

Scientists in Congregations: Water of Life

Notes from Meeting of Honley and Brockholes Learning Partnership

17th January 2017 in St Mary's Church Honley

1. A presentation was given by Richard Ashley providing a project overview. See the Annex to this note.
2. Participants needs and aspirations were noted, collated and listed in the Annex.
3. Discussion points made
 - a. There was a view that the River Holme was now much better quality than in even the recent past.
 - b. We need to accept God's power to restore the life to the river; the wonder of creation; ecology of the fish in the River.
 - c. Somehow we need to be more than just 'a bunch of people doing good to the river'. What is distinct about us as people of faith? How can we challenge the new atheism of science (Dawkins) that science has all the answers?
 - d. Important that we include the entire river catchment – up to the source waters.
4. Moving forward ideas
 - a. We need to establish where we as Christians see ourselves now in relation to science
 - b. What does the bible tell us?
 - c. We need to engage with science teachers at primary and secondary school level
 - d. Also local GPs in view of the risks to public health brought by CC.
 - e. Can we encourage children/young people to work within the church to promote/explore science and faith?
 - f. Do we need 'focused' groups? E.g. on climate change; theology; ..
5. Practical suggestions:
 - a. Establish a river prayer walk, maybe with a prayer rock(s)?
 - b. Exhibition in libraries

- c. Sunday club/schools resources and programme
 - d. Honley community trust engagement
 - e. Scouts
 - f. Demonstrate our 'coming from a faith' perspective
 - g. Information offered for various community events – we're all equal in the sight of God
 - h. Invite an expert on climate change to a partnership meeting
6. Further engagement
- a. Two of the participants indicated a wish to engage with others in the community outside Faith congregations

Participants

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