**BASIS OF PARISH GROUPING**

The congregation of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (SC0\_\_\_\_\_) and the congregation of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (SC0\_\_\_\_\_) (and others if appropriate) shall form a Parish Grouping for a period of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ years from the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ , and that on the following terms and conditions:

1. **Name:** The name of the Parish Grouping shall be \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
2. **Territorial Responsibility:** The bounds to be served by the Parish Grouping shall be \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ or as the Presbytery may determine.
3. **Property and Funds:** The property and funds belonging to or held on behalf of each congregation shall remain the property and funds of each congregation as at present.
4. **Kirk Sessions:**  [*Statement defining the Moderator(s) of each Kirk Session concerned and whether or not the Kirk Sessions will come together as a joint meeting. If they are coming together, a definition on frequency and purpose is important.*]
5. **Congregational Management:** The temporal affairs of each congregation shall be administered as at present. The office-bearers of the congregations shall meet together annually to decide on their portion to related expenses, listed expenses and maintenance of the manse(s) and the salaries and related expenses of the other team members.
6. **Ministry Team:**  [*Statement of those who will comprise the Ministry Team to serve the Parish Grouping, with details of method and terms of appointment(s).*]
7. **Ministry Team Support:** The stipend of the minister(s) shall be payable in terms of the National Stipend Scheme.
8. **Manse(s):** [*Statement concerning Manses available at time of agreement of Basis.*]
9. **Areas of Co-operation:**  [*Statement about areas in which congregations agreeing wish to co-operate, eg youth work, pastoral care, mission, etc.*]
10. **Power to Adjust:** While the articles and terms shall form the Basis of Parish Grouping for the congregations now agreeing, the congregations shall be free, like any other congregation, to adjust arrangements under the authority of the Presbytery as need may arise.