

## Decisions made, Documents Signed and Action taken by the Council since its last meeting

### 1. Decisions made by the Council

- 1.1 Acting on behalf of the Conference, the Council appointed Mr Craig Price to the Faith and Order Committee with immediate effect.
- 1.2 Acting on behalf of the Conference, the Council appointed Mrs Mary McNaughton to the Stationing Committee (in place of Mrs Biddy Bishop).
- 1.3 The Council agreed to recommend to the President that, pursuant to clause 29(b) of the Deed of Union, Deacon Kerry R Scarlett be stationed to the Connexional Team from 1 January 2020 until the adoption of the stations at the 2020 Conference and to recommend to the Conference that, pursuant to SO 315(4), Ms Scarlett be stationed to continue in that appointment for a period of five years from 1 September 2020.

### 2. Documents signed and consent given

No case

### 3. Action taken

- 3.1 The Chair of the Council appointed Miss Elizabeth Ovey to the nomination panel for the Secretary of the Conference, in place of Mr David Walton.

#### 3.2 Majorie Batey - outstanding charge on property

Majorie Batey was a former overseas missionary who received a loan from the Methodist Missionary Trust Association (MMTA) to enable her to purchase a property in 1988. Majorie has now died and the family are seeking to sell the house but are clearly unable to do so while there is still a charge on the property. The family's solicitors have advised that, rather than seeking to settle this matter after the property has been sold, the Church should agree a settlement figure to release the charge on the property. Clearly this is not a matter that the Council would want to argue in court and therefore reaching a compromise settlement figure to release the charge seems a prudent decision and a figure of £16,000 has been negotiated. The Chair has accordingly agreed on behalf of the Methodist Council that this settlement figure can be accepted and the charge released on the property for the loan from MMTA.

#### 3.3 Amendment of Purposes to Manse Maintenance Trust (Trust 8669) to fund a new Circuit Manse in Bangor

A request has been made for the monies from the above trust to be used to help fund the purchase of a new manse in the Bangor and Holyhead Circuit 2/3. A letter dated 25 June 1965 directs that the income is to be applied for the upkeep of the Bangor circuit manse, the trust being left by Dr and Mrs North as a permanent endowment, and the Managing Trustees currently do not have recourse to the capital. There are provisions in the Charities Act 2011, which permit charity trustees to release the capital from permanent endowments for the same purposes which apply to the income. It seems sensible for the merged circuit to have the legacy for the benefit of the manse in their circuit, as this was clearly the original intention of the donors. The Chair of the Council has therefore agreed on behalf of the Methodist Council that the Circuit may apply to the Charity Commission for an amendment of purposes for the Trust.

### **3.4 St Paul's Methodist Church, Shaw, Oldham**

A grant of £10,000.00 has been offered from the Listed Buildings Fund toward the cost of emergency building works at the above mentioned church which is a Grade II listed building. This has been confirmed by the Conference Officer for Legal and Constitutional Practice on behalf of the Methodist Council. This is a returnable grant, so that if the building were ever disposed of and the net proceeds of sale were over and above the amount of the grant, the grant will need to be repaid to the fund. The Chair has agreed this on behalf of the Methodist Council.

### **\*\*\*RESOLUTION**

**19/1. The Council receives the report.**