

COVENTRY DIOCESAN CURSILLO

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held at Finham at 7.30 p.m. on Monday 1st October 2018

Apologies and attendees: There were 15 Apologies and 34 Attendees.

Welcome: Chris thanked Rosemary for leading the Ultreya, and the music team for the wonderful music.

Minutes of the 2017 AGM: The minutes of this meeting were approved by Brenda Reeves and seconded by Pam Stote, as a correct record.

Matters Arising: None

Treasurer's Report:

Treasurer's Report presented by Glynis Wood

Alan Rylett of All Saints Emscote has helped me to claim 6 years of Gift Aid in May but unfortunately we have not received payment to date. The delay is presumably because some of the donors will have changed names and addresses and tracking could take time.

I have added with the Statement of Accounts a breakdown of Admin Expenses for 2016-17 and 2017-18 as requested at AGM last year.

The cost of the Clergy Taster including all expenses was £3625.82 and fortunately the Bishop and Diocese donated £3000 which covers most of the cost.

The weekends are funded by generous donations at Ultreyas and by the number of faithful members of Coventry Cursillo Community who may not be involved with what is happening but give regularly not only financially but prayerfully. Thank you faithful servants.

I have been waiting for Gift Aid to be cleared before handing over but as it is still pending I will start to set up the accounts for transfer to Stan McCarthy.

There were no questions following this report.

Lay Directors Report:

Lay Directors report presented by Eleri Parry

Casting my mind back over the period since the last Lay Director's report reminds me of how truly blessed we are. All the Cursillo events that have taken place during the last twelve months speak of God's goodness and remind me how privileged we are to be part of the world-wide Cursillo family. Despite the various ups and downs we all face in our daily lives, the company of other Cursillistas feels like "being family". Paul writes in Romans Ch. 12:5 'we are one body in union with Christ, and we are all joined together' and that seems true for Cursillo locally, nationally and world-wide.

I think it's true to say that in Coventry we are one of the few Dioceses where we hold [almost] monthly Ultreyas. We have been privileged during the last year in our Ultreyas. The encouragement provided by witness talks and the gospel responses, the worship, prayers and hospitality have all touched so many of us and it's been lovely to catch up with Cursillistas that we haven't seen for a while. Those of us who were able to attend the Ultreya at Hunningham where we experienced a wonderful evening, excellent hospitality and a wonderful sunset can vouch for this. We have also been able to welcome a number of visitors to our recent Ultreyas. A big "thank you" to all of you who have been involved in any part of an Ultreya- long may they continue. Can I encourage those of you who haven't been to an Ultreya for a while to make an effort to try one? It might be just what you need! Also an appeal to the rest of us to try and bring a visitor along to an Ultreya – it could be the first step on a wonderful journey!

I am pleased to hear that many more of us are meeting in regular group reunions and finding these both helpful and challenging in enabling us to maintain a rule of life. It's good to know that our Cursillo clergy take part in group

reunions just like the rest of us and I know that Pam, our current Spiritual Director has been very active in promoting this practice. Thank you Pam! Don't forget that if you need help in joining a "Group reunion" the Secretariat members can help you out.

Bishop John Stroyan has continued to give Coventry Cursillo tremendous support during the year. Thanks to his commitment and generosity we were able to hold a successful Clergy Taster event in May. Chris Horton did a fantastic job of organising and co-ordinating the event which was well received by everyone involved. Please do continue to hold Bishop John and those clergy who attended the "Taster" in your prayers.

Successes are often tempered by some disappointment and the biggest disappointment of the year was the postponement of Coventry Cursillo #48. Steve Bell had to step back from leading the weekend and "48" will now take place in January, ably led by Rosemary McCarthy. Please do continue to pray for Rosemary and her team and for Emma Eastwood who will "observe" in readiness for leading weekend 49.

Would all Cursillistas prayerfully consider any potential guests for the next weekend? If you have a person in mind, please pray and **act** on it. It would be wonderful to have a full participant list by the end of November!

Another disappointment was down to not being able to fill some of the roles on Secretariat. Some of us had been in post for much longer than is normally the case and despite advertising these in newsletters, Cursillistas were not lining up to take on the roles!! We STILL need a Secretary to "shadow" Chris so **please** consider giving this a try. Suzanne Whiting has agreed to take on additional duties relating to "pre-Cursillo" but we still need help in other areas. If any of you have some time on your hands and would like to be more involved with Cursillo PLEASE let us know. There are always jobs to do! Even when tasks feel daunting we need to remember the saying that, "Christ and I [that doesn't mean ME it means US!!] are an overwhelming majority". Scripture is full of people who said "Oh no not me!" [Just think of Moses]. If you feel God is saying "Whom shall I send?" pray that you are able to respond "Here I am Lord".

As I said successes and disappointments often go hand-in-hand. This last year has seen many faithful Cursillistas struck by ill-health – many needing intensive surgery and treatment. Much of our prayer has been answered and we thank our gracious God for that. Among the Secretariat members Chris Horton and John Marlow have suffered for some time. Both have continued to support Cursillo throughout and we are all grateful for their persistence and faithfulness. Ruth and Ray Wagstaffe also suffered bereavement and Jackie Cubitt one of our trustees has recently undergone surgery - our prayers continue for them. Many others of you in the Cursillo family will also have been in situations where friends and family have been or still are, suffering - I try to remember you all in my prayers.

Finally, this will be my last report as Lay Director. There are so many thanks to say, so it's best to thank every one of you involved with Coventry Cursillo for your friendship, your faithfulness and for just being who God made you. May you continue to enjoy God's love and provision and remember His promise, "I will be with you." As we say in the Clausura service:

For all that has been THANKS!

For all that will be YES.

My love, thanks and prayers to you all

Eleri

Pam Stote offered her thanks on behalf of everyone, for the dedication Eleri showed during her term as Lay Director, and asked that all of us give Jonathon our full support as he tries to fill her shoes!

Trustees Observations:

2018 Report read by Brenda Reeves on behalf of John Marlow

Hello everyone I'm John Marlow and I'm one of the permanent trustees of Coventry Cursillo. For those of you who don't know the trustees are responsible for making sure that Coventry Cursillo operates in accordance with the rules of BACC and our charitable trust deeds. As part of that

responsibility I attend some of the Secretariat meetings, not I hasten to add as a spy but to assist with any policy decisions that the Secretariat want to make. I'm glad to say that as usual the Secretariat have worked hard to maintain the high standards that we expect from Coventry Cursillo. This year they have had a very successful clergy taster when we were joined by Bishops Mark and John. The other major thing they have had to deal with is the new data protection act. This is when I felt that they were not just having to run Cursillo but were also fighting a battle with apathy. Now I realise the following does not apply to everyone and probably not those of you here tonight because you've made the effort to be here. To the best of their ability the secretariat have sent out forms to cover the new data protection act asking for permission to contact you. Have you filled out yours? One of the major faults our organisation has been criticised about is communication but this year I've seen first-hand that it's definitely as members of Cursillo it's mainly our fault we are not bothered, its great going on a weekend but when it comes to the day to day running of Cursillo we are Apathetic. Would you like to staff on a weekend? Even if you've been prayerfully selected we can't ask you unless you have filled in your form it is illegal for us to contact you. The Secretariat sends out newsletters via e mail and there is information on our website. If you don't have a computer get in touch with your key person who will get you a hard copy of anything you require or speak to me or any member of the Secretariat we are all Gods' servants and we firmly believe that Cursillo is part of His plan. We all live busy lives but if you, like me, believe that Cursillo has a place in your life please support the work of the Secretariat in what they are doing or go a step further and apply for one of the vacancies and become a member of the Secretariat. When we made our Cursillo we were told He is counting on you and we answered and I on Him Our Lord is still counting on you.

There were no questions, but Chris reminded everyone that there were Data Protection forms at the back of church.

Spiritual Directors Report:

It's been another busy year. A full programme of Ultreyas, secretariat meetings and dealing with the disappointment of the weekend that didn't take place.

We have worked very hard on the Clergy Taster which took place in May. It was a challenge as we needed to be sure that the programme we had was the best we could do, and that took many hours of planning. It was also a challenge to get clergy to come! Their time is so precious, and it was difficult to persuade some clergy that it was worthwhile to spend 24 hours on "this Cursillo thing" that many of them had never heard of before. Eleri and Chris worked so hard and it's to their credit that it went so well and was very well received by most of the people who came. We also need to thank the diocese for paying for most of it and for the support of Bishop John and Bishop Mark.

It was while inviting clergy that I found out about a number of Clergy who had done a clergy taster in the past but with whom we had lost contact. I have also had individual meetings with some clergy who weren't able to come to the taster and as an aside, if you know of a clergy person who would welcome hearing all about us, please let me know!!

I am seeing it as my job to be a "key person" for clergy and so now send out reminders about Ultreyas and as well as prompting them to pray about people who would benefit from going on a weekend. I also keep reminding them about sponsoring guests as well as the value of group reunions. The list I am sending out to, is now much longer and so I believe the good news about Cursillo is getting heard much more widely around the diocese!!

It has been really encouraging, that finding SAs for the January weekend has been relatively straightforward and so I am praying that they all stay healthy and knit together well as part of the staffing team.

One of the things that has been on my heart recently is how we make Ultreyas' welcoming to everyone, including those with a disability. This can be a challenge, as different venues have different capacity for wheelchairs, hearing loops, etc. but I think it's something we can't ignore. We are also encouraging people to bring potential guests to an Ultreya before they go on a weekend, and so we must be as welcoming as possible to everyone.

Passionate Spirituality is something that is still the lowest of the 8 Essential Qualities that as a diocese we are focussing on. I am convinced that being in a group reunion and being held accountable for our walk with God, particularly in terms of prayer, study and action is one way we can build up Passionate Spirituality of our own lives

and therefore that of our parishes as well as the diocese as a whole. I am hoping to start a clergy group reunion as well as talking about the method to everyone I can, Cursillistas as well as those who have not been on a weekend.

I am now beginning my third and final year as SA and will be consulting the Bishop about my replacement.. I know that some people on the Secretariat have served for longer than their 3 years, but me stepping down at Christmas is the right time for me as it is then that I am retiring from most of the clergy type jobs I am doing at present.

It has been a privilege to be SD for the Diocese and I think as clergy and lay, working together on the secretariat, we can model a partnership that can happen on a parish level and so I want to say thank you to you all for putting up with me.

Secretariat Vacancies: Presented by Chris Horton

There were vacancies for Lay Director and Treasurer – these have now been filled by Jonathon Ashton and Stan McCarthy respectively. Chris asked for someone to propose and second these positions. Ingrid Grana proposed and Rosemary McCarthy seconded that Jonathon and Stan officially take up these posts.

Chris reminded everyone that the position of Secretary, Communications Assistant, and BACC Rep. are also available, as from tonight. She also mentioned that these jobs could be broken down and done as a type of 'job share', and that job descriptions are displayed at the back of church.

Chris mentioned that there are many Cursillistas in the wider Cursillo community who do jobs which we don't hear about all the time, such as Ingrid Grana and Sue Nutt who year after year have provided us with folders etc. for the weekends. Celia Buckby who sends National Palanca and cards for those being ordained. Glynis Wood who sends International palanca, Suzanne Whiting who organises our guests application forms and sponsors etc. You do not have to be on the Secretariat to jobs like these. Please speak to myself or any member of the Secretariat if you feel you can help. Perhaps you would like to go away and pray about it – please do as we need your help.

Any Other Business:

Gavin Holmes-Wilson advised the meeting of the service he is involved with at Coventry Cathedral on every 2nd Sunday of the month. He stated that it would be a good opportunity for Cursillo to have a presence there as a form of promotion. Leaflets were later distributed.

There being no further business the meeting was closed with a final prayer.

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STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE 2018

2017	<u>RECEIPTS</u>	2018
£ 725.00	Collections and Donations (Not Gift Aid)	£ 360.00
£ 4,917.83	Collections and Donations (Gift Aid)	£ 2,885.43
	Income Tax Repayments	
£ 93.62	Interest Received	£ 33.53
	Other	£ 2,100.00
<u>£ 5,736.45</u>		<u>£ 5,378.96</u>

PAYMENTS

-£ 769.15	Administrative Costs	-£ 432.90
	Donations & Sponsorship	
-£ 5,667.40	Cursillo Weekend/Clergy Taster Expenses	-£ 4,892.91
-£ 60.00	Ultreya/Clausura Donations	-£ 120.00
	Courses	
-£ 158.13	Other	-£ 705.00
<u>-£ 6,654.68</u>		<u>-£ 6,150.81</u>

-£ 1,011.85	<u>RECEIPTS vs PAYMENTS: No. 1 Acc</u>	-£ 755.38
£ 93.62	<u>RECEIPTS vs PAYMENTS: COIF Acc</u>	£ 33.53
<u>-£ 918.23</u>		<u>-£ 721.85</u>

£ 16,228.72	BALANCE AT 30th JUNE	£ 15,456.87
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At 30/6/18 unrepresented cheques totalled £50.

REPRESENTED BY

£ 5,477.60	Lloyds Bank No 1 Acc	£ 4,672.22
£ 10,751.12	COIF Charities Deposit Acc	£ 10,784.65
<u>£ 16,228.72</u>		<u>£ 15,456.87</u>