

Westminster College Oxford Trust Ltd appointments

Contact Name and Details	Mrs Susan Howdle, Chair of the Trust susan.howdle@outlook.com
Resolutions	<p>57/1. The Council approves the nomination by the Board of Westminster College Oxford Trust Ltd for appointment by the 2018 Methodist Conference of Mrs Anne Bolton as a Director, for a three year period from 1 September 2018</p> <p>57/2. The Council approves the nomination by the Board of Westminster College Oxford Trust Ltd for appointment by the 2018 Methodist Conference of the following persons as Directors, each for a further three year period from 1st September 2018: Dr Cliff Marshall The Revd Dr Martin Wellings</p> <p>and further recommends to the Conference that it should resolve, under Article 36 of the Articles of Association of WCOT Ltd, that a period of one year's non-service upon the Board should not be required in relation to these appointments.</p>

1. As members of the Council may know, Westminster College Oxford Trust Ltd (WCOT) is the charitable company appointed by the Methodist Conference as the managing trustee of the Westminster campus at Harcourt Hill, Oxford. WCOT's function has been to oversee the continuing relationship between Oxford Brookes University and the Methodist Church, in relation to both the physical developments on the campus and the activities taking place there in which the church has a continuing interest.
2. Under the company's Articles of Association, the Board consists of the Ex Officio Director, being the Secretary of the Conference or his nominee; between three and seven Foundation Directors; any Co-opted Directors appointed by the Board.
3. Mrs Ann Leck is currently the Ex Officio Director, but she has indicated that she wishes to retire from this position; it will be for the Secretary of the Conference to deal with the question of a replacement.
4. Currently, there are six Foundation Directors: Mrs Susan Howdle (chair), Mrs Susan Barratt (deputy chair), Dr Clifford Marshall, Dr Clive Norris, Professor Beverley Clack and the Revd Dr Martin Wellings. Mrs Susan Barratt wishes to retire from the Board in August 2018, after a long period of committed and distinguished service and the Board would want to express its gratitude for all that she has offered, particularly in recent years with the re-negotiation of the lease with Oxford Brookes.
5. The Articles provide that Foundation Directors are to be nominated by the Board, approved by the Methodist Council and appointed by the Conference. They serve for three years and are eligible for re-appointment under the provisions of the Articles for a further three years. After that period, a retiring Director is not eligible for re-appointment without a period of at least one

year of non-service, but “such period of non-service shall not be required if the Conference so resolves”.

6. The Board is continuing to review its membership to identify the range of skills and experience which will be appropriate for the new situation, with the renewal of the lease on commercial terms and, in conjunction with the church, the appropriate management and use of the significant resources now available to the trust. A combination of continuing experience and expertise and fresh perspectives is sought.
7. The Board accordingly seeks the Council’s approval for a new appointment, of Mrs Anne Bolton.
8. In addition, there are two current members, Dr Cliff Marshall and the Revd Dr Martin Wellings, whose term of appointment will come to an end on 31 August 2018, but whose continuing wisdom and experience is invaluable at this time. In each case their reappointment requires the Council’s approval for the nomination to come to the 2018 Conference, and the Conference will further need to be asked to waive the requirement for a ‘gap’ year, in view of their length of service. The Board would be grateful if the Council would give approval to these nominations being brought to the Conference.
9. It is anticipated that proposals for further appointments, including that of a new Chair, will be brought during the next connexional year.

*****RESOLUTIONS**

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57/2. The Council approves the nomination by the Board of Westminster College Oxford Trust Ltd for appointment by the 2018 Methodist Conference of the following persons as Directors, each for a further three year period from 1st September 2018:

**Dr Cliff Marshall
The Revd Dr Martin Wellings**

and further recommends to the Conference that it should resolve, under Article 36 of the Articles of Association of WCOT Ltd, that a period of one year’s non-service upon the Board should not be required in relation to these appointments.

Reasoned statements

Mrs Anne Bolton has had a career ranging from IT, to general management, to Bursar in several independent schools, including Kent College Pembury, and will bring in-depth financial expertise to the Board. She is a member of Wesley Methodist Church, High Wycombe.

Dr Clifford Marshall, a Methodist in Abingdon, served until retirement as a longstanding and respected member of staff at Westminster, both before and after the merger with Oxford Brookes, specialising in initial teacher education.

The Revd Dr Martin Wellings is the Superintendent of the Oxford Circuit and a leading Methodist historian and theologian.