

Minutes of a meeting of
BODY TALK for CHURCH MEMBERS
Held on Tuesday 27th May 2010 at 7.30pm.

The Senior Minister, Ian Phillips, presided over the meeting which was attended by 74 members. Apologies for absence were received from 48 members.

By 2015, we will be naturally radical followers of Christ:

Caught up in him.....

1. **Opening Worship** was lead by Ian Phillips.

Enjoying each other.....

2. **Welcome to new Members:** The following have requested to be part of the family at Crawley Baptist church. She was joyfully received as a member: Elaine Dudman
3. **Pastoral care** Sandra was on holiday.

Transforming communities

4. **Thailand 2009** Sue shared her experiences of her recent trip to the Thai Burma border in December 2009 with the Cred Foundation. Her and Josh were primarily helping with the kids club and the Karen New Year. She thanked everyone for their support and briefly talked about the Karen people, who are a minority group in Burma who suffer daily at the hands of the military regime. They suffer unimaginable violence and live in fear every day. They are forced into hiding, some who are lucky flee into Thailand and live as refugees, they have no status or human rights and yet Karen Christians believe that the only thing that matters is eternity and they give their lives to helping and serving people and sharing the Gospel. Sue also talked in particular about Father Edmund who is a wanted man himself as he often goes into Burma to try to help these people. She finished by asking people to pray for the Karen people and to pray for the people in Burma. We then watched a video which gave us an idea of what it was like there.
5. **Children and Youth Ministry** Sue talked about the Bulgarian trip and stated that things were going smoothly they had raised £ 2000 out of the target £ 5000 to be raised. She thanked everyone for their support and generosity. She praised the young people for their enthusiasm and touched on all the fund raising events due to happen.
A bike ride on the 6th June – Richard White is organising this and the sponsor forms are in the reception.
The pampered Chef party organised by Lyn Baker on Sat 5th June.
Afternoon tea at the Herring's on the 19th June,
Either the 10th or the 17th a musical celebration by Chosen.
A Bulgarian meal at the Hayden's on 11th July. Please look out for details.
She has spoken with Carol – the women in Bulgaria – and some of the things that will be happening are:
A kids club - a couple of days with the village children and a couple of days with the gypsy children; sport with the young people; painting in the local kinder-garden; practical help in the community; involvement in the local church and meeting up with the local church youth groups.
The main aim is to be like Jesus in the community with actions speaking louder than words, and to experience a different culture and to grow in faith.

Sue asked for prayer for CYM as we look ahead to September. Sunday morning will then become a real problem as a number of leaders are moving on, this will have a significant impact. She encouraged us all to think on this and that if anyone could help please to see her. The only qualifications needed are a love for God that you are willing to share. That could be you.

Ian Phillips raised the subject of having funds in the internal tithe pot, and that Sue has had a dream of a Children's and family worker. There is enough money in this pot to fund this position as a part time role for four years. Sue ran through the requirements of the role and the members were asked to think on this and pray. A point raised was – was there enough money in the General fund for this – there is not unless membership was raised by 20% or giving increased. The roles and responsibility for this role are available from Sue.

6. **Mission Team** Philippa reminded us to adopt a person or project with the Aghem and continue to keep them in our thoughts and prayers within our small groups She asked that we cover this trip to Bulgaria in prayer and that a diary of events leading up to the trip would help facilitate this. She then read the latest news from Rich and Silvina from OM this can be found on the mission desk. Rachel in Swaziland asked for continued prayer for the youth centre, the youth weekend had 65 people. We then watched a video of this youth weekend.

7. **2009 Financial Report:** These are the accounts for the church for the year ended 31 December 2009. This starts with the internal accounts – then a number of year end adjustments are made to bring the figures into line with the rules relating to annual accounts. We allocate money that has been received in connection with the building fund, add the Trustees report and some additional information and present the figures for Independent Examination.
The Trustees reports sets out a series of matters which we are required to disclose by law, including a summary of the activities of the charity over the year.
The statement of Financial Activities shows what money has been received and expended in respect of the activities of the church during the year. There is a breakdown of income and expenses and a reconciliation of the values brought forward from last year with the results for this year and carried forward at the year end.
The Balance sheet shows the assets and liabilities of the church at the end of the year, a financial snapshot of where we are at that date
The remainder of the formal accounts represent additional information that we have to give.
There is an estimated shortfall of some £ 18m in the Baptist Union Ministers Pension Fund, poorer investment returns and increased longevity have led to huge pension shortfalls. The Pension trustees are taking action to resolve the issue.

8. **April 2010 Financial statement** Gill said that the Year to date figure showed a small surplus. She said a point to note was that the Income tithe related giving was down and yet the total revenue income was up this was in part due to the Premises letting being £ 1000 more than was estimated, and also some members have changed from gift aid giving to the 'Give as you earn scheme.' Give as you earn is a way of giving to a charity directly from your employer before tax is paid. Some employers even offer incentives (they give an amount too) to their employees to switch to this scheme. Expenditure is near enough on budget. Pledges continue to be received into the premises fund – this year we are expecting £ 22,610 and pledges continue until 2013. Thank you to all who continue to faithfully give.

And then some.....

9. **Confirm minutes of the meeting held on 30th March 2010.** These were confirmed and signed.

10. **Any matters for information from other teams and organisations.** The men's ministry weekend is coming up soon, there are plenty of things happening so please sign up using the sheets in reception. We have Eden to Eternity tickets for sale here, if you want to know the bible this is your chance. There is no service here on Sunday afternoon.

11. Any other business Ian Phillips had recently been on a conference and met up with a fellow pastor who talked about Suburban spirituality, and being – as our recent series talked about – comfortably numb. Ian said he struggled to see any evidence of any change in us after this series. He stated that you don't know that Jesus is all you need until Jesus IS all you need. He touched on a statement Sue talked about, about the young people here who struggle with Sunday and that is not because of the structures we have in place here but because of our apathy, we are not alive with the Holy spirit and they see that. He asked where were the members tonight, we have 275 members and we are struggling tonight to get a quorum. He said that the best quote he had heard about being a radical Christian was this " To maintain a fresh walk with God, and a sustained walk with the spirit, comprehensively through the decades." He asked how many people we have seen come to faith because we are living radical lives.

12. Next Body Talk Thursday 20th July 2010.

13. Closing Prayer Ian Phillips finished with prayer.

Signed.....

Dated.....