



**THE GENERAL CONFERENCE OF THE NEW CHURCH**  
**CONFERENCE COUNCIL MEETING**  
**held on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> September 2023**

**Trustees Present:**

Mrs M L Cowie  
Mr N K Sutton.  
Mrs P Grimshaw  
Mrs S Chesworth  
Revd B R Jarvis

Chair  
Vice-Chair

**Also in attendance:**

Ms N Welch  
Mrs R Jaggs  
Mr C Chambers  
Revd J Dunion  
Revd B Talbot  
Mr B Friend  
Miss L Jones

Company Secretary  
Company Accountant  
President, New Church College  
Spiritual Leader  
Secretary, Committee of Ministers  
Invited Visitor  
Young People's Committee

Start time: 10.00am  
Finish Time: 16.16pm

<b>1</b>	<b>Opening</b> The Revd Jack Dunion opened the meeting with a reading from Revelation 21:1,2 & Divine Providence (DP) 251 & True Christian Religion (TCR) 784, followed by a moment of contemplation on the readings.	
<b>2</b>	<b>Welcome</b> Margaret Cowie introduced and welcomed Barry Friend and Libby Jones to the Council meeting. Barry Friend had been invited to the Council meeting to see if he would be interested in being co-opted onto the Council with the understanding that, although he has all the rights of a Trustee, he will need to be nominated for election at the next Annual Meeting in July 2024. Libby Jones attended as a representative of the Young People's Committee.	
<b>3</b>	<b>Minutes</b> <b>3.1 Confirmation of the Minutes of the Council meeting held on 25<sup>th</sup> July 2023.</b> The minutes of the last meeting were approved by all present with Revd Bruce Jarvis proposing and Sue Chesworth seconding.	



	<p>The Council expressed their thanks for all the impressive work so far and are excited about the the Young People’s Committee vision and feel that the New Church does indeed have a bright future. Once the Committee has been set up Margaret Cowie, Sue Chesworth, and Natalie Welch will organise a meeting with them to get an update and see where any support is needed to help the Committee achieve their aims and objectives.</p> <p>The Young People’s Committee (YPC) wanted approval of the name. All present approve the title of Young People’s Committee (YPC) and offered full support.</p>	
	<i>Libby left the meeting</i>	
7	<p><b>Human Resources</b></p> <p><b>IT Manager</b> – The New IT Manager Paul Crone will officially start his role on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2023 working 28 hours per week. Paul will collect the IT equipment on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> September 2023, and will spend some time familiarising himself with the programmes and software used by Conference ready for when he starts. Unfortunately, this means we are without an IT Manager until then, although communications can be sent out by email via the secretaries.</p> <p><b>Purley Chase Programme Director</b> - It was agreed that this still needs more consideration by the Purley Management Team, after which the Council would determine how to move forward.</p>	
8	<p><b>Properties</b></p> <p><b>Bradford Church</b></p> <p>Bradford Church is in need of urgent repairs to the roof and flooring. This is a health and safety issue. John Ford proposes that a surveyor be appointed to visit the Bradford Church to determine the extent of the problem and the cost of repairs. The Jeggins Trust have already provided help with repairs to the floor and a staircase.</p> <p><i>Action: MC will discuss with John Ford to appoint a surveyor to visit Bradford Church</i></p> <p><b>RAAC</b></p> <p>Reinforced autoclaved aerated concrete (RAAC) is a lightweight form of precast concrete frequently used in public sector buildings in the UK from the mid-1960s to the 1990s. With all the concerns in the news at the minute, the Council have a duty of care to establish if any the New Church buildings are affected.</p> <p>Natalie explained that she and John Ford are already working on this and will be contacting the users of the buildings identified.</p>	<p>MC</p> <p>NW</p>
9	<b>Company Accountant Finance Update</b> – Rachel Jaggs gave a brief update on the accounts.	
10	<p><b>Purley Pricing 2024</b></p> <p>Rachel Gilsenan had put forward the pricing for Purley 2024 for the Council to approve. Rachel had researched prices charged by similar local businesses to produce the pricing structure. All present approved the new pricing structure for 2024 and agreed that Rachel can start advertising.</p>	

<b>11</b>	<p><b>Any other business</b></p> <p>New Church College – Chris Chambers mentioned he has been attending the Council meetings as a representative from the New Church College and felt it would be nice to have a representative from the Council attend the New Church College meetings, ideally someone involved in education and training. Meetings take place 3 times a year via Zoom, plus one in-person meeting per year at Wellspring House.</p> <p>Sue Chesworth agreed that she would attend the next meeting on 7th October 2023 via Zoom as a Council representative</p>	
<b>12</b>	Barry Friend agreed to be appointed as a Trustee until Conference 2024 when he will submit his nomination.	
	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Meeting closed at 16.15pm on Friday 8th September 2023</b>  <b>with a prayer from Revd Jack Dunion</b></p>	
	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Fix Council meeting dates for year ahead</b></p> <p><b>2023</b>  November 24th 2023 (Zoom Meeting)</p> <p><b>2024</b>  March 15th 2024 – (Zoom Meeting)  April 2024 – Finance Meeting (DTBC)  May 17th 2024 – Purley Chase Centre  July 23rd – 26th 2024 Annual Meeting at Hayes Conference Centre  September 6th 2024 (Zoom Meeting)  November 22nd 2024 (Zoom Meeting)</p>	