



GOVERNING BODY OF LINCOLN READERS
www.lincolnreaders.org

**Minutes of the 239th meeting of the Governing Body of the Association held at
 The Petwood Hotel, Woodhall Spa on Saturday 26th January 2019 at 2.30 pm**

Item:	Subject:	Actions:
1.0	<p>Opening Prayers: - led by Margaret Smith and Shirley Keyes</p> <p>Welcome: The Chairman welcomed all in attendance</p> <p>Present: Sally Buck, Warden of Readers; Nigel Bacon, Sue Slater, John Marshall; Susan Horle; Margaret Smith; Marion Hewis; Derek Page; Lorna Brabin-Smith, Chris Woadden and Shirley Keyes (taking minutes)</p> <p>Apologies for absence: Paul Whiteley, David Nisbet and Kevin Onn.</p>	
2.0	<p>The Minutes of the 238th Meeting of the Governing Body held on 10th October were approved and accepted as a true and accurate record.</p>	
3.0	<p>Matters Arising from previous minutes:</p>	
3.1	<p>Still to finalise the amendments to the disciplinary process. +Nicholas has the document but has not progressed it so far.</p>	
3.2	<p>October service. Linda Wass thanked everyone for the collection taken at the service. Generally, comments had been positive about the format of the service; it was unfortunate that the cathedral had been unable to accommodate everything planned. Michelle Godbold is organising a service in the cathedral in May to celebrate 50 years of women's readership and 25 years of women's ordained ministry.</p>	
3.3	<p>Still no answer about the availability of the cathedral for the second Saturday of October 2019. Plan B would be to use St Giles which comfortably seats 300, has two church halls and plenty of parking.</p>	
4.0	<p>Area Updates</p>	
4.1	<p>Elloe areas. The group has not met since last October. However Sue Slater and Paul Whiteley are planning to meet to make suggestions for a plan. Their numbers are declining. However, Sue had organised a meeting to discuss Luke which had been welcomed by ALM's. Sue has been invited to walk along with a possible Reader.</p>	
4.2	<p>Holland area. Little or no activity. Susan Horle had been invited to mentor a potential Reader. Chris Ladner currently not responding to</p>	

	any contact.	
4.3	<p>Grimsby area. Meetings still held regularly but numbers declining. Thanks were given for the recovery so far of John West.</p> <p>Many clergy are unsure what to do with lay ministers and it was agreed that it is important to find a concept or range of ways of working together. It was suggested that areas look at parishes where there is good collaborative practices and use these examples elsewhere.</p> <p>SB reported that there had been a slow uptake by Readers for the places on the Launde Abbey retreat. She would give one more publicity push to Readers and then open it up to ALM's after 31 March.</p>	
5.0	<p>Setting God's People Free – update by Nigel Bacon and Sally Buck NB and SB gave a brief synopsis of the background to the paper and the key cultural change in the Church whereby laity are seen as equal partners with the clergy. Lincoln Diocese has been partnered with other dioceses (including Hereford, Liverpool and Lichfield) in diocesan learning communities which has offered a broader picture of what is happening around the country. The steering group within the Diocese is being led by +David. Both SB and NB are members of ? Coalition which has discussed the role of Readers especially that of their leadership outside of the church building i.e. 7 day ministry. SB reported that she is hoping to finish the training programme very shortly.</p>	
6.0	<p>Permission to proceed with restructuring NB asked permission from the Governing Body to commission a group to take forward ideas to form a new structure. The Reader Structural Working Group will consist of Sally Buck, Marion Hewis, Sue Slater and himself to develop and progress ideas. Each person has differing strategic gifts which will give a broad a view as possible. The work of the group is to advise the Governing Body which will then present the recommendations to the AGM in October. JM felt that people must have confidence that what replaces the current structure will be just as good. It was agreed unanimously that the Governing Body proceed with the restructuring process.</p> <p>SB will be attending the Clergy Conference at Bishop Grosseteste (13-15 June) manning a stall. The ALM logo will be made into badges</p>	
7.0	<p>Future Dates: CRC AGM – Saturday 13 April 2019 at LICC London 22 May 2019 Governing Body at Horncastle Methodist Church 2 September 2019 Governing Body at Horncastle Methodist Church 6-9 September Retreat Launde Abbey 12 October 2019 Annual Service and AGM 30 November 2019 Ecumenical Study Day 17-19 July 2020 Retreat at Willersley</p> <p>Meeting closed at 3.55pm</p>	

Future Governing Body meetings - **prayers to be led by:**

	Holland Area	May 2019
	West Lindsey/Scunthorpe	October 2019

Signed: J D Marshall **Chairman** Date: 22nd May 2019