

Saint John Fisher Justice and Peace Group

<http://www.sjf-justiceandpeace.org.uk/>

Minutes of meeting: 9th May 2017 at 8:00pm

Venue: 30 Eastway
Present: Mike Carolan, Marie Bullard, Sandra Carolan, Peter Nash, Teresa Pollard,
Julie Sheahan,
Apologies: Fr. Matthias, Viera Hamid, Barbara Harnett, Liam Harnett, Hazel Pucino,

Meditation: Peter led a meditation on Psalm 22, The Lord is my Shepherd

Food Collection: This month's collection was exceptional, thanks in part to the Beavers. David took the collection to the Foodbank, who were very grateful. Julie will send a note of thanks to the newsletter and to the Beavers.

Next month we are invited to also send the "shopping list" to Katy Newman, who will publicise the collection at St John Fisher School. We should emphasise that we welcome **one** item from the list.

Ethical Actions:

May: Turn down the thermostat

June: Avoid products containing palm oil or buy products labelled "sustainable" palm oil

July: Use your own cup for coffee; avoid disposable cups (Sandra will check the wording of this campaign)

Julie will send a note of the June and July actions to Talkabout

Merton Priory – Peace Garden: Merton Priory Trust now has the finance for Stage 1 of their project and will put glass on the frontage of the site. The Garden is part of phase 2. If this is to be a Marian Garden, contact needs to be made with Merton Priory Trust. Peter has given Fr. David the information to contact John Hawkes at Merton Priory Trust.

Elections – 8th June – Hustings

The minister from Wimbledon United Reform Church is liaising with candidates to fix a date for hustings in Wimbledon. We will liaise with Tom Kavanagh to publicise these at St John Fisher.

John will ask Fr Mulligan if he knows of any hustings organised by Churches Together in Mitcham or Morden.

Peter attended training with Cafod on being a Cafod correspondent, and is to attend further training on lobbying. He passed postcards to members on acting as a correspondent, taking up ethical issues with parliamentarians. The Speaker of the House of Commons is impressed with Cafod as a charity.

Tackling Poverty

Peter has written a paper on Tackling Poverty, which he had circulated to members. Julie will send this to Talkabout, inviting comments from parishioners on what our response should be.

We might also put this on our **web site**. Members were reminded that the web site (address above) has up to date information about our meetings, and the food collection. We are very grateful to John for all his work on this. He is always glad to receive updates for inclusion on the web site.

Refugees / MyRaynesPark Festival

Peter has received from Tom Underwood of Raynes Park Community Church the programme for My Raynes Park Festival, this is available here:

[Refugee Week events.docx](#)

Community Sponsorship Information Evening

Wednesday 14th June, 6.30-8pm at The Salvation Army, 109 Kingston Road, Merton Park, London SW19 1LT

The Salvation Army has sponsored a family to resettle in Merton and have drawn on fantastic support from the local community, as well as the Council and Home Office.

The Salvation Army is hosting an information event on 14 June to share their experience of the scheme and hopefully encourage other local community and faith organisations to follow their lead and sponsor a family.

As well as a presentation about the scheme, there will be Syrian refreshments available and the chance to discuss the scheme informally with the agencies involved and to find out what support is available to organisations interested in sponsoring a family.

You can book a place at: diversity@merton.gov.uk

More info: <https://www.mvsc.co.uk/node/199338>

Charity of the Year (Merton Against Trafficking) and Merton Citizens Alliance

Nick Coke of Salvation Army is involved in both of these and has offered to meet with our group to give us information on both projects. Peter will contact Nick to try and find a time when he and hopefully Mike and/or Teresa can meet.

Faith in Action and Explorer Scouts

Viera has put Andy Newman from the Explorer Scouts in contact with Andy from Faith in Action, so hopefully they can take this contact further.

Treasurer's report: We have £132.60

Next meeting: Tuesday 13th June at 8.00 pm

Venue: 30 Eastway

Meditation: Julie

Chair: Teresa

We thanked Sandra and Mike for their warm hospitality, despite building work.