



Churches Together in Oxfordshire Enabling Group
Minutes of the Meeting held via ZOOM
on Tuesday, 5th April 2022

Those present: Jason St. John Nicolle (Chair, Church of England), David Hare (County Ecumenical Officer), Chris Robins (Treasurer), John Anderson (Secretary, Methodist), Steve Barber (Baptist).

Apologies: None

- 1) The Chair welcomed everyone and opened the meeting with prayer. We were reminded that this was a continuation of the discussion about the future purpose of the enabling group and CTiO.
- 2) The Chair asked other group members for their thoughts since the last meeting. The consensus came down to:
 - (a) reaching out to the “non-traditional” churches
 - (b) supporting the local groups and churches, especially in their community engagementThis was summarised as “we are here to serve our churches”; “what is going on?” “what are the needs of local groups and churches?”
- 3) It was proposed that we run evening sessions in four or five venues around the county over the period May to September, with the emphasis on sharing good news, what groups are doing, what they are struggling with. The emphasis should be “drawing inspiration from walking together” in partnership rather than “competitive ecumenism”! Partnerships should include informal as well as formal groups.
- 4) It was agreed that Jason and David should meet and draft further proposals, which would be sent around the group, with the option of a further ZOOM meeting to discuss.

CEDO/CHAIR

- 5) It was agreed that, as the dates offered by Rev. Helen Cameron were not convenient for most of the group, it was agreed that Helen would be invited to speak at the 2023 AGM, and that the Secretary would circulate a Doodlepoll to seek availability for this year’s AGM. It was suggested that the local meetings could provide a focus for the AGM.

SEC

- 6) *Date of next meeting:*
 - (a) As determined by Chair and CEDO
 - (b) Wednesday, 15th June, 12.30pm for lunch at a venue in Kidlington to be confirmed by the Chair.