

THE SEVERN FORUM

Web: www.thesevernforum.org.uk

Notice of ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

This will take place in person and by Zoom on
Wednesday 10th November 2021 at 7.30 pm sharp

The meeting will be chaired by Bishop Christopher Hill.

Agenda:

- Apologies
- Formal acceptance of the Minutes of the 2020 AGM*
- Revision to Membership subscriptions (attached)
- The Chairman's report
- The Treasurer's report*
- Election of the Committee**
- Appointment of Examiner of Accounts
- Any Other Business

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**The Minutes and the Accounts can be found on the Forum's Website (see above).
The 2020 Accounts are attached below.*

***The following Management Committee will be proposed for election for 2022:*

Chair:	The Rt Rev Christopher Hill KCVO DD
Vice Chair:	Revd Canon Dr Alvyn Pettersen
Treasurer:	Mr Fred Bach
Committee Secretary:	Revd Adam Dunning
Programme Secretary:	Revd Canon Michael Irving
Membership Secretary:	Mr Arthur W Burgess
	Revd Philip Averay
	Mrs Katharine Canning
	Revd John Hellyer
	Professor Andrew Lincoln
	Revd Peter Slocombe

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To join Zoom Meeting please contact:

The Revd Philip Averay
Vicar
Parish of Chepstow
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Severn Forum AGM Chairman's Report 2021

The year for the Severn Forum has been, as with life in general, somewhat undulating by reason of Covid-19. Professor John Barton gave us a splendid beginning, albeit on Zoom, followed by our very own Dr Alvyn Pettersen, similarly virtual. Our first 'live' lecture was last month with Dr Julie Gittoes. This was also live-streamed. Today we shall hear Mr Martin Davis on Pope Francis' encyclical *Laudato si*, Professor Conor Cunningham – as previously advertised – cannot be with us because of the terminal illness of his mother in Ireland. The Forum fully understands and we have sent him our assurances of concern. We hope he will be with us in February next year instead. We are deeply grateful to Martin for 'standing in' at very short notice. He is well known locally for his concern for the future of the earth and its environment. A highly topical subject with the current Cop26 Conference.

One important aspect of this year has been the increase in participation by Zoom from a much wider area. We now have a regular membership from the Netherlands. We are not however at the moment contemplating changing the name of the Forum to the Severn and North Sea Forum!

Your Committee have decided that we should continue to work in hybrid fashion, as tonight, 'live' and 'streamed'.

Another important decision is that we are proposing to increase the annual membership fee to £15. This is a modest increment. Moreover, it will remain at £10 for those on limited income, certainly students and those on limited pensions. There will also be a donor option for those who wish to support the Forum of £25. All this will be explained in the annual renewal letter.

Traditionally, many members have paid by cheque in person at 'live' meetings. Obviously this income stream has diminished in the current year. Nevertheless, we have received a legacy and a member has also offered a very generous donation. All in all the Forum is in good heart and with an increased 'on-line' participation. Current membership stands at 113, of which about 30 are joint members.

With sadness I must mention the death of Professor Kenneth Davey who for a number of years was Secretary of the Forum. We owe much to his support and friendship.

Finally I need to express my gratitude to all the members of your Committee for their expertise, hard work and humour. It is good to work with such a Committee!

+Christopher Hill

Revised membership subscriptions:

Throughout the existence of the Forum, the Membership subscription has been set at £10 (£12 for a couple at the same address). In the new world of Zoom meetings and thus the availability of membership and lecturers from a wider geographical area, it is proposed by the Committee to revise this from the 2022 renewals.

Membership is open to all and runs from January to December. The subscription for a calendar year is £15 per person or couple. There is a £25 donor option for those who wish and are able to support the Forum further. There is also a £10 reduced option for those on a limited income. It will make no difference to the service we give you. If you join us after June we will give you half year membership for half the usual price. If you join us at the end of the year you will be offered membership through to the end of the following year.

Note – the Forum is a charity and thus the membership subscription may be included in the donations allowable against income tax.

THE SEVERN FORUM

Income and Expenditure, 1 January – 31 December 2020

	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2020 – 2019</u>
Income			
Subscriptions	£630.00	£936.00	-£306.00
Visitors to Meetings	£0.00	£34.00	-£34.00
Interest (Epworth Account)	£31.65	£54.34	-£22.69
Gift Aid Reclaim	£0.00	£201.24	-£201.24
Meal Donation	£0.00	42.00	-£42.00
Donations	£300.00	.00	£300.00
Gain on Investments	£251.52	£215.78	£35.74
	<u>£1,213.17</u>	<u>£1,483.36</u>	<u>-£270.19</u>
Expenditure			
Speakers	£315.00	£617.95	-£302.95
Hospitality	£0.00	£427.36	-£427.36
Admin (Programmes, Postage)	£172.00	£190.00	-£18.00
Expenses (Travel)	£64.40	£583.74	-£519.34
Insurance	£191.36	£191.37	-£0.01
Website	£63.00	£97.20	-£34.20
	<u>£805.76</u>	<u>£2,107.62</u>	<u>-£1,301.86</u>
Income – Expenditure	£407.41	-£624.26	£1,031.67
Cash in HSBC Bank	£173.31	£17.72	£155.59
Epworth Deposit Fund	£50.96	£50.66	£0.30
Epworth Sovereign Bond Fund	£3,349.20	£3,142.99	£206.21
Epworth Corporate Bond Fund	£977.29	£931.98	£45.31
	<u>£4,550.76</u>	<u>£4,143.35</u>	£407.41

SEVERN THEOLOGICAL FORUM LECTURE

**Can we still believe in a future?
Pope Francis' Laudato Si' as a
platform for action and hope.**



Speaker: Martin Davis, convener of the Cheltenham Green Christian group and a Laudato si' Animator

Wednesday 10th November 2021

Zoom opens @ 7.15pm, AGM starts @ 7.30pm

& Lecture starting @ 7.45pm

The Elwes Building, Room TC208A+B, The Park Campus, University of Gloucestershire, Cheltenham GL50 2RH

For the Zoom Link please contact **Philip Averay** at revphilipaveray@gmail.com who will be happy to help.