

Draft letter of consent from managing trustees to accompany an application for registration of a Methodist church building for same-sex marriage

To be typed on the headed notepaper of the relevant Methodist Church

[Date]

To the Superintendent Registrar of the [YY] Registration District in connection with the registration of places of worship for marriage in England and Wales

Dear [name of Superintendent Registrar]

Re: [XX] Methodist Church, [insert address]
Application for registration for the solemnization of same-sex marriages

I am writing on behalf of [XX] Methodist Church Council, the managing trustee body of [XX] Methodist Church, in connection with its application to register [XX] Methodist Church for the solemnization of marriages of same-sex couples under Section 43A of the Marriage Act 1949.

At its meeting on [date] the [XX] Methodist Church Council passed the following resolutions:

- (a) The council consents to the solemnization of marriages of same-sex couples and resolves to apply to register the building known as [XX] Methodist Church, situated at [insert address], for the solemnization of such marriages under section 43A of the Marriage Act 1949; and
- (b) **[THIS PARAGRAPH IS OPTIONAL AND SHOULD BE DELETED IF THE COUNCIL HAS NOT SO RESOLVED – SEE GUIDANCE [HERE](#)]**: The council resolves that the consent in (a) above may be extended to cover situations where members of the congregation are unable to marry in the church building (for example due to being housebound, detained or seriously ill and therefore unable to be moved); and
- (c) The council authorises [named member of the Church Council, who should be the person writing this letter], being a trustee, to sign and submit to the Superintendent Registrar of the [YY] Registration District the required application and certificate.

By these resolutions I am duly authorised by the [XX] Methodist Church Council to make this application and enclose completed Forms 78 and 78A and a copy of the Methodist Church's governing authority's consent to same-sex marriage dated 1 September 2021. **[THIS NEXT SENTENCE MUST BE INCLUDED IF THE CHURCH IS A SHARING CHURCH AS PER FORM 78A GUIDANCE [HERE](#). IF NOT IT CAN BE DELETED]**: As we qualify as a sharing church with [name of relevant denomination], I also enclose a copy of that denomination's governing authority's consent [to the solemnization of same-sex marriage] **or** [for the building to be used for the solemnization of same-sex marriage], dated [date].]

Yours sincerely

[signature]

[NAME OF CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBER]

Trustee