

Devon Churches Rural Forum

Meeting 8th May 2017 10 am to 12 noon at Tedburn St Mary Village Hall

Agenda

1. Opening Prayer
2. Apologies
3. Welcome to new members, including Derek Baker and Marian Carson
4. Notes from the last meeting
5. Matters and actions arising (not covered below)
 - a. Contact with URC regarding working together to support the rural church – Mark
 - b. Exploration of models of rural church support in other parts of the country – Penny
 - c. Rural Conference (8.10.16): Outstanding actions re follow up and reports
 - d. Market volunteer chaplain role description
6. Communications
 - a. Website - aims, audience, interactivity and building content
 - b. Newsletter
7. Rural Loneliness and Social Isolation and Church Involvement
 - a. Police perspective, pilot Plymouth befriending project, applicability to rural areas – Derek Baker
 - b. Community Unity Project – Elaine Cook
 - c. Diocesan Loneliness conference in conjunction with Healthwatch Devon – Martyn Goss
 - d. FCN work – Joanne Jones
 - e. Barnstaple Social Care Pilot – Penny Dobbin
 - f. Mothers Union Diocesan Priority – Nickie Johnson
 - g. Related work
 - i. Transforming Ageing Project – Elaine Cook
 - ii. Update on Devon County Council New Communities Team – Elaine Cook
 - h. Discussion – issues raised, the best way forward, co-ordination and finding out what is already happening.

8. Work Strands

- a. Training/courses
 - i. General Update
 - ii. Forthcoming opportunities – Suicide Prevention
 - iii. Making the most of local secular opportunities

9. Growing the Rural Church Project - Marian Carson

10. Deemed items - written reports circulated in advance (we won't discuss each report, but there will be an opportunity to ask questions):

- a. Pastoral care: FCN, market chaplaincy
- b. Bright Field Community
- c. Farming Report
- d. Social and Economic Issues Group
- e. Environmental issues
- f. Reflection on models of rural ministry

11. Notices and Events

12. AOB

13. Dates of next meetings: 2.30pm, November 16th 2017 and proposals for January/May 2017

14. Closing prayer