

Notes of CTCB Meeting 16 May 2006

Points of interest include:

Two new member churches were admitted

Bromley College Chaplaincy and Chapel, and the Jubilee International Church, which is affiliated to the Assemblies of God in UK and Ireland, and which meets in St. Mary's House on Sunday afternoons. Thus the oldest and newest churches in Bromley were admitted, and there will hopefully be a service of welcome, probably on a Sunday tea-time in the summer.

Town Chaplaincy

David Morgan has been getting to know his patch. David Rycroft gave an overview, highlighting the need for more lay chaplains, hoping that each member church might be able to find one person at least. He outlined the three different areas of work - in stores and organisations and with their staff, with shoppers, and with the 'café' society. Potential lay Chaplains would be trained and supported. The main quality desired is to be a good listener, and perhaps to have some business experience.

Data Base

Each church will be asked to provide a profile of activities, times of services, etc. to provide a central data base. The need for this was highlighted when responses to the Bromley Town Plan were being prepared. The Borough Council has recognised for the first time that CTCB might be a legitimate body to be consulted / involved in such planning.

'Put Christ back into Christmas'

On Thursday 21 December all churches in Bromley have an opportunity to present something in the Town Centre (presumably

the High Street) - all are invited to present plans (a piece of drama, mime, singing, etc.). To be discussed in more detail at the next meeting in September.

Lent 2007

Steve Varney suggested that the Tuesday Lent Meetings should take a more dynamic form. Some suggestions he made were: ecumenical house groups; meeting together in 'café style'; doing something together (e.g. for the poor) rather than meeting; looking out to mission, e.g. hosting a free meal for various groups such as police officers, teachers, as a gift. It was decided to devote most of the next meeting to this topic, and everyone was asked to bring their church's ideas.

Sunday Opening Extension

It was reported that, although most local shops and stores are not in favour, the impression is that the DTI are biased towards longer opening hours. There is still time for people to make their views known to the DTI.

Margaret Elves

