**Notes of a meeting of the Justice & Peace Group**

**held in PNL Meeting room**

**on Wednesday 9 April 2025**

 **Present**: Mike Leggett (ML), Mary Barrett (MB), John Barrett(MJB); Rachel Soland (RS); Geraldine Sharpe (GS);

**Apologies:**  John Manfield; Jane Manfield. Due to a fault with the wifi connection it was not possible for VOB; JF, CC, MH to join the meeting

The meeting was chaired by Mary Barrett

The meeting opened with the CAFOD Lent prayer

**Matters arising from the notes of the February meeting**:

There were no notes from the March meeting as it was entirely devoted to the Live Simply Award assessment.

‘Liz Braines will write to Claire Continho MP on the subject of debt repayment’. This is to be checked

**Practical Action**

Record of thanks to all who helped with the Parish Concert in aid of Practical Action on 1 March. This was a very successful and well attended event. Over £1,600 was raised .

Next and final fund raising event will be the Plant Sale on weekend 26/27 April after all Masses. Any donations of plants welcome, plus help on the days. RS has offered to help on the stalls. **JM to promote event in the Newsletter**

Discussion and confirmation of the next parish charity to be discussed at the May meeting.

**CAFOD**

Family Fast Day collection was well supported (total raised in the parish to be confirmed). Thanks to all who helped with the collections.

Palm Sunday collection is for the Disasters Emergency Committee appeal for the victims of the Myanmar earthquake.

VOB attended a CAFOD event in Parliament to launch the Debt Justice campaign (report attached to these minutes)

**Updates:**

**SVP:** the merging of Redhill and Merstham conferences has gone well. There is a district project to provide rucksacks for some offenders on release from Coldingley Prison

**Campaign to end Modern Slavery:** The A & B Modern Slavery Ambassadors scheme was discussed at a Caritas Social Action Network meeting at Farm Street in March. It was well received. There is a meeting of MS Ambassadors in Bognor on 26 April

**GDWG and Refugee Tales:**  The Truth about Detention: a talk to be held in East Hoathly on 13 April. The Refugees Tales walk will take place between 8 and 13 July.

**CND**

<https://lakenheathallianceforpeace.org.uk/blockade-usaf-lakenheath/>

This CND event will take place on Saturday 26 April. 3 protesters going from Redhill

XR Peace/ XRUK
<https://rebeltoolkit.extinctionrebellion.uk/books/lakenheath-peace-camp/page/key-information>
  The peace vigil, which runs from Monday 14th April to Saturday 26th April, has different events each day from protest choirs, to a Greenham Women’s day, actions against war crimes and genocide, a faiths day and an international peace conference.
  The Lakenheath Alliance for Peace (which includes XR Peace & XRUK) is hosting the camp in Brandon, Suffolk.
 Lakenheath USAF is the biggest US airbase in Europe and deploys weapons and military aircraft to conflicts around the world, including Afghanistan, Libya, Syria, the Middle East and East Africa.

ML has received a letter from Rebecca Paul MP concerning the: Terminally Ill Adults (End of Life) Bill. He encouraged constituents to continue to write to her to ask for her views on the progress of the legislation.

**AOB**

Father Tony joined the meeting to confirm that the wifi was restored. He also showed the meeting the Live Simply Award plaque. It is hoped the parish can receive two further plaques to be displayed in the three mass centres.

Next meeting Wednesday 14 May at the PNL Centre (and it is hoped online)