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

**held in PNL Meeting room and on Zoom**

**on Wednesday 12 February 2025**

**Present**: Jane Manfield (JM) Mike Leggett (ML), Mary Barrett (MB), John Barrett(MJB); Vivienne O’Byrne (VOB); Janet Franklin (JF); Mary Hickman (MH); Liz Braines (LB}; Cecilia Cameron (CC); Geraldine Sharpe (GS); Alan Berridge (AB)

**Apologies:**  John Manfield; Janine Baker; Rachel Soland

The meeting was chaired by Jane Manfield

The meeting opened with a Pax Christi prayer

**Matters arising from the minutes of the January meeting**:

Liz Braines will write to Claire Continho MP on the subject of debt repayment.

Thanks to all who helped with the January Parish Lunch.

Thanks to MJB who edited and issued the J & P Newsletter. JF will find how many parishioners see the online version.

Thanks to all who helped with the distribution of Peace Sunday prayer cards.

**CAFOD**

Jenny Finlayson is visiting the parish on Thursday 20 February at 8.0 p.m. in the PNL Café. All welcome to hear about the Family Fast Day Appeal and how the parish can be involved in the campaign.

Family Fast Day is Friday 14 March. Lent Appeal Talks to take place on the weekend of 8/9 March with the CAFOD Fast Day collection on weekend 15/16 March.

MB is taking part in the annual Big Lent Walk

**Practical Action**

Parish Concert in aid of Practical Action in St Joseph’s on Saturday 1 March 3pm – 5pm.

A wide programme of music has been assembled including organ, a bassist, wind trio, sea shanty group, string soloists. **Further info:** St Joseph’s School is appearing with a children’s choir.

Tickets now on sale £5 each. Posters available. JM has completed the risk assessment. All helpers should read the guidelines.

**Notes for the day:**

1. JM will speak about Practical Action and put up the stand with leaflets
2. Helpers taking tickets at the door: VOB, AB
3. Technical: MJB
4. Welcome and support to musicians MDB
5. Interval teas: CC,. Cakes from LB, JF

Plant Sale weekend of 26/27 April

**Live Simply Award**

The Assessment will take place on 12 March. **The J & P meeting will take place on Zoom**. The assessors, Deacon Tim, JM and MDB will meet at 7.45 p.m. . All other members will join at 8.0 p.m.

**Laudato Si**

The letter of response from Rebecca Paul MP on the Climate and Nature Bill has been put on the website. Ms Paul opposes the private members bill. GS feels the bill will struggle to get anywhere in Parliament .

24 -31 May is the 10th anniversary of the Laudato Si movement. There will be another Animators course available. GS will publicise it in the Newsletter.

**SVP**

The merger between Merstham and Redhill/Reigate has happened.

**UCM**

The February Parish Lunch hosted by UCM went well, approximately 90 people attending. VOB is attending a CAFOD parliamentary briefing and meeting in the Houses of Parliament on 18 March.

**CND**

See summary at the end of these minutes

**GDWG**

The visitors’ group report evidence that many people held in detention are suffering from poor mental health.

There is a Refugee Tales “Walk with Us” taking place on Saturday 22 February. Meet at Dorking Mainline Station at 10.45. All welcome. Book online.

**Anti Modern Slavery**

Training planned to take place at the Hub in Merstham. Service at St Catherine’s Merstham.

**AOB**

New parish charity: St Catherine’s Hospice suggested. This possibility will open for discussion across the parish – JM to put in Newsletter **Action JM**

Concern was raised about the government’s latest directive that any asylum seeker arriving by unapproved means would be denied the right to apply for full citizenship despite receiving asylum

World Day of Prayer: 10.30am March 7. URC Park Lane East, Reigate. Also at All Saints Merstham

The meeting closed with the Lord’s Prayer

**Next Meeting Wednesday 12 March on Zoom**

Notes from ML regarding CND and Just Stop Oil

Kingston Peace Council  
<http://kpc.gn.apc.org/KPN2025/kpn_January_2025.pdf>   
In This Issue Page 2 Peace is too ‘political’ for some   Page 3/4 Rest in Peace Jimmy Carter/ Starmer peacemaker?   
Page 5 Plain for all to see   Page 6 MPD Concert for Peace/ Why are Britain’s military leaders obsessed by going to war with Russia?   Page 7 Concerns raised over crackdown on peaceful protest   Page 8 Diary Dates and our AGM notice.  
  
CND national  
<https://cnduk.org/events/freedom-for-palestine-national-demonstration/>   
15 Feb 2025, 12:00 pm - 4:00 pm , London  
marching from Whitehall to the US embassy to keep up the pressure on the British government to stop arming Israel.   
  Assemble at 12 noon on Whitehall before marching to the US embassy.   
  Protest called by: Palestine Solidarity Campaign, Friends of Al-Aqsa, Stop the War Coalition, Muslim Association of Britain, Palestinian Forum in Britain, Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament.  
  
<https://cnduk.org/lakenheath/>   
The British government continues to ignore public concerns over the return of US nuclear weapons to Britain, despite growing evidence that they are on their way.  <https://cnd.eaction.org.uk/dontmakeusatarget>   
  
<https://cnduk.org/campaigns/climate-not-trident/>   For Peace and Planet  
The hands of the Doomsday Clock – which show how close humanity is to a catastrophe caused by human activity – are currently set at 90\* seconds to midnight, the closest since it was launched in 1947. The reason given by the scientists was the dual threat of climate change and nuclear war.  
... CND is proud to be part of the movement calling for urgent action to deal with the climate threat. We are a member of XR Peace and support other peaceful campaigners such as the school strikers. We believe that furthering understanding and collaboration on the issues of climate change and nuclear weapons will help us to build a world free from these existential threats.  
  
\* The modernisation and growth of nuclear arsenals, a complete disregard for disarmament treaties, and continued tensions due to the war in Ukraine and conflicts in the Middle East were key factors in the decision to set the clock at 89 seconds. [on 28/01/25]   <https://cnduk.org/a-wake-up-call-for-the-world-doomsday-clock-moves-closer-to-midnight>

Just Stop Oil  
Feb 13, 2025 06:30 PM London time Zoom.  
[http://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/ow7BJSjCTPOgFjLKaFxvRA#/registration](http://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/ow7BJSjCTPOgFjLKaFxvRA" \l "/registration" \t "_blank)   
Rev. Sue Parfitt--a retired priest, among the first women to be ordained in 1994 and now, a climate criminal.   
... She will be joining us, this Thursday, 13th of February to answer your questions and speak about her new book 'Bodies On The Line'. A book that explores faith, resistance and the climate crisis. <https://www.waterstones.com/books/reviews/isbn/9781739716288#review-312831>   
Sue's words and wisdom are absolutely invaluable and are never more important to heed than at this critical point in time.   
... We'll also be sharing more about the action plans for spring and what you can do to get involved.   
  
Greenpeace  
<https://www.greenpeace.org.uk/news/sdsp-breaking-point/>  
... Every time climate-supercharged typhoons hit the Philippines, once-cherished homes and belongings are destroyed. Filipinos are resilient, but no one should be forced to endure the heartbreak of losing everything, over and over again.  
... We’re calling for the government to force big polluters like Shell to stop drilling and start paying for the devastation they are causing around the world.  petition  
  
In just two weeks, American oil giant Energy Transfer is taking Greenpeace USA and Greenpeace International to court for an astronomical $300 million in damages, all because of the Indigenous-led protests to oppose the miles-long crude oil pipeline at Standing Rock, North Dakota.   More info: <https://www.greenpeace.org/international/story/67866/energy-transfer-slapp-lawsuit-vs-greenpeace-people-power/>   
The talk starts at 18:00 on Tuesday 18th February and will last 45 minutes. You can register here.   [? UK time?]  
<https://greenpeace.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_Hml4stzcTMiDayfxXMJ4Aw#/registration>