



Minutes of FACT Meeting

Date: 21 September 2016

Present: 20 attendees

Apologies: 7 apologies were recorded

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From: Mr P Craig

Subject: FACT Executive Meeting September 2016

Date of Meeting: Thursday 15 September 2016

Time: 7.30pm

Location: (with grateful thanks to Colin and Janet) St John's, Frome

Chair: Rev J Samways

1 Welcome

John welcomed us and thanked everyone for attending, especially those who were new to the meeting. We prayed for a number of people who were known to be ill and read Isaiah 43 v 18 onwards, Psalm 63 and Acts 20 v24.

2 Minutes of the last meeting (AGM in April 2016)

2.1 Noted as accepted.

2.2 There were no Matters Arising at this point in the meeting.

3 Finances

3.1 John had circulated a provisional 2016 report from Ian Crook covering the period 1/1/16 to 8/9/16. Thanks to Ian for his work on the finances.

3.2 The costs of the G Kendrick concert were covered by earmarked gifts received for it, apart from the hire of the hall which was covered from the general fund (and in turn by FACT subscriptions). It was noted that some £700 of these has yet to be collected – a reminder to those concerned to ensure payments are actually made.

3.3 Lent Lunches raised £1008 which was paid to Embrace and the Syrian Refugee Fund. Well done to all involved.

4 Web-site

Peter invited more contributions to the web-site and requested a mailed copy of the weekly articles to be published in the Frome Standard for publication on-line thereafter. Bryce's weekly prayer letter was now being added to the blog page. Comments and suggestions are always welcome. Updates are made weekly, usually early in the week.

5 Looking back – a review of past events and activities

- 5.1 Graham Kendrick Evening – this was well attended and well received. The evening was described as “buzzing”! Graham was a humble example to us all despite his success.
- 5.2 Hope Van - staffed by a very committed, small group in the centre of Frome on Fridays every fortnight from 10pm-2/3am, the Van continues to have a significant impact. The police and public continue to be grateful for its presence.
- 5.3 Youth Work – Bryce reported and all agreed that we had established a credible youth work amongst the local schools and college. It was agreed that we should pray more for the local headteachers and for
- 5.4 Holiday Bible Club – 67 children were involved in the last successful event. Our grateful thanks to Ann Taylor, Diane Ellis and the team for all they delivered. A Light Party is being planned by the team for Halloween at Trinity Church.
- 5.5 The set up/dismantling of stalls and litter pick during the Frome Festival International Food Evening, organised by Annabel and Phil Macey was very much welcomed.
- 5.6 Men’s Events – two curry nights had been held and Frome Town FC premises established as the regular venue – a potentially valuable link with another aspect of the local community. More than 50 men had expressed an interest in regular attendance.
- 5.7 Refugees - Rob Taylor (a member of Frome Christian Network and the Frome Syrian Refugee group) provided another update on the current news regarding the refugees arriving in Frome. Two families were now settled with more expected and hence experiences thus far were under review. Some single folk were also seeking a more permanent home.
- 5.8 Food Bank – local churches support was greatly appreciated. Particular efforts are being made through the harvest festivals and further focus is planned for Advent.
- 5.9 FACT Chair – the “search continues” for a replacement for John. John will continue in the interim but will be away for several weeks in the coming months.

6 Looking forward

- 6.1 A list of Events to be planned for 2016 – 2017 was presented and organisers allocated for most. Details to be circulated.
- 6.2 Justin Welby’s visit – it was agreed to increase the number of tickets to be purchased for local leaders from 30 to 50. Rev Preb Stephen Lynas, the Bishop’s Senior Chaplain at Bath & Wells, is responsible for organising the day. John encouraged us to buy tickets to enable others whom we thought would benefit to go to the evening event (on Tues 8th November).
- 6.3 Publicity for Christmas Services – please provide details to Jim Parsons by 30th November for publication 15th December.
- 6.4 Advent Service – hopefully (tbc) at Trinity the FACT United Advent Service is planned for Sunday 27th November at 6.30pm. The newly announced Director of Resource, Rev Kevin Roberts, is the speaker.
- 6.5 Christmas Light switch-on – it was agreed that we need to “do” the carol singing as professionally as we can, perhaps utilising an existing choir. Feedback from the council on what is expected will be made available and will be circulated shortly. Janet Cauldwell is to plan a number of carol singing events/venues.

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- 6.6 WPCU – is 18-25th January 2017. Janet and John will liaise.
- 6.7 Pulpit swap – Jim will coordinate for 15th January 2017.
- 6.8 Lent Course – currently under consideration is the York Course for 2017 and/or an All Life Discipleship course written by the London Institute for Contemporary Christianity (LICC).
- 6.9 Lent – Ash Wednesday is 1st March, Easter Day Sunday 16th April 2017. Venue, times, theme, speakers for Lent Lunches to be organised.
- 6.10 Pentecost - following the success of the last two year’s major events, it was agreed that we should aim to organise another similar event at Pentecost – 4th June has been booked at the Cheese and Grain. We would need a musician to “hold it all together”. It would neatly follow the planned “Thy Kingdom Come” period of national prayer and would be an evening designed to encourage the wider community to attend, funded by FACT members as was the Graham Kendrick evening. This serves as our ‘gift to the community’.

7 AOB

- 7.1 Redeeming our Communities – Bryce circulated an overview of this charity which promotes social transformation through encouraging partnership between complimentary organisations., asking us to prayerfully consider whether there was an opportunity for it in Frome. See www.roc.uk.com
- 7.2 Sunday Night Live – twistoffaith.org is an organisation which promotes a professional approach to outreach to young adults, for example in setting up a cafe experience to attract young people to hear a Christian message. Again, this might be something we could promote in Frome. Further thoughts welcome. See www.sundaynightlive.org.uk
- 7.3 Wesley Church is organising, on Saturday 11th February 2017, an event entitled 'The Christian Perspective on Death and Dying'. The event, including a number of speakers, is going to be run in various locations nationally, including Gloucester, Cardiff and London, and here in Frome. Revd Marie Attwood is organising the day.
- 7.4 The meeting finished with prayer focused on our desire to restore the Body of Christ in Frome and through that, to honour Him.

Dates of next meetings:

Executive 12th January 2017

AGM Thus 27 April 2017