

## **CONSTITUTION (amended 17/10/2006)**

### **1. NAME**

The Council shall be called 'Churches Together in Farnham', formerly known as The Farnham and District Council of Churches.

### **2. MEMBERSHIP**

The wording suggested by Churches Together in England is as follows :  
'Churches Together in Farnham (CTF) unites in pilgrimage those churches in the Farnham area which, acknowledging God's revelation in Christ, confess the Lord Jesus Christ as God and Saviour according to the Scriptures, and, in obedience to God's will and in the power of the Holy Spirit commit themselves to seek a deepening of their communion with Christ and with one another in the Church, which is His body; and to fulfil their mission to proclaim the Gospel by common witness and service in the world to the glory of one God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit'.

### **3. OBJECTIVES**

- i) To draw Christians in the Farnham area into closer unity and understanding.
- ii) To enable Christians in the locality to express their common faith in united witness and service.
- iii) To express the common concern of the Churches in the service of human need, the breaking down of barriers between people and the promotion of love, justice and peace.

### **4. REPRESENTATION**

- i) The affairs of CTF shall be directed by a Council which shall consist of the clergy or other leaders and up to three representatives of each Church in the Farnham area.
- ii) The Council shall have the power to co-opt additional members.

### **5. OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES**

- i) The officers of the Council shall be a Chairperson, Secretary and Treasurer. It is felt most desirable although not mandatory that the Chair should alternate between clergy and laity.
- ii) Appointment of officers of the Council will be as follows :-

Chairperson, Secretary and Treasurer will be elected by the Council for up to three years and be eligible to be re-elected (by the Council) for further terms of office.

- iii) The Council shall elect a Steering Committee comprising the three officers and six additional members which shall be four lay members of the Council elected by the lay members of the Council and two Clergy elected by the clerical members of the Council. They will be elected for three years and will be eligible to be re-elected for further terms of office.
- iv) The business of the Steering Committee shall be to conduct the affairs of CTF between Council meetings, to prepare agendas for Council meetings, and to ensure the implementation of all aspects of this Constitution.
- v) The Council shall appoint a Worship and Study Committee, a Social Responsibilities Committee and such other committees and working parties as may be required.
- vi) Deleted 2/10/2000

- vii) The Steering Committee shall have powers to appoint officers to fill casual vacancies arising, such appointments to be confirmed at the next Council meeting.

## **6. MEETINGS**

- i) The Council shall meet at least once a year. This meeting shall be the Annual General Meeting for the election of officers, presentation of accounts and to review the Council's work.
- ii) The Steering Committee shall meet as necessary to conduct its business as described in 6.iv and must report its proceedings to the next meeting of the Council.
- iii) The Council may be convened in addition to the published scheduled meeting if six Council members so request the Chair in writing.
- iv) Churches Together in Farnham encourages the local activities of national ecumenical organisations such as the Bible Society etc and local ecumenical initiatives e.g. Interchurch Players. The Council may receive reports from these bodies as appropriate.

## **7. FINANCE**

Each Church on the Council shall be asked to make an annual subscription as determined by the Council.

## **8. POWERS OF AMENDMENT**

The Council shall have power to amend the constitution by a simple majority in favour of a motion, provided that notification is sent to the Secretary two months before the AGM and that at least one month's written notice has then been given to member Churches.