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Minutes of the 100th Annual General Meeting
held on Monday 24th June 2019 at 10.30am
at 20 New Market Street, Leeds

Present: Sylvia Abraham, Madeleine Andrews, John Battle, Anne Beal, Sue Best, John Betts, John Bradbrook, Tom Chigbo, Ann Clark, Revd Joseph Cortis, Patricia Farrell, Carmel Gorman, Margaret Green, Paul Green, Doreen Haupt, Sarah Hancox, Mark Harwood, Pat Hooker, Dinah Lovely, Ann Nicholl, Richard Oliver, Robin Patterson, Trish Sandbach, Bob Shaw, Shona Shaw, Anna Thomas, Rachel Walker, Karen Williams

In Attendance: Helen Reid, Lawrence, Cockrill, Miriam O’Keeffe (Minutes)

The Chair: Revd Joseph Cortis

1. **Welcome** – The Chair welcomed everyone to the 100th Annual General Meeting and in particular welcomed Sylvia Abraham who has attended over 50 of the previous AGMs.
2. **Opening Prayer** – The Chair led the opening devotions in prayer
3. **Apologies for absence** – Canon Sam Corley, Joyce Sundrum, Awais Dominic, Wendy Smith, Daphne Evans, Philip Arundel, Angela Hughes, Steve Allen, David Laycock, Janet Buttenshaw, Abbie Palmer, Anita Shaw, Karen Gray, Mary Herbert, Caroline Heward
4. **Minutes** – The minutes of the 99th Annual General Meeting held on Monday 25th June 2018 were accepted as a true record and signed by the chair.
5. **Matters arising** – None
6. **Report of Council & Auditors** – A summary of the accounts had been issued and a full version was available. These were in order and the following points were noted:
 - The balance of income over expenditure has increased from £14,000 in 2017 to £35,000 in 2018. This increase was due to the rise in conferencing income from £120,000 to £180,000 in 2018.
 - The building at 20 New Market Street has been revalued at less than before but this has had no impact on income.
 - Investments continue to bring in revenue.
 - Good year

Proposal – That the accounts be adopted by the AGM and that Thomas Coombs be re-appointed as Auditors– John Betts
Seconded – Ann Nicholl **All agreed.**
7. **Election of Council Members & Officers**
Kathryn Fitzsimons resigned as a Council member. Kathryn was thanked for her many years of service. Rev Sarah Hancox was appointed Council Member.

Proposed by – Joe Cortis

Seconded – Trish Sandbach

All agreed

There were no other officers due for re-election as all appointments are for 3 years.

8. Annual Review

The Director presented the annual review.

- People - There were a significant number of changes to the staff team in 2018 with Sue Mason resigning in order to relocate to the North East and Gillian Hoffman retiring. In August Miriam O’Keeffe joined as Administrator and Karen Horner took the post of Learning Centre Assistant.
The Council of LCI met regularly during the year. Simon Hall stepped down from Council and Mark Harwood became a Council member in 2018. 28 new members joined LCI. Membership total is now 132, lower than previously but this was partly due to implementation of the new regulations on GDPR.
- Events – there were 55 events attended by just over 1100 people, some in partnership and some at other venues. These included author-led events for books written in Leeds and further afield; the Hook Lecture delivered by Jonathan Bartley, Co-Leader of the Green Party; Events on Climate Change, Universal Credit as well as Remembrance with an ofrenda being created and brought to All Hallows Church. Other speakers included James Alison who LCI and partners supported to come to the North of England to deliver a seminar.
- Creative Reflection–The Leeds Listening Yurt hosted pupils from three schools around Leeds. Other events included Wild City Retreats based around the Eco-Cycle and photography and spirituality workshops, events and media. Copies of an illustrated book on the First World War was sent to all Leeds primary schools in keeping with our theme of Remembrance.
- Ecumenical Mission – Events to support ecumenical mission in Leeds included a whole day event ‘Wisdom on the Way’ for Christians involved in community development and a series of events and podcasts around the theme of Christians in Education. Research carried out into ecumenical mission was published and is being followed up in 2019.
- Publications – There were 4 editions of CITYtheology which reached a wide audience including all libraries in Leeds with one edition focusing on Christians and education which was distributed at the Senior Leaders in Education Conference run by the Anglican Diocese. A series of comic books, Abide with Me, illustrated by Si Smith was published and sent to all Dementia Friendly organisation in Leeds.
- Social Media – LCI continued to develop online communication strands using content from events, research and publications to stimulate debate, reflection and prayer. This allowed us to engage with a wider audience 5 times as many people downloading audio of events than actually attend. The Director thanked Lawrence Cockrill, the Communications Officer for his commitment to finding new ways to engage.
- City Engagement – LCI entered a second year of its partnership with Leeds Citizens with a focus on building leadership in local communities and work was carried out city-wide. A series of podcasts of ‘Unsung Leaders’ was recorded and shared to highlight the role of grassroots leaders.
- Learning Centre – in 2018 conferencing services moved beyond a not-for-profit business that funded our core work to being integral to our mission as a resource for learning for a faithful city and became the Learning Centre sharing in the ethos and mission of LCI. The Director thanked the whole staff team and in particular Paul Mann, Learning Centre

Manager for his strategic vision and hard work. Footfall has increased from 22,000 to over 28,000 people and the venue was used seven days a week for 51 weeks of the year.

9. Update on Citizens

Tom Chigbo presented an update on the work of the community organisers with a video from Becky Howcroft outlining the impact of their work in Leeds.

The Chair thanked the Director and her staff for a very good year's work and called the meeting to a close.

Signed..... Date.....