

# **Council for Christian Muslim Relations (HW)**

[www.ccmr-wycombe.co.uk](http://www.ccmr-wycombe.co.uk)

## **Steering Committee Meeting**

**28<sup>th</sup> February 2011 10.30am**

### **Minutes**

1. Apologies: Greg Livingstone, Dr Katy Simmons, Dominic Mundy, Raja Amir Dad Khan

Welcome to guest speaker Gregg Fraley, accompanied by Mrs Caroline Fraley.

Present: Chauhdry M Shafique, (Chair), Revd David Picken (Vice-Chair) Zafar Iqbal, Azher Raja, Dr Siddiqui, Laurence Smy, Anne Bowker, David Snoxell, John Bajina, Helen Byrne, Safina Shafique, Rehana Naeem, Karen Johnstone, Imam Sultan, Mohammed Azad.

Shafique opened the meeting with a welcome to all, and especially to Gregg Farley the guest speaker. Shafique was congratulated on his recent award of the MBE which he received for his work on interfaith and community cohesion.

2. Minutes of Last Meeting: AGREED and adopted as a true record.

3. Matters Arising:

(i) Ed Hussein is no longer with the Quilliam Foundation, however it is hoped to invite his successor, Majid Nawaz from the Quilliam Foundation to speak at a CCMR meeting. Dr Siddiqui agreed to follow this through and make contact.

(ii) The CCMR were informed that Paul Hodson has recently left Wycombe District Council (and also therefore the CCMR) and is not to be replaced as Community Cohesion Manager. Discussion followed and concerns were raised about the level of Wycombe district Council's involvement in this area in the future. David Picken agreed to raise this issue through the Faith Leaders Forum. John Bajina requested that he be invited to the Faith Leaders Forum. It was noted that there was serious concern that the Race Equality Council (REC) is also marked out for closure having served the local people for fifty years, due to lack of funding. This would have an immediate impact on some of the most needy and disadvantaged sections of the local Asian Community.

(iii) The CCMR were informed of a successful High Wycombe C of E Deanery evening in the Oakley Hall on 1<sup>st</sup> November, involving Canon Guy Wilkinson, The Archbishop of Canterbury's Interfaith Adviser and Imam Khalid, who led a conversation concerning "A Common Word Between Us". They were also informed of a successful visit by approximately twelve trainee clergy from Cuddesdon College who came to High Wycombe as part of their interfaith training. Part of the day was spent visiting the Totteridge Mosque where they received a very warm welcome, and there was a great sense of fellowship.

(iv) Think Tank update – Laurence reported that a Christian Minister and Imam were soon to go into Sir William Ramsay School together. Imam Sultan had reported back at their last meeting about his Hajj visit which was very enlightening. The CCMR website continues to need up-to-date articles. There is an open invitation to a Wycombe Sharing of Faiths Meeting on Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> April at Cressex School, talking about where we are with Common Word in High Wycombe.

(v) It was noted that Shafique was following up with Gregg Fraley the possibilities of a visit to Chicago for international dimensions for the CCMR. This would be an excellent pilot project for CCMR to secure as a precursor to developing further international links with other countries with similar issues such as Denmark, Holland, Pakistan and Egypt.

#### 4. Treasurers Report

The CCMR has £1020 total in the account. It is noted that there have been several donations from a local businessman and local councillors, for which the CCMR was very grateful. Any costs for the website should come out of this fund. The Oxford Diocese will continue to fund the tea trolley at meetings, and the University will continue to provide free venues.

#### 5. Work Programme Suggestions

Revd Dr Toby Howarth has taken over Guy Wilkinson's role at Lambeth Palace. It would be good to forge links. David will make contact and invite to a future CCMR meeting.

Following on from David Cameron's recent contentious speech on 'multiculturalism' in Germany, Shafique has been in contact with Paul Goodman to come and speak, and he has agreed to come after end of March 2011.

6. Gregg Fraley was welcomed as guest speaker and gave an inspirational address to the CCMR with a handout entitled 'Nine Ways of Being, for Amplified Creativity'. The CCMR are delighted that Gregg and Caroline would now be a regular member of the CCMR Committee.

#### AOB

On 9<sup>th</sup> May the Archbishop of Canterbury is visiting the Oxford Diocese and will be visiting High Wycombe and attending a breakfast meeting. The university have agreed to host the event to which some members of the CCMR will be invited.

Rehana advised the meeting that the Thames Valley Police are continuing to work with the community in Castlefield following a recent spate of arsons. Two people have been arrested so far and have been detained.

#### 6. Date of next meeting:

Two dates proposed to offer to Paul Goodman – 11 April or 10 May.