



Council for
Christian Muslim
Relations

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Council for Christian Muslim Relations (HW)

Wednesday 11th December 2013

Minutes

Present: Chauhdry M Shafique (Chair), Hugh Ellis (Vice-Chair), Greg Livingstone, Paul Bowen, Jeffrey Singleton, Naheem Bashir, John Parry, Guyas Siddiqui, John Bajina, Mark Macaulay, David Snoxell, Laurence Smy, Tony King, Jackie Lock, Helen Byrne, Asmat Mohammed, John Richey, Sajjad Tameez, Zafar Iqbal, Imam Sultan Mahmmod, M L Raja, Ann Bowker, Tony Dickinson.

Shafique opened the meeting with a welcome to all.

1. Apologies

Sajad Ali, Karen Johnstone, Katy Simmons, Margaret Greenfield, Daniel Sullivan.

2. Minutes of the last meeting 17th September 2013, and verbal note of the special meeting 10th October 2013 with guest speaker Eric Geelan

The meeting agreed they were a true record of events.

3. Current Issues

- The passing of Nelson Mandela

Tributes were paid from Shafique and from colleagues.

- The meeting discussed the recent comments by Dominic Grieve MP regarding other cultures bringing their practices and cultures into Britain and his particular reference to the Pakistani community. It was noted that he has publicly apologised.

- Following the recent atrocity in All Saints, Peshawar, CCMR members (Christian and Muslim) have decided to come together for prayers. Friday 20th December 12.15pm at Totteridge Road Mosque and Sunday 22nd December 9.45am at All Saints. The meeting agreed there would be no press release before the event but that Laurence Smy would issue a press release after the 22nd.

- Dr Guyas Siddiqui informed the meeting that he hoped to link up with Christians in Egypt next year.

- Jeffrey Singleton asked the meeting to be mindful of 'emerging communities' that feel vulnerable but don't have a voice in our society. He asked that if there is knowledge of such groups that we speak to himself or Paul Bowen.

- The meeting was asked to note a new definition of extremism which has come out of a task group set up by the Prime Minister. A copy of an extract from the Government Guidance Document is attached to these minutes.

4. Committee Matters

- Think Tank Update – apologies were given that the last meeting was cancelled. Date of next meeting 8th January 2014

- Treasurer's Report – The Treasurer reported that the Nationwide A/c has been closed and the a/c is moving to a Natwest cheque book a/c. Signatories will be Imam Sultan, Hugh Ellis, Laurence Smy and Shafique.

5. Workshop/Discussion – Two topics were presented to the meeting, and it was decided to defer one to the next meeting in order to explore them in depth and detail. The topic discussed was **Does the Muslim Community in the UK need to do more to prevent the radicalisation of young people**. Key points attached which came out of a very useful discussion and debate are attached in bullet point form to these minutes.

Dates of next CCMR meeting – 12th February 2014