

MINUTES OF THE CHURCHES TOGETHER IN WELLING
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD ON 4th NOVEMBER 2020 AT 8.00 PM
ON ZOOM

Present at the meeting were:

Rev Adam Foot (Chair)	St John's
Kate Foot	St John's
Rev Gordon McBean	St John's
Jenny Cosser	St John's
Canon Edward Perera	St Stephen's
Gwen Chiosso (Secretary)	St. Stephen's
Ifeoma Onuorah	St Stephen's
Les Brett (Treasurer)	Bishop Ridley
Sandy Kennedy (Vice chair)	Methodist
Betty Lillie	St Mary's
Mavis Bubear	St Mary's
Rev Gerald Hopkin	Christ the Saviour
Joshua Ayodele	Christ Apostolic

1. Prayers and Welcome

The meeting opened with prayer led by Adam.

2. News from the Churches in brief

Christ the Saviour: would continue with streamed services during the new lockdown. They had recently done a baptism for a Romanian family. Gerald and his wife wouldn't offer services in Eastbourne at present as they had no streaming facilities there.

St John's: had been busy with online prayer groups daily. Their last Sunday morning Communion service before lockdown had been well attended. Evening Prayer services had been popular and were now being streamed with sermons only. Sunday worship would continue to be livestreamed.

St Stephen's: had been open for Mass most days of the week since July, with two services on Sunday mornings. Numbers had been steadily rising. The church would now be open for at least an hour of private prayer before the Blessed Sacrament most days of the week.

Christ Apostolic: had opened in July with the necessary restrictions. They had been using Zoom and YouTube to stream events. Joshua said he was hopeful churches would be able to reopen soon "for the good of our people and our nation."

Bishop Ridley: had been holding two services on a Sunday morning and one at 6.30pm on Wednesdays. Mark intended to keep the church open for private prayer during the next month.

St Mary's: had been offering a 10am Communion service on Sundays, which was also live on Facebook and Zoom with a good following. Prayer meetings had continued online. A planned wedding had just had to be cancelled. The boiler had now been condemned, so it was a good time to try and sort it out.

Methodists: streamed services were available from the circuit. Welling had been finding different preachers to fill in for Rev Nana.

Wellspring (by text): successful Sunday service online, plus a monthly morning prayer meeting on Zoom.

TBB: were waiting to see how they could help with housing the homeless over the winter. Bexley Council had a number of children needing foster care and were working with the charity Home for Good. The goal was to find one family per church able to foster a child. They were particularly in need of families capable of taking teenagers or siblings.

3. **Apologies for Absence**
Apologies were received from: Rev Peter Organ, Andrew Lewis, Rev Graham Cunnington, Rev Christina Cunnington, Brian Bennett, Grace Woodley, Melvyn French, Deacon Colin Barnard, Pastor Casey Badejo.
4. **Minutes of the Last Meeting**
These were approved by the chair.
5. **Treasurer's Report**
Les reported that nothing had changed since last time.
7. **GDPR setup / Website for CTiW**
Colin had set up the website and membership system but had a couple of admin tasks to be carried out before it was usable. All present were happy that he included the information on the present members' spreadsheet in the system. He would need to train someone to use it. Gwen and Sandy to meet with him to discuss.
8. **Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, 18-25 January**
It was agreed that there could be at least two online prayer services offering different styles of prayer, morning and evening. Contact Adam if able to offer something. We should be encouraged to watch each other's online services that week, if they are streamed. If public worship is allowed, St John's would be happy to host a service on Sunday 24 January at 6.30pm.
9. **Lent Activities 2021**
It was difficult to know at this stage what would be possible in Lent, but it was agreed that some activities in church buildings rather than homes might be more plausible. Sandy would meet with a sub-group after Christmas. Adam referred to the point St Michael's had brought up early in the year about whether Lent House Groups needed to be vetted. He wanted it recorded that it wasn't necessary unless under 18s or vulnerable adults wished to join.
10. **Dates for 2021**
Meeting dates were agreed for next year and appear at the end of the minutes. It was agreed to leave 5th Sunday hosts for the time being with the present uncertainty. Gerald said that his church wouldn't be holding the usual Blessing of the Waters in January but hoped to do so in 2022.
11. **Any Other Business**
 - (a) The Evangelical Alliance had suggested a Day of Prayer for the country on Friday 13 November. It was suggested that all churches could join in whatever way possible.
 - (b) Sandy had been in touch with Macaulay Scott about there being no Christmas leaflets this year. She would drop in a gift shortly.

The meeting closed with prayer.

CTiW Meetings for 2021

Monday 11 January

Tuesday 16 March

Sunday 30 May AGM hosted by

Wednesday 22 September

Thursday 4 November

Prayers led by:

(to be confirmed nearer the time)

Bishop Ridley