

Horsforth Churches Together

Together in our community



MINUTES

of the **Horsforth Churches Together**

Wednesday 7th Sept 2022

at St James 7.30pm.

Attendees:	Judith Briggs, Lynne Gillions (Secretary), Glenda Ingham, Jane Linley, Phil Maud, Rose McCarthy, Miriam Parker, Deborah Pennington, Duncan Stow (Acting Chair), Jill Woodman, Rhoda Wu
Apologies	John Barnes, Heather Booth, Martin Booth, Jonathan Cain, Rachel Ford,
	Action By:
1.	<u>Welcome</u> Duncan welcomed everyone to the meeting. He read the story of the wedding feast from Luke 14 and talked of the importance of loving those who can't love us back and thereby demonstrating our love for God.
2.	<u>Minutes and Matters Arising</u> The minutes from 4 May were agreed with no matters arising.
3.	<u>Treasurer's Report</u> This item was moved further down the agenda in case John was able to make the meeting. However, as the meeting overran it was not included but John had submitted the figures to Rachel, Duncan and Lynne.
4.	<u>Duncan's Role</u> Duncan has been supporting Cragg Hill Baptist Church whilst they were without a minister. He is now working for them 3 days a week as team leader. This is initially for 15 months. He is therefore relinquishing some of his HCT responsibilities. He will continue for 2 days a week focusing on his schools' work and the Farmers' Market and general responsibilities. He knows his calling is still to support the Christians in Horsforth. Rhoda Wu has been appointed to work alongside Duncan for 2.5 days a week working on the website and communications, supporting current work, networking and bringing new ideas. Rose McCarthy has been appointed for 9.5 hrs a week to specifically support our work with refugees.
5.	<u>Refugees-Find Your Voice – Rose McCarthy</u> Rose detailed her background working for the Refugee Council, being part of the City of Sanctuary and Chair of Our Lady of Kirkstall Support Group helping refugees at The Parkway Hotel. A small number of refugees have been moved out but most are still there. There is a fantastic team of volunteers. Some of the support they give includes – collecting donations, talking to the men, organising trips to Thirsk and Settle. Opera North have run a drumming workshop. They are currently working on a 5 week programme, Find Your Voice, which is helping them to speak English to an audience which will enable them to speak at different venues. They have developed links with Trinity University and have spoken to 15 police officers about their experiences. Rose is keen to establish Schools of Sanctuary in the area and would love Horsforth to become a Town of Sanctuary. There is a Zoom meeting 12.30-1.30 on 26 Sept about being a City of Sanctuary. Details are on HCT website. They are also hoping to run a social evening in Horsforth on 21 st Oct. Again details will go onto the website. https://www.horsforthchurchestogether.co.uk/refugee-support-events-coming-up/
6.	<u>Services at Bedford Court and Live at Home</u> Phil gave details of services at Central for Live at Home. They are on the 1 st Thursday of the month, 1.00-1.30 and are supported by clergy and the lay community. Future dates: 3 Nov, 8 Dec (communion), 5 Jan, 2 Feb, 2 Mar, 6 Apr (communion), 4 May, 1 Jun, 6 Jul, 3 Aug. Jonathan Cain has been approached by Bedford Court who would like to have a similar arrangement. Julie Wadsworth suggests monthly either 11-12 or 3-4 to

	include a cup of tea and time to chat to some of the residents. Help from clergy and lay people would be needed with perhaps a small group going in to chat to residents. Anyone interested should contact Jonathan Cain at St James Office 0113 258 4558.	All Churches
7.	<p><u>Foodbank</u> Matt Powell has explored reopening the Foodbank but for a number of reasons it is not going to open at this point. The Food Pantry is still available on the Hawksworth Estate.</p> <p>This led onto a discussion about providing warm places this winter. Each church could respond in their own way. Phil suggested collating those events that are already happening eg coffee mornings and publishing under the title 'A Warm Welcome.' Judith highlighted the need at half terms and the possibility of providing soup and sandwiches. Rhoda suggested Linking in with the Warm Hubs initiative and Deborah suggested communicating through schools. Duncan said it was important to identify needs and he would discuss it further with church leaders,</p>	Duncan Church Leaders
8.	<p><u>Report Back on Summer Events</u> Duncan shared a series of photographs of the summer events. It was agreed that they had been successful. The Jubilee events with the lighting of the beacon and the picnic had gone well (despite the rain). The gala had provided games for children and the inflatable church had attracted at least one person who is now worshipping in church. The John Archer evening had been very enjoyable. The concert for Ukraine had raised nearly £3000. Christian Aid envelopes raised £2578.57 CA locally now has a different system for banking. See Duncan for details.</p>	
9.	<p><u>Perfectly Pitched</u> Deborah thanked HCT for their support. All the concerts were successful especially the last one which was aimed at families. There is £370 left in the account. Deborah has reported back to Leeds Inspire who helped fund the project and is going to reapply to them and Horsforth Town Council for further funding. She is also planning to approach local businesses. In 2023 she hopes to organise 2 concerts specifically for children in half terms and a further 4 concerts. She is keen to reach a more diverse audience. It was suggested that she avoid the first Thursday of the month as this clashed with MHA and there was some discussion as to whether it was wise to put on a December concert in the light of so many other activities. Deborah would appreciate further support from HCT volunteers to welcome and serve refreshments. Rhoda was happy to put details on the website. Duncan thanked Deborah for her hard work.</p>	Deborah Rhoda
10.	<p><u>Christmas</u> Please note 6th Nov is the deadline for churches to send details of their Christmas services for the Christmas Card. Send details to Rhoda Wu at rhoda@horsforthchaplaincy.org 10 Dec – Carols in the Park 22 Dec – Carols in the pubs. Horsforth is promoting late night shopping on Thursdays in December in all 3 shopping areas.</p>	
11.	<p><u>Notices</u> Alpha Course to run at Trinity in new year. HCT to support the chaplain at the Freshers' Fair. October sees the 10th anniversary of the farmers' market. Celebratory refreshments and presentation of donations at 11.00. 29 Oct 10.00-3.00 Godly Play Training at Cragg. It is also possible to do morning only.</p>	
12.	<p><u>Any Other Business</u> Rev Jo Lightowler is now installed as the local Methodist minister.</p>	
13.	<p><u>Date of Next Meeting</u> Wednesday 2 November</p>	
14.	<p><u>Closing Prayer</u> The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.</p>	