**Community Family Lunch – Fairmead and The Edge**

**Steering Group meeting**

**Samworth Centre – Thursday 27th November 2014**

Present: Julie McCarthy (Vineyard), Neal Swettenham (Vineyard), Dave Hemmersley (Vineyard), Sue Jenkins (Baptist), John Sharpe (Baptist).

1. Apologies received from Aaron Madden, Barbara Cresswell, Janey Branstone-Spong.
2. Neal agreed to take minutes.
3. Minutes of the previous meeting were agreed as correct.
4. Matters arising:

4. a and b. Letters were sent. A significant number of volunteers and one sponsor attended the coffee morning.

4 d: Neal contacted Christian March, who said he would try to find space for an article about the coffee morning; in fact, it was not included in the printed version of the *Melton Times*, but was posted as a news item on their website.

6: Neal was not able to attend the November meeting of ministers and, looking at the minutes from that meeting, there is no indication that the possibility of churches funding the project was discussed there.

1. Coffee morning.

It was agreed that the coffee morning had gone well and that the visual presentation created by Caroline had been effective. In the end, the morning was not so much about recruitment for the future (although six new volunteer forms were submitted) as a reinforcement of what had already happened. There were no new volunteers to serve on the committee. There isn’t much of a sense of engagement with next year yet. All who came to the coffee morning said that they wanted to be involved again next year. It also gave people a chance to give their feedback. One comment was that there wasn’t always enough for volunteers to do. Another said that a family with children had been turned away because they didn’t have a referral form. Sue wondered if it was because the children had been asked to go and get their mum and the comment had been misunderstood? John noted that he had filled in a referral for one family who turned up without a form. **This is a reminder of the need for good training and clear protocols – perhaps sent out to volunteers in advance?** Dave also commented that taking the overflow food to Myst Lodge had been greatly appreciated.

1. Forward planning

It was felt that when seeking to recruit new people to serve on the committee, it would be helpful to give them a clear picture of the commitment. The following dates for next year were agreed:

Committee meetings: Fridays March 20, April 17, May 8, June 12 and 26 (all 10.30am–12noon) and Thursday July 9 (1–2.30pm).

Coffee mornings: Saturdays 24 January (part of the week of prayer for Christian unity) and 16 May (to recruit volunteers).

Dates for project: July 14/16, 21/23, 28/30, August 4/6, 11/13, 18/20 (Tuesdays at Fairmead, Thursdays at the Edge). Julie will book the centres for these dates. Dave noted that we will need to train someone as a kitchen assistant who can commit to the whole six weeks.

Questions:

Will the churches be able to provide any financial support? This needs to go to ministers December/January, to Enabling Group meeting on 14 January, for responses (hopefully) by 10 March.

Where do we get the food from next year? Do we use FareShare again? Could we get support from local supermarkets based on the success of 2014? It may work well if we can give them more notice. Hopefully, Mars will support us again. Sainsbury’s invite proposals for local projects to support. Dave would be willing to talk to market stallholders – could they donate/sell at a discount food that is left over at the end of the day – Saturday for the Tuesday, Tuesday for the Thursday? What about local allotment holders? We could put out a press release about that. It would be good to start with menu planning and ask for specific items, rather than having to work the other way round. Costing of £300 per week – presumably that is for both venues? That makes the total budget for next year approximately £1800. The £500 from Mars last year went towards buying the freezer and other equipment. We could apply for more funding and use more of it on food this time?

**Action:**

**Julie will book the Centres for next year.**

**Neal will book meeting dates etc. in the Source and speak to ministers about possible financial support.**

**Barbara to be asked if she would be willing speak to the appropriate contact at Mars Pedigree to gain their support, then approach the supermarkets to see if they want to join in.**

**Date of next meeting: Friday 20 March 2015, 10.30am at the Source.**