

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

22 - 24 November 2013

Friday 1 November 22nd 2013

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Mission Council ' dvisor - rou( 4MC' - 5

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that the - eneral " ecretar re( l to the elders of the 6l mstoc7 Church in a form + high + ould8

note the concern of the local church9

indicate that Mission Council did not consider it a( (ro(riate to record their concern in the minutes9

suggest that it +as o(en to them to raise their concern through the councils of the Church! and s(ecificall through the " nod9

assure them that the Human " e: ualit \*as7 - rou( 4H" \*- 5 + ould be informed of their letter9 and

that the H" \*- + ould be as7ed to thin7 further about + here an individuals or councils +ho +ere unha( about a matter such as this should go for guidance in the conte: t of the 2003 Commitment,

\*his (ro(osal +as acce(ted b consensus,

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" tatement from the 6astoral 1eference and &elfare Committee 461&C5

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"after" Accredited (Mandator Learning

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Mission Council agrees in principle that the United Reformed Church  
approved "after" Accredited (Mandator in terms of  
the decision of General Assembly 2012-2017 of 1e(orts (, 2. 05,  
Mission Council asks the Education & Learning Committee to bring  
before Mission Council at its next meeting a full resource-impact  
assessment and implementation schedule with a view to beginning to  
offer training in the last part of 2014,

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\*The resolution was passed by consensus,

13)3/  
Mandator - proposed changes to the structure

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Mission Council agrees to make the following changes to the structure

! ! 2,4/54: : iii5 4: : iv5

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24: : iv5 to ensure that there is an Assembly Commission or an Appeals  
Commission following a Hearing under the disciplinary process  
contained in section 4 of the Manual or a Review Commission or an  
Appeals Panel

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?" ection %@ ?=isci(linar @

! 6aragra(h 425"

2,4454' 5! 2,4. 54' 5 and 2,4/54' 5

. ?4sub@ect to the restriction referred to in  
6aragra(h 425 belo+5@ ?4sub@ect to the restriction referred  
to in 6aragra(h 3,4 belo+5@

\*he 1esolution +as (assed b ma@orit vote! achieving the necessar  
t+o-thirds ma@orit reAuire for a change to the " tructure,

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\$n accordance +ith (ara 3,1,c of the O1C " tructure! Mission Council  
agrees that this matter be referred to the s nod s as7ing them to re(ort  
their res(onse to the - eneral " ecretar b March 31st 2014,

\*he resolution +as (assed b ma@orit vote,

13)33415

" nod re(orts on vision2020 im(lementation

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c, Conversation should focus in the first instance on the (articulate) questions of theologies of ministry including a (appointment) call and the ecclesiological foundations for connectionalism, congregationalism and conciliarity.

d, Whether to (it) may be (elaborated) as time (permits,

\*the resolution was (passed) by consensus,

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25 Mission Council agrees that the group should report regularly to the Faith Order Committee and the Methodist OIC Liaison Group,

35 Mission Council agrees that it will be for the strategic oversight - (on) the advice of the Methodist OIC Liaison - (to) determine whether it is appropriate to take discussions to Methodist Council and/or Mission Council,

Both resolutions were (passed) by consensus,

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National Union of &ales > United Reformed Church response to the Commission of Covenanted Churches 4\*the - athering5

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\*he revised resolution + as (assed b consensus,  
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Nominations Committee - " u((lementar 1e(ort

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#n bloc (a(ers containing resolutions

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6a(er #2 - #Aual %(ortunities Committee Change of Name

Mission Council agrees to change the name of the #Aual %(ortunities Committee to the #Aualities Committee,

13)42425

6a(er - 3 - Finance and Ministries Committees > 6lan for 6artnershi( amendments

Mission Council agrees the amendments to the 6lan for 6artnershi( in Ministerial 1emuneration set out in 6a(er - 3,

13)42445

6a(er B2 - Nominations Committee

Mission Council a((oints the 1ev =r Bohn 2radbur as =irector of "tudies in \*heolog and Church Histor at &estminster College for a further seven ears from 1st "e(tember 2014,

13)424. 5

6a(er M1 > Membershi( of Mission Council - 6astoral 1eference and &elfare Committee Convener

Mission Council agrees to (resent the follo+ing resolution to the - eneral ' ssembl 8 - eneral ' ssembl resolves that the Convener of the 6astoral 1eference and &elfare Committee shall be a member of Mission Council,

13)424/5

6a(er M3 - Minor amendment to the "tructure

Mission Council agrees that in 6aragra(h 2,4354d5 of the "tructure the +ords D4currentl four5E be deleted,

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6a(er M/ > \*he Churchfs #ngagement +ith 20-40 ear olds

1, Mission Council agrees to form a tas7 grou( of si: (eo(le +ith the insight and e: (ertise to give leadershi( on the issue of the integration of 20 to 40 ear olds into the life of the Onited 1eformed Church,

2, Mission Council as7s the Nominations Committee to identif the a((ro(riate (eo(le to serve,

3, Mission Council as7s the Mission Council ' dvisor - rou( to a((rove the terms of reference for this tas7 grou(! including a date for com(letion of the +or7! and to re(ort to the ne: t meeting of Mission Council,

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6a(er 1 - \*erms of 1eference for " afeguarding ' dvisor - rou(

Mission Council confirms the a((ointment of a " afeguarding ' dvisor - rou(! to meet at least three times (er ear, \$ts membershi( +ould include the " afeguarding %fficer! the " ecretar for Children&s and Houth &or7! the " ecretar for Ministries! the a((ro(riate =e(ut - eneral " ecretar ! and u( to three co-o(ted members +ith relevant e: (erience,

\*he - rou(6s res(onsibilities +ill be as follo+s8

1, to oversee the develo(ment of (olic and the im(lementation of - ood 6ractice across the Church in the safeguarding of children! oung (eo(le! and adults in need of (rotection! ma7ing recommendations to Mission Council as a((ro(riate9

2, to ensure that - ood 6ractice documents are (ublished! circulated and u(dated as a((ro(riate9

3, to develo( s stems for monitoring local church and s nod com(liance +ith - ood 6ractice! and to devise strategies for addressing identified +ea7nesses9

4, to foster collaboration +ith ecumenical (artners across the full range of safeguarding issues! including engagement in the develo(ment of (ublic (olic 9

., s(ecificall to +or7 closel +ith the 2a(tist Union in the develo(ment of (olic ! the deliver of safeguarding education! and the su((ort of s nod)regional safeguarding officers9

/, to oversee the service +ich the Onited 1eformed Church receives from the Churches ' genc for " afeguarding and other relevant agencies,

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6a(er \*1 - Ministerial \$nca(acit and =isci(line ' dvisor - rou( 4M\$N=5 > Changes to the =iscilinar 6rocess

Mission Council agrees to ma7e the follo+ing changes to the =iscilinar 6rocess8

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D' ccordingl ! +here under the (rovisions of this =iscilinar 6rocess! an notice s(ecifies a time limit for a certain action to be ta7en b the reci(ient and that action is not carried out +ithin the time s(ecified in the notice to the satisfaction of the (erson or bod sending the notice!

that (erson or bod shall have a discretion to allo+ a reasonable further (eriod for such com(liance! e: ce(t as regards the strict time limit im(osed on the right of a((eal under 6aragra(hs ' ' ; ; ,1! #, . ,3,1 and - ,1 and u(on the ste(s to be ta7en b the " nod Moderator under 6aragra(hs ' ' ,10,2,4 and ' ' ,10,2, . , \$n other cases! if the (erson or bod sending the notice considers that sufficient time has been allo+ed and the action reAured has still not been carried out or there has been



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" should the - eneral ' ssembl 1e(resentative ma7e the enAuir  
s(ecified in 6aragra(h 2,1,1,1! the officers of the - eneral ' ssembl  
shall a((oint a " nod Moderator or other member of Mission Council to  
be the third member of the Consultation - rou( along +ith the - eneral  
' ssembl 1e(resentative and the Convener of the 61&C,@

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6a(er &2 - Methodist)O1C " trategic %versight - rou( - \*erms of  
1eference for the Methodist-Onited 1eformed Church Liaison - rou(  
Mission Council a((roves the \*erms of 1eference for the Methodist-  
Onited 1eformed Church Liaison - rou( contained in (a(er &2,

13)424125

6a(er &3 - Methodist)O1C " trategic %versight - rou( > \*he future of the  
Boint 6ro(ert " trateg - rou(

Mission Council as7s the Nominations Committee to identif t+o (eo(le  
to @oin the 1evd Luc 2rierle as the Onited 1eformed Church members  
of the Boint 6ro(ert " trateg - rou(! and grants authorit to the  
' ssembl officers to confirm their a((ointment,

\*he en bloc resolutions +ere (assed b ma@orit vote,

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\*he %fficers of - eneral ' ssembl

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#Aualities Committee - \$nclusive and #: (ansive Language

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Finance Committee > u(date

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Finance Committee > 2udget 2014 and 2e ond

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Mission Council notes with gratitude the continuing dimensions supported from the synods and requests synods to continue this support in 2014 at a reduced level which yielded a total contribution of K3007,

\*the resolution was passed by majority vote,

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Mission Council adopts the budget for 2014 set out in Annex - 2,

\*the resolution was passed by majority vote,

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United Reformed Church \*rust > Location of Church Offices

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Medium term strategy - review - #ven 2etter " nodes

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Mission Council, conscious of the issue raised by the La+ and 6olit  
'dvisor -rou( regarding the location of decision-making in the church  
and the forthcoming referendum regarding "cottish \$nde(ence!  
resolves to establish a tas7 grou( to consider what it means today for  
the National " nods of "cotland and &ales to Ds(ea7 and act in the  
name of the Onited 1eformed Church, E 46ro(osals for Onion 6art . ,15  
\*he tas7 grou( will bear in mind (articularl the terms of the 6ro(osals  
for Onion in 1<<; ! the different legislative frame+or7 of those countries  
and the 2asis of Onion,

Mission Council authorises the %fficers of -eneral 'ssembl to a((oint  
the tas7 grou( on suggestions from the Nominations Committee, \*he  
membershi( should include t+o (eo(le from each of the National  
" nods! t+o to re(resent the s nods in #ngland and t+o from the La+  
and 6olit 'dvisor -rou(, \*he tas7 grou( should be advised b the  
Cler7 and consult some from both the (artners in the Joint Negotiating  
Committee which drafted the 1<<; 6ro(osals for Onion, \$t should aim to  
re(ort in the s(pring of 201. to the t+o National " nods and to Mission  
Council,

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3, hel(ing ' ssembl to consider the current situation + here legal registration of marriage and its Christian celebration are combined and to discuss their (ossible se(ARATION,

\*he resolution +as (assed b consensus,

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Mission Council as7s the 1esource " haring \*as7 - rou( to (ro(ose an inter-s nod resource sharing mechanism8

- based on a s stem of guided donations from s nods9
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Mission Council November 2013

1e(ort from the 6astoral 1eference and &elfare Committee

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