



**GOVERNING BODY OF LINCOLN READERS**  
[www.lincolnreaders.org](http://www.lincolnreaders.org)

**Minutes of the 240th meeting of the Governing Body of the Association held at  
 Horncastle Methodist Church on Wednesday 22 May 2019 at 7.00 pm**

Item:	Subject:	Actions:
1.0	<p><b>Opening Prayers:</b> - led by Susan Horle</p> <p><b>Welcome:</b> The Chairman welcomed all in attendance</p> <p><b>Present:</b> Sally Buck, Warden of Readers; Nigel Bacon, Sue Slater, John Marshall; Susan Horle; Margaret Smith; Marion Hewis; Derek Page; Kevin Onn, Chris Woadden and Shirley Keyes (taking minutes)</p> <p><b>Apologies for absence:</b> Paul Whiteley, and Lorna Brabin-Smith.</p>	
2.0	<p><b>The Minutes of the 239th Meeting of the Governing Body</b> held on 26<sup>th</sup> January 2019 were approved and accepted as a true and accurate record subject to an amendment in Section 5 which should read "Guiding Coalition."</p>	
3.0	<p><b>Matters Arising from previous minutes:</b></p> <p>The Bishop's Study Day will be held on 30 November 2019.</p>	
4.0	<p><b>Safeguarding</b></p>	
4.1	<p>It was agreed that Safeguarding should be included on every meeting agenda.</p>	
4.2	<p>With reference to current safeguarding issues within the diocese, all licensed ministers are now receiving the Ad Clerum announcements which enables Readers to respond to issues as they arise.</p>	
4.3	<p>SB reminded the governing body that all Readers should undertake the C3 training for leaders. They will not necessarily get a reminder from EKH when their safeguarding training is due. JM noted that a recommendation from the Diocese is that individual parishes maintain a database record of everyone that has completed C1/C2/C3 training.</p>	
4.4	<p>All Readers must have their safeguarding training/DBS checks up to date before they can be relicensed in 2020.</p>	
4.5	<p>It was recommended that all parish websites should have a link on their home page to the safeguarding page on the Diocesan website.</p>	
5.0	<p><b>Support and Governance Structure</b></p>	
5.1	<p>After a brief introduction, NB discussed the findings of the Working Group set up to analyse viable alternative structures for the current area-based structure. It had become apparent to the group at their discussions that it was also an appropriate time to relook at the structure of the Association. The conclusions of the Working Group are</p>	

<p>5.2</p> <p>5.3</p> <p>5.4</p> <p>5.5</p> <p>6.0</p> <p>7.0</p> <p>8.0</p> <p>9.0</p>	<p>laid out in the attached paper which has already received unanimous support from the Standing Committee.</p> <p>NB introduced each point in turn of the draft proposals which allowed for discussion and questions. NB felt that the proposals were possibly more radical than first anticipated but everyone agreed that they prepared the way for a new structure which was relevant at local, diocesan and national levels. It also addresses the need/desire to work more co-operatively with non-licensed lay ministers.</p> <p>There is much work to do to ensure that a new constitution and the final format of the structure are presented in time for Readers to vote on the proposals at the AGM. If this goes ahead there are then only a few weeks to fill the main roles on the new Reader Board in time for the inaugural board meeting in January 2020. It was agreed that it could take some time to fill every post but people with the skills required are out there.</p> <p>JM said that he intended to step down after many years' service. It was hoped that +Nicholas would be able to chair the AGM of the Association of Lincoln Readers on the 12 October when JM could hand over the chairmanship. JM wished to record the thanks of the Governing Body to the Working Group especially Nigel whose skills have proved invaluable.</p> <p>A formal vote was taken on whether to accept the proposals of the Working Group. The result was unanimous in favour. Work will now take place to implement the proposals.</p> <p><b>Together in Ministry - reflections</b> The service organised by Revd Michelle Godbold to celebrate 50 years of women in Reader ministry and 25 years of women in ordained ministry was held on Saturday (18<sup>th</sup> May) in the cathedral. Although there was a lower attendance than anticipated it did not diminish the significance and importance of the service.</p> <p><b>Annual Service</b> After some discussion it was agreed that the 50 years of women in Reader ministry should be acknowledged at this year's Annual Service but it should not be the primary theme. As there is no licensing and it is a non-Eucharistic service, there is perhaps more flexibility about the structure than usual. It was suggested that the retreat at Launde Abbey might produce a dramatic presentation. SB invited any interested persons to join her and the precentor, Sal McDougall, at a planning meeting (date tba).</p> <p><b>Reader Selection and Discernment</b> There are two days planned for Reader selection and discernment on the following two Saturdays: 25<sup>th</sup> May and 1<sup>st</sup> June. There are six people attending on the first day and four on the second. SB has also received other enquiries which could potentially lead to a cohort of up to 12 people commencing at the LST this year. The qualification requires three years of academic study and two years of formation but students could be licensed after two years of study and formation.</p> <p><b>CRC AGM Update</b> Margaret Smith gave a detailed report about the AGM held on 13 April 2019 at the LICC (London Institute of Contemporary Christianity) which is attached.</p>	
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10.0

**Any Other Business**

10.1

Elloe East and West area meeting periodically. The last meeting was attended by the Area Warden, Secretary and three others which enabled everyone to share valuable information.

10.2

JM attended David Hitchcock's funeral. It was well attended and supported by fellow Readers. It was noted that Cynthia Bunch had died. SB to send out details of her funeral.

10.3

It was agreed that names of Readers would be read out at the AGM. It was noted with sadness and grateful thanks that this was Kevin Onn's last meeting on the Reader Governing Body. Kevin has given many years' service. He was pleased that his successors would take the Association forward in challenging but exciting times.

**Future Dates:**

- 2 September 2019      Governing Body at Horncastle Methodist Church
- 6-8 September        Retreat Launde Abbey
- 12 October 2019      Annual Service and AGM
- 30 November 2019    Ecumenical Study Day
- 17-19 July 2020        Retreat at Willersley

Meeting closed at 9.05pm

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

	West Lindsey/Scunthorpe	September 2019

Signed:    J D Marshall    **Chairman**      Date: 2/09/19