

THE GENERAL CONFERENCE OF THE NEW CHURCH

COUNCIL

Year 2016/2017

Tuesday 25th and Wednesday 26th July 2017

Trustees Present: Mrs J M Wilson [Chairman]
 Mr M J Hindley [Vice-Chairman]
 Ms J Z Brooks [Company Secretary]
 Mr R H Cunningham
 Mr M D Haseler
 Mrs L K Nicholls

Also in attendance: Revd D E Gaffney [Spiritual Leader]
 Revd C A Bank [Secretary of Ministers' Committee]
 Mrs S G Field [Company Accountant]

111	COUNCIL MEETING A meeting of Council was held in the Writing Room of The Hayes Conference Centre, Swanwick, Alfreton, Derbyshire DE55 1AU at 10.30 a.m. on Tuesday 25th July and Wednesday 26 th July 2017.	
112	OPENING The Revd Christine Bank opened the meeting by reading Psalm 67.	
113	WELCOME AND APOLOGIES The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies were received from Mrs Rachel Turner.	
114	MINUTES 114.1 Confirmation of the minutes of the last meeting The Minutes of the last meeting of the Council May 2017 were approved as an accurate record of the meeting. 114.2 Matters arising from the Minutes 114.2.1 Brightlingsea Church (Minute 97.2.1) The Company Secretary reported that in accordance with advice from the estate agent it was decided to auction the property. It was duly sold (exchange of contracts) at auction on 6 June for £168,000 and the sale was completed on 4 July. The Council wished to record its thanks to Mr Gordon Kuphal and all the others who worked hard to sort out the Conference papers held at Brightlingsea. 114.2.2 Burnley Society (Minute 97.2.2) It was noted that the sale had been delayed by the need to deal with the question of an Easement regarding the occupiers of the flats on the church site. 114.2.3 Purley Chase Centre (Minute 97.2.3 and Confidential Minute 108) There were fourteen applicants for the post of Manager of the Purley Chase Centre. Four of these were interviewed. The post was offered to Mr Geoffrey	

	<p>Nicholls. He accepted it and will start work on 30 August 2017.</p> <p>114.2.4 Southend-on-Sea (Minute 97.2.4) The Council noted that the sale of the church premises was completed on 1 June 2017. The capital from the sale has to be held by Conference for 12 years so that if 12 people get together and form a new Society in the same area it is available to purchase a building for their use. The income can only be used during those 12 years for the promotion of the Faith in Essex. At the end of the 12 years both capital and accumulated income may be used by Conference for its general purposes but must be spent within three years.</p> <p>114.2.5 Asbestos, Legionella and Electrical Installations (Minute 97.2.5) Mr Wilf Woodhouse provided a table which showed that most Societies were making good progress with this work. Mr Richard Cunningham provided additional information.</p> <p>Resolved: that Ms Zoë Brooks should obtain legal advice regarding Accrington Society which had ignored the Council's instruction that the premises must not be used until the necessary work had been done and that this should be mentioned when the Council report was presented.</p> <p>Resolved: that Mr Richard Cunningham should write to another Society that was not making good progress, giving them two months to take the necessary action.</p> <p>Resolved: that the Council wished to record its thanks to Mr Wilf Woodhouse for all his hard work.</p>	<p>JZB</p> <p>JMW</p> <p>RHC</p>
115	<p>CONFIRMATION OF DECISIONS MADE BY EMAIL</p> <p>115.1 Decision confirmed: that a reply as drafted be sent to the Secretary of the Kensington Society in response to his letter of 17 May. [22 May 2017]</p> <p>115.2 Decision confirmed: that the Council will not allow any long-term letting of the hall and/or the church at Kensington and will veto any proposal that envisages such letting. [1 June 2017]</p> <p>115.3 Decision confirmed: that the financial statements of the Common Investment Fund to 31 March 2017 be approved and that Ms J Z Brooks and Mrs J M Wilson be authorised to sign them on behalf of the Council. [5 July 2017]</p> <p>115.4 Decision confirmed: that the Trustees' Report and Accounts to 31 March 2017 be approved and that Ms J Z Brooks be authorised to sign them on behalf of the Council. [8 July 2017]</p>	
116	<p>REVD ROBIN WOOLDRIDGE</p> <p>The Ministers' Committee applied to the Council for its approval of their putting a motion before Conference for the Revd Robin Wooldridge's name to be added to the list of Ministers Ordained by Other New Church Organisations whom Conference recognises. The application is correctly made in accordance with Rule J5.</p> <p>Resolved: that the Council approve the request of the Ministers' Committee for the matter to be brought before Conference.</p>	<p>CAB</p>
117	<p>APPOINTMENT OF MINUTES COMMITTEE, AGM 2017</p> <p>The Company Secretary recommended the appointment of the Minutes Committee as Mr Gordon Kuphal, Secretary, and Mrs Pauline Grimshaw.</p>	

	Arrangements were made for this proposal to be put to Conference.	MDH
118	<p>ARRANGEMENTS FOR SESSIONAL COMMITTEES 2017 AND DISCUSSION OF OTHER MATTERS LIKELY TO ARISE</p> <p>A schedule giving details of membership of sessional committees was provided. This showed Mrs Erica Cunningham and Mrs Sally Field as the Credentials Committee and Mr Phillip Brooks and Mr Colin Skinner as Scrutineers. Mrs Judith Wilson noted that it was the same people who acted as Scrutineers each year and felt that it was time someone younger started taking on some of this work.</p>	JZB
119	<p>BROADFIELD FUND</p> <p>The new Committee of Mrs Judith Wilson, Mrs Erica Cunningham and Mrs Liz Regan are intending to examine the rules and regulations before reviewing how the fund works.</p> <p>It was noted that Mr Ray Pulsford and Mrs Helen Laidlaw had resigned from the Broadfield Committee after many years of service.</p> <p>Resolved: that Mrs Judith Wilson write and thank them for their work.</p>	JMW
120	<p>LINK MEMBERS WITH MINISTRY</p> <p>As Mrs Rachel Turner is not standing for re-election a new Human Resources link with Ministry is needed.</p> <p>Resolved: that Mr Michael Hindley be the HR link with the Ministry.</p>	
121	<p>PURLEY MANAGERS' HOLIDAYS</p> <p>The Council considered a proposal by Mr David Haseler but decided to take no action at present. It was felt that revision would be appropriate if and when the Manager and Deputy Manager at Purley presented alternative suggestions after they had had time to see how the present arrangement worked.</p>	
122	<p>THE NEW PURLEY MANAGER AS A BANK ACCOUNT SIGNATORY</p> <p>Resolved: that when he commenced employment on 30 August Mr Geoffrey Nicholls should be made a signatory on the Purley Chase bank account and that he should have a debit card.</p>	SGF
123	<p>THE VALIDITY OF STANDING ORDER FOUR</p> <p>The Council considered a paper by Mr David Haseler.</p> <p>Resolved: that no amendment to the decision made in May was needed.</p>	
124	<p>THE LENGTH OF CONFERENCE AND THE AMOUNT OF WORK INVOLVED</p> <p>The question of the difficulty of maintaining the present format because of the amount of work involved for all those responsible for the organisation of Conference was considered.</p> <p>Resolved: that the matter be brought before the floor of Conference and suggestions invited.</p>	JMW
125	<p>THE NEW CHURCH CHILDREN'S SOCIETY</p> <p>The Council considered a request that details of the Society's AGM should be included with the documents sent out to people attending Conference.</p> <p>Resolved: that the Society's request be granted.</p>	JZB
126	<p>CLOSING</p> <p>The Revd Christine Bank closed the meeting with a prayer.</p>	

Future meetings

September 15th-16th 2017

November 17th-18th 2017

March 2nd - 3rd 2018

May 11th - 12th 2018

July 24th - 27th 2018 Annual Meeting

September 14th - 15th 2018

November 16th - 17th 2018