

Minutes of the 2014 CTAL AGM

6 November 2014

The AGM was preceded by an open meeting to receive the Ludlow Under Pressure Steering Group's second report 'Ludlow Under Continuing Pressure – Hope in Troubled Times?'

1. Welcome and prayer – David Roberts (DR).
2. The minutes of the 2013 AGM were agreed as an accurate record.
3. Chair's report (attached) – DR's report was warmly received.
4. Treasurer's report – Laurence Taylor's (LT) report was received with thanks.
5. Nominations for CTAL Officers:
 - a. Tim Coles was nominated as Chair.
 - b. There was no nomination for Vice Chair.
 - c. LT was nominated to serve as Treasurer.
 - d. Mike Beazley (MB) was nominated to serve as Administrator.
 - e. Tim Coles (TC) took the chair. He warned that there was a need to identify a Vice Chair well in advance of next year's AGM in order to ensure that there would be a potential Chair for 2015/16. The candidate should be a lay person.
6. Ludlow Under Pressure:
 - a. The latest report was commended and the Steering Group was thanked.
 - b. Neil Richardson was asked for his recommendations for the future. He proposed that:
 - i. The churches and CTAL should continue to support the work of the existing schemes that had emerged from Ludlow Under Pressure. In particular, he saw Hands Together Ludlow as being the main focus of future activity. There was a need for more people from within and outside the churches to support and get involved in the work of HTL and other voluntary schemes in the town.
 - ii. CTAL should set up a small monitoring group to keep the local situation under review and report back to the CTAL Exec and AGM on local needs and how best to meet them.
 - c. After some discussion it was agreed that each church should nominate a person to join the new monitoring group, which would also include some members of the existing Ludlow Under Pressure Steering Group. The aim was to set up the new group before Christian Unity week (18th January 2015).
 - d. It was also agreed that there should be a Prayer for Ludlow for use by all the churches. Frances Biseker agreed to produce this.
7. CTAL Lunches and Suppers:
 - a. MB reported on the changes made to the format of the monthly lunches. In future they would be bring-your own lunch meetings. They would take place on the last Thursday of each month. At the end of each meeting those present would discuss and agree on the subject and the presenter for the next meeting. They would inform MB of these so that the details could be publicised.

- b. In response to a question, MB said that there appeared to be no interest in reviving the CTAL suppers.
8. Christmas events – The following events were announced:
 - a. The Christmas Day Lunch would be run in the Mascall Centre again this year on 25th December. The Colemans would run the event as previously but need someone to volunteer to act as MC to be there all day to coordinate the work of the volunteers.
 - b. Saltmine has agreed to produce a pantomime ‘The Snow Queen’, to be run as a community event at Ludlow CE School at 6.30pm on 1st December. Tickets were £1 a head on sale from Wesley’s and the Rockspring Centre.
 - c. The Living Nativity would be at 6pm on 16th December in the Market Square.
 - d. Christian Aid carols would take place at the Buttercross between 11am and 12md on Saturday 20th December.
 9. Week of Prayer for Christian Unity – TC spoke about the arrangements for services and exchanges during the week of 18 to 25th January.
 10. MB described the arrangements for Lent Groups for 2015 and asked for potential leaders and hosts to complete the application form. The York Course for Lent 2015 ‘Praise Him’ had been chosen unanimously. Applications to join groups would be sought early in the New Year.
 11. Quaker concerns:
 - a. Colin Sheward and Cynthia Prior outlined their concerns at the way in which CTAL seemed to have outgrown its constitution, requiring it to make decisions and allocate funding in ways which had not been foreseen when CTAL was a less active organisation.
 - b. After some discussion, it was agreed that there was general support for CTAL’s timely involvement in social action within the town and that this necessitated properly defined decision making authority and procedures and financial delegations for the CTAL Exec.
 - c. It was agreed that MB should chair a small group to redraft the Constitution and circulate it around the churches for agreement prior to ratification at the next AGM. Membership of the group would be decided at the December CTAL Exec meeting.
 12. AOB – TC announced that Elim has put in an offer to buy their current premises, which has been accepted. The meeting expressed its pleasure.
 13. TC closed the meeting with prayer and the Grace.

Mike Beazley
8 November 2014