

THE BAPTIST UNION OF GREAT BRITAIN (BUGB)

MEETING OF THE ASSEMBLY AT THE KINGSGATE CONFERENCE CENTRE HELD ON SATURDAY 12 MAY 2018

MINUTES OF THE AGM HELD AT 1445

PRESENTING: Revd Lynn Green (General Secretary)
Revd Rich Webb (Moderator of BUGB Trustees)
Mr John Levick (BUGB Treasurer)

(These AGM minutes note decisions made and should be read alongside the narrative report of Assembly: https://www.baptist.org.uk/Articles/521745/BUGB_AGM_at.aspx)

1. ENCOURAGEMENT FROM THE GENERAL SECRETARY

Lynn Green highlighted various ways in which she had been encouraged by churches during the past year and identified four new areas which are critical for us to invest in as a movement of churches and missional communities: pioneering and planting; equipping the local church for mission; investing in Godly leaders and enabling Baptist voices and action in the public square.

2. RESOLUTIONS

Rich Webb reflected on the process of moving the Union towards incorporation as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation so far and introduced the resolutions to the Assembly. The members of Assembly were asked to resolve:

- (a) the incorporation of the Baptist Union of Great Britain (“the Union”) as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (“CIO”) be approved. This was **AGREED** unanimously.
- (b) the Constitution of the CIO shall be in substantially the form attached subject to any amendments (save for those which affect the governance arrangements of the Union) required by the Charity Commission. This was **AGREED** unanimously.
- (c) at the point of incorporation, the members of the Union will automatically become the first members of the CIO. This was **AGREED** unanimously.
- (d) following the establishment of the CIO, the trustees of the Union shall effect the transfer of assets (other than property held on separate property trusts by the Baptist Union Corporation Limited for the benefit of the Union), liabilities and activities of the union to the CIO. This was **AGREED** unanimously.
- (e) following the establishment of the CIO, the trustees of the Union and the property holding trustees (the Baptist Union Corporation Limited) shall recognise the CIO as being the organisation with the benefit of the property which is held on behalf of the Union. This was **AGREED** unanimously.

Rich explained that the current Constitution needed to be amended to allow for the assets and liabilities of the Union to be transferred into the CIO and asked the members to resolve that:

Subject to any necessary Charity Commission consent being obtained or any amendments required by the Charity Commission, the following wording be inserted as Clause 8 in Part 2 of the Constitution of the Baptist Union of Great Britain (“the Union”):

“In fulfilment of the object of the Union, the Trustee Board or Assembly may resolve to sell, lease, gift or otherwise dispose of all or any part of the assets of the Union.”

All the remaining clauses shall be renumbered accordingly. This was **AGREED** unanimously.

Notice was given to the members that in pursuance of Part 1 Clause 9 and Part 2 Clause 12 of the Constitution, the Baptist Union Council proposes that the following resolution be passed by the Assembly in 2019:

That the Constitution of the Union be abrogated in its entirety and replaced with a Constitution in the form attached subject to any consent or amendments required by the Charity Commission.

(The Constitution can be read or downloaded at www.baptist.org.uk/cioconsult).

Finally, the members of the Assembly were asked to resolve that Mr John Levick be reappointed Treasurer of the Baptist Union of Great Britain for the year to Assembly 2019. This was **AGREED**.

3. FINANCE

The finance report was presented by John Levick and the new form of annual report and accounts introduced. The total income for 2017 was £6.36m, of which the largest contribution was Home Mission (£3.85m). 2017 was also an exceptionally high year for legacies. Expenditure totalled £6.03m, of which the largest figure (£3.53m) was passed to Associations for grants to churches and pioneering ministries and to help fund Association teams. John spoke about the Family Solution and the proposal which seeks to substantially reduce the pension deficit, with deficit contributions due to finish in 2028, six and a half years earlier than the original plan.

Caroline Sanderson
Legal Services Manager