

## **342nd Annual Assembly of Clergy Support Trust, held via Zoom at 11.30am on 12 November 2020**

**GOVERNORS PRESENT:** Mr J Briggs, Mr S Brooker, Ms A M Brougham, The Reverend Canon S Butler (chair), The Right Reverend G Cassidy, Mr A Chamberlain, The Reverend R Chavner, The Reverend N Cocking, Mr M Cooper, The Reverend Canon C J Davies, Miss, B Dowsett, The Reverend Dr N R Dunn, Mr R D Farmbrough, The Reverend N Goodrich, The Hon Mrs E Green, Mr J A Hargreaves, Mr Heckingbottom, Mr P Herbage, Mr C V S Hoare-Nairne, Mr T D D Hoffman MBE, Mr Stephen Hogg, Mr R Hughes, Alderman R Hughes-Penney, The Reverend Canon R F Hunte, Mr C Hurrian, Mrs J Jordan, Mrs A Joyce, The Reverend W P Kennedy, The Right Reverend G Knowles, The Venerable D W Lowman, Mr L March Mrs M Marden, Lady Mawer, Mr R McLean, Mr C D L Menzies, Mr P Miall, Mr J Moodey, The Reverend M Nam, Dr P O'Mordah, The Reverend D Pierce, Mr H Pollard, Mr J Prichard, The Reverend D Pritchard, Mrs Rich, Mrs Richards, Mr E D Roberts, Miss S Shaw, Mr D M V Short, Mr P Simmons, Mr S Slack, Mr T Stockwell, Mrs L Stone, The Reverend J Swanton, Dr C Trower, Mr B Varley, Mr P N C Walker, Mr T Watts Mrs C White and Mr I Woolf.

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Members of the staff of the charity.

**APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** Mr R J Askwith, The Very Reverend T Barker, Mr P Clyne, The Right Reverend C Fletcher, Mr D O Fitzhugh, Mr A Gordon-Clark, Mr G Greenhous, Mr DR Hattersley, Mr N Heal, Mr P H Holroyd, Mr J Lewin, Mr P Kennerley, The Right Reverend L E Luscombe, The Venerable J Morrison, Mr R Palmer, Mr A Platt, Dr C Podmore, Mr H Pollard, Mr N Pullman, Mr J S Ray, The Right Reverend D Rossdale, Mr & Mrs M G Rupp, Mr W Shand, Mr & Mrs L Stace, Mrs E Stary, Mr K Stern, The Right Reverend T Thornton, Lady Z Verney, Mr R Wallis, Mr R A M Welsford, The Venerable R Whiteman, Mr C W G Wilson, Mrs J A Wilson and Mr S Wright.

The Reverend Canon Simon Butler welcomed everyone to the 342<sup>nd</sup> Annual Assembly of Clergy Support Trust.

### **1. Prayers**

Prayers were led by the Venerable David Lowman.

### **2. Apologies for absence**

With the agreement of the meeting, the list of apologies was taken as read.

### **3. Minutes of the 341<sup>st</sup> Annual Assembly of Clergy Support Trust held on Thursday 14 November 2019**

#### **a) Approval of the minutes**

The Minutes of the Annual General Court held on Thursday 14 November 2019 were approved (by poll) for signing by the chair, The Reverend Canon Simon Butler.

## **b) Matters arising**

There were no matters arising.

### **4. Governors deceased**

The names of the following Governors whose death had been reported were read out. There was a moment of silence in their memory: Mr A Bacon, The Reverend Canon G D Foulis-Brown, The Reverend Canon A J Meakin, Mr M Power, The Reverend A Rabjohns, Mr J E R Stedman and Mr J Thorpe.

### **5. Senior Treasurer's report, including the presentation of the Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2019.**

The Reverend Canon Simon Butler presented the Trustees' Annual Report for 2019, focusing on the income of £4.3m, the majority of which has been generated by investment income, and the record allocation of the £3.13m of grants expenditure during the year (driven in part by the charity's rebrand and new grants policy). He also highlighted the encouraging news of the increase in wellbeing grants, as a direct result of the change in the charity's strategy and of the recently revised Royal Charter. Tribute was paid to Jeremy Moodey, the charity's outgoing Chief Executive, for his outstanding contribution to the success of the recent new strategy.

It was noted that, to further extend the work of Clergy Support Trust in the years ahead, it would be necessary to diversify income by expending more funds on Governance and fundraising. It was further noted, that the latest figure of 93.5% charitable spend may temporarily dip/decline as a result of investing in staffing and additional related costs.

The Senior Treasurer also highlighted the charity's current and future plans, including increased investment in marketing and communications, an external Governance review, and entering into new partnerships, providing clergy with more holistic support in areas such as sleep problems and mental health. He also pointed out, that although there was a significant reduction in grant expenditure in the first quarter of the year, it is anticipated that, as a consequence of COVID-19, there will be a surge in demand.

In conclusion, Canon Butler thanked the charity's investment managers, Charles Stanley, Cazenove, Sarasin and Savills, for their work on behalf of the charity especially during the challenges of recent months.

On behalf of the charity, tribute was paid to Jeremy Moodey for his transformational leadership over the years, and a warm welcome was extended to Ben Cahill-Nicholls as the new Chief Executive.

The Senior Treasurer thanked the Governors for their ongoing commitment to the charity and for their contribution to the Governor consultation.

Tribute was also paid to the staff for their professionalism during the challenging year, not least in adapting to working remotely.

In a subsequent Q&A session, the Hon Liz Green asked a question surrounding potential partnerships with mental health and insomnia professionals. Sarah Crombie, Director of Charitable Services, summarised the pilot online CBT tool in partnership with Sleepstation and the potential suite of services under discussion in the area of mental health.

Following a question from Mr Inigo Woolf relating to the distribution of capital gains for grants, Jeremy Moodey responded by confirming that the charity's funds, being unrestricted, meant the trustees would be able to draw down on capital if needed. Mr Woolf also asked what, if demand follows the suggested trajectory, the likely income requirement would be over the coming years. In response, Jeremy Moodey said that this would depend on priorities moving forward, but that it would likely require income of around £5m per year.

Jeremy also thanked the Trustees, staff and advisors for an enjoyable term as CEO.

There being no further questions, the meeting duly received the report.

**6. Interview with the new CEO (Mr Ben Cahill-Nicholls)**

Richard Farmbrough (Treasurer) conducted an interview with Ben Cahill-Nicholls, and this was positively received by all present. Congratulations were extended to the new CEO on his appointment.

In a subsequent Q&A session, Christine White further emphasised the need for clergy to be better equipped (through training) for the pressures of future ministry, and asked whether Clergy Support Trust may perhaps be the channel to fund training at selection level. In response, Ben Cahill-Nicholls echoed the issues raised and expressed his hope that, with the support of the Court, robust conversations with theological colleges could take place in the coming months.

**7. Appointment of Buzzacott LLP as the charity's auditors**

A resolution proposing Buzzacott LLP as auditors of the charity for the coming financial year was passed unanimously. Canon Butler thanked Buzzacott LLP for their excellent work as auditors.

**8. Election of:**

**a) New Governors**

The Reverend Dr Sara Batts-Neale, Mr Paul Bowers, Miss Constance Chinhengo, Mr Stuart Laing, Mr Paul Herbage, The Reverend Mark Nam, Mr Jeremy Moodey, The Reverend Canon David Prichard, Mr Stephen Slack CBE and Mr Stephen Swift were elected as Governors.

**b) Members of the Court of Assistants for the coming year**

The Senior Treasurer paid tribute to The Venerable David Lowman and The Right Reverend Tim Thornton who were retiring from the Court. Each had given an outstanding contribution to the charity over a long period of time.

It was unanimously resolved that the following be elected as members of the Court of Assistants for the coming year:

The Reverend Canon Simon Butler  
Mr Adam Chamberlain  
Mr Martin Cooper  
Ms Constance Chinhengo\*  
The Reverend Dr Jack Dunn  
Mr Richard Farmbrough

The Reverend Canon Roxanne Hunte  
Alderman Robert Hughes-Penney\*  
Ms Jackie Jordan  
The Reverend Wendy Kennedy  
Mr Jonathan Prichard  
Mr Stephen Slack\*

The Reverend Nancy Goodrich  
Mr Jeremy Hargreaves  
Mr Stephen Hogg

Mr Patrick Walker

\* new trustee

**c) Treasurers**

It was further unanimously resolved, that the following be elected to serve as officers of the charity:

- The Reverend Canon Simon Butler to be re-elected as a Treasurer.
- The Reverend Canon Roxanne Hunte to be re-elected as a Treasurer.
- Mr Richard Farmbrough to be elected as a Treasurer.

**9. Date of 2021 Annual Assembly**

The Senior Treasurer advised those present that, to avoid a clash with Armistice Day, the 2021 Annual Assembly will be held on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> November 2021.

**11. Any other business**

There being no other business, the Senior Treasurer closed the meeting by thanking the Governors for their continued patronage. Thanks were also extended to Nick Gazard, the charity's Marketing and Communications Manager, for the technical support.

The meeting closed at 12.45pm with a blessing from The Venerable David Lowman.