



THE GENERAL CONFERENCE OF THE NEW CHURCH
CONFERENCE COUNCIL MEETING
held on Friday 28th June 2024 via Zoom

Trustees Present:	Mrs M L Cowie Mr N K Sutton. Mrs S Chesworth Revd B R Jarvis Mr B Friend	Chair Vice-Chair Co-opted Council Member
Also in attendance:	Ms N Welch Mr P Mehew Revd J Dunion Revd R Jarratt Mr C Chambers	Company Secretary Company Accountant Spiritual Leader Deputy Spiritual Leader President, New Church College

Start time: 10.00am
Finish Time: 13.42pm

	Opening Revd Jack Dunion opened the meeting with a reading from Isaiah 66:1-2 and Apocalypse Revealed 527, followed by a short prayer.	
64	Apologies Trevor Millar and Chris Chambers sent in their apologies. Chris would attend later in the meeting if possible.	
65	Minutes Confirmation of the Minutes of the Council meeting held on 16th May 2024 The minutes of the last meeting were approved by all present with Bruce Jarvis proposing and Sue Chesworth seconding. Matter arising from the minutes. Radcliffe New Church – The sale has unfortunately fallen through as the buyers withdrew their offer. John Ford contacted a previous interested party and is awaiting a reply. Another option would be sale by auction. Bournemouth New Church – Ongoing Chester New Church – Ongoing	

66	Finance Update The Company Accountant gave an update on the current position of the audit and year end accounts, all of which is looking positive. Committee Auxiliary Ministers (CAM) Expenses - It was agreed that a Task and Finish Group consisting of Jack Dunion, Barry Friend, Nigel Sutton and Jan Millar will look in detail at CAM expenses and send in their thoughts and suggestions to the Council	JD/NS/BF
	<i>Chris Chambers joined the meeting</i>	
67	Young People's Committee Sue Chesworth gave an update on the Young People's Committee. Sue Chesworth is in regular contact and supporting them. <i>18+ Summer Camp Residential Weekend</i> - The Young People Committee have organised their first 18+ residential summer camp at Kildwick House which takes place on 28th June – 3rd July 2024. They have organised lots of activities throughout the week including Lynne Griffiths and Revd Christine Bank who will be joining the group to lead day sessions. <i>Calendar of Events</i> – The YPC have also attended a meeting with Natalie Welch and Paul Crone to discuss getting a calendar on The General Conference website so all committees/societies and Churches within the New Church can put their events for all to see.	
68	Youth & Family Team Sue Chesworth explained that the Youth & Family weekend at Purley Chase was a huge success with an influx of people at the last minute from Bradford New Church attending. The Youth and Family Team have organised a meeting whilst at Conference in July to discuss the future of the team and how they can proceed with the plan to expand. New Church Camps Website Becky Jarratt has been working on the new New Church Camps website which is now live, although still a work in progress. The aim of the website is to attract young people who have not grown up in the church to our camps.	
69	Spiritual leader Update Jack Dunion explained that the focus is currently on preparing the facilitation at Conference with the help from Gayle-Ann Dury and Emma Daniels.	
70	Committee of Ministers Inviting a Trustee to CoM meetings – The CoM have extended an invitation to the Council for a representative to attend future CoM meetings. The Ministers' Secretary will send the dates to the Company Secretary who will arrange who is able to attend. Spiritual Direction Expenses - Payments for Spiritual Direction come out of the Ministry fund. Regular updates on the accumulated expenditure have been requested <i>Action: The Company Accountant will send these figures to CoM.</i>	NW PM

	Pay Policy – Following representations from CoM, the Pay Policy Task and Finish Group had considered the comments received from CoM and looked at every point in detail before finalising the document. Office 365 – It was agreed that Employed Ministers should all have Microsoft Office 365. This will ensure that they have the appropriate security and backup of documents on their systems. As a charity, Conference is eligible for the reduced annual cost of £30.00 per licence. <i>Action: Natalie will make the necessary arrangements for the Ministers who currently do not have Microsoft 365, and the IT Manager will install the software.</i>	NW
71	New Church Websites The Marketing and Media Co Ordinator sent in a suggestion to merge the church websites. It was discussed and agreed that Natalie would organise a meeting with the Media and Marketing Co Ordinator and the IT Manager so this could be discussed further and how it could be implemented.	NW
72	AOB Conference 2025 – It was agreed that Hayes Christian Centre would be booked for Conference 2025. Property- In order to comply with the terms of the policy, the insurance company is requiring regular checks and site visits to the Radcliffe Church building which is causing some difficulty for the property manager for the North. It was suggested that the possibility of employing an agency to carry out these duties be investigated. <i>Action: Natalie will make enquiries</i>	NW
	The meeting closed at 13.45pm with a short prayer from Revd Bruce Jarvis.	
	Fix Council meeting dates for year ahead 2024 July 23rd – 26th 2024 Annual Meeting at Hayes Conference Centre September 6th 2024 (Zoom Meeting) November 22nd 2024 (Zoom Meeting)	