

Churches Together in Gosport (C.T.I.G.) Constitution

A) We are part of “Churches Together in Britain and Ireland” (C.T.B.I.)

- 1) There are many different Christian churches and denominations, but all have the same basic calling - to worship God, to share the good news about Jesus Christ and to work for the good of all people. So they often need to work together, as well as co-ordinate the work they each do separately. When they do, they are acting as Churches Together.
- 2) But being Churches Together means more than that. It means commitment by each church and denomination to deepen its fellowship with the others and, without losing what makes each interestingly different, to work with them towards a greater visible unity.
- 3) To help the churches live as Churches Together, a number of small organisations have been created to ease their way. There is one in almost every town or community to help them to work together locally. There are others in the regions and for each of the four nations of Wales, Scotland, Ireland and England. And there is Churches Together in Britain and Ireland.
- 4) Many areas of work are best tackled for Britain and Ireland as a whole, rather than in the separate nations. It is also important for those involved in similar activities in different parts of Britain and Ireland to keep in touch even when working separately. Churches Together in Britain and Ireland is the instrument that facilitates that process.
- 5) Supported and facilitated by a skilled and committed staff team, it networks specialists across the churches, arranges regular meetings of church representatives and links the churches to a wide range of inter-church organisations. As the successor to the former Council of Churches for Britain and Ireland, and before that the British Council of Churches, it has a long history.

B) Churches Together in Hampshire and the Isle of Wight (C.T.H.I.)

- 1) This is a fellowship of Churches Together groups committed to working together locally in mission. This work is facilitated by the two groups that govern CTHI. They are:
CTHI's Church Leaders' Gathering on which our Bishops, Chairs and Moderators serve.
CTHI's Ecumenical Development Group on which our Denominational Ecumenical Officers serve.

C) Churches Together in Gosport (C.T.I.G.)

- 1) We represent 27 member churches.
- 2) We meet as a Committee (Ministers and church representatives) three times a year, to deepen

our fellowship, and share information about our respective churches and joint Christian initiatives

- 3) We have:
 - A central mailing for sharing information, which can be utilized by any members
 - A Directory of information about, and contact details for, every member church.

D) Churches Together in Gosport financial matters

How C.T.I.G financial matters will be managed:

- 1) C.T.I.G. will have one bank account, managed by the Treasurer.
- 2) There will be 3 signatories for the bank account, any 2 of whom may sign a cheque.
- 3) The signatories will be agreed at a C.T.I.G Annual General Meeting (AGM).
- 4) Decisions concerning financial expenditure will be discussed and agreed at a Committee Meeting before the expenditure is incurred, and will bear in mind that financial reserves have to be sufficient to cover the amount(s) required.
- 5) Every financial transaction will be recorded by the Treasurer, and a summary reported to each subsequent Committee Meeting.
- 6) A summary of the C.T.I.G. accounts will be provided for each AGM.
- 7) C.T.I.G. income will be obtained from voluntary subscription contributions from the various member churches, the amount of the subscription being agreed at each AGM, based upon the subsequent programme of C.T.I.G events.

In the event of the organisation being dissolved:

- 1) Any outstanding liabilities will be paid (it will be the policy of the organisation that financial commitments will not be agreed unless there are sufficient funds to meet them).
- 2) Any remaining funds will be donated to Churches Together in Britain and Ireland.
