

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

Charity number: 1139834

Minutes of a trustees meeting held online on 19th May 2020

Agenda Item	Action
<p>1. Welcome and apologies Present: Chris Haywood (Chair), Tina Bailey, Darrell Hannah, Bill Poole, Sally Lynch (notes) In attendance: +Andrew Proud There were no apologies</p>	
<p>2. Declarations of interest None</p>	
<p>3. Minutes of the last meeting - 22nd April 2020 The minutes were accepted as an accurate record of the meeting</p>	
<p>4. Matters arising / actions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Item 5a: Contact had been made with Meaza, who confirmed that the library was closed, the staff not furloughed and so not being paid. She also confirmed that money recently sent had arrived safely. • Item 5b: DH had made contact with +Mouneer – agenda item below • Item 5c: initial contact had been made with Naomi. DH awaits a further reply. • Item 6: BP continues to support St. Matthews, as appropriate, in managing budgeting. • Item 8a: the letter to donors / contacts is again on hold due to changing circumstances in Ethiopia • Item 8b: The Lalibela Food Programme has been established in response to the need in that region (quite apart from FACE). • Item 8c: contact with Anne Figge is linked to 5C above. 	
<p>5. Reports from meetings</p> <p>a. Phone conversation with +Mouneer.</p> <p>DH had had an hour long phone conversation with +Mouneer which was robust and informative, clearly laying out the history of FACE’s relationship with Cairo. It was clear that +Mouneer felt that he had not been kept fully informed about the work of FACE, which worked differently to the EDA, a much more open agency.</p> <p>DH had explained the constraints of the UK Charity law, with which FACE must comply. +Mouneer had stated there he believed there were two kinds of charities – broad charities with which there was a requirement to state details in finding requests, and charities with narrower remit which did not require the same level of detail because of their actual remit.</p> <p>+Mouneer suggested that DH speak with Canon Anthony Ball (Canon Pastor at Westminster Abbey and formerly ??) and with +Bill Musk and Michael Maddox (both of the EDA). +Mouneer approved of Chris Haywood joining those conversations.</p>	

The trustees discussed the UK Charity Law and agreed that they should be fully au fait with its requirements.

b. Meeting (virtual) between CH and DH, and Canon Anthony Ball, 4.5.20

The key issues identified for discussion were:

- Relationship with Anglican Church in Egypt
- Process for making grants
- Governance and assurance process for making grants
- Charity Commission regulation of Grant process

It was clear from the meeting that FACE and EDA work differently in their application of grants. The EDA works with an underpinning trust and confidence in the diocese of Egypt, to make right use of money in accordance with its mission priorities. This is founded on a healthy working relationship with Mouneer and the Cairo office staff.

AB recognized the increased regulation of the UK Charity Law which were tighter than the current basis of trust and relationship. He suggested that this may be the way that all charity law is going and so FACE is currently ahead of the curve.

The trustees had some discussion about Charity Law and it was clear that this should be clarified.

TB pointed out that alongside Charity Law there are also Bank regulations (there had been a difficulty some years ago with the Bank – which is always concerned to stop potential money laundering) and the wishes of our donors to consider. Trustees had been stricter with applications recently (requiring more detail) in order to comply with all this.

Trustees were reminded of the FACE policy of retaining no more than £20K in reserve and no less than £10K. Having not felt secure in having contacts in Ethiopia this is now not being adhered to.

It was agreed that FACE should work distinctly with ACE but with a re-set relationship and within the UK Charity Commissioners rules and including Cairo. Further, it was agreed that FACE trustees should dialogue with all stakeholders in order to make funding available.

c. Meeting (virtual) between CH and DH, +Bill Musk and Michael Maddox (11.5.20)

The same key issues were identified.

Trustees talked through the issues and agreed that:

and enable the grant making process, to facilitate FACE being able to support the work.

- There is a need to re-establish a strong and mutual relationship with +Mouneer and the diocese, based on respect and trust.
- FACE should develop a transparent and jointly accountable working relationship with the Partnership Office, in full liaison and consultation with +Mouneer.
- FACE should build a shared vision and project plan for the mission and ministry between the diocese and FACE.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FACE and the Diocese need to more closely align in their vision, aims and objectives. • FACE needs to enable joint ownership and mutual involvement in the agenda. <p>From all three meetings, CH summarised the way ahead as being about <i>how</i> FACE operates, rather than <i>what</i>.</p> <p>From these meetings, and other personal sources, it was clear that there are a number of challenges and changes in the church currently and FACE trustees will need to be adaptive to these in order to offer the best possible financial support to the church.</p> <p>Action:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BP and TB to check the Charity Law carefully and produce an accurate summary of FACE should work within in. 	<p>BP TB</p>
<p>6. Grant applications</p> <p>Three applications had been received for consideration:</p> <p>a. The building project of the Good Shepherd Anglican Cathedral in Gambella US\$ 40,000 requested from a total cost of US\$ 2,000,000 Plans for the project submitted.</p> <p>b. Clergy stipends in Gambella episcopal region US\$ 40,000 requested, per annum. Some detail offered – 25 clergy, budget includes medical care. 140 churches. +Kuan is encouraging churches to become self-sufficient over time.</p> <p>c. Samaritans Fund US\$ 4,000 requested of a budgeted US\$ 7000 (US\$ 3,000 from diocese of Egypt). The fund supports healthcare and food aid to the poorest in the Gambella region.</p> <p>Trustees discussed each application in detail and were keen to support what they felt that they could. Trustees asked whether each application provided sufficient detail to comply with UK Charity Commissioners regulations. They also discussed the financial figures offered and the exchange rate.</p> <p>It was agreed that paying clergy was absolutely crucial and it was noted that the request was for an annual grant. It was also noted that assistance in paying clergy salaries was one of the reasons for the establishment of FACE.</p> <p>It was pointed out that the UK Charity Commissioners will want more detail about the clergy than in the proposal as it stands and also that trustees would ideally wish to be able to offer annual support.</p> <p>Looking at the proposal trustees enquired why this was going through Bishop Kuan rather than the local Bishop Rajan.</p>	

<p>BP had explored the exchange rates and on his figures the amount for clergy stipends was £19,000.</p> <p>The question of how much of current reserves, and potential income could be spent at this time as discussed, along with the potential impact of Covid19 on FACE's UK donors and the impact of future income.</p> <p>Agreed:</p> <p>Trustees agreed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To grant the application to the Samaritan Fund in full, sending the money in sterling rather than dollars, to avoid paying exchange rates twice. • To approve in principle the application for paying clergy stipends, on the receipt of answers to questions that trustees will be asked by UK Charity Commissioners (clergy names and churches, stipend amounts details of the medical provision...). • To make no further grants at this stage in anticipation of the clergy stipend grant becoming an annual grant until local churches are able to become self-supporting, and until more is known of the impact of Covid19 on donor giving over the coming year or so. • That on the basis of the above, it was important to leave some money in reserves for now. <p>Action</p> <p>DH and BP to write to +Mouneer with the outcome of the application request – as above.</p> <p>BP also to write to Meaza so that she expects the Samaritan Fund money.</p>	<p>DH BP</p>
<p>7. Finance</p> <p>The SOFA report for the year to May 2020 was circulated prior to the meeting. The impact of the grants made above on the budget was discussed. If just the Samaritan Fund was sent this was £3,500 and then £20,000 for the clergy stipends. Paying both of these grants would leave in unrestricted funds around £40,000, which was fair margin.</p> <p>SL reported that she had picked up an email from a couple making a one-off gift of £200 and monthly donations of £50 to St, Matthew's.</p>	
<p>8. Fundraising, communications, administration and website</p> <p>The letter to donors is still on hold.</p>	
<p>9. FACE vision, mission and strategy, strategic vision, next steps</p> <p>This is a key item for the next meeting and all trustees were encouraged to reflect on it before then.</p>	<p>ALL</p>
<p>10. AOB</p> <p>With the Lambeth conference being postponed to 2021, it would be good to FACE to have a civic reception of some sort for Ethiopian delegates and also for trustees to offer hospitality.</p> <p>The possibility of one or two trustees going to Cairo to further build relationships was raised.</p>	
<p>11. Date of next meeting:</p> <p>17th June, 11am, by Zoom, DH to send invitations. It was agreed that CH would Chair.</p>	<p>DH</p>

