



Registered Charity no. 249726

## Minutes of Council Meeting held at Rougham Sports Hall, Rougham on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> November 2016

### In attendance: 37

1. Christine welcomed everyone to the meeting. A couple of notices were given before the meeting began when Angie Dawkins reported that she had been given some material which she had made aprons and bags out of to be sold. There would be a raffle for a piece of the celebration cake for 50p a ticket. Linda Ginn opened the meeting with worship.
2. **Apologies:** Ann Bloomfield, Daphne Bristow, Naomi Campbell, Elizabeth Corker, Helen Davey, Sue Doe, Joyce Courage, Margaret Goldstone, Dorothy Grant, Jean Leech, Jane Leung, Brian Lillistone, Rev Stuart Mitchell, Mary Mortlock, Sue Norrington, Sue Olver, Janet Price, Margaret Rollins, Sue Ryman, Mary Stalley, Clare Thomas, Susan Wolstancroft
3. **Minutes of last meeting on 17<sup>th</sup> March 2016.** An amendment to Item 10g to read “that Val has agreed to be Deanery Leader for Bosmere and Stowmarket”. The minutes were proposed by Val Jeffreys and seconded by Anna Vessey. These were agreed by all and signed as correct.
4. **Matters Arising:** None
5. **Presidents Report:** Christine reported that an exhibition in St Stephens will not be going ahead this year. The Centre Manager said that it will be about Culture of Ipswich for the next year but hopefully will be able to promote MU in the future. This year we were too late to have Christmas Cards at St Stephens but hopefully we will be able to in 2017. Christine met with Charles Darley at Diocesan House to discuss having MUE there but at present there is nowhere convenient. He suggested that once the Sanctuary restaurant was up and running again we may be able to have a MU contact table and MUE collection point. Christine is having a meeting with Bishop Mike in December to discuss new projects. So far Clare has reported that there are still 9 branches not on the website. North Suffolk Area raised over £1,917.93 for the Summer Appeal on their walk in Southwold. Jo Ellis the secretary at Woodbridge cycled for MU funds in the Ride London – Surrey cycle ride on 31<sup>st</sup> July 2016. Christine congratulated her for raising £1,226.75. The Songs of Praise at Martlesham was a wonderful experience. Thanks to Monica and Beryl for all their work in arranging the Holiday to Bournemouth and a wonderful time that was had by all. Please consider introducing a short service with candles in respect of 16 days of activism in your future programmes. A film was shown called One Vision mentioning projects involving Mothers' Union. Dean Frances has suggested an opportunity for a new MU project and Christine has spoken with Dr Peter Powell and Kathleen Ben Rahba regarding Attachment Theory which he

hoped MU members could be involved in. This is a project to help young mothers and their babies/children to interact with one another. A meeting with HomeStart in Suffolk is planned for the new year. Thanks to Kathleen Ben Rabha for her support on this project. Christine also thanked the members for all their support. **Full report was attached with the Agenda**

6. **Nominations:** There are vacancies for the following:  
IMPC – Monica Twaits has agreed to take this on. Proposed by Christine Ward, seconded by Chris Mitchell. All in favour.  
Sudbury Area – No nominations were put forward  
Ipswich Area – No nominations were put forward  
Diocesan Secretary – No nominations were put forward
7. **Treasurers Report:** Keith gave a detailed report of the account and said that they were up to date as of 13<sup>th</sup> November 2016 but since then he had received a further amount of nearly £700. An amount of £300 was claimed for the Big Summer Appeal from the Southwold walk in respect of gift aid. Christine thanked Keith for his presentation and Monica gave thanks to Beryl and Diana for the money they have raised during the year.
8. **Unit Reports:**  
**Cathie** – None  
**Sandra** – She had hearts from the Wedding Fayres and asked members to collect them to be prayed for. It seems that about 75% now get married in Church. Someone from St Augustines who was getting married in a Registry Office has now decided to get married in Church.  
**Anna** – None  
**Linda** – Notified that there was new material that could be provided by Diana for notice boards. Printed cards have been printed for the website. Prayers for schools, teachers and ex-teachers next May. Thanks were given to Linda Cadman for the work she has done with IMPC. A letter of thanks will be sent to her.  
**Chris** – An amount of 1,500 cards have been printed for prisoners at Highpoint and this is the largest amount so far. 6<sup>th</sup> June 2017 for making cards.  
**Sue** – None  
**Janice** – Mentioned the World Mission Group asking to be informed of foreign incomers in our area. Please contact Janice re the above.  
**Beryl** – A Diocesan Christmas tree will be decorated at St Mary le Tower regarding the 16 days of activism.  
**Full reports from the above were attached with the Agenda**
9. **Website:** Christine asked that we do not mention that our branch is “elderly” as this may put off the younger generation that we would like to attract.

**Discussion time: Everyone got into groups of 4-6 to discuss Faith in Action 2017. A lot of discussion was going and everyone made notes on the questions they were given and returned these to Christine (details will be circulated later).**

**Linda Ginn then led us in Midday prayers.**

10. **Correspondence:** None

- 11. Upcoming events:** **2016** - Reflection Day at Rushmere on 28<sup>th</sup> November  
**2017** – 8<sup>th</sup> March Council Meeting – Salvation Army Centre in Stowmarket  
9.30am for 10 am  
**2017** – 11am on 25<sup>th</sup> March Lady Day Banner Service at Southwold (car  
parking at the primary school)  
**2017** – 7.30 pm on 4<sup>th</sup> July AGM at Whitton Church Hall  
**2017** – 2pm on 18<sup>th</sup> October Healing Service – venue tba  
**2017** – 10am on 28<sup>th</sup> October Council Meeting – venue tba
- 12. AOB:**(a)Tapestry to remain at the Ascension Hall  
(b)Looking at resources to repair the Diocesan Banner  
(c)As a former Diocesan President Val Jeffreys nominated Diana Barclay and Margaret  
Lowe become Life Vice Presidents. This received unanimous support by member present.
- 13.** It was requested that a map be sent out with the Agenda for our Council Meeting in Stowmarket  
which will be on the 8<sup>th</sup> March 2017 at the Salvation Army premises.
- 14.** The raffle for the draw was made and the winner was Rosemary Savage from Fressingfield. The  
money raised of £25.50 was given to Sandra in order that she could buy gift vouchers for children  
at the Women’s Refuge.
- 15.** Christine thanked Beryl and Sandra for arriving at 8.30am in order to get the hall ready.
- 16.** Linda Ginn led us in closing prayers.

The meeting ended at 12.30pm

**Date of next Council Meeting 8<sup>th</sup> March 2017 at the Salvation Army building in Stowmarket.**

**Signed:..... Dated:.....**