

## Northstowe Faith Strategy Group Meeting 17 May 2023

Present:

SCDC: Ellen Bridges (EB, Development Officer)

Representing Northstowe Muslims: Mohammed Waris Abdullah (MWA)

Representing Emmanuel Church, Northstowe: Josh Monteiro (Pastor) (JM)

Representing Pathfinder Church/Anglican Church Pioneer Ministers Rev'd Dr Beth Cope (BC) and Rev'd Stephen Dove (SD)

Apologies

Northstowe Town Council: Mark Nokkert

SCDC: Clare Gibbons and Mihaela Stan

Representing Hindu Samaj Northstowe: Apologies received

### 1.0 Minutes from last meeting

- BC updated the group on her action to liaise with Pathfinder Primary School and NSC to attend future Faith Strategy group meetings. Ms Phillips, Pathfinder Primary School RE teacher will attend the June meeting and NSC will attend the September meeting. (Group checked calendars and agreed 20 September). BC also updated the group that Yr. 10 students who have not been removed from Ethics had just sat their first Ethics GCSE paper which covered Islam and Christianity. Ms Philips has also just been on an RE training day so will be able to share with the group when each year group will study what.

### 2.0 Cultural Event

- Unfortunately MS was unable to attend the meeting however the group discussed a possible event as part of the Cultural Exchange events Mihaela is looking to organise.
- The group agreed it would be important to agree a theme/topic/focus for the event. Inter-faith week is 12<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> November. Felt a Saturday would be best for the event so Saturday 18 November was provisionally agreed although

timings to be agreed. Groups to hold as a place holder and discuss further at the June meeting. **Action: Faith groups to discuss what theme they think may work best for the event and discuss in June.**

- Could be added to the Winter Festival Calendar and within that week could faith groups could potentially offer to go into the schools.

### 3.0 Discussion from last meeting

- Following on the discussion for respect for faith groups at the last meeting. Faith groups shared feedback they had received from their congregations.
- MWA thanked BC and JM for sharing the discussions with the group and it is likely Northstowe Muslims will do a similar exercise. MWA to discuss with the trustees.

### AOB:

- MWA asked for an update on the information available for the webpage and EB apologised that this was not live yet. **Action: EB to create webpage**
- EB informed the group that the hirer charges are still to be finalised, but all faith group bookings will be charged at the Northstowe Community Group rate which has been proposed to be £12/hr to hire one assembly room or £20/hr to hire both. There will also be office space to hire at £6/hr or £8/hr depending on the office if a small group wishes to discuss something. As soon as the booking process is live EB will update the faith groups.