



Council for
Christian Muslim
Relations

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Council for Christian Muslim Relations (HW)

Tuesday 28th April 2015

Minutes

Present: Chauhdry M Shafique (Chair), Hugh Ellis (Vice-Chair), David Snoxell, Anne Bowker, John Parry, John Richey, Tony King, Mark Macaulay, Karen Johnstone, Latif Raja, Rana Sarfaraz, Raja Amir Dad Khan, Tom Courtenay, Martin Davis, Helen Byrne, Tawfiq Abdin, Daniel Sullivan, Shahid Akhtar, Ehsan Chaudhry, Mohib Rasul, M.A. Tausique, Imam Sultan, Tony Dickinson, Zafar Iqbal.

1. Welcome and Introduction

Shafique opened the meeting with a welcome to all and welcomed the guest speaker Julia Bicknell, Director of World Watch Monitor.

2. Apologies

Hugh Ellis, Laurence Smy, Anne Bowker, Jackie Lock, Karen Johnstone, Jenny Taylor, Katy Simmons, Greg Livingstone, Ghyas Siddiqui, John Bajina.

3. Minutes of the last meeting 1st April 2015.

The meeting agreed they were a true record of events.

Matters Arising –

In the absence of Laurence Smy, Shafique reported that the meeting between The Mosque Committee and the Think Tank Group was both informative and constructive and helped to clarify the thinking behind the Mosque Committee's commitment to working with CCMR's agenda. The Chairman of The Mosque Committee, Zafar Iqbal, highlighted a clause in their constitution which encourages the Mosque Committee towards interfaith work and shared partnership with other faith groups. Zafar Iqbal also offered to redouble his efforts to organise a meeting between Think Tank and other Imams in the town.

John Parry offered to liaise with Dr Shabbir Akhtar (Oxford Centre for Christian & Muslim Studies) to look at scriptures from other faiths with a view to identifying common underpinning beliefs and values which would help to support the work of CCMR.

4. Presentation by the guest speaker

Julia Bicknell, Director of World Watch Monitor gave a fascinating and engaging talk on her travels in different parts of the world and Pakistan in particular with regard to the circumstances of minority Christian communities and their treatment and experiences in majority Muslim countries. Julia raised a number of both interesting and provocative points of observation vis-à-vis the experiences of Christians and this produced a lively and challenging discussion in the meeting.

5. Vote Of Thanks

The Chairman gave a vote of thanks to Julia for her contribution to the meeting.

8. Date of Next Meeting

The dates of the next meeting was agreed Thursday 16th July 10am for 10.30am– with guest speaker Prof. Dr Nayer Fardows, Principal of Edwards College, Peshawar in Pakistan, and a Christian serving in the Pakistani Army as a Brigadier.