

## SPIRITUAL CAPITAL

### Notes on Steering Group (SG) meeting 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2007, at 16 Queen Anne Square

#### 1. Present

Prof Paul Ballard (PB), Chris Daley (CD), Mr Mohammed Jabbar (MJ), Revd. Keith Kimber (KK), Dr Keshav Singhal (KS) and Mr Roy J. Thomas (RJT),

1. Apologies for absence. Revd. Monica Mills and Mr Malcolm Thomas
2. Notes of 29/08 meeting, already circulated, were reviewed and accepted.
3. Progress reports

KK reported that he completed and sent off the second quarterly monitoring report form to FCCBF yesterday.

RJT has met with John Martin Evans (JME) the Gweini researcher, and exchanged thoughts and came to an agreement about areas of co-operation. This includes opportunity for a report from them as part of our conference, and an opportunity for result moderation on the list of survey subjects in Cardiff Borough, to ensure there are no glaring omissions on either side. Gweini is not doing the kind of religious community directory that we are doing. RJT is offering them several pages in the directory to promote their work and findings to a wider public, than their constituency and project sponsors. The Gweini project is All-Wales in its scope, and concentrating on statistical evaluation of economic impact. A considerable amount of JME's time is spent reporting back to funding monitors at the WAG and his other three project sponsors.

RJT has also met with Aled Edwards (AE) of CYTUN, and found keenness to collaborate, as AE's research worker resigned and left any project tasks incomplete. AE is willing to participate in the conference. He is keen to use our survey data in the all Wales directory of religious communities he is putting together, and is willing to work with us to put together several seminars between now and the conference, which is part of his project objectives. This could be mutually beneficial.

KK commented that it was possible that FCCBF would view this synergy favourably, in view of their 'capacity building' objectives.

KK also reported that a government backed organisation called the Consultation Institute is running seminars and training events for public service employees and local government officers with the theme 'Best Practice consultation with Faith Groups'. There is an event in Bristol on 10<sup>th</sup> October which he proposes to attend, with the agreement of the SG, in order to get some idea of the kind of government approved benchmarks to which LGOs in Cardiff should be working.

4. Questionnaires - RJT had taken delivery of this just an hour before the meeting and distributed copies. With the exception of a few minor details, the content was approved for circulation. Getting the approved version printed and posted out is in the hands of RST and RS.

The matter of follow up enquiries of those who do not respond within the first month was discussed. This may be too big a task to leave to RST and RS, so SG members and anyone else they can recruit may be needed to make chase up telephone calls.

A deadline needs to be agreed for the submission of questionnaire returns that will allow a couple of weeks for chase-up calls.

The five Ask Cardiff survey questions for circulation with Capital Times have been submitted and accepted at a cost of £850 + vat. The text of these is on the SARCIC weblog, dated 28<sup>th</sup> September.

5. Positioning the project – brief reference made to the kind of publicity now urgently in need of development to highlight the launch of the survey. The window of opportunity for publishing the survey and obtaining returns is now upon us. We have until the beginning of December to get the main body of the survey work done. To be pursued urgently by RJT
6. Case studies and information – brief reference was made to the SCC weblog but there was insufficient time to explore further.
7. Conference - Not enough time to consider this further.
8. Next meeting – **5<sup>th</sup> November, 6.00pm, at 16 Queen Anne Square.**