

West Swindon & the Lydiards Church Partnership

Extraordinary General Meeting, held during Joint Service at Holy Trinity Church, Shaw on Sunday 30 Jan 2011.

Present:	115 people. Public meeting, no names taken
Apologies:	None taken

Single agenda item:

To review and approve the new constitution (January 2011 version)

Dick Gray presented a short set of slides and explained the legal situation and the new charity commission requirement for registration. He then summarised the form of the new constitution, pointing out some changes from previous versions. He asked the meeting to trust the Partnership Council's review of the work of the Constitution working party. There were questions, and answers:

Q1: Will there be any difference in claiming Gift Aid under the new arrangements?

A1: No - only that the Partnership itself will also be able to claim gift aid, in addition to the individual congregations who can already do so.

Q2: Do the changes place any restrictions on preaching the gospel?

A2: No, in fact the new constitution standard text has more extensive list of our objectives than our old one.

3) In achieving its purpose, the Charity will engage in a range of activities, either on its own or with others, including (but not restricted to):
a) the celebration of public worship;
b) the teaching of the Christian faith;
c) mission and evangelism;
d) pastoral work, including visiting the sick and the bereaved;
e) the provision of facilities with a Christian ethos for the local community, including (but not restricted to) the elderly, the young and other groups with special needs; and
f) the support of other charities in the UK and overseas.

Clause 3 was later shown to the questioner. Who agreed.

Q3: Do the trustees (prospective trustees - the Partnership Council) hold indemnity insurance?

A3: No not yet.

Dick Gray asked the meeting to approve the existing texts of the Statement of Ecumenical Vision, Constitution and Schedule to the Constitution. He asked only those who were members to vote by a show of hands.

John Ridsdale counted 90 votes in favour. There were no votes against.

New constitution (January 2011 version) is approved