

**MINUTES OF THE 78TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF
THE ASSOCIATION OF LINCOLN READERS**

HELD ON 12TH OCTOBER 2019 AT 12.30PM IN THE KING ROOM, EDWARD KING HOUSE, LINCOLN

1. **WELCOME AND CHAIRPERSON'S OPENING REMARKS.** The Chairman welcomed everyone to the 78th Annual General Meeting of the Association of Lincoln Readers. He asked all present to participate in a minute's silence to remember those friends and colleagues who were no longer with us including: Clive George, Frank Richardson, Ben Lyte, Eric Poole, Tim Wallis, Annie Davidson, David Hitchcock, Cynthia Bunch, Jan Stephenson, Mary Jordan and Penny Grosset.
2. **APOLOGIES.** 41 Readers were present at the meeting and 49 apologies had been received.
3. **MINUTES OF 77TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.** The minutes of the meeting held on the 27th October 2018 were approved and signed as a true and accurate record.
4. **MATTERS ARISING.** There were no matters arising from the minutes.
5. **REPORTS.**
 - 5.1 Warden of Readers. Sally's report has been recorded and circulated. However, she did wish to reiterate her grateful thanks to everyone who had supported, enabled and helped with the changes that have been made over the past year. She also stated that she personally had loved this year; not only engaging with so many lay ministers at various training events (over 150) but she really appreciated the support that she has been accorded within the Diocese.
 - 5.2 Chairman. John Marshall's written report is recorded. Again, John did not wish to repeat everything that he had written but wished to thank everyone for their friendship and fellowship over the many years.
 - 5.3 Secretary General. Shirley apologised that her report had not been circulated before the meeting which was read out at the meeting. A full copy will be available.
 - 5.4 Central Readers Council Representative. Margaret summed up the most important thing she had taken away from the CRC AGM in one sentence of the call to all Readers to "Make a difference wherever you are." Margaret's full report is also attached.
- 6.0 **REPORT ON THE CONSTITUTION.** If Nigel Bacon's opening words at last year's meeting were "Watch this space!" he was certainly not wrong. He admitted that the structure of the draft constitution, which had been approved by the Governing Body; was far more radical than envisaged. However, he was confident that the Committee had delivered a structure that was fit for purpose and would be more effective in enabling Readers in their ministry and taking better care of their wellbeing. He also looked forward to closer collaboration with ALM's within the Deanery based structure. The feedback that he had received so far had been largely enthusiastic or even neutral; no one had said they didn't like it.

Since the draft constitution had been circulated there has been a recommended amendment to Clause 16.2 which states that "in exceptional cases a currently authorised ALM may hold

the post of Wellbeing Coordinator. In such circumstances that deanery's Development Coordinator must be either a Reader or clergy holding a current licence or PTO." However, after some discussion at the meeting it was agreed that "exceptional" should be replaced by the word "appropriate." Before the votes were taken to approve the wording and addition of the amendment and the substantive motion, a member of the floor wished it to be noted that she, as one of the 'silent masses', was very appreciative and grateful for all the work that had been done on behalf of the Readers.

A vote was taken to adopt the amendment to Clause 16.2. which was proposed by Nigel Bacon and seconded by Susan Horle. There was one abstention and the motion was carried.

There followed a vote on the substantive motion to adopt the new constitution which was proposed by Nigel Bacon and seconded by Sue Slater. This motion was passed unanimously.

- 7.0 **OTHER BUSINESS.** Sally presented John with a card and a cheque in recognition of his many years' service to the Readers. She also presented Shirley with a gift and asked everyone to help themselves to some sweets to celebrate. John thanked everyone for their generous gift and said how much he was looking forward to the new exciting times ahead. Nigel proposed a round of applause and the handover to the new President, Bishop Nicholas.

Bishop Nicholas began by thanking Nigel for being so efficient in constitutional matters! He also thanked Shirley and John for their work on the Governing Body. His first actions would be to implement the new constitution and the new Reader Board. Meanwhile he would be listening and working, as they seek to fill the new posts of responsibility. It was announced that Sue Slater had agreed to take on the role of Chairperson and Marion Hewis had agreed to be the deputy Chairperson. Bishop Nicholas finished by thanking Sally for her wisdom, enthusiasm and energy which she brought to her role and throughout the Diocese.

John and Sally reminded everyone that the 2020 Annual Service will coincide with the relicensing of Readers (quinquennial review) and that attendance is mandatory for Readers who wish to be relicensed. The date of the Annual Service and AGM is the **10th October 2020.**

- 8.0 Closure. The meeting closed at 12.50 with the Grace.

Signed:

Date: