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Minutes of the East of Eden Mission Community Steering Group Meeting 13/08/2018

Present : Jim Butterworth, Kathleen Doidge-Harrison, Bryan Gray (Chair), Revd Mark Houston, Revd Keith Speck, Revd Les Wallace

Apologies: Helen Armstrong, Revd Stephen Pye, Ray Wager

It was agreed that the Minutes of 23 July 2018 would be brought to the next meeting for approval as today's meeting was specifically to discuss the EEMC Annual Meeting in September.

1. Annual Report

The draft drawn up by Bryan was agreed with the addition of Alston to the list of schools.

Action: Bryan to liaise with Helen who will produce a newsletter for circulation before the AGM. Helen also to put it on the website.

2. Finance

Rick Jaques, Deputy Diocesan Secretary, has drafted a letter for Lee Townend, the Archdeacon, to send to all PCCs. This sets out the aim to create a Mission Community financial plan for mission and ministerial resource and asks PCCs to support the Steering Group in doing so. Jim will speak about finance at the Annual Meeting and he will be the point of contact for Parish Offers for the EEMC.

Action: Jim to check that Great Salkeld has a screen for his presentation. Les to supply a projector.

There was discussion of RW's paper on ministerial expenses and whether or not ministers should make a contribution so that they are not deemed to be in receipt of taxable benefits.

Action: Jim and Ray to talk to Stephen as parity is needed between the Anglican and Methodist ministers.

3. Buildings

John Slee, who has agreed to act as a consultant/sounding board for ideas about EEMC buildings, cannot attend the Annual Meeting.

Action: Bryan to speak on this at the Annual Meeting.

4. Communications

Kathleen to speak at the Annual Meeting.

Jim wishes to step down from the SG next February, giving his replacement six months to settle in before any other changes of personnel are made next September. This will not be mentioned at the Annual Meeting as notice needs to be given and a procedure developed for finding new SG members.

5. Practicalities

Annual Meeting at Great Salkeld VH on 17 September. Opening act of worship.

Refreshments afterwards. Copies of the newsletter to be available.

Action: Jim to check that we can have access to the VH at 6.30pm on 17 September. Jim to bring biscuits and Kathleen tea, coffee and milk.

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- Ministerial team meeting on 10 September, looking at developing a 3-month plan for the EEMC. This may not be possible until 2019 but Christmas services could be planned at the meeting. Les to meet Stephen prior to the 10 September meeting.
- Autumn Bible Study sessions. Keith is looking for dates for a 4-session course.
- African Children's Choir may be available to perform in the EEMC on Saturday, 8th or Friday, 21st December. Host accommodation would be needed for adults and children. Les to follow up.

Date of next meeting: Tuesday, 11 September, 4pm, at Langwathby Methodist Church.