

**Minutes of the Council Meeting**  
**20 Feb 2021**  
**Zoom Meeting**

<b>Present</b>	<b>Representing</b>	<b>Participant Observers</b>	
James Lyon Janet Wootton	Chair Immediate Past President President Elect	Yvonne Campbell Mark Tucker  Bill Bentham	General Secretary Operations Manager/ CFL Company Assembly Rep.
Suzanne Nockels Peter Butler John Bentham May-Kane Logan Margaret McGuinness Chris Gillham Eric Fenwick Mark Taylor Betty Bentham Hilary Biggin Chris Damp Judi Holloway	Chair of F&SS Comm. Chair of CS Comm. CF Scotland CF Scotland CF Wales Eastern East Midlands North East North West Midlands South East South West Midlands	<b>Apologies</b> Caroline Stott Craig James Ruth Leeming  Gerry Simonis Foday Kamara	South West CF Wales Assembly Rep  CF Scotland North West

**1. Welcome & Introductions**

Chair of Council, Jim Lyon welcomed all to the meeting.

**2. Opening Worship**

Suzanne Nockels led a short time of prayer and reflection including a reading from Matthew: 17.

**3. Apologies** Were noted as above.

**4. Gift of Grace**

The General Secretary gave an update on the process to date. Some churches have requested that their affiliation fee be waived for 2021. Many churches have appreciated the gesture of offering to waiver the affiliation fees but are still able to pay the fee.

Post meeting note 30 churches have applied to have their Affiliation Fee waived.

**5. CWM Partner in Mission**

An accredited CF Minister has applied for a Partner in Mission Opportunity in Grenada with CWM. They would serve for a period of 3 years. The receiving church will cover the costs of accommodation and transport on the island, CWM will cover stipend and CF will be responsible for the cost of an annual return flight and accommodation for an annual home visit if required.

**Poll 1:**

**Do you support the recommendation regarding for CF to be the sending Church for the CWM Partner in Mission Programme for 3 years? This represents an expenditure of an estimated £1000 per year to fund a home visit.**

**Decision: Council Agreed the recommendation (1 abstention)**

## **6. Church Support Worker Role**

Luiza commenced the role of Church Support Worker in June 2020 on a part-time fixed-term contract, Council needs to decide how to progress this once this contract has ended. General Secretary and Operations Manager recommend Luzia continue in the role and the contract be changed to be open ended.

**Poll 2:**

**Do you support the recommendation to offer a long-term contract to Luzia Watt to take effect when her 12-month contract expires in June?**

**Decision: Council Agreed the recommendation (1 vote against)**

## **7. Online Assembly 2021**

The General Secretary shared the planning and agenda for national Assembly online. Further ideas were shared by the Council Members. The Assembly Review will be produced in house and emailed where possible (hard copies will be sent to those without email and on request). The General Secretary will look into it being professional designed but not printed.

Council Members were requested to add national Assembly onto their area assembly agenda and to encourage all to join the online Assembly and save the date Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> May.

**Poll 3:**

- 1. Do you support the recommendation to proceed with the Online Assembly hosted by Essential Event Management at a cost of approximately £4518?**

**Decision: Council Agreed the recommendation**

- 2. Do you support the draft agenda as presented to the meeting as a basis for Assembly planning?**

**Decision: Council Agreed the recommendation (1 vote against)**

## **8. Agenda for April Meeting of Council**

Chair of Council suggested that the deficit level of CF be discussed as the focus of the April meeting of Council. Council members were asked the following.

**Poll 4:**

- 1. Do you agree that the major focus of the April Council should be a discussion of the appropriate level of operating deficit/surplus?**

**Decision: Council agreed to the request.**

- 2. Do you agree that in preparation for the April, the Operations Manager, Chair of Finance and Chair of Council meet with the Auditors to obtain expert advice on the topic?**

**Decision: Council agreed requesting that the Chair of Church Support Committee be invited to the meeting with the Auditors.**

#### **AOB**

The Chair of CSC asked for clarification of the responsibilities of Council members as trustees. MT reminded the meeting that this question had previously been asked answered on a number of previous occasions and confirmed that Council were the managing trustees of the CF.

A question was also asked as to whether the CF held indemnity insurance. MT confirmed that all appropriate insurances were in place.

#### **9. Dates of Council Meetings 2021**

24<sup>th</sup> April  
10<sup>th</sup> July  
19-21 November

The April meeting will go ahead by Zoom and a decision will be made at that meeting whether to meet in person in July.

#### **10. A.O.B.**

May-Kane Logan will be stepping down as Chair of CF in Scotland at the End of April; the Chair Elect will be confirmed at the end March.

Council agreed that the Chair Elect of CF in Scotland can attend the April Council meeting as an observer.

#### **12. Closing Prayer**

Janet Wootton closed the meeting in prayer and reflection including a reading from Isaiah: 10-11.