



Council for
Christian Muslim
Relations

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Council for Christian Muslim Relations (HW)

Monday 14th March 2016

Minutes

Present: Chauhdry M Shafique (Chair), Hugh Ellis (Vice-Chair), Mark Macaulay, Helen Byrne, Daniel Sullivan, John Bajina, Stephanie Rybak, Amjad Mahaud, Paul Bowen, Anouar Kassim, Summer Khan-Juma, Tony Dickinson, Greg Lvingstone, Soon Pak, Ben Childs, Toni Brodelle, Praveen Liyanage, Jon Benz, M L Raja, A Rashil, Jenny Taylor, Kate Vale, Riaz Ahmed.

1. Welcome and Introduction

Shafique opened the meeting with a welcome to all and especially a warm welcome to those joining the CCMR meeting for the first time.

2. Apologies

Sajid Ali, Riaz Ahmed, Anne Bowker, Barbara Lambert, Dr Katy Simmons, David Snoxell

3. Minutes of the last meeting 28th January 2016

No minutes were available for the meeting

4. Current Issues

The Chair informed the meeting that sadly Dr Khalid Zaheer, our guest speaker, was unable to be with us due to an urgent need to return to Pakistan where his father is seriously ill. Dr Ghamidi also decided to defer attending until it can be rescheduled sometime in the future. The Chair however continued the meeting in order to address housekeeping issues and give some opportunity to discuss a forthcoming English Defence League march in High Wycombe on 9th April.

Islamic Art Project – there is to be a Unity Interfaith Arts Exhibition, curated by Anouar Kassim, on Saturday 7th May at Bucks New University. This is primarily youth led and will involve many mosques in Milton Keynes and other towns. 5.30pm- 8.30 pm downstairs in the university foyer. All CCMR members are warmly invited to attend and were asked to promote the event through their own networks such as schools and community organisation.

English Defence League (EDL) March – Kate Vale (representing her daughter Laura Vale) spoke about Laura's idea of how we should respond to the march and she was planning to organise a 'peaceful pillow protest'. The idea being that like-minded folk would be asked to meet at the Guildhall on the day to chat, share food and generally show solidarity and cohesion amongst themselves. Paul

Bowen representing Thames Valley Police informed the meeting of a strategy meeting he will be attending with community representatives. Paul suggested that staying away on the day might be a good option as well. Paul took on board the views and concerns voiced at the meeting. There was much discussion regarding this event amongst all members present. The Chair asked Kate Vale to convey the CCMR's appreciation of her brilliant idea of demonstrating peacefully in a town which is proud of its religious and cultural diversity.

9. Date of Next Meeting

Tuesday 3rd May 2016