

**CHURCHES TOGETHER IN WELLING**  
**Minutes of the Annual General Meeting**  
**held at Wellspring Pentecostal Church on 29 May 2022**

**1. Prayers and Welcome**

The meeting opened with prayer led by Rev Adam Foot.

**2. Apologies**

These were received from Grace Woodley, Karen Freeman, Les Brett and Caroline Ogden.

**3. Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 30 May 2021**

These were accepted.

**4. Chairman's Report**

Rev Adam said that it was good that the group was up and running again after Covid. He said that it was always good to hear what was going on in each other's churches so it was possible to celebrate or weep together, as appropriate. He felt the sharing was an important part of the meetings, which had been particularly valuable in the last year. He knew that some people still preferred to watch services online, and some even liked to follow both online and in-person!

Bexley Winter Shelter had used B&B accommodation again last winter and had found it a tough year. Those involved had felt that the old way (offering beds in different churches) was much more engaging. There was much more time to talk to the men and help them get off the streets in the long-run.

There had been no Christmas leaflets delivered again last year because of the uncertainty of the pandemic, but most churches in Welling had been able to offer in-person services of some kind.

Whilst it hadn't been possible to have a mixture of services in the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, there had been a very good unity service held at the end of January at St John's.

A number of activities had been organised during Lent, which had been quite well attended. The highlight of the year had been the Good Friday Walk of Witness: 130+ came along from most of the churches, with good community spirit and witness. £350 was raised for Christian Aid at the end with cups of soup served outside at St John's in pleasant sunshine.

He was pleased to say that the Seventh Day Adventist Church had joined the group. Adam thanked members of the executive for putting up with meeting on Zoom for the past year. He had missed the last two meetings due to illness and now was definitely stepping down from the chair, but was more than willing to support whoever took over from him.

He concluded by saying that Spark in the Park would happen at the end of July, and there would be Jubilee celebrations at St John's a week after the Bank Holiday.

Wellspring were also having Jubilee afternoon tea the same weekend.

**5. Treasurer's Report**

Les Brett had sent in his report (away in Carlisle) which said that there was still £392.68 in the account. Subs hadn't been collected the last two years, though St

John's and Wellspring had paid in 2020 and 2021. They would need to be collected if it was decided to go ahead with Christmas leaflets this year. In his email sending his apologies, Les said: "CTiW is unusual in being such a strong collaborative fellowship. I hope you will all keep up the good work for the future." A thank you card was passed round to be signed, and it was agreed to make a donation to Christian Aid in Les's name.

## **6. Election of Officers**

The following people were elected or re-elected:

Pastor Graham Cunnington as Chair

Sandy Kennedy as Vice-chair

Gwen Chiosso as Secretary

Melvyn French as Treasurer.

## **7. Any Other Business**

It was agreed to start meeting in person from September. Canon Edward had offered use of the parish hall at St Stephen's which would allow more social distancing than at the Methodist Church. In future, meetings could be held at different venues rather than at the same one each time.

Kate Foot reiterated what Les said about the fellowship of CTiW: she could see through her work with TBB that, of the Churches Together groups in Bexley, Welling ranked first or second in terms of working well together, even if we felt we had some way to go. We should be encouraged by that.

Sandy asked for permission to hold the phone numbers of members so she could make contact easily; all present were happy.

Adam was thanked for his 4 years of leadership as chair.

The meeting was followed by refreshments, then a service of praise and worship with Holy Communion, led by Pastor Graham.