**Kea Church PCC Missions Working Group**

**Notes of Meeting held Monday 25th July 2016**

**Present:** Marc Baker (chair), Dave Cummins, John Guest, Graham Loveland (taking Minutes), Hilary Rowe, Adam Thrift.

**1. Apologies for absence**

None.

**2. Approval of Minutes of previous meeting.**

None.

**3. Matters Arising other than on the agenda.**

None.

**4 Purpose of the group including Terms of Reference.**

For the benefit of new members of the group MB reviewed the Terms of Reference as previously set out. Points particularly emphasized were:

* The emphasis on “partnership” by which benefits would flow in both directions rather than just “support” where the flow tends to uni-directional.
* The aim to send one person per year into full time gospel ministry, recognizing gifting, encouraging vocation. Short term opportunities were not excluded.
* Aim to give 10% of church income to ministries not delivered by Kea (hence e.g. Foodbank qualified for “Missions” support whilst CAP did not).

**5. Work done last year – Criteria for sending.**

MB distributed copies of the note “Supporting those in whom gifting is discerned - Biblical criteria for evaluating potential servants of the church” and explained that this was not a counsel of perfection but a simple statement of the Biblical criteria, and was intended to introduce objectivity into the process of deciding whom to support. Judgments would still have to be made about individuals.

**6. Work done last year – Mission Partner Review**

MB distributed copies of the matrix “Cross Matching Mission Support Criteria with Current Mission Partners” and explained the criteria adopted and reviewed previous partners.

* **The Wallaces working in Madrid**. The desire to explore development of a deeper relationship. Richard Wallace would be visiting Kea on Sunday 6th November. This would provide an opportunity for MB and RW to meet and develop a personal relationship. RW also to meet MWG. Jonathan Rowe would be preaching that day and would say more about the wider spiritual scene in Spain. The possibility of a lunch event for the whole church in order to give exposure to RW and his work was mentioned (see 7.3 below).
* **Women’s Refuge**. This does not meet the criteria for support but individual members of Kea would continue their involvement and we can continue to promote it when asked to.
* **Mercy Rescue Trust (MRT**). MB explained the thinking behind a link not just with MRT but also with Calvary Chapel in Kitale. However MRT is a small charity and Kea has no experience of developing links cross-culturally. There are many pitfalls to avoid and it would be helpful to draw on the expertise of Tearfund, possibly with Tearfund ”adopting” Calvary Chapel as part of its Connected Church programme. It was noted that the work of MRT is expanding beyond simply “foster” care.
* **Truro Foodbank**. MB explained that this was seen as fitting in with initiatives by Bishop Tim and with the wider vision of involvement in social action projects locally and with other local churches.
* **UCCF.** There are no current strong links. Although the number of students attending Kea is increasing and Kea clergy have had an increasing input to the Falmouth CU, this is better seen as part of the ministry of the All Hallows congregation at Kea than as a Mission issue. Hence no further regular financial support for UCCF centrally, though one-offs to support local initiatives could continue to be considered.

In response to questions the following issues were clarified:

* Sending does not *necessarily* involve a financial commitment, though it could.
* MRT offers the opportunity for members of Kea to visit and be involved in various capacities.
* It is recognised that developing cross cultural links is complex and has the potential for misunderstandings and difficulties. DC confirmed that Pastor Winnie in Kitale would be keen to develop links with a UK church but he also cautioned against possible misunderstandings.
* C of E criteria for ministry would encompass those in the “Biblical criteria” referenced above, but would be more extensive.
* The development of the website section on Missions was still awaiting the attention of suitably skilled manpower.
* A number of members in Kea give individually to some of the Missions supported centrally. Was it normal for individuals to give to a Mission separately from the church’s corporate giving? MB said that patterns of giving varied widely as between individuals.
* Support for the Wallaces, MRT, Foodbank meant only both three partners as opposed to the “four to six” aspired to in the criteria, and no national UK partner. It was agreed that, against a background of low awareness of Mission issues in Kea, depth rather than breadth was the prime requirement at this stage.

**7. The agenda for the year ahead plus short term actions**

7.1 Open a conversation with Tearfund about the possibility of adoption, failing which to seek their advice on how best to proceed.

**Action: MB**

7.2 Dependent on the outcome of 7.1, open a conversation with Pastor WInnie.

**Action: MB**

7.3 Plan for a lunch event on November 6th for Richard Wallace’s visit.

**Action: MB and HR to discuss.**

7.4 Frequency of prayer for Mission topics. DC to discuss with the organisers of the Prayer and Praise meetings how often they plan to include prayer for Mission issues and to encourage frequent inclusion.

**Action: DC**

7.5 Feedback on DC’s time in Kenya. One Sunday in September to include slots for DC in all three services plus a lunch to provide opportunity for more feedback.

**Action: MB/DC to discuss details and agree a date.**

**8. Office holders for the group**

**Chair**: MB indicated his preference not to continue as Chair, lest he become the cork in the bottle, slowing things up. Other members or the group however felt that the nature of the issues to be addressed over the next year made it sensible for him to continue in that role. AT volunteered to work alongside MB where possible.

**Secretary**: GL agreed to write up the minutes of this meeting and to prepare the agenda for the next meeting but said he was not volunteering to continue in the role of Secretary. No appointment of a Secretary was made.

**9. Date of next meeting.**

Monday 10th October 2016. 7.30 pm at the Vicarage.

GWL

27th July 2016