**Draft Minutes of Manresa Link Core Group, 4 August 2022**

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| **No** | **Topic** | **Action** |
|  | Opening prayers |  |
|  | Apologies received  Present: 5 present, 3 apologies |  |
|  | Minutes of last meeting had been agreed by email |  |
|  | Matters arising:  Photos on website  Communications officer – John happy to continue for time being  Newly trained guides forming triads – postponed due to illness, but will happen eventually |  |
|  | **Main Agenda Items** |  |
| 1. | **Autumn Gathering**: **Saturday 24 Sept at Balsall Heath Church Centre**  Theme of ‘Fanning the Flame’:  Main speaker David Smolina SJ, involvement of several members to give brief testimony to how they are using Ignatian insights other than through RiDLs to encourage others to explore their giftings. This invitation to be opened to all members.  Many tasks allocated and Planners to finalise other details (including central display, allocating roles not yet on sheet, advertising before 24 Sep)  The day would include the formal AGM business.  Core Group to set up on the day and to try to come to debrief on zoom a few days after the gathering  We noted that we were previously concerned about number of retreats, but now we are excited by number planned and are looking for people to be involved. Desire at A.G.M. to give all members space & opportunities to share and feel their importance as part of ML. The structure and questions for small groups are there as prompts and timings in afternoon a bit fluid |  |
| 2. | **Core Group Membership:** To be one of the topics in Autumn G, in ‘testimony’ section after lunch:  Idea: Image of call and response, all to consider if part of their gifting was to be on Core Group, discuss this with two other members of ML; if desire was confirmed by them to go to either Nuala or one of present core group to learn more |  |
| 3. | **Hewell Prison initiative:** part of Autumn Gathering ‘testimony’ section, no further work on this at present |  |
| 4. | **Maintaining contact with membership:** Zoom cafés establishing what people would want  First attempts at Zoom café were really fruitful and *all* members will be invited over the next several months, this will we hope show ways in which members would like the contacts to develop  Reference to Zoom cafés and that all would in time receive an invitation in chairs remarks at Autumn G |  |
| 5. | **Diversity:** One member had shown interest and concern about diversity. Concern that we tackle this v important issue carefully.  Conversation to happen between person and a member of core group about her thinking and her desire, or not, to be involved |  |
| 6. | **Feedback**  Zoom cafés (inspired by the Epiphany group)– see notes  RIDLs in pipeline: 3/4 in Autumn, possibly 1 in Advent, 1 or 2 in Jan |  |
| 7. | **A.O.B.**  David Smolira SJ available for a strategic session with Core Group about what are we here for? How do we best use our limited resources? We agreed this in principle, return to at next meeting  Subs, we were delighted that some are going to St Beuno’s conference, such things require funding. Should our subs be more than £10? Idea that we give an approximate sub but invite people to donate more if they can, return to at next meeting  **Date of next meeting 7.30. Thurs 24 Nov on Zoom**  It was agreed that it is time for Manresa Link to have its own **Zoom account,** grateful thanks to those who have lent us use of their Zoom accounts up to now. |  |
|  | Closing prayers |  |