

**FRIENDS OF THE ANGLICAN CHURCH IN ETHIOPIA AND THE HORN OF AFRICA**

**Charity number: 1139834**

**Minutes of a trustees meeting held online on 10<sup>th</sup> November 2020 at 11.00 am**

Agenda Item	Action
<p><b>1. Welcome and apologies</b>  Present: Chris Haywood (Chair),  Darrell Hannah, Tina Bailey, Bill Poole, Sally Lynch (minutes)  In attendance: +Andrew Proud  In attendance: Naomi Herbert and Anne Figge (Mother’s Union) for items1-3  There were no apologies</p>	
<p><b>2. Opening Prayer</b>  TB opened the meeting in prayer</p>	
<p><b>3. Mother’s Union - Eagle Process and Literacy Project</b></p> <p>CH welcomed NH and AF  Each trustee present briefly introduced themselves, and their involvement in FACE.</p> <p>NH then shared her background, having been involved with MU in Gambella since 2004 and visited there first in 2011 to see a literacy project at work.  AF shared that she had been working as a contactor for the MU since 2009 and had been living in Addis Ababa with her doctor husband since 2013. She a great deal of experience in Africa and had been introduced to Gambella through her work with the MU in South Sudan.</p> <p>NH and AF then made a presentation to trustees about the work of the MU in Ethiopia and outlined the need underpinning their grant application for the two projects above.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The MU usually worked through provincial offices but having a special relationship with Gambella, where there was a great need, tended to relate more with the local church and less with the provincial office.</li> <li>• NH outlined the five objectives of the MU <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Christian marriage</li> <li>- Christian parenting</li> <li>- Maintaining worldwide fellowship, prayer and service</li> <li>- To promote conditions in society favorable to a stable family life and the protection of children.</li> <li>- To help those whose family life have met with adversity.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>And the three Strategic Objectives:  Gender Justice;                      Self Reliance;                      Peace &amp; Safety</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The current and projected work in Ethiopia was deemed to meet all of these criteria, particularly helping families who had met with adversity.</li> <li>• She then suggested reasons for partnering with MU Ethiopia, particularly that the local environment in Gambella indicates exceptional challenges to the well-being of women, and that the local environment indicates exceptional</li> </ul>	

challenges to the stability of the church and MU (with the current changes in the whole Province).

- NH and AF then outlined the two opportunities to support the work of the MU in Gambella:

#### **MU Eagle**

- Adapted from a highly successful program in Uganda.
- Called Eagle as a successful outcome enables the local churches to 'fly on wings like eagles'.
- Uses God given resources to: 'Empower individuals to transform their situations using God's given resources and minimize dependency using participatory bible studies'.
- Outcomes in Uganda were seen to be:
  - Church growth, not only of membership but in the number of buildings being renovated, extended or new builds;
  - Participants report a deeper faith in God;
  - Increase in family income generating projects – animal husbandry, agriculture, handicrafts;
  - Increased self esteem and confidence in all participants;
  - Improved health within households and communities;
  - Increase in the number of household latrines/wash areas;
  - Reduced incidences of gender based violence and restored household and community harmony;
  - All sustainable outcomes.
- The project had started in Gambella with a conference in November 2019 which trained MU Leaders / Clergy in the following stages:
  - Envisioning the local church through participatory bible studies;
  - Planning for action within their families and communities;
  - Taking practical action with emphasis on reflection and being holistic and achieving sustainability.
- Outcomes so far were:
  - Owned and initiative led by whole of MU leadership and Clergy;
  - Participants saved their own funds to pay for their travel to the 2019 conference;
  - MU leaders have returned to their communities and started agricultural projects (unusual for a pastoral community);
  - Friendship days (thus addressing intra-tribal conflict) ;
  - Started savings groups and income generation projects – animal husbandry and handicrafts.

#### **MU Literacy**

- A separate but overlapping programme;
- a proven community based methodology (Paulo Friere and ActionAid /Reflect) used among the MU in Burundi, Malawi, South Sudan & Sudan for the past 20 years and more recently DR Congo and Ethiopia;

combines functional adult literacy and numeracy skills alongside discussion based tools for empowering participants to identify and analyse local strengths and

challenges as well as what resources the groups have available to meet these challenges;

- helps to address the key issue of illiteracy among MU members and the wider community;
- enables church growth as literate lay leaders are able to lead worship.

**The Funding needs:**

Eagle Funding Needs: £9,554 is required for MU Ethiopia to:

- Support transport costs enabling the coordinators to visit the rural areas and follow up on the training in person.
- Fund the costs of the second Eagle Conference in order to embed the concepts further and build upon peaceful inter-tribal relationships.
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- Fund the costs of the second Eagle Conference in order to embed the concepts further and build upon peaceful inter-tribal relationships.
- Initial investment in training and support leads to locally owned, resources and sustained activities

MU Literacy Funding Needs: £6,070 is required for MU Ethiopia to:

- Gauge the pre-training needs of the facilitators and plan an appropriate field-based monitoring schedule with the new MU Coordinators.
- Provide a refresher training to existing MU literacy facilitators in the methodology to refresh their skills and revive their commitment after COVID lockdown.

**Questions and discussion:**

- DH: how does the project work, bringing just what participants bring?  
A: facilitators are appointed to draw out the learning
- CH: issue of the financial aspect and sustainability / evaluation of self-help groups.  
A: MU members had already started to save, and the programme enhances and helps this.
- TB: how is the improved literacy of families passed on, especially where children can't get to school in rural area?  
A: research suggest that when women become literate, they really encourage their children to learn and try not get them to school (80-90%). But it is crucial that these children get to school and not just attend adult literacy classes.
- The best means of getting any grant funding agreed to Gambella was discussed and a MoU suggested.

NH and AF left the meeting at 12.38 pm.

**4. Declarations of Interest**

TB had expressed an interest as a member of her local Mothers Union.

<p><b>5. Minutes of the last meetings - 23rd September 2020 2nd November 2020</b></p> <p>To be formally reviewed at the next meeting. Any alterations to SL by the end of the week please.</p>	
<p><b>6. Matters arising</b></p> <p>To next meeting.</p>	
<p><b>7. Report back from meeting with FAPA and JMECA</b></p> <p>CH and DH had met online with representatives of JMECA and FAPA: JMECA: Canon Anthony John Clarke FAPA: +Bill Musk Michael Maddox</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CH and DH had stated a clear desire to continue FACE’s existing work in the Horn of Africa / Ethiopia / Gambella / St. Matthew’s, retaining both a relationship and autonomy, whilst allowing room for partnership and collaboration where relevant, but they could not commit FACE trustees to a formal partnership at this stage.</li> <li>• It might be in future that a shared administrator might be considered.</li> <li>• It was felt that FACE processes were more robust than those of JMECA and FAPA, as FACE was keen to comply with the UK Charity Commissioners regulations.</li> <li>• The meeting had agreed that Canon Anthony would draft a letter to ++M to express the agreement of the three agencies to meet regularly, without signing up to a mechanism of integration. DH and CH would circulate this letter to FACE trustees to sign off from a FACE perspective.</li> </ul>	<p>DH CH</p>
<p><b>8. Review of current situation in ACE esp. St Matthews Developments</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The changes in the province were noted and recent emails from St. Matthew’s had been appreciated. Trustees were encouraged by news that of an appointment made there, to take up post next year.</li> <li>• Great concern was expressed about news coming in of unrest in the Tigray region and its impact on the whole country. This needs prayer.</li> </ul>	<p>ALL</p>
<p><b>9. Grant applications:</b></p> <p><b><i>Mothers Union Eagle Process and Literacy Project</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• FACE is already partnering with MU Gambella and the projects are clearly in line with our objectives and mission.</li> <li>• After a discussion about available funds, it was agreed to support the two requests in full (in stages), adding to the £3.K ring fenced for MU in FACE accounts. This still allowed for other funding.</li> <li>• BP was tasked with liaising with NH.</li> </ul>	<p>BP</p>

<p><b>Flood relief funding</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Had been sent and response received from ++M.</li> </ul> <p><b>Samaritans Fund (May 2020)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We have still heard nothing about how this has been spent.</li> </ul> <p><b>St. Matthews Grant Request (03.11.20)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Agreed. John Kempen is sending a spreadsheet too.</li> <li>• BP will send him the relevant parts of the FACE SOFA, as requested.</li> </ul>	BP
<p><b>Items 10-13 (SOFA, Communications, administration and website, especially Newsletter, FACE Vision, Mission and Strategy, Strategic Vision and Next steps, AOB)</b></p> <p>Were all deferred to the net meeting – except the request that newsletter items should be sent to SL asap please.</p>	All
<p><b>14. Date of next meeting:</b></p> <p>Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> January at 2pm, by Zoom, DH to send invitations.</p> <p>DH closed the meeting with a blessing.</p>	DH