

170th Annual Conference 2019  
**MONDAY – 17<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2019**

## Standing orders for conference

### 1. **Names of Representatives**

## Members as read

## 2. Apologies for absence

and [REDACTED] will be late

**Appointment of:**

Secretary to Conference  
Recorders of Minutes  
Letter Writers  
Scrutineers

Decide as to the admission of representatives of the Press and Visitors.

Secretary to Conference [REDACTED];

Recorder of Minutes:

Scrutineers:

3. **Decide as to Standing Orders as follows:**

Discussion only allowed on a motion duly moved and seconded.

No delegate to speak more than once on any subject, except the mover of the Resolution, who has the right to reply.

- The mover of a Resolution must not exceed ten minutes, and the seconder five minutes.
- Subsequent speakers and the reply of the mover, not to exceed five minutes.
- All printed reports and statements to be taken as read.
- Only Representatives have authority to vote. No others must accept or use voting privileges.

As read

#### 4. Obituaries

## 5. Read Correspondence for Conference

None

## 6. Election of President-Designate

No nomination for President this year as [REDACTED] is President for two years. [REDACTED] proposed as President Designate and as President for two years from 2020 by [REDACTED] and seconded by [REDACTED]. Two abstentions. Everyone else in favour.

## 7. Nominations for General Committee

ALDERMANS GREEN	
ASHBY CIRCUIT	
ASHINGTON	
ATTLEBOROUGH	
BAKEWELL CIRCUIT	
BARNSELY CIRCUIT	
BEDWORTH	
BIRDS EDGE	
BRADFORD CIRCUIT	
CHOPPINGTON	
CHURCH ON THE ROCK	
CLYDEBANK	
DENBY DALE	
DORRINGTON	
FRITWELL	
GLAZGOW ABUNDANT LIFE AND LIBERTY	
GRIFFYDAM	
HAZLEMERE	
HEATH END	
HECKINGTON	
IVINGHOE & PITSTONE	
LOWESTOFT	
NUNEATON	
OLDBURY	
OLD HILL	
ROTH, MEX & DONC CIRCUIT	
SHEFFIELD CIRCUIT	
SLEAFORD CIRCUIT	
SOULDERN	
ST. JUST	
SWANTON ABBOTT	
SYRESHAM	
WELLINGBOROUGH CIRCUIT	

Members as read.

## 8. Half Yearly Meetings 2019 onwards

2019	16 <sup>th</sup> November	Bradford Circuit
2020	21 <sup>st</sup> November	Sheffield Circuit, Greenhead Church
2021	20 <sup>th</sup> November	Coventry

Dates to note

## 9. Conference 2020 onwards

2020	Mon 15 <sup>th</sup> June to Wed 17 <sup>th</sup> June	Swanwick
2021	Mon 14 <sup>th</sup> June to Wed 16 <sup>th</sup> June	Swanwick
2022	Mon 13 <sup>th</sup> June to Wed 15 <sup>th</sup> June	Swanwick

## 10. Ministerial Committee Report

Report by [REDACTED] Presented by [REDACTED]

We would like to take this opportunity to express our heartfelt thanks to God for the life, work and ministry of [REDACTED]. It is hard to underestimate the impact that [REDACTED] has had on us as a Union and in particular, his work in the theological training of the Ministers and Preachers. We will be forever thankful for his wisdom, insight, example and encouragement. He has left us an incredible legacy and an equally great challenge to take this work forward. Please remember his family in prayer.

We also remember with thankfulness the life and ministry of [REDACTED], please continue to pray for his family.

We want to thank you for your prayers in what has been a period of transition. There have been a number of enquiries regarding Ordination, those who have expressed an interest have been informed of the process and we await their response. We currently have 8 students who are taking our theology course. [REDACTED] is helping to mark the papers with support from [REDACTED] in a moderating capacity, [REDACTED] was also asked to help with marking.

We have investigated how we might utilise theological colleges to help deliver training for prospective ministers, for ministers in post and for those who simply want to increase their theological knowledge. It is apparent that there are many options that we could follow in this regard, however, we have reached the following conclusions. For those seeking training for ministry we will provide help and guidance to find the right college for them. For the continuing professional development of our own ministers we will highlight courses that may be of interest. For those seeking to increase their own theological knowledge we really value the course that [REDACTED] has developed for the Union over many years. With this in mind we will explore to see how we might get this course accredited.

We would encourage all Ministers and Pastors to make the Ministers and Pastors retreat a priority. It is an excellent opportunity to meet for fellowship, to share with one another and to pray for one another. It is going to be hosted by our Jump church on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> and Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2019. [REDACTED] from Christ Church Central, Sheffield, will be bringing our teaching.

## Ministers

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### Ministers ordained by the Union

#### Active Ministers

##### Year Ordained

1998

[REDACTED]

RUSHDEN HIGH STREET (13)

2004

[REDACTED]



[REDACTED]  
**RUSHDEN MISSION (13)**

**2013** [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**2015** [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**ABUNDANT LIFE AND LIBERTY, GLASGOW (4)**

**2016** [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**HAZLEMERE CHURCH (3)**

**2017** [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**ASHINGTON WORD OF LIFE CHURCH (2)**

**Retired Ministers**

**1960** [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**1969** [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**1971** [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**1974** [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**1976** [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**1988** [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**1998** [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**1980** [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

1985 [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**Ministers and pastors independently appointed by churches**

(in alphabetical order)

[REDACTED] **BETHEL COMMUNITY CHURCH**  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] **CLYDEBANK CHURCH**  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] **ALDERMANS GREEN CHURCH**  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] **BEACON COMMUNITY CHURCH**  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] **CHURCH ON THE ROCK**  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] **OWLERTON CHURCH**  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] **MUFF FIELD CHURCH**  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] **NEW SWANNINGTON & ELLISTOWN CHURCHES**  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] **HEATH END CHURCH**  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] **SWANTON ABBOTT CHURCH**  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
**OLDBURY CHURCH**  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
**ADDINGHAM CHURCH**  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
**LOWESTOFT CHURCH**  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
**HAMPDEN VIEW CHURCH**  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
**MAYFIELD CHURCH**  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Proposed by [REDACTED], seconded by [REDACTED], all in favour. It was recorded that the name of [REDACTED] was missed from the list.

## 11. **Christian Ethics and Social Action**

### **Report by [REDACTED]**

Since our last Conference, we can rejoice that the Christian owners of a Northern Ireland bakery have convincingly won their appeal in the so-called "Gay Cake" discrimination case. The UK's highest court ruled that the Ashers bakery's refusal to make a cake with a slogan supporting same-sex marriage was not discriminatory. The five justices on the Supreme Court were **unanimous in their judgement**.

The case had been rumbling on for four and a half years. This is a victory for freedom of expression and freedom of ideas. Praise the Lord that He answered our prayers. This ruling has huge implications for Christians in many walks of life.

Plans for teaching children as young as five about homosexuality and transgenderism have come under fire from parents and some MP's. Education Secretary Damian Hinds announced that pupils of all ages will have compulsory lessons from September 2020, with Relationship Education for primary aged children, and Relationship and Sex for Secondary children. A petition from 107,000 parents brought about a debate in Parliament. They said "We have grave concerns about the physical, psychological and spiritual implications of teaching children about sexual and relational concepts.

One parent in Gateshead said "I don't want my child learning about transgender at an age when they still believe in the tooth fairy." Quite right! The Ofsted Chief Inspector, Amanda Spielman, who had previously called for "muscular liberalism" in schools, told the BBC, that it was important for primary aged children to be taught about L.G.B.T. issues. The worry is that these vociferous lobby groups want to normalise L.G.B.T. The Christian Institute responded with the fact that parents expect Ofsted to ensure a good quality of education rather than get side-tracked into identity politics.

In March, large numbers of Muslims protested that their children were being brainwashed and the material being offered was not age appropriate. Where was the Christian voice?

I would encourage all parents and Grandparents to go into school and point out that our religious beliefs must not be denigrated. Ask if the material being taught is age-appropriate and suitable. Ask if any outside speakers are being invited into school to present any material. Be aware.

On another note, interestingly, the Christian Institute is launching a new video slot on their website at Word Alive at Easter. It is called "Love Wide" and promises to consider many issues.

On behalf of CESA, I have been able to respond to all the relevant Government consultations, and they are getting more and more complex with a remarkably short time in which to reply, but they make a difference. We must not sit back hoping that these issues will go away, because they won't!

Our Values Day was held at the beginning of February and the subject was "Life is Cheap" and it proved to be very thought provoking. It dealt with the fact that knife crime is at an all-time high, the numbers of abortions are rising and violence is increasing. What is the Christian's reaction? The material was researched and prepared by [REDACTED]. We are grateful to him for his tireless work on our behalf. I have not received many comments as to how it was received in Churches. May I encourage you to send some feedback to judge whether or not it is worth continuing with the Values Day.

The Values Day material is on the Union website.

The committee continues to write an article for every issue of Contact and informs our readers about the latest concerns. I myself attend all the Christian Institute meetings which are held in and around Leicestershire, so that I can be aware of any situations which threaten our beliefs. I encourage you to do the same.

Please visit the CESA stand at the back of the hall.

We thank God for organisations that reach out to those in need, and this year, because of the generosity of the churches, we have been able to give three charities donations to the value of £1400. £500 to Caring for Life; £500 to the Christian Institute and £400 to DayOne.

We thank God for our committee members, who rise early to attend our meeting, which is an hour before any other meeting. Our Chairman is [REDACTED] along with [REDACTED], [REDACTED] and myself. Any other interested members are most welcome to join us. We only hold one meeting each year and that is in March.

[REDACTED] presented and proposed the report, [REDACTED] seconded and all were in favour of accepting.

## 12. Statistics

Name of Church	Junior Members	Senior Members	Preachers Full & Trial	Scholars	Teachers	Children: Primary School	Young People: Senior School	Devotional Meeting (Inc. WA)	WA Members	Average Attendance
<b>Aldermans Green</b>		51	1	10	6	25		3		40
<i>ASHBY CIRCUIT</i>										
Ellistown		3						1		5
Ibstock		16								10
Moirā		9						1	6	13
New Swannington		11						2		12
	<b>0</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>40</b>
<b>Ashington (Word of Life)</b>	2	20	3					2		35
<b>Attleborough</b>		12						1	15	13
<b>Beaconsfield</b>		12	8	8	2			2		15
<i>BAKEWELL CIRCUIT</i>										
Bonsall		11						1		18
Curbar		6	3							10
Froggatt										
Over Haddon										
Stonedge		27	2		1			3		27
Stoney Middleton		4	1	2	1			1		9
Winster		5	1					1		14
Youlgrave		10						2		12
	<b>0</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>90</b>
<i>BARNSELY CIRCUIT</i>										
Cliffe Bridge		6	2	4	3			1	7	30
Cudworth		2	1							2
Dodworth		8	2			5	4			10
Hoyle Mill		2								3
Hunningley		16	2							21
Smithies		6				22	6			7
Staincross	2	11	3							20
Worsbrough		9	1					1		10
	<b>2</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>103</b>
<b>Bedworth</b>		17	2	1	2			1		13
<b>Birds Edge</b>		15	3	4	1					16

*BRADFORD CIRCUIT*

Addingham		25	2					1		30
Beacon Community		47	4	6	4			3		48
Bethel Community		17	2			35	8	5		44
Muff Field		23	1	4	2			2		17
	<b>0</b>	<b>112</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>139</b>
<b>Choppington</b>	2	6	2							12
<b>Church on the Rock</b>		17	3	5	1		7			19
<b>Clydebank</b>		11	1	6	3			2		31
<b>Denby Dale</b>		6								16
<b>Dorrington</b>		6	1	2	2			2		7
<b>Fritwell</b>		5								10
<b>Glasgow (Abundant Life and Liberty Centre)</b>	4	9	1	2	1					12
<b>Griffydam</b>		12		14	7	14	8	2		34
<b>Hazlemere</b>		32	1	14	4			2		48
<b>Heath End</b>		27	2	8	2	23	16	1	12	48
<b>Heckington</b>		6						1		10
<b>Ivinghoe</b>		7								10
<b>Lowestoft</b>		2								9
<b>Nuneaton</b>		6						2		10
<b>Old Hill</b>		21							8	21
<b>Oldbury</b>		31		7	3			1		26

*ROTHERHAM, MEXBOROUGH AND DONCASTER CIRCUIT*

Bowbroom		24						1		20
Cornerstone		9								9
Elsecar		7	2							10
Hough Lane	5	21						1		25
Jump		21	1			55	12	2		25
Mexborough Life Church	22	55	2	15	6	10	6	7		50
Newhill		10	1					1		15
	<b>27</b>	<b>147</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>154</b>

*SHEFFIELD CIRCUIT*

Coal Aston	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	12
Greenhead	0	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8
Grimesthorpe		15	1	3	1	1	2			14
Hampden View		10	2	6	2	17	4	1	15	30
Mayfield		11	3					1	6	16*
Oughtibridge		50		17	4			8		43
Owlerton		16						4	12	24
Philadelphia		6						1		12
Richmond		21	3	3	3	14		3	10	45
St Mary's		8		7	6			1		25



Woodseats		3						1		6
	0	152	9	36	16	32	6	20	43	219

#### *SLEAFORD CIRCUIT*

Brant Broughton		2								7
Ruskington	1	9	1						8	20
Ruskington Fen		3								12
	1	14	1	0	0	0	0	0	8	39
<b>Souldern</b>		4	1	6	1					4
<b>St. Just</b>		22	1					1	6	15
<b>Swanton Abbott</b>		8	8					1		10
<b>Syresham</b>		16				10				23

#### *WELLINGBOROUGH CIRCUIT*

Alma Street		6								15
Bozeat		14	2			10	30	1		10
Isham		2	1							9
Rushden High Street		42	2	28	4	25	12	3		53
Rushden Mission		41	2	10	5			5		51
Wymington		12						1		15
	0	117	7	38	9	35	42	10	0	153

#### **SUMMARY OF STATISTICS**

TOTALS FOR 2018	40	1131	76	216	90	194	133	95	122	1499
TOTALS FOR 2019	38	1085	88	192	77	266	115	91	105	1444
<b>INCREASE</b>			12			72				
<b>DECREASE</b>	2	46		24	13		18	4	17	55

It was stated that the figures presented are only as good as the figures sent by churches. 16 churches have increased their membership. SS scholars show a reduction of 24, with 50 churches having no children's work on a Sunday – 32 churches had a Sunday school last year and that figure is now down to 25. Primary school children attending weekday meetings with Christian teaching is considerably increased. Membership fallen by 14% and attendance by 15% over last 5 years.

75 churches are listed – 27 decreased; 22 stayed the same; 26 have grown, giving signs of hope for the future.

proposed, seconded. All were in favour.

### **13. Greetings from the Independent Methodist Connexion**

, representative of Independent Methodist. Praying for the Union, exciting programme and looking forward to meeting members of Conference.

### **14. Greetings from the Countess of Huntingdon's Connexion**

, representative of the Countess of Huntingdon connexion pointed out that they were founded in 18<sup>th</sup> century when the country was in a terrible state.



God raised up men and women of faith to bring the Gospel to men and women. He is still the same God.

## 15. **Women of Action Report**

### a. **Report by** [REDACTED]

We continue to be in awe of Almighty God as we take this ongoing journey as the Women of Action. We remain thankful for all that is happening, and confident and excited about all that the future holds.

The 'See how they grow' events have been held at Stoney Middleton, Bedworth, Bozeat and Bierley. We are still to visit Ruskington and New Swannington this year. There have been a good number of ladies at each event and although the same teaching has been used, each one has been very different. There have been numerous comments about how the morning has encouraged and challenged many in their faith and walk with Jesus.

At the AGM we reflected on the words that God had given to us over the last few years to ensure we are going the right way. It was an uplifting time together as we could see how some of those words had been fulfilled and still continue to be so. We also acknowledged some areas that we still need to progress in. After prayer and discussion, it was agreed that we should do one more year with the 'See how they grow' event. We feel that we are laying a foundation, across the country in the lives of the ladies of our churches, and there are still many more to reach.

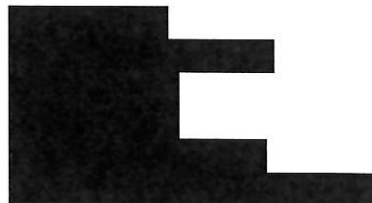
The Women of Action constitution has been discussed and duly amended. We want to emphasize our mission statement that we are about encouraging and supporting all women of the church community in their faith and witness. Therefore, all ladies who are part of a WRU church, are welcome to attend any of the meetings that are held to further the work of God's Kingdom through the Women of Action.

We would like to thank everyone for their continued donations, support and prayers. We are confident that as we continue to step forward in this work God has laid on our hearts, that many ladies will be blessed and that we will all be the richer for it. May He continue to be first in our lives, the One that we look to in all things.

**'But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.' 1 Pet 2:9.**

### **Election of Officers**

Co-ordinator/Secretary  
Treasurer  
Minute Secretary  
Magazine Secretary  
Representative WWDP  
Reps to General Committee



**b. Accounts by****GENERAL ACCOUNT**

<b>Income</b>	<b>2017-18</b>	<b>2016-17</b>
Balance brought forward	1655	1775
Donations	85	95
Balance from Lunch	60	30
	<b>1800</b>	<b>1900</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>		
WWDP	50	
President's gift	50	50
Conference fees	150	150
Half yearly fees	12	20
Secretary's expenses	20	25
Lunch costs	109	
Evangelistic tracts	18	
Balance carried forward	1391	1655
	<b>1800</b>	<b>1900</b>

**OUTREACH ACCOUNT**

Brought forward	0	211
Evangelistic pens purchased		211
<b>Brought forward</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

**SUMMARY**

General Account	1391	1655
Outreach Account	0	0
All held at Lloyds Bank	1391	1655

New rep for World Day of Prayer from 2020 is needed. Maybe someone not at Conference – talk to them. Must be a women who represents Union. The services are organised by women. 2022 will be prepared by the women of England, Wales and Northern Ireland.

See how they grow – one more in October and three next year with venues to be confirmed. AGM is on 25 April 2020 at Coal Aston.

New constitution – to be seen by as many women as possible.

Proposed by [REDACTED], seconded by [REDACTED], all in favour.

[REDACTED] gave a gift to [REDACTED] to say how much we love her reports.

## 16. **Safeguarding Report**

### **a. Report by [REDACTED]**

Well, where do I start! I am now 1 year into the role of Union Safeguarding officer.

Have I accomplished everything I wanted to this year? – No!

Have I been able to give as much time to safeguarding as I would have liked to? – No!

Are all our churches in the position I would like them to be in? – Probably not!

Have we made a move in the right direction? – Definitely yes!

This job has turned out to be a lot bigger than I first imagined it would be and I have come across many challenges, but we have made a start and I believe we are moving in the right direction. The union now has a basic safeguarding policy that churches can adopt and implement if they do not have one of their own, this is a basic working document and should change for each church as they review and amend it. We have run our first safeguarding awareness course which went really well, and I am still looking to run another one later in the year (more information to follow). I am in the process of updating the union head office safeguarding policy and that should be completed by the summer.

One of the main reasons I still get calls from our churches is to do with recruitment and DBS checking so that is where I am currently spending some of my time, I am in the process of putting together a recruitment package that will include a safer recruitment policy, guidelines and checklists for employing workers and volunteers and different ways to obtain DBS checks, I am hoping this will be ready to send to churches and upload to the website from September.

Another area where many of our churches are running into some difficulty is where outside people are hiring the church hall to run activities not linked to the church. Do they have to check DBS's? Do they need to ask to see safeguarding policies and documents? Do the groups even have to have safeguarding documents? Is the church responsible if something goes wrong in these groups? This is just one of the minefields that are causing our churches headaches and one that I want to try and explain and simplify, unfortunately this one may have to wait until after the summer.

My aim before conference 2020 is to have all the basics in place so that churches have the information and documentation available to them that they need to cover their safeguarding duties, then theoretically I will just have to keep things updated as changes happen.

I am a little more confident that most of our churches now at least have a safeguarding policy in place and hope that we are not still just ticking a box and they are actually sharing them

with the church and putting them into practice, but I understand there is still quite a way to go and I will continue to stress the importance of safeguarding over the next year through articles in contact, newsletters and safeguarding documents.

We still need to get safeguarding embedded in everything that we do, we need to talk about it more, it needs to be on every church agenda for every meeting. Not until we remove the fear of the word safeguarding will it truly become part of our everyday lives.

A recent survey has shown that the church is not high on the list of people to talk to if you have a problem, we need to change that. We have a Christian duty to the people we come into contact with to provide them with an environment where they not only feel safe but where they are safe. Our hope is that people will once again see the church as a place of safety where they can talk to us in confidence and where we can offer help and support.

If church has no policy, take the outline policy from the web site and download. Then adapt it for your own church. For next year work is being done on supporting people who have been victims of abuse and supporting those who have been perpetrators of abuse. Recognise, respond, record and report – 4 steps for all churches to follow to implement the Safeguarding Policy.

Proposed by [REDACTED], seconded by [REDACTED]. All were in favour. Questions were taken and answered by [REDACTED].

## 170th Annual Conference 2019

### **TUESDAY (Session 1) – 18<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2019**

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#### 17. **Resolution of Loyalty to be moved by The President,** [REDACTED]

As President of the Wesleyan Reform Union of Churches, it is my great pleasure and privilege to send the loyal greeting of the members of our 170<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference, presently gathered at The Hayes Conference Centre, Swanwick, Derbyshire to Your Majesty and His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh.

Our prayer is that Almighty God will support, sustain and encourage you as you continue to reign over our country and commonwealth. May you be given the necessary health and strength to carry out your duties and to fulfil your responsibilities to Him and to your people.

May God's richest blessing rest upon you in the coming days.

Conference stood to sing the national anthem

#### 18. **Appointment of, and prayer for, General Committee**

The general committee members were voted in with one abstention and they were prayed for by conference.

#### 19. **Overseas Missions Department Report** **b. Report by** [REDACTED]

Over the past year, we have been much blessed by having a much larger team, five new members coming onto the team after Conference last year. We have not met together often, but when we have, the time has been very well spent in considering many of the issues facing the world today. As a result of our deliberations, we are hoping to share with members of Conference a bit of an insight into how we think our part of the world is about to change. There are many factors that have drawn us to the conclusion over the months that we are not too far away from being a land where Christians are persecuted just as they are already in many other parts of the world.

We have explored some of the ways in which Christians have had to change their way of meeting and we would like to invite you all to take part in an experiment intended to shake us into the realisation that we can no longer be satisfied to be witnesses to the goodness of the Lord, but we really need to take a stand and actively show how we are being "squashed into a mould of British Values" instead of being salt and light for the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ.

We have been pleased to send gifts to all of our mission personnel again this year as well as offering some support to one of our Ministers on a mission trip to Sudan. We have also been able to run our project "Home from home" again to support the work of AWM in Yemen. The full amount that has been donated over the past year will be announced at Conference, but we do want everyone to know that gifts have been sent on a regular basis rather than kept until the end of the period of the project. The need has been so immense, it seemed very wrong to have the money in a bank here when it could be being used at the rock face to bring relief to some of those who have suffered so badly.

We are also pleased to announce our new project for this coming year – one which supports one of our own missionaries. It is 20 years since the first project was launched which was to assist Hope for Children in Latvia, run by [REDACTED] who was on our Mission Personnel list at the time. This year we would ask that you again support our OM project by providing funds for solar panels in the Good News Hospital in Madagascar where our own [REDACTED] is working. The electricity supply is very suspect and often the power goes out at very inconvenient times. Imagine being halfway through an operation when suddenly the power fails! The solar panels will help to avoid this issue and bring some security of power to the hospital as well as saving a huge amount of money that they really don't have.

We thank you all for your financial and prayer support in the past and ask that you will continue to support this project and our missionaries both by your prayers and your money over this next year.

**c. Present List of Missionaries, by [REDACTED]**  
List of Overseas Mission Personnel 2018-2019

1995 [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

2003 [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

2016 [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

List of Associated Overseas Mission Personnel 2017-2018

1986 [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

1990 [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

1995 [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

1995 [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

1996 [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

1998 [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

2002

2003



**d. Accounts by [REDACTED]**

<b>Year</b>	<b>2018/2019</b>	<b>2017/2018</b>
<b>Accounts</b>		
<b>General Fund</b>		
<b>Income</b>		
Balance 1st April	3356.75	579.82
<b>Donations</b>		
General Fund	3133.50	2909.66
Interest from Reserve Account	0.35	0.11
Interest from Investment Accounts	23.44	15.16
Gift Aid Tax Reclaim	295.73	0.00
Percy & Ruth Johnson	1325.27	
<b>Total</b>	<b>8135.04</b>	<b>3504.75</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>		
Conference Fees	150.00	120.00
Secretary's Honorarium/Expenses	25.00	25.00
Interest to Training & Fairhurst	3.00	3.00
<b>Annual Gifts</b>	<b>2017/2018</b>	
WEC	500.00	750.00
UFM [REDACTED]	250.00	250.00
[REDACTED]	250.00	250.00
AWM	500.00	500.00
Partners [REDACTED]	250.00	250.00
[REDACTED]	75.00	125.00
[REDACTED]	75.00	125.00
[REDACTED]	125.00	125.00
Friends - [REDACTED]	500.00	500.00
[REDACTED]	125.00	125.00
Balance 31st March	2307.04	3356.75
<b>Total</b>	<b>8135.04</b>	<b>3504.75</b>

**Accounts by [REDACTED] (continued)**

	<b>2018/2019</b>	<b>2017/2018</b>
<b>Irving &amp; Edith Fairhurst Memorial Fund</b>		
Balance 1st April	636.08	1135.08
Interest	1.00	1.00
I Fall		-500.00
Balance at 31st March	<b>637.08</b>	<b>636.08</b>
<b>Training Fund</b>		
Balance 1st April	2125.92	2123.92
Interest	2.00	2.00
Balance at 31st March	<b>2127.92</b>	<b>2125.92</b>
<b>Summary</b>		
General Fund	2287.64	3356.75
Project Fund	1341.00	2327.00
Training & Fairhurst Funds	2765.00	2125.92
<b>Total</b>	<b>6393.64</b>	<b>8445.75</b>
<b>Balances</b>		
Current Accounts Nat West	2753.79	4829.69
Reserve Account Nat West	384.45	384.10
National Savings Accounts	3255.40	3231.96
<b>Total</b>	<b>6393.64</b>	<b>8445.75</b>
<b>Jessie's House 2016</b>		
Income 16/17	2542.22	
Income 17/18	3607.78	
Expenditure	-6150.00	
<b>Balance</b>	<b>0.00</b>	
<b>Yemen 2017</b>		
Income 17/18	2327.00	
Income 18/19	2173.00	
Expenditure	-4500.00	
<b>Balance</b>	<b>0.00</b>	
<b>Yemen 2018</b>		
Income 18/19	3341.00	
Income 19/20	0.00	
Expenditure	-2000.00	
<b>Balance</b>	<b>1341.00</b>	

Paragraph 2 of report will not happen

A mistake was made with the accounts but God was working so money was available for a late request for help.

Displays show pictures of all projects supported during the last 20 years.

This year's project to put solar panels on roof of hospital in Madagascar has had to be changed as solar panels have already been obtained. Changed to buy a cystoscope - cost is £9000. This is equipment used for bladder problems, prostate problems etc. It will be the only one in the area. Accepted by conference.

Thanks were offered to each and every church who have supported the projects over the years.

Amended report was accepted with no questions asked.

The list of missionaries was accepted. [REDACTED] was presented to conference as she has just returned from Madagascar. [REDACTED] spoke and said 'She has been 2 ½ years there, living from hand to mouth keeps us dependant on the Lord. Prayer support is really important, always different things coming up for prayer, no problem is too big for the Lord to sort out. Practical help for new equipment can make an enormous difference to patients. Thanks for all your support and prayers. It runs on prayer.

[REDACTED] prayed for [REDACTED] and the work in Madagascar. Mandritsara or Good News Hospital, Madagascar on web site.

Good to be able to keep in touch and receive info from all missionaries on list.

The accounts as presented show a minor discrepancy.

Donations to general fund should be £3114.10

Balance at 31<sup>st</sup> March should read £2287.64

Money has been sent to Yemen during year. Total collected for Yeman is £4855.00

Accounts were accepted.

[REDACTED] was unable to attend - gift presented to [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] on her behalf, who thanked conference for the gift, the work in Yemen is desperate

[REDACTED] asked for a volunteer to take over the work of Overseas Missions Committee Secretary - [REDACTED] has agreed to take this role.

[REDACTED] was both delighted and disappointed to hand over to [REDACTED], she has everyone's support from conference.

[REDACTED] quoted 'everybody, somebody and nobody'.

[REDACTED] is willing to take on job by faith, privilege to take over from wonderful lady.

She urged us to get on board with the new project - please support. Please pray.

[REDACTED] prayed for [REDACTED] and [REDACTED].

[REDACTED] thanked [REDACTED] for all her work over the years, [REDACTED] prayed for [REDACTED].

O M Committee did a dramatized example of how some people have to meet in secret to share Jesus. Because someone is listening, someone is watching. We were encouraged to lift these people up in prayer.

[Additional continuation after Coffee Break:]

The appointment of [REDACTED] as secretary was proposed by [REDACTED] & seconded by [REDACTED]. No questions. This was accepted.

[REDACTED] showed a short video, taken by a drone, of the Good News Hospital, Madagascar, which also shows the [REDACTED].

Page 25 correction: [REDACTED] had not been removed from the list of Associated Overseas Missions personnel by mistake.

170th Annual Conference 2019  
**TUESDAY (Session 2) – 18<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2019**

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20. **Union Treasurer's Report**  
**Report by [REDACTED]**

**BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31ST MARCH 2019**

		2018/2019	2017/2018
<b>Employment of Funds</b>			
LAND AND BUILDINGS		668,000	658,000
FURNITURE AND FITTINGS COST	4,731	4,308	
Less: Depreciation to date	3,989	742	3,769
			539
INVESTMENTS		998,792	997,646
LOANS TO CHURCHES			
Chapel Loan Fund	35,181	36,500	
Extension Fund	55,860	91,041	70,460
			106,960
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Debtors:	Union	2,118	696
	Conference	460	
	Magazine	360	154
National Westminster Bank plc			
	Deposit Account	342,840	229,666
	Current Account	7,013	9,205
Cash in Hand	471	353,262	640
		2,111,837	2,003,506
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>			
Creditors:	Union Expenses, etc.	3,330	3,330
	Actuarial Fees	2,700	2,700
		6,030	6,030
		2,105,807	1,997,476
<b>REPRESENTED BY:</b>			
Property Fund		668,000	658,000
Loan Fund		138,435	138,285
Extension Fund		729,901	708,825
Ellis Crossley Training & Pastoral Aid Fund		4,188	4,345
Percy and Ruth Johnson Memorial Trust			1,813
Home Missions Account		1,091	1,334
Young People's Department Account		7,005	6,526
Christian Ethics and Social Action		486	675
Local Preachers Fellowship		3,716	3,757
General Reserve		113,835	119,257
Holdback Policy Capital Account		439,150	354,659
		2,105,807	1,997,476

## UNION EXPENSES ACCOUNT

		2018/2019	2017/2018
<b>Income</b>			
Assessment		41,333	44,036
Interest		8,205	6,586
Connexional Plan			527
Year Books		510	538
Child Protection Fees			364
Sundries		351	222
From General Reserve		15,018	10,201
		<u>65,417</u>	<u>62,474</u>
<b>Expenditure</b>			
Salaries etc		34,520	29,990
Pension		8,772	7,711
Head Office Expenses		3,845	5,370
Year Books		518	524
Magazine		1,929	1,752
Conference		1,027	759
Administration -	Telephone	755	2,601
	Postage	404	426
	Stationery	1,507	1,614
	Insurance	<u>1,218</u>	<u>1,328</u>
		3,884	5,969
Travelling -	Conference	319	304
	Half Yearly	267	282
	General Committee	<u>2,257</u>	<u>1,666</u>
		2,843	2,252
Sundry Expenses-	Subscriptions	767	749
	Child Protection	60	376
	Sundries	186	57
	Legal Costs	2,316	2,400
	Bank Charges	<u>624</u>	<u>602</u>
		3,953	4,184
Depreciation		220	135
Accountants		1,130	1,128
Actuaries		<u>2,776</u>	<u>2,700</u>
		<u>65,417</u>	<u>62,474</u>

	2018/2019	2017/2018
<b>CONNEXIONAL PLAN</b>		
Income from Churches		670
Less Postage and Travel		143
Transferred to Union Expenses Account	<u>0</u>	<u>527</u>

**MAGAZINE  
ACCOUNT**

Sales	2,269	2,396
Printing	3,552	3,552
Postage	646	596
Net Cost transferred to Union Expenses Account	<u>-1,929</u> <u>2,269</u>	<u>-1,752</u> <u>2,396</u>

**GENERAL  
RESERVE**

Balance 1st April 2018	119,257	40,116
Collections	425	
Holdback excess		80,334
Sundries	845	35
Rent from Cardwell Avenue	6,439	6,664
Less costs	<u>999</u>	<u>551</u>
	5,440	6,113
Rent from Thornbrook Close	3,600	3,600
Less costs	<u>714</u>	<u>740</u>
	<u>128,853</u>	<u>129,458</u>
Sundries		
Union Expenses	15,018	10,201
Balance 31st March 2019	<u>113,835</u>	<u>119,257</u>
	<u>128,853</u>	<u>129,458</u>



		2018/2019	2017/2018
<b>HOME MISSIONS ACCOUNT</b>			
Balance 1st April 2018		1,334	1,386
Donations		4,736	4,612
Interest		11	9
Transfer - New Connexions			305
Transfer from Extension Fund		79,000	67,500
		<u>85,081</u>	<u>73,812</u>
Cost of Development and Outreach Consultant		15,958	14,462
Car		2,999	
Travel		692	126
Grants	New		
	Swan/Ellistown	3,600	
	Mexborough	5,500	
	Oldbury	5,000	
	Glasgow	17,377	
	Ashington	17,864	
	Bethel, Bierley	5,000	
	Hazlemere	10,000	
		<u>64,341</u>	<u>57,274</u>
Sundries			616
Balance 31st March 2019		<u>1,091</u>	<u>1,334</u>
		<u>85,081</u>	<u>73,812</u>
<b>YOUNG PEOPLES DEPARTMENT ACCOUNT</b>			
Balance 1st April 2018		6,526	5,782
Donations		425	705
Interest		54	39
		<u>7,005</u>	<u>6,526</u>
Salary, etc.			
Travel			
Balance 31st March 2019		<u>7,005</u>	<u>6,526</u>
		<u>7,005</u>	<u>6,526</u>
<b>CHRISTIAN ETHICS AND SOCIAL ACTION</b>			
Balance 1st April 2018		675	515
Donations		1,385	1,540
Interest		6	4
		<u>2,066</u>	<u>2,059</u>
Caring for Life		500	500
Christian Institute		500	400
Day One		400	300
Conference fees		150	150
Sundries		30	34
Balance 31st March 2019		<u>486</u>	<u>675</u>
		<u>2,066</u>	<u>2,059</u>

		2018/2019	2017/2018
<b>LOCAL PREACHERS FELLOWSHIP</b>			
Balance 1st April 2018		3,757	3,371
Ministry Day		675	1,083
Donation			50
Interest		31	23
		<u>4,463</u>	<u>4,527</u>
Ministry Day		597	620
Conference		150	150
Sundries			
Balance 31st March 2019	General Fund	2,069	2,110
	Trust Fund	1,647	3,716
		<u>4,463</u>	<u>4,527</u>
<b>ELLIS CROSSLEY TRAINING &amp; PASTORAL AID FUND</b>			
Balance 1st April 2018		4,345	4,827
Donations		1,185	1,135
Fees		67	206
Interest		37	32
Transfer from Extension Fund		5,000	5,500
		<u>10,634</u>	<u>11,700</u>
Tutor Salary etc.		2,175	2,895
Pastoral Salary etc		2,776	2,176
Service Increments		400	480
Training		199	750
Travelling Expenses		113	202
Removal expenses		783	774
Costs			78
Balance 31st March 2019		<u>4,188</u>	<u>4,345</u>
		<u>10,634</u>	<u>11,700</u>

		2018/2019	2017/2018
<b>EXTENSION FUND</b>			
Balance 1st April 2018		708,825	776,745
Sales	Ashington		50,000
	Arnold		81,506
	Warmsworth	108,479	
	Rotherham		472
	Leasingham		41,485
Sundries		693	
		<u>817,997</u>	<u>950,208</u>
Transfer to Home Missions		79,000	67,500
Transfer to Training & Past Aid		5,000	5,500
Head Office - Jump			77,829
Ashington cottage			73,796
Costs	Highthorn	568	
	Warmsworth	2,040	
	Ashington	1,048	
	Sundries	<u>440</u>	
		4,096	16,758
Balance 31st March 2019	Investments	674,041	638,365
	Loans	<u>55,860</u>	<u>70,460</u>
		729,901	708,825
		<u>817,997</u>	<u>950,208</u>

		2018/2019	2017/2018
<b>HOLDBACK POLICY CAPITAL ACCOUNT</b>			
Balance 1st April 2019		354,659	318,445
Sales	Leasingham		40,171
	Warmsworth	89,909	
		<u>444,568</u>	<u>358,616</u>
Grants	Jump	3,000	
	Church on the Rock	<u>2,419</u>	<u>3,957</u>
		5,419	
Balance 31st March 2019			
	Sleaford Circuit	40,171	40,171
	Bakewell Circuit	178,071	178,071
	R,M & D Circuit	157,414	70,505
	Guidepost	25,000	25,000
	Wellingboro Circuit	3,851	3,851
	Bradford Circuit	14,223	14,223
	Denby Dale	20,419	20,419
	Birmingham		2,419
		<u>439,149</u>	<u>354,659</u>
		<u>444,568</u>	<u>358,616</u>
<b>LOAN FUND</b>			
Balance 1st April 2018		138,285	138,185
Collections		<u>150</u>	<u>100</u>
Balance 31st March 2019		<u>138,435</u>	<u>138,285</u>
<b>PERCY AND RUTH JOHNSON EMORIAL TRUST</b>			
Balance 1st April 2018		1,813	1,801
Interest		<u>12</u>	<u>12</u>
		<u>1,825</u>	<u>1,813</u>
Conference 2018		500	
Transfer to Overseas Missions		1,325	
Balance 31st March 2019			<u>1,813</u>
		<u>1,825</u>	<u>1,813</u>

	2018/2019	2018/2019
<b>INVESTMENT DISTRIBUTION</b>		
Interest from Investments	8,356	6,704
Less Retained by Union Expenses Account	8,205	6,586
	<u>151</u>	<u>118</u>
Distribution:		
Home Missions	11	9
Young People's Department	55	39
Ellis Crossley Training & Past Aid	36	32
Christian Ethics and Social Action	6	4
Percy and Ruth Johnson Memorial Trust	12	12
Local Preachers Fellowship	31	22
	<u>151</u>	<u>118</u>

#### INVESTMENTS

	Invested at 31/03/2018	Invested 2018/2019	Repaid 2018/2019	Invested at 31/03/2019
Income Bonds	500,000			500,000
Virgin Money	495,999	2,793		498,792
National Savings Bank	1,647		1,647	0
	<b>997,646</b>	<b>2,793</b>	<b>1,647</b>	<b>998,792</b>

#### CHAPEL LOAN FUND - LOANS OUTSTANDING

Description	Original Loan	New Loans Year to 31/03/19	Balance 31/03/18	Repaid Year to 31/03/19	Balance 31/03/19	Collection Received 31/03/19
2002 Ellistown	3,000		100		100	
2011 Mayfield	18,000		6,300	1,800	4,500	100
2013 Jump	5,000		2,500	500	2,000	50
2017 Personal	8,000		7,600	1,600	6,000	
2018 St Just	20,000		20,000	1,750	18,250	
2018 Church on the Rock	5,081	5,081		750	4,331	
	<b>59,081</b>	<b>5,081</b>	<b>36,500</b>	<b>6,400</b>	<b>35,181</b>	<b>150</b>

#### EXTENSION FUND - LOANS OUTSTANDING

Description	Original Loan	New Loans Year to 31/03/19	Balance 31/03/18	Repaid Year to 31/03/19	Balance 31/03/19	Collection Received 31/03/189
2009 Clydebank	60,000		43,000	2,500	40,500	
2016 Hazlemere	20,000	10,000		10,000	0	
2017 Aldermans Green	190,000	17,460		2,100	15,360	425
		<b>27,460</b>	<b>43,000</b>	<b>14,600</b>	<b>55,860</b>	<b>425</b>

## Commentary on Treasurers Report:

- From page 29:
  - *Income* to **Union Expenses Account** (which funds the administration of the union) from assessment has decreased, reflecting the decrease in members.
  - There has been a small increase in interest rates during the year, which is anticipated to continue due to increased investments
  - *Expenditure* from **Union Expenses Account**: Increased salaries from [REDACTED] appointment
  - Head office expenditure continues due to it not being sold yet.
  - More support had been required from **General Reserve** than predicted, for the above reasons
- From page 30:
  - **General Reserve** (which is for supporting Union expenses) healthier than in previous years due to income from Sales.
  - Donation to Home Missions have been similar to last year, but support to outreach and ministry work has increased, and will continue to do so. Much of this support is financed from the sale of closed churches.
- From page 33:
  - The funds from sale of Warmsworth went into the **Extension Fund** – the church eventually being sold after 10 years of trying.
  - [REDACTED] is anticipating further income from church sales (Elsecar, Deddington – both reference deed churches), and the sale of Church House.
  - Church House sold for approx. £260k, with the process soon to be completed. [REDACTED] proposed 50% of the proceeds into each of Extension Fund and General Reserve. This will more than compensate for the costs of establishing the new headquarters
  - The balance of the **Holdback Account** does not reflect £50k of grants already agreed.
  - The **Percy and Ruth Johnson Memorial Trust Fund** has been wound down and transferred to **Overseas Missions**. This fund was established to pay the travelling expenses for Overseas Missions speakers to Conference. It was wound up because no further trustees could be appointed and only one remained. [REDACTED], as the last remaining trustee, authorised this.
- From page 35
  - In **Extension Fund – Loans Outstanding**, the two figures in the column headed New Loans Year to 31/03/19 should be in next column to the right, Balance 31/03/19, and the total amended to £70,460.
- From page 28: **Balance Sheet**
  - £104k has been used in support to ministry in year to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2019.
  - The relative improvement in our financial position, combined with controls placed on expenses over that last few years mean there is no proposed increase in Assessment

[REDACTED] expressed his thanks to [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] for providing him with figures weekly.

The acceptance of the report was Proposed ( ) and Seconded ( )

Questions:

- Could extension fund be reinvested in property? E.g. Accommodation
  - Restricted fund, but broadly yes. It has been considered in the past. Proposals from churches would need to be made for consideration, but some rental cost would need to be considered also.

The report was accepted by vote.

expressed his thanks to for all his work.

## 21. **Home Missions and YPD Report**

### a. **Report by**

Very much along the lines of our previous year's report, most of the time of the Home Missions team has again been taken up with encouraging and supporting churches around the Union as they seek to discover whether God might be guiding them to seek to appoint an Area Worker.

There is still significant interest from Sheffield and Barnsley churches as well as a renewed desire to move ahead in the Ashby Circuit.

The challenge that faces both churches and the Union is to find suitable candidates and to match them with the areas who have demonstrated their need.

We continue to look at ways in which the Committee can best be of service to our churches and it may be that, during the coming year we will need to consider different ways of doing this.

There is always an open ear for churches to share their thoughts and ideas and no doubt opportunities to meet together to explore them.

As has been said before, we live in challenging times, and all of those who are involved in either home mission or youth work greatly value your prayers.

Report was taken as read.

made a few comments in addition to what was written:

- Home Missions have been considering 'Area workers' for the last two years, which is still an ongoing process, but is proving incredibly slow and has been consuming most of HM's attention.
- He posed the questions:
  - How do HM move forward with area workers?
  - Should the Committee be considering the ongoing work more than they have been?
  - Given the absence of YPD work at Union-level (aside from extensive financial support through the HM grants etc), what is the ongoing role of YPD?



- How can the Home Missions Committee achieve and demonstrate the same level of enthusiasm and commitment demonstrated by the Overseas Mission Team and their report earlier this morning?
- [REDACTED] asked for prayerful thought about what Home Missions should be.

[REDACTED] then led conference in prayer over these questions.

#### DOC Report

- [REDACTED] role is to encourage churches as they develop to the point being able to outreach and encourage churches in what they are already doing.
- Some churches seem to have had little to no contact with their community for some time, and so are almost breaking new ground.
- [REDACTED] has worked with several churches (including Church on the Rock, Ellistown and Stoney Middleton) who, whilst being hesitant and anxious at the prospect of outreach, have been courageous and enthused through the work they have done.
- [REDACTED] emphasised the benefit of having a series of events over a period and starting with wider community events including all ages rather than starting with children's activities.
- [REDACTED] reminded us of the section of Joshua as the Israelites collected stones to build into a memorial to God's dramatic work and commented on how he had observed that nothing blesses congregation more than mission and seeing conversions – it stimulates worship!
- If not sure about where to start – talk to [REDACTED].

Proposed ([REDACTED]), Seconded ([REDACTED]), Accepted.

## 22. **Housing for Retired Ministers Fund Report**

### a. Report by [REDACTED]

The Housing for Retired Ministers Trust continues to assist our ordained Ministers financially, particularly at the time of their retirement when sometimes they have problems with housing and other needs. The Trust has been able to help several of the Ministers over the years in different ways.

The Trustees of the Scheme are always ready to discuss problems with our retiring or retired Ministers and to help where they can. In the first instance they would encourage any of our retired Ministers to contact the Administration Manager to request an application form. Any requests will receive a sympathetic ear.

As last year the Trustees remain: [REDACTED]

Thank you to every Church who has sent donations in support of this fund, it is much appreciated, and we look forward to new and continued support. If any Church feels able to support the work, kindly send donations to WRU Head office.

**Accounts by**

	2019	2018
	£	£
<b><u>Receipt</u></b>		
Interest Virgin Money	215.07	195.13
Loan repayment	5,000.00	
Donations	<u>1,775.00</u>	<u>1,660.00</u>
	6,990.07	1,855.13
<b><u>Expenditure</u></b>	4887.76	
Grant for repairs		
Grant towards Rent	<u>1,200.00</u>	<u>1,200.00</u>
Net Incoming Resources	902.31	655.13
Building Society Balance at 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2018	<u>39,970.70</u>	<u>39,315.57</u>
Building Society Balance at 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2019	<u>40,873.01</u>	<u>39,970.70</u>

**Statement of Assets and Liabilities as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2018**

Building Society Account		
Virgin Money	40,873.01	39,970.70
Secured Loan	45,000.00	50,000.00

expressed thanks for donations to this fund.

The accounts were presented as written

Proposed by . The report and accounts were accepted.

170th Annual Conference 2019  
**WEDNESDAY – 19<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2019**

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**23. Appointment of Union Trustee**

Upon the proposal of General Committee and seconded by [REDACTED] – [REDACTED], The [REDACTED] was unanimously appointed as a Trustee.

**24. Appointment of Guardian Representative**

The [REDACTED] was unanimously appointed as a Guardian Representative.

**25. Approval of Union Committees for 2019-2020**

The Union Committees were approved as per the presented table, with the addition of the magazine committee. The members of that committee [REDACTED] (chairman).

**26. Ministers' Provident Society Report**  
**a. Report by [REDACTED]**

We are pleased to be able to report on another year for the M.P.S. The department supports ministers and their spouses in retirement and also provides a gift on the death of either the minister or spouse to help towards funeral expenses. We want to say a big thank you to individuals and churches who have supported us financially and in prayer.

As we have previously been reporting for many years, our outgoings have exceeded receipts by a significant amount. However, we are pleased to report that the donations to the Society have increased by 55% over the previous year, amounting to an additional £950. Some churches have doubled their gift while others have given to us for the first time. The amount of the annuities given continues to reduce on an annual basis, but we have still had to use over £6,000 of our reserves in this year. At current levels of giving and expenditure our funds will be exhausted within 4 years. We are awaiting a legacy which will hopefully be received in the coming year, we will then have an additional two years of reserves giving six years in total

We are anxious to ensure that the work of the Society continues as it has for nearly 100 years and so, as was reported at Conference in 2018, we need to take a careful and prayerful consideration of what the options are for the longer term and the route we should take. We ask for your prayers too as these decisions are made.

As last year, we have 8 retired ministers and 6 widows.

Please keep us in your prayers, and when considering your church or personal giving, please bear the Society in mind.

[REDACTED] – Chairman

[REDACTED] – Secretary

[REDACTED] – Treasurer

**b. Accounts by [REDACTED]**

**Ministers Provident Society Accounts**

	<b>2018/ 2019</b>	<b>2017/ 2018</b>
<b>Income</b>		
Balance Brought Forward	28,757	38,834
Donations	2,670	1,720
Subscriptions	24	24
Legacy	0	0
Virgin Money Interest	142	180
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>31,593</b>	<b>40,757</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>		
Annuitants	8,550	11,500
Funeral Contributions	500	500
Sundries	0	0
Balance Carried Forward	22,543	28,757
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>31,593</b>	<b>40,757</b>
<b>Balances</b>		
HSBC Community Account	2,953	1,909
Virgin Money	19,590	26,848
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>22,543</b>	<b>28,757</b>

[REDACTED] pointed out that following the recent death of the [REDACTED] we now support 7 retired ministers and 6 widows. [REDACTED] reported that the annuity is to reduce to £150 per quarter from the 1<sup>st</sup> July 2019 as previously agreed. The funeral gift to remain at £500. A further review will take place next year at Conference.

The report was unanimously accepted.

## 27. **Local Preachers' Fellowship Report**

### **Report by [REDACTED]**

The Day of Ministry was held on 20 October 2018 at our Jump Church. 45 people attended.

Our speaker was Ian Ellershaw who is Dean of Students at Capernwray Hall Bible College on the southern edge of the Lake District. Ian grew up on a farm near Settle in North Yorkshire and at Capernwray he seeks to give pastoral support to around 160 students.

Ian has a very gentle, honest and charming style and he brought us three studies in Mark's Gospel with the overall theme of *"Mark's Action-Packed Gospel – Unpacked"*.

We looked at **Jesus and the demons** in Mark 5:1-20, **Jesus and His miracles** in Mark 5:21-43, and **Jesus and His Disciples**.

Those of you who were able to be there will all have taken something different away, but for me the "headline" messages would be;

- Jesus is bigger than any enemy, He can control difficult situations; *"the quiet man is in charge!"*.
- Jesus, fully man and fully God, wants to move us away from evil and isolation. The "signs" point to something. If we wear clean wellies and walk along a dirty road, our wellies get dirty. With Jesus it's the other way round – the dirty road becomes clean from the wellies!
- Jesus is never rushed; He always has time for His work.
- There was a gentle warning. We need to keep listening and learning. Ian told a lovely story about his father's old sheepdog Nell who decided to follow what she thought was right rather than listening to the shepherd's whistle, with chaotic consequences. We need to beware of "old dog syndrome"!

In addition to the excellent sessions, as always at Jump Church we enjoyed good and plentiful food for which we are very grateful.

The members of the Committee are [REDACTED].

Our original speaker for 2019 felt unable to lead this event for personal family reasons, but our speaker for 2020 has kindly agreed to speak this year instead.

At the time of writing we have not yet booked a speaker for the Day of Ministry in 2020.

**The 2019 Day of Ministry is on Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> October, to be held at Heath End, Nuneaton.**

**The speaker for 2019 is Roy Crowne, from the Hope Together charity.**

**Cost for the day is to be kept at £15**

**Speaker's gift of £200 plus travelling expenses**

**Gift to the host church of £50.**

Full details of the Day of Ministry will be circulated shortly and advertised in Contact Magazine.

The speaker for 2020 is Nick Lugg.

The report was unanimously accepted.

## 28. **Any Other Business**

██████████ Pastor of the Beacon Church, shared what a blessing their third anniversary at the Church had been with ██████████, fourteen new converts and forty requests for prayer had been received. ██████████ message was Keep the Faith.

██████████ introduced the question of whether we should appoint a female President. A conversation was had previously which resulted in the decision on the Ordination of women. Papers have now been produced giving the Scriptural basis in favour and against the appointment of a female President. The papers are to be issued today, for discussions over the next year, and then for discussion brought back to Conference next year.

## 29. **Vote of Thanks**

██████████ brought the vote of thanks to all who have supported in making Conference a success this year. ██████████ said how settled she is in the office in Jump, supported by ██████████.

██████████ also expressed his and Conferences thanks to ██████████ for all that she has done to make Conference run so well.