

## MINUTES OF AGM HARTSHILL MOTHERS' UNION

**Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> February 2020**

Sue welcomed everyone and read out the Mother's Union Mission statement to open the meeting. The theme this year is "Building hope and confidence".

Opening prayers read by Sheila.

### 1. Appointment of Secretary

Sheila Hinds volunteered to act as Secretary.

### 2. Attendees and Apologies

Attendees: Sue Foster, Lynda Kelly, Wendy Albrighton, Heather Greaves, Sheila Hinds

Apologies: Sally Young, Jan Blamire Brown, Debbie Kulik, Sue Parr, Rita Bennett, Beryl Todd.

Sue said that her mother, Dorothy Beebe, has recently been registered as an Indoor Member.

### 3. Minutes from AGM held on 20<sup>th</sup> March 2019

It was proposed by Sue and seconded by Wendy that the minutes be approved. All in favour. There were no matters arising not covered by the agenda.

### 4. Finance Report

1. Heather presented the Finance Report for 2019.
2. Heather confirmed that the accounts had been checked and verified by an independent examiner at no cost.
3. The outstanding amounts for the MU subs. Deanery Levy and the money collected for the Christmas Appeal have now cleared leaving a balance of £79.40.
4. In view of this, discussion took place about the need to make a donation for the room and the cost of the daffodils for Mothering Sunday.
5. After discussion it was proposed by Sue and seconded by Heather that MU pay for 150 daffodils, make cakes to sell in aid of the "Make a mother's day Appeal" but not to make a donation for the room this year. All in favour.
6. Heather confirmed that the Sunshine tin currently held approximately £15.00.
7. Sheila asked whether there was anymore information on the new direct debit scheme. More information is expected October/ November.

### 5. Review of last year's activities

1. Sue went through the activities one by one and it was agreed to continue to collect toiletries for the Bob Jakin Ward. 80 sets of toiletries had been donated so far and it was much appreciated by the staff and patients.
2. We will continue making snuggle teddies, blankets and cross in the pockets.
3. Coventry Diocese MU is supporting various charities such as Chintowa, Carriers of Hope, Aim for Change, MAF, AFIA (Away from it all holidays) and Coffeetots. Many families in our Diocese benefit either by having a short break away or having days out.
4. Families also benefit from the Parenting Groups
5. Prison visiting - Heather expanded on her work with the families in the Prison near Dunchurch. Heather has been helping once a month but as the set up for visiting families has changed. She has volunteered to do two days a month. PACT – a Roman Catholic Organisation has recently become involved and the provision of free refreshments for the visitors has ceased. The MU members are trying to provide more affordable food as well as Crèche facilities. MU hope to provide a buffet and drinks to help families as many travel a long way to visit the person in Prison. Last month the food was provided by donations but MU members may struggle to maintain this. Sheila suggested that Heather contact Edible Links at the Rugby BC to establish

whether food could be available for this particular purpose. The food would need to be pre prepared, off site. The Family Day will be run by MU and the volunteers will facilitate craft and play activities. Heather said that the Christmas presents are particularly well received.

6. Sue went through the list of activities for the past 12 months and it was agreed that members had enjoyed attending various Deanery and Diocesan events particularly enjoying the Arabian Bite event – **this will be repeated at St Nicholas Church, Warwick on 19<sup>th</sup> May 2020.**
7. Hedgehog making, parties, quizzes and craft evenings had also been well received.

#### 6. Program plan – review and completion

1. Sue asked members for ideas from the Speaker list she had sent out.
2. Heather suggested Doorway 18-25 year old Homeless people; Karen Berry with her Puppets; Mandy Williams from Exhall talking about the work in Azerberjham; Janey Richardson on Coventry Haven; Jeff Litteridge on Water Aid; Christian Aid.
3. Sheila suggested Rose Clemo on “Christian women of the Midlands 600 – 2020; Mary Richards on the NSPCC; Ruth Smith on Children’s Society in 2017.
4. It was felt that we could not invite speakers who needed to travel great distances due to the low number of members we have at the present time.
5. Sue said that Sally had a friend in the Chaplaincy Team who would be willing to talk about Art.
6. Heather said that Debbie had suggested that Sally might like to talk about her work on the Bob Jakin Ward.
7. Suggestions for a meeting could be “My favourite Bible reading and why?”; more Quizzes

### Proposed Programme of Activities for 2020

All events are at 7.30pm in the library unless otherwise stated.

<b>Date</b>	<b>Activity</b>
January 22nd	Reverend Heather Barnes talking about her visit to the Holy Land.
February 19th	AGM
February 24th	9.45 for 10.00am start Deanery prayers followed by 10.30am for Deanery meeting at Holy Trinity Attleborough
March 18th	Snuggle Teddies and Cross in the pocket / further discussions
March 22nd	Mothering Sunday service
April 16th	
May 13th	Member’s evening 6.3pm (coffee) for 7-9pm service at St Peters Church Wellesbourne
May 20th	(?visit to Arabian Bites – Warwick 19 <sup>th</sup> May)
June 17th	
June 27th	Quiet Day led by Bishop John at the Octagon St Mary Magdalene Lillington – 10.00am coffee for 10.30 to 3.00pm
July 15th	Summer Party in Conservatory – <b>7.00pm</b>
August 9th	Mary Sumner Day – celebrate with the Deanery – Venue tba
September 16th	
October 10th	Member’s Day 10.00am coffee for 10.30 – 3.00pm – Venue tba

October 21st		
November 18th	Design and make Christmas Wreath	
December 16th	Christmas Party and games – 7.00pm	
<p><u>7. Arrangements for Mothering Sunday 22nd March 2020</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Heather agreed to purchase 150 daffodils.</li> <li>2. Wendy agreed to prepare the foils.</li> <li>3. Volunteers are needed to make cakes - to sell on Mothering Sunday in aid of "Make a Mother's Day Appeal" and to make the posies on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> March. <b>This will be discussed at the March meeting</b></li> <li>4. The Guiding units are down for refreshments as it is a Parade Sunday. Hopefully, more girls will come with their parents.</li> </ol>		
<p><u>8. Elections</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <u>Elections for Branch Leader, Treasurer and Secretary</u> It was proposed by Sheila and seconded by Wendy that Sue be elected as Branch Leader and Heather as Treasurer, Sheila is willing to act as Secretary. All in favour.</li> <li>2. Wendy proposed a vote of thanks for all the hard work done by Sue and Heather during the past year. Unanimously endorsed.</li> </ol>		
<p><u>9. AOB</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Wendy asked for a message to be sent to MU to request that they should not be issuing books of raffle tickets to individual members. The cost must have been more than was generated and was a waste of resources. Lynda wondered how much had actually been raised. Heather said that £65000 had been raised by the first Christmas Raffle appeal but did not know the amount it cost to generate this amount. It was estimated that just for Coventry Diocese alone it could have been £500. Also, Heather had been sent an additional 15 books to sell to our registered members although they had also received a individual book directly to their home.</li> <li>2. Sue will forward an email received from the Birmingham MU for our interest.</li> <li>3. Sheila felt that a recruitment drive was needed. Discussion took place about changing the times or day of the meeting but it appears that Wednesday may be the best for most people but further discussions could be held when more members available.</li> <li>4. Discussion took place about the Rota for refreshments and opening prayers as Sue said she frequently had to amend it due to non availability. It was felt that volunteers should be sought at each meeting bearing in mind frequency of turns in the interests of fairness. Sue suggested that she ask the Church whether we could use tea and coffee stocks from the Church box and then the person responsible would only need to bring milk, biscuits and a tea towel. This would be acceptable providing the Church agreed and the duties were distributed fairly. It was felt that a donation could be made from the Sunshine tin towards the cost of coffee etc.</li> <li>5 The meeting closed with the Mother's Union Prayer at 9.45pm</li> </ol>		