

Minutes of the J & P meeting 8th June 2011.

Present: Tim Murrill, Ann Locke, Anna Hobden, John & Mary Barrett, John & Jane Manfield, Marie Farrell, Anita Smith, Margaret Hayes, Christine Newberry.

Action Items in **bold**.

Opening Prayer led by John Manfield.

The Easter Project

Christopher Gladwin from St Mary's Church Reigate came and spoke to us about the Saturday lunches they provide. All are welcome without a "needs assessment". Teams of volunteers, mainly from St Mary's Church cook, serve, and clear away lunches for approx 60 – 70 people every Saturday. 3 years ago the church was asked to help provide lunches in the Crawley area it then became evident that there was a need in the Rei/Red/Merstham area.

There are often 120 people in total who have lunch; their ages range from 1 to 92. Families as well as people on their own are offered a lunch, companionship; all are treated with dignity and respect. Everyone must be drink and drug free, parents must be responsible for their children. There are few homeless people; most are disadvantaged with loneliness being a common problem. The group are now beginning to develop their own support network.

The hall is opened at 10.30, when there are craft activities for those who wish to partake. Lunch is served between 12.45 and 1.45 and generally cleared away by 2.30. There is a clothing stall and many people take away a meal for the next day. Volunteers serve, then sit and eat a meal with the guests.

Funding – ½ year costs were met by the proceeds of the Grammar School carol service; many volunteers provide the foods needed. Bicycles have been given to the project by the police, these have been passed on to people who need them.

We were invited to go along any Saturday join in for a meal, all welcome.

Chris Gladwin left the meeting and there was a general discussion about how we could best help with the project. It was felt that we should work with existing agencies such as the Salvation Army. **Submit our thoughts to John Manfield asap**. More discussion about local provision for the homeless, Salvation Army in Redhill have installed a shower for use. "Churches Together" was suggested as a way forward, although we are not sure if they are still a working group.

We will put something into the newsletter to let parishioners know about the project and possibly help. **AL to organise**.

John & Jane left early and we proceeded with the rest of the meeting.

Manna Society Concert Sunday 3rd July.

Anna has produced a poster, raffle tickets will be arriving and all are asked to distribute as many books as possible at masses and other events. **Ann L** to organise the refreshments : fair-trade wine and soft drinks (donations). **Mary Barrett** has agreed to compère the evening. **John B** has

photographed the donated paintings ready to go onto the Parish website. He is also producing a flyer about the paintings to be handed out at churches. Margaret, Anton & Anna have organised the performers, mainly in the church but with some in the hall during the interval. **Meeting for those involved** at HF Church Tuesday 21st June 7.30. **John Manfield** to check the money for the Manna Society is with Peter Sharples.

Overseas Aid Project

To be discussed at the next meeting. John Philmore and Dennis Ong expressed interest in coming to speak about the hospital in Manila at a J & P meeting. Ann L has spoken to CAFOD Parish rep and found there is no particular project in the parish at the moment. It was felt strongly that we should support a CAFOD project, as there is a guarantee of accountability.

Date of next meeting

Few people can make the July meeting and we don't meet in August, so the next scheduled meeting will be on Wednesday September 14th at 19:30 (note change of time) at Holy Family Church.

There will of course be the opportunity for informal discussion on July 3rd.

Note

I can't think of other things we discussed please read and add any other notes you feel relevant.