



Council for  
**Christian Muslim**  
Relations

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

**Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> November 2014**

### **Minutes**

**Present:** Chauhdry M Shafique (Chair), Hugh Ellis (Vice-Chair), Ghayas Siddiqui, David Snoxell, Laurence Smy, Jackie Lock, Helen Byrne, M L Raja, Ann Bowker, Tony Dickinson, Steve Baker, Asif Sajid, M A Tausique, M Davis, Praveen Liyanage, Malik Yasin, Jeffrey Singleton, Andrew Walker, Shafiq Siddiq, John Bajina, Jenny Taylor, Karen Johnstone, Ehsan Chaudary (Eden Solicitors), Mohib-Rasul (Eden Solicitors).

#### **1. Welcome and Introduction**

Shafique opened the meeting with a welcome to all and introduced the guest speaker, Steve Baker MP.

#### **2. Apologies**

Daniel Sullivan, Katy Simmons, Greg Livingstone, Sajid Ali, Zafar Iqbal, Mark Macaulay, Martin Phillips, John Parry.

#### **3. Minutes of the last meeting 25<sup>th</sup> September 2014**

The meeting agreed they were a true record of events.

Matters Arising -

Laurence Smy asked the meeting if the conference or standing committee idea for the Wycombe Mosques in relation to pastoral need had yet been taken forward, but Zafar Iqbal who had agreed to follow-up this idea at a previous meeting was not present to give an update.

The Chair informed the meeting that the guest speaker, Dr Jenny Taylor of Lapidomedia, has agreed to return and expand the theme of the topic she presented to the CCMR on another occasion in order to complete the theme and the follow-up discussion.

#### **4. Current Issues**

The workshop "Safeguarding Vulnerable Young People" was a huge success and thanks were given to all those who helped to organise the event and to those who participated. Some very positive feedback was received, and Daniel Sullivan will be working on collating the feedback given at the workshop.

John Bajina informed the meeting that he briefed a group of parents involved with the Children Centres in High Wycombe about the leading role the CCMR were playing in working with local schools on the issues of community cohesion and radicalisation.

The Chair informed the meeting that Dr Khalid Zaheer, a well respected Islamic scholar from Pakistan, is visiting the UK from 19<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2014. He said that there was a strong possibility that Dr Zaheer would be available to speak to the CCMR on Friday 21<sup>st</sup> to give a first-hand account of what is happening in Pakistan and also give his perspective on religious extremism and terrorism. The meeting asked the Chair to go ahead with the invitation.

#### **5. Think Tank Update**

Laurence Smy informed members that the next meeting would be on 11<sup>th</sup> December at 10.45am.

#### **6. Treasurer's Report**

The Treasurer, Imam Sultan, was not present to give a report.

#### **7. Presentation by the guest speaker Steve Baker MP**

Steve Baker gave a detailed presentation on the Government's PREVENT Strategy which is designed to tackle religious extremism and radicalisation which was well received by members. This was followed by a full discussion on the points raised in relation to extremism and radicalisation but also ranged over some more philosophical areas such as the nature of 'tolerance' and its limits in the context of a modern and civilised multicultural society such as Britain.

#### **8. Vote Of Thanks**

Revd Hugh Ellis gave a word of thanks to Steve to acknowledge the excellent occasion we had enjoyed as a result of his presentation.

#### **9. Date of Next Meeting**

The date of the next meeting will be arranged in the New Year, with new speakers.