



CGMC EXECUTIVE MEETING
17th January 2008 , United Reformed Church House, London

Present : Karen Bulley (Moderator), Mary Hawes, Alan Charter, Aled Davies, Doug Swanney(Secretary)

ACTION

The Moderator welcomed all to the meeting and opening devotions were conducted.

1. **Apologies:** Steve Pearce

2. **Notice of other business :** Children Matter DVD/CD. E-mail from Rosy Nixon relating to March Conference.

3. **Matters Arising:**

It was not known if the final account for the CORE Project had been submitted to Westhill. This would need to be done as soon as possible as new money was being sought to fund part of the More Core Conference.

SP

There had been no reply from the Roman Catholic Youth Service about the right person to speak to about membership. This would be followed up again.

DS

The six themes had been posted on the website for members to consider.

4. **Finance:** In the absence of the Treasurer the bank statements were presented. It was noted that the Savings account was in a healthy state and that we should consider how best this money could be used in the service of children's ministry.

The invoices for membership had been sent out and payment was requested within 30 days. Those groups who have joined in the last 2 months were not sent an invoice as they had paid for 2008.

5. **Conference Plans 2008 – 2010:** The Executive reviewed the last Conference at Woodbrooke. It was thought that this was a success and had benefited from the Quaker input, the thematic discussion, and a well balanced programme.

It was noted that we needed to continue to have time for focussing on the work of members, especially with the number of new members in the group. Time needs to be set aside to hear what we are all doing.

It was decided that the next few conferences needed to focus on the themes that came out of the November Conference. Looking again at them it was felt that the six could be merged into five. It was suggested that each of the conferences would take one of these as it's central theme but that the others should be borne in mind whilst planning. The following plan and possible members to co-ordinate was suggested –

Dates	Possible Venue	Themes (number refer to themes)	Lead member
Nov 2008	London	Theology (2)	Exec
Mar 2009	tbc	Accepting Ministry (3) Engaging with the world (4)	Roger Batt & Andrea Harrison
Nov 2009	B'ham	The family (5)	Martyn Payne
Mar 2010 (dependant on ECCE dates)	tbc	Commitment to ministry (1) and review	tbc
Nov 2010	London	tbc	tbc

The members suggested would be contacted.

DS

6. Westhill Trust

The meeting with some of the Trustees had been fixed for 19th June 2008. The purpose of the meeting was to continue discussions about the future needs of children's ministry. It was noted that the original CGMC proposal for a Research Worker had been lost in the ongoing discussions with the Trust Secretary and it was felt that this needed to remain the priority of our hopes for the future.

DS MH

The Executive would be represented at the meeting by Doug and Mary.

7. More Core Conference

The planning for the Conference was underway. The venue has been booked and the Booking Forms had been circulated by e-mail. Paper versions would be available in the next few days.

Suggestions were made for the programme and some names were offered as people for the Planning Group to contact.

MH DS

The budget was discussed and it was noted that CGMC was covering the cost of the actual Conference and that no bursaries were available this time around. It was agreed to send a proposal to Westhill for additional funding to stage the Conference and offer a number of bursaries.

8. CTBI Discussion

A meeting with the Spectrum management group and the Executive had been requested by Bob Fyffe at CTBI. This meeting is on 19th February and is to examine the possible future areas of co-operation between the children's and youth work groups. The Executive noted that neither Scotland or Ireland would be represented in person and so invitations had been extended to Peter Hamill and Stewart Cutler (URC in Scotland) to ensure a well informed discussion.

DS KB

9. Links with the nations

The Executive discussed how best to ensure the voices of all five nations were heard during meetings. Various proposals were made and it was finally decided that as the meetings of the Executive were presented to the whole group and raised at the Business meetings there was plenty scope for any member to input. It was requested that the Agenda for upcoming Executive meetings went to all members so that they knew what was being discussed and could offer any thoughts.

DS

10. Church of England Strategy

Mary outlined the review of the Church of England's strategy for children's and youth work to the group and the timetable to which it was working.

Thanks was expressed to Mary for the open way in which this was being shared with ecumenical colleagues and we hoped that we would be able to help in any way that was felt appropriate.

11. Children Matter DVD/CD

Alan presented a paper outlining the plan from Children Matter! to produce a DVD/CD Rom as a resource for Advocacy on behalf of children in the church. A number of pieces of film have already been commissioned that would be very useful in promoting in encouraging churches to mark the Anniversary of the International Year of the Child in 2009. The DVD would also have a CD Rom function which would link people to resources that would help them work on their children's ministry. The suggestion was that this was something that could be done as a joint project and that CGMC could be instrumental in distributing.

DS

The Executive felt that this was an ideal project for the 2009 Anniversary and would be something that CGMC should be involved in. A proposal would be taken to the Business meeting in March that CGMC would offer £2000 towards the costs of the DVD which would enable us to have input to the rest of the resources. Doug will work with Alan to bring a more detailed plan to the Business meeting. Thought would be given to having an official launch for this resource prior to or following the November conference.

AC DS

12. E-mail from Rosy Nixon

An e-mail had been received which outlined some concerns about the programme for the March conference and the use of some of the time. The Executive noted the concerns but felt that the responsibility to change this rested with CGMC as a whole when it was presented with the programme in November and had been available on the website since. It was noted that speakers were booked for the Tuesday and it was late notice to go back and cancel them now. Concerns were raised about a wet weather plan and this was asked to be considered. It was felt that CGMC conferences could not be compared to denominational resourcing events and that members must take a more active part in shaping the conferences and offering suggestions.

AD

A reply would be sent to Rosy and the issue of the shape and design of Conferences would be raised again at the next Business meeting.

DS

This being all the business the meeting was closed with the grace.