St John Fisher Justice and Peace Group, Meeting 18 Sep 07

Meeting held at 20:00 at 65 Northway

Present: Kirsty (chair), John, Barbara. Apologies: Cathie, Julia S, Liam, Tom.

Kirsty led the meditation on the theme of hope for good change.

Actions from previous meeting

Notes of the previous meeting had been circulated.

Kirsty had spoken to Canon Acton about raising our number, he expressed himself quite happy that we were as we are.

Kirsty had also spoken to Sr Pat Trussel but she didn't think she could do much by coming to talk to the Parish; however she had mentioned other ideas which Kirsty is considering. One was to explore the "Live Simply" campaign (supported by CAFOD and others), possibly inviting Mark Woods to come to speak.

Informing ourselves

The "ethical deed for the month" was discussed. One option was for members to consider switching to "green" electricity.

Informing Others

One suggestion was to have a non-fund-raising activity e.g. plug "prisoner of conscience" outside church one week or to support one of the CAFOD "cards to politicians" campaigns.

It was agreed that we should discuss with the wider Parish Community having a "Parish Organisations Fair" where groups could display their activities and attempt recruitment. Kirsty will bring that to the PAC on Monday.

It was decided that the Group could have a web-site. John agreed to see if he could cobble one together from previous experience. It was suggested that this might cost about £60 per annum for hosting and registration. It was felt that such costs were a legitimate charge on the Group funds.

Planning Action

It was agreed to hold a New Year's Peace Service. Kirsty agreed to contact members to vote for the eve (Mon 31 Dec) or the day (Tue 1 Jan). Tom to be asked to use the internet to see is there is an alternative form available for the service. Barbara will enquire of Liam re any local re-writing he may be doing.

The following quote from Sir Jonathon Porritt – (Director of UK Sustainable Development Commission) was considered and we agreed it would form a good topic for a discussion at a later meeting:

(talking of failure of globalisation) that against the backdrop of this is `worsening inequality, collapsing eco-systems, negative climate change, unchecked self-interest, obscene spending on arms and war, the protection by world leaders of the inconceivably rich minority, and the failure of globalisation to deliver its promise to the world's poorest countries'....'this mad world will either collapse under the weight of its own chronic injustice, or we will plan, campaign and hustle our way to a much fairer, more sustainable future'.

No other direct actions were planned.

Ending

Treasurer:

£67 in hand.

The secret bag was passed

Next meeting 16 October at John's

Meditation by (not decided)

Notes by Barbara Harnett (to be followed by others in surname alphabetical order)

The meeting concluded with The Grace: (the following version is copied from the beginning of the order of Mass)

The grace of Our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all.

These notes compiled by John Golden