gatherings next year both at 7pm (6pm for buffet) at Trinity House, 4 Chapel Court, Borough High Street, London SE1 1HW (Anglican Southwark Diocesan HQ) - Wednesday 1 May and 20 November

### "The Turning"

Israel Olofinjana and Peter Brown had been at a London meeting to introduce "The Turning". This began in Reading Baptist Church and has been to several major cities in the UK. The plan is to see it coming to London. It is designed to encourage people to turn back to Christ and to take back the streets for Christ. Each borough was being encouraged to set up a hub of churches and Peter has agreed to act as the co-ordinator for Greenwich. There would be training 5 - 6 March 2019 and prayer in all hub centres 7 June. The main event going on to the streets would be 21 September.

### London Mission Collective Briefing 2019.

One stop meeting to find out what is happening in terms of mission across the Capital. Opportunity to connect with leaders of organisations like London City Mission and Scripture Union. Keynote speaker is Tom Price from Oxford Centre for Christian Apologetics speaking on "Confidence in the Gospel". Venue: All Bar One, The O2, Greenwich SE10 0DX. 8 January 2019. Either Breakfast Briefing 9.30am-11.30am (with Coffee and Croissants) or Lunch Briefing 12.30pm to 2.30pm (with Buffet Lunch). Free. Booking via eventbrite.

### Stronger Together

How faith groups can help reduce knife crime - 6 December 9.30am to 2pm. Organised by Greenwich Council at the Woolwich Centre. Book on eventbrite.

### Updates:

**Greenwich Street Pastors:** Volunteer Pastors still required. It is sometimes difficult to get a team out on a Friday evening because of low numbers available.

**Greenwich Foodbank:** Volunteers still needed for the big collection at Tesco's in Woolwich on 1 December 2018.

**Greenwich Winter Night Shelter:** New longer opening period. Opened this week and expecting to be full capacity by next week.

**Greenwich Youth for Christ:** The Illuminate Tour would be going into a number of local schools. The theme is "Living Life on Purpose". There is a concert at the Indigo in the O2 on Saturday 8 December. Doors open at 7pm. Cost £10. See attached poster. Website: [www.illuminateyourcity.com/london](http://www.illuminateyourcity.com/london) . On 14 December there is a Light Party. Details from GYFC. Info: [joseph@greenwichyfc.org.uk](mailto:joseph@greenwichyfc.org.uk)

GYFC is a relatively small organisation which relies on gifts from local churches to provide a Christian input to schools and local church youth work.

**Greenwich Sanctuary:** 6 refugee families resettles so far.

Offers of a venue for meetings from May to November would be appreciated.

Website - [www.churchgreenwich.org.uk](http://www.churchgreenwich.org.uk)

Next meeting:

**Tuesday 22 January 12 noon at Blackheath & Charlton Baptist Church**

*Thanks to Margaret, Andrew & Christ Church for hosting us today.*