Revitalising Redditch

A proposed new mission area partnership for the churches of Redditch and the surrounding villages

It has been a fascinating experience to listen to folk across the 12 churches of the Greater Redditch Area. In the midst of many challenges there is a sense of hope and of looking forward to what God has for us, individually, as churches and more widely as His Church.

Nikki, Kashmir and I were encouraged by a total of 100 folk attending the open meetings held at St Peter's Ipsley and on Zoom. Even more so that, when asked to say if they were supportive or not happy with the outline proposals, the majority where positive with the centre of gravity being in the region of 7.5 with 10 being totally in favour.

We sense that what we are seeking to do is inspired by the Spirit of God and that the churches are broadly in favour of seeking how we bless local missional identity and ministry AND work collaboratively across the wider Redditch Area.

The next step is to build a team of people to press into the detailed planned and implementation needed to make this happen. We are looking for practical skills in administration, communications, planning and project management. Beyond that, people who are passionate about the mission of God in the world and long to see His Church blessing the community and drawing people to Himself. We want a group of people leading the mission area who are passionate about growing churches which grow disciples, in number and depth.

We are writing to those who we feel may have some of these gifts to see if you are interested in exploring a calling to this work.

The process of building this team is essential to the success of this project so we would ask those who are interested in exploring this further to pray and then reply to us with an outline of the skills you bring and describe how you would hope this initiative will bless the church and expand God's Kingdom work as we build Healthy and Sustainable churches.

Whatever your initial response we would be interested to hear from you in the next week or so. It may be that you have more questions you need answered before responding. If you do, please feel to contact, Nikki, Kashmir or Paul.

We believe this is an exciting time for the churches of Redditch and beyond and we pray that God is calling the people we need to make this an initiative which blesses the continuing church, plants new congregations, and blesses the communities we are set in the midst of.

Yours

Paul Lawlor, Kashmir Garton and Nikki Groarke

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