

Horsforth Churches Together

Together in our community



MINUTES

of the **Horsforth Churches Together**
 Wednesday 4th May 2022
 at Lister Hill 7.30pm.

Attendees:	John Barnes, Judith Briggs, Jonathan Cain, Rachel Ford (Chair), Lynne Gillions (Secretary), Jane Linley, Matt Powell, Natasha Powell, Jonathan Sellars, Jan Smith, Duncan Stow,	
Apologies	Heather Booth, Martin Booth, Ruth Dent, Phil Maud, Jean Orton, Jill Woodman	
		Action By:
	Welcome	
1.	Rachel welcomed everyone to the meeting.	
2.	<p>Friends of Migrants Support Group – Jane Linley</p> <p>The group came out of the Catholic Bishop asking the local Priest to explore working with Ukrainians. The 3 local parishes sought the advice of the Refugee Council. As Ukrainian people had not yet arrived they decided to focus on the 120 male asylum seekers currently housed in the Parkway hotel in Adel. They have been there since October. They are mostly Africans. They only have what they came with so many only have one set of clothes and some only have flip flops to wear. They have no money so are not able to get about anywhere so consequently are very bored. The group are looking to support them in the following ways:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A) Provide appropriate clothing, particularly trainers. On 20 and 21 May they are inviting them in groups to Holy Name to choose clothes from racks and offer them cake and a drink. B) Start a conversation club. Some of the volunteers have undergone training to facilitate this. C) As Ukrainians start to arrive they plan to assess their needs and respond accordingly. They recognise that this will require more volunteers getting involved. D) Invite MPs to discuss the plight of migrants. <p>Anyone wishing to volunteer should email Jane Linley at jane.linley@hotmail.co.uk Duncan suggested that it might be best if each church provided set items so it was agreed to aim for 10 pairs of trainers and the provision of 6 cakes on 19 May to be taken to Holy Name Church.</p>	All Churches
3.	<p>Minutes and Matters Arising</p> <p>The minutes from 9 March were agreed with no matters arising.</p>	
4.	<p>Treasurer's Report</p> <p>There is currently a balance of £6594.74 of which HCT has £6075.74 and Perfectly Pitched has £519. HCT has gratefully received £500 from Horsforth Town Council for the Walk of Witness.</p> <p>One church is still to pay its contribution but we remain well placed to meet forthcoming commitments.</p>	
5.	<p>Covid Memorial – 'Two Years On'</p> <p>The event had gone very well. It had proved to be a good way to engage with the community. Some people shared really significant issues and others had pleasant conversations. Keeping the ribbons up had helped to involve more people to visit the display and read the comments. Rachel thanked all those who had been involved.</p> <p>Easter</p> <p>Duncan reported back on the Walk of Witness. He remarked how good it was to see people involved again and although the turnout was down on earlier years it was still well attended. He thanked Rachel for leading the service so well.</p>	

6.	<p><u>Christian Aid 12-21 May – Jan Smith</u> Jan outlined some of the work of Christian Aid and highlighted its rapid response to the Ukrainian crisis releasing £1m from its emergency fund in the first week. This alongside its work in alleviating poverty, reducing hunger and addressing environmental issues. Last year the delivery of envelopes resulted in over £3000 of donations. This year it will again be a delivery only approach with envelopes being returned to Morrisons or local churches. Volunteers are urgently needed. Contact Jan Smith 0798 209 2573 Envelopes can be distributed between Thursday, 12 May and Saturday 21 May. Spares will be available outside Duncan's house, 5 The Grove LS18 4BB</p>	All Churches
7.	<p><u>Welcome Pack</u> The Welcome Pack is now available. It is being distributed to all churches. Each church should encourage their congregation to drop them into newly occupied houses in their street.</p>	All Churches
8.	<p><u>Duncan's Role</u> Duncan is taking on a secondment as an associate pastor at Cragg Hill Baptist probably for 3 days a week. There is therefore a post 3 days a week for someone to work across Horsforth Churches Together employed by Horsforth Chaplaincy Project. There will be some flexibility of hours. He distributed an informal job description so that churches might identify any potential candidates and encourage them to apply when the post is advertised. Rachel said that we should pray for the right person to emerge.</p>	All Churches
9.	<p><u>Jubilee Celebrations</u> HCT has been approached by Horsforth Town Council to support the picnic in Hall Park from 12.00 on Sunday 5 June. Churches are asked to provide low key activities eg parachute games, boules competition from 2.00pm-4.00pm. Volunteers should meet safeguarding requirements. It was agreed to spend £150 on a booklet entitled 'Our Faithful Queen' which could be given to interested people. Donations could be accepted from recipients.</p>	All Churches
10.	<p><u>Horsforth Gala – 25 June</u> John Archer, a Christian magician, who was a semi-finalist on Britain's Got Talent has been invited to attend and will perform tricks at intervals in the inflatable church alongside a range of other activities. Then in the evening he will perform for a family event at Lister Hill Church where he will include reference to his Christian faith. Tickets will be approximately £3 per person and £10 per family.</p>	All Churches
11.	<p><u>Civic Service</u> To be held at The Grove on 10 July. Churches were asked to encourage people to attend and support the elected officials.</p>	All Churches
12.	<p><u>Any Other Business</u> Mavis Hardcastle has been a faithful supporter of Horsforth Churches Together for many years. Her funeral will be held at 12.45 on Tuesday, 10th May at Cragg Hill Baptist. Please follow the link https://cbcl.org.uk/mavisfuneral if you wish to go so that the church will know the numbers attending</p>	All Churches
13.	<p><u>Date of Next Meeting</u> Wednesday 7 September</p>	
14.	<p><u>Closing Prayer</u> Jonathan Cain closed the meeting in prayer.</p>	