

Minutes of the Meeting of the Mission Council at the High Leigh  
Conference Centre

13 – 15 May 2013

Monday, May 13th 2013

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Mission Council resol, es to=8

13 Establish a \*eneral Secretariat /ea#, con, ened &y the \*eneral Secretary, consisting of the \*eneral Secretary, Head of Ministries, Head



of Mission and Head of Resources with responsibility

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Mission Council agrees that the Standing Orders in use for the period between 2013 and March 2011 meetings of Mission Council shall be those from the 2012 Session and the changes shown in red type in the draft contained therein (as per 63)

The resolution - as passed & by majority vote)

1) Membership of General Session & D 2

Mission Council, acting on behalf of the General Session, resolves that there shall be six members in each of the categories of membership of General Session 22932g3 and 22932l3)

The resolution - as passed & by majority vote)

5) The Composition of the Board of Governors at Chester College & @ 2

Mission Council, acting on behalf of the General Session, resolves to amend clause 2)2)2)1 of the provisions for the Governors of Chester College to read-

2)2)2)1 There shall be a Board of Governors of the College appointed by the General Session, consisting of sixteen members as follows-

2a) a Convent, chosen for that purpose;

2b) a cleric or secretary to the Board, chosen for the purpose;

2c) nine other persons, of whom at least two shall have expertise in management, finance and the administration of buildings, two shall have expertise in education, and two shall have ministerial experience;

2d) the principal of the college ex officio;

2e) a member of the teaching staff of the College, chosen by the;

2f) a student member of the College, chosen by the students;

2g) the Chair of the Cheshunt Governors ex officio;

2h) an Honorary Treasurer)

The resolution - as passed & by majority vote)

13(13) Items from the Treasurer

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Mission Council notes the report and financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2012)

The resolution - as passed & by majority vote)

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Mission Council gives thanks to God for the progress of the  
"Westminster College 75th Anniversary" and congratulates all those  
- within and beyond the College - whose generosity and hard work have  
made this possible)



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Mission Council, acting on &ehalf of \* eneral \$sse# &ly, rea%%oints the +e, d +ichard Church to ser, e as Moderator of the ! orth " estern Synod to 31 \$ugust 201B)

/he resolution - as %assed &y # a0ority , ote

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Mission Council, acting on &ehalf of \* eneral \$sse# &ly, a%%oints co# # ittees and re%resentati, es of the Church as set out in Section III of ' a%er L, su&0ect to the a# end# ents contained in Section 3 of the Su%%le# entary +e%ort at ' a%er L1)

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Mission Council a%%oints Mr Ian Harrison to ser, e as a # e# &er of the Dnited +efor# ed Church /rust until \* eneral \$sse# &ly 2011)

/he resolution - as %assed &y # a0ority , ote)



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Mission Council agrees=

13 to address the imbalance of membership of the United Methodist Church /rust and the United Methodist Church Ministers' Pension Fund /rust and requests nominating Synods, nominations Committee, and the /rusts

a3 to ensure that as vacancies on the /rust occur, more - o# en than # en are nominated until there are equal numbers of - o# en and # en;

&3 to ensure that minority groups (eg) Congolese, African Minority Ethnic people, Hispanic people, Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and transgender people etc) are appropriately included in those nominations

23 to request Synods to take similar steps towards equality in their own trust bodies)

/he resolution - as passed & agreed)

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/he resolution - as %assed &y consensus)

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Mission Council authorises the officers of the \$sse# &ly to confir# the a%%oint# ent of the interi# synod # oderator and to # onitor %rogress in the e4%lorations of the fi, e synods, re%orting to Mission Council)

/he resolution - as %assed &y consensus)

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a3 gi, es thanAs for the , alua&le %ast and on8going - orA of the Children and Couth 7e, elo%# ent fficers;

&3 resol, es that future a%%oint# ents of Children and Couth 7e, elo%# ent fficers &e as Synod e# %loyees, and asAs the Hu# an +esources office to taAe ad, ice on ho- to transfer e4isting \$sse# &ly contracts to Synod contracts and &ring this into &eing;

c3 strongly urges all Synods to co, enant to \$sse# &ly le, el - orA u% to 25l of the ti# e of their CC7 2s3, or other %erson2s3 chosen and e# %loyed &y the Synod - ith a &rief for ChildrenJs K Couth - orA at Synod le, el;

d3 in, ites the Children and Couth " orA Co# # ittee to e4%lore - ays of - orAing together across all the Synods)

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Mission Council asAs the Mediu# /er# Strategy \* rou% to continue its  
- orA on Synods, taAing account of the %oints raised in the grou%  
sessions of the May 2013 Mission Council)

/he resolution - as %assed & consensus)

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where the Synod, acting through its Moderator (or his/her duly appointed deputy) in accordance with either the Disciplinary Process contained in Section O of the Manual of the United Reformed Church (where the issues relate to perceived disciplinary "reach(es)) or the #ncapacity Procedure contained in Section P of the Manual (where the issues relate to perceived incapacity as defined in the #ncapacity Procedure), considers that a minister or Church Related Community Member is not or may not be exercising his/her ministry in accordance with Paragraph 1 of Schedule ( or Paragraph 1 of Schedule ), Part ## to the \*asis of Union, as the case may be, to take the appropriate one of the following courses namely (i) to refer the case of that minister or Church Related Community Member into the Disciplinary Process in the manner prescribed by that Process and to act in accordance with the

provisions thereof as regards the suspension of the minister or Church Related Community Member concerned pending the resolution of the matter under that Process (reference to be made to Paragraph +,- of the Structure to ascertain the point at which a Disciplinary case shall commence) or (ii) to follow the Consultation Procedure prescribed by the #ncapacity Procedure which could in its turn lead to the case of the minister or Church Related Community Member being referred into the #ncapacity Procedure and to act in accordance with the provisions thereof as regards the suspension of the minister or Church Related Community Member concerned pending the resolution of the matter under that Procedure (reference to be made to Paragraph .,- of the Structure to ascertain the point at which a case shall commence within the #ncapacity Procedure) (the transitional overlap which occurs when a case is referred back from the Disciplinary Process or the #ncapacity Procedure leading to the commencement of a case within the other of them shall be a permitted extension of the )unction),

to ensure that, where an /ssembly Commission or an /ppeals Commission following a Hearing under the Disciplinary Process contained in Section O of the Manual of the United Reformed Church or a Review Commission or an /ppeals Review Commission following a Hearing under the #ncapacity Procedure contained in Section P of the

Church Related Community Members from the respective Roll, any such guidance is brought fully to the attention of those responsible for exercising oversight of the minister or Church Related Community Member and any others who might in the future be identified as being proper and appropriate persons to receive such information.

to consider the resignation of ministers or Church Related Community Members not currently the subject of any case within the Disciplinary Process contained in Section O and in consultation with the moderator of the Synod to decide upon appropriate action

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No appeal shall lie against the decision by a Synod to initiate the Disciplinary Process contained in Section O or the Capacity Procedure contained in Section P in respect of any minister or Church Related Community Member under subsection (ii),

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to consider the resignation of ministers or Church Related Community Members not currently the subject of any case within the Disciplinary Process contained in Section O and in

consultation with the moderator of the Synod to decide upon appropriate action (see also Paragraphs (4)(i) and (.) (iii))

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to ensure that, where an assembly omission or an appeals omission following a hearing under the Disciplinary Process contained in Section O of the Manual of the United Reformed Church or a Review omission or an appeals Review omission following a hearing under the Capacity Procedure contained in Section P of the Manual





community \$or%er concerned pending the resolution of the matter under that Process (reference to "e made to Paragraph +,- of the Structure to ascertain the point at which a Disciplinary case shall commence) or (ii) to follow the onsultation Procedure prescri"ed "y the #ncapacity Procedure which could in its turn lead to the case of the minister or hurch Related ommunity \$or%er "eing referred into the #ncapacity Procedure and to act in accordance with the provisions thereof as regards the suspension of the minister or hurch Related ommunity \$or%er concerned pending the resolution of the matter under that Procedure (reference to "e made to Paragraph .,- of the Structure to ascertain the point at which a case shall commence within the #ncapacity Procedure) (the transitional o!erlap which occurs when a case is referred "ac% from the Disciplinary Process or the #ncapacity Procedure leading to the commencement of a case within the other of them shall "e a permitted e&tension of the )unction)!

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without detracting from the general delegatory powers held "y Mission ouncil, to gi!e specific authority to Mission ouncil acting in the name of 6eneral / ssem"ly to ma%e with immediate effect such changes to any part of the Ministerial Disciplinary Process contained in Section O of the Manual or the Ministerial #ncapacity Procedure contained in Section P as are recommended to Mission ouncil "y the M#3D / d!isory 6roup (or such other 6roup or ommittee as may in the future perform the functions of that 6roup), all such changes to "e reported to the ne&t meeting of the 6eneral / ssem"ly,

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# The procedure for dealing with references and appeals falling outside Paragraph . (#ncapacity Procedure) and Paragraph + (Disciplinary Process) is as follows!;

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7 < , and once so initiated that case shall "e resol!ed in accordance with the #ncapacity Procedure and not under Paragraph - a"o!e,;

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& # / case shall commence within the #ncapacity Procedure when the Synod Moderator or the Deputy General Secretary shall send or deli!er to the Secretary of the Re!iew Commission= a certificate of (ntry= and a commencement 3otice= (the e&pressions mar%ed = "eing defined in the #ncapacity Procedure),

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9 0,\* ,'), - . ' / (\*\*

9 + 8he Pro!isions of this Paragraph + shall apply to cases proceeding under the Disciplinary Process (Section O of the Manual of the United Reformed Church) where the person responsible for initiating it in respect of a particular minister or Church Related Community \$or%er considers that s/he is not or may not "e e&ercising the ministry of word and sacrament or the ministry of church related community wor% as the case may "e in accordance (in the case of ministers) with Paragraph ' of Schedule ( of the \*asis of Union and (in the case of R \$s) with Paragraph ' of Schedule ), Part ## thereto and percei!es the issue as a disciplinary one not falling within Paragraph . a"o!e,

9 3o right of appeal shall lie against any decision ta%en in accordance with Paragraph +, > a"o!e to initiate the Disciplinary Process in respect of any minister or R \$, and once so initiated that case shall "e resol!ed in accordance with the Disciplinary Process and not under Paragraph - a"o!e,

9 7 8he decision reached in any particular case (whether or not on appeal) under the Disciplinary Process shall "e made in the name of the General / ssem"ly and shall "e final and "inding,

9 / s soon as any minister or R \$ "ecomes the su"ject of a case under the Disciplinary Process, none of the councils of the Church shall e&ercise any of its functions in respect of that minister or R \$ in such a manner as to affect, compromise or interfere with the due process of that case pro!ided that the pro!ision of such pastoral care as shall "e deemed appropriate shall not "e regarded as a "reach of this paragraph,

9 # + #n any case in which the caution Stage (as defined in the Disciplinary Process) is in!o%ed, that case shall "egin with the calling in of the Synod / ppointees as descri"ed in the Disciplinary Process,,

9 # #n any case in which the caution Stage is not in!o%ed, that case shall "egin with the calling in of the Mandated Group as descri"ed in the Disciplinary Process

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Mission Council, acting in the name of \* general \$sse# &ly and on the advice of the MI! 7 \$d, isory \* rou%, agrees to # aAe the follo- ing changes to the 7isci%linary ' rocess=

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F\* eneral \$sse# &ly \$%%ointeesG shall # ean the %ersons a%%ointed under ' aragra%h \$\$)2)1)2 to e4a# ine a disci%linary case - ithin the Caution Stage and, if considered a%%ro%riate, to i# %ose Cautions u%on the # inister)G  
F\* eneral \$sse# &ly +e%resentati, eG shall # ean the %erson a%%ointed 2- hether indi, idually or as the holder of a %articlar office3 to act in the name of \* eneral \$sse# &ly 2or Mission Council on its &ehalf3 in carrying out the res%onsi&ilities assigned to that %erson - ithin this 7isci%linary ' rocess)G

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