



CGMC BUSINESS MEETING

1st March 2011 at the Park Manor Hotel, Scarborough

Present : Peter Hamill (Moderator); Aled Davies (Treasurer); Karen Morrison; Jo Williams; Joy Raynor; Alan Charter; Mary Hawes; Shelley Porter; David Lankshear; Victoria Beech; Gwen Kearley ; Julie Currie; Rosemary Nixon and Martyn Payne (Secretary)

Action

Apologies: Andrea Harrison; Penny Fuller; Ed Jones; Sian Hancock; David Rock; Richard Knott; Mo Baldwin.

1. Matters arising from the previous Business Minutes (09/11/10), not already on this agenda)

- a. The CGMC website: Penny and Martyn have made some updates and are looking for further ways to enhance the site. They would welcome suggestions for this and also information regarding other changes that need to be made. **CGMC**
- b. The plan to digitalise some past CGMC publications is underway. Aled has this in hand. **AD**
- c. Future Core-style conferences: plans for a future conference such as *More Core* and *New Directions* are 'waiting in the wings'. It was felt we needed to see what happens with our proposed 'Principals and Directors of Studies' consultation day (see below) first before committing ourselves to another conference in 2012.
- d. The need for on-going revision of *Core Skills* and *More Core Skills* was raised. A new print run of *Core Skills* is just about to be released by BRF. A 'Core Skills revision group' would need to be set up by the Executive in about 12 month's time. **PH/MP**
- e. The need for a new leaflet advertising both *Core Skills* books was also raised, which would also include updated information about accreditation etc. and news for the *Core Skills* for Churches website. **PH/MP**

2. Finance

Aled presented the CGMC accounts for 2010. The CGMC balance is healthy at around £11,000.

There are no earmarked expenses at present for 2011. It was noted that the *More Core* conference had been subsidized but this was felt to have been a good use of our funds.

3. Membership Update

CGMC welcomed Gwen, Julie and Shelley as new members of the group.

a. A number of denominations and organisations had decided to join/re-join CGMC following recent invitations, including ACTS Scotland, Amaze and The Irish Methodists. This was very encouraging. Martyn will circulate an updated members list.

MP

b. The absence of any representation from the Methodist Church at this meeting was noted with sadness. The contribution of the Methodist Church to previous CGMC publications and initiatives has been invaluable and they have played always an important part in CGMC conferences and have regularly been members of the Executive.

It was agreed that CGMC would write to their Children's and Youth department with a copy to the Director of Training expressing our concerns

PH/MP

4. Report from the CGMC Executive (31/01/11) – on items not already on this agenda

a. It was agreed that organisations and denominations who take responsibility for organising one of our two CGMC conferences a year would take on the administration involved. However it is planned that our website should make available templates, members' lists and web-booking facilities in order to help in this. It was agreed not to make use of PayPal, because of the costs involved.

b. Information about the CCCF Day on the Big Society would be circulated to members when it is available.

c. Alan gave the meeting an update on the *2fish5bread* initiative at our subsequent news-sharing meeting during this conference. He urged us to order copies of the resource DVD alongside a commitment to making it available for free to the majority world.

5. Proposed Day conference for Principals and/or Directors of Study from the main denominational training colleges.

a. Initial soundings have been positive, though a date in January did not seem the best time for this conference.

b. The CGMC Executive asked CGMC members to supply a list of colleges with key contacts/gatekeepers to Martyn so that we could write around and find for the best time for this conference.

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c. It was also felt important that this day conference had clear goals and parameters as well as a strategy for follow-up. CGMC can be the channel for data gathering to help promote ways forward for the development of children's ministry teaching within colleges.

d. CGMC would be applying to the Westhill Foundation first help in the funding of this day

MP

6. Faith at Home cards

This publication possibility from CGMC is still alive. It would be a playing card style resource with non-threatening questions to get children and families in conversation about faith, under topic headings such as: life, family, worship and general. CGMC members are invited to submit possible questions and as a guide some sample questions will be e-mailed around the group.

The cost of publication has already been researched and this could come under the Core-connections branding from CGMC perhaps through BRF. The questions would also be available as downloads and the possibility of an App. was raised, though some felt this might

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be contrary to the face to face relational nature of the this resource. The group felt that this would be an important contribution to the faith at home strand for many of our organizations and denominations.

7. Core Skills for Children's Work -Accreditation

- a. Peter Hamill explained how *Core Skills* modules can contribute towards a Certificate in Children's Ministry validated from Glyndwr University. Information will be made available for the Core Skills for Churches and CGMC websites as soon as possible. However it was noted that the possibility of this option depends very much on take-up and so members were urged to let their respective constituencies know about this, especially those denominations, for which Core Skills is a necessary part of their children's work training. **PH/MP**
- b. CGMC has also been approached by CYM to ask them to endorse their new Children's Ministry *Engage* course which uses modules from Core Skills. CGMC was very happy to do this and was delighted that Core Skills is now being recommended and used in such a variety of ways to develop professional training for children's leaders. It was agreed that an interim statement about all this needs to be made available to BRF for marketing purposes and for inclusion on the Core Skills for churches and CGMC websites, as well as being part of any future flyer from CGMC advertising Core Skills **MP**
PH/MP

8. Future CGMC Conferences

- a. November 8th-9th 2011 - a 24 hr conference. This will take place in London and is to be organised by Mary and Penny. **MH/PF**
Its focus will be on fresh expressions in children's work. It was proposed that CGMC invite Rev. John Walker who is completing some interesting research in this area
- b. March 2012. The suggestion was made that we approach our Scottish members for 48 hour conference in Edinburgh (perhaps using The Gillis Centre). Firm dates would be needed very soon. Suggestions for a topic for this conference were invited. **MP**
- c. The group was reminded that the next ECCE conference was in Helsinki, from 3rd- 7th June in 2013. Aled offered to bank any contributions towards the costs from current organisational and denominational budgets

9. Suggested topics of interest for future meetings

Suggested topics for future CGMC conferences are already on record from our previous meeting (see below for a reminder) but further ideas are welcomed. **CGMC**

Existing suggestions included:

- a. the need to become aware of contemporary culture in the areas of technology and social networking and their influence on children
- b. the challenges of creating inclusive communities to support families of those children with additional needs
- c. Approaches to pastoral care of children in our churches
- d. The opportunities and challenges for children's work through the churches in the current political climate
- e. A 'reading conference' looking at current new literature on children's work and spirituality.

CGMC expressed its thanks to Mick Maskell and Karen Morrison for organising this 48 hour conference

The meeting closed at 6.00 pm

Date of next meeting: 8th November 2011 in London (venue to be announced)