

The Vincent Society Annual General Meeting
Held on 13th July 2019
The Hayes Conference Centre, Swanwick

- 1 Opening prayer and welcome:** The meeting was opened in prayer by the Chair of Trustees, Wendy Scott.
- 2 Apologies:** Mark and Caroline Madeley.
- 3 Minutes of the Vincent Society AGM held on 7th July 2018:** All agreed these were correct with no abstentions.
- 4 Matters Arising:** None
- 5 Chairman's remarks:** Given by Wendy Scott, Chair of Trustees regarding CMJ Activities in 2018: It has been a great year with many challenges, with God being faithful and generous. The Co-operation Agreement with CMJ Israel has extensively helped the partnership with CMJ UK and enabled working together to be stronger, more efficient and fully functioning. The fact that the Charity laws in Israel have changed has made things more challenging and expensive, with the transfer of funds being more tightly controlled. The Israel lawyers are ensuring that the historic buildings and legacy are secure in the future. Rufus Barnes, who was co-opted onto Council specifically for this project, was thanked for his help in drawing up new documents. The work in the UK is extremely encouraging. There has been more social media coverage, thanks to John Brooks, with the website and Facebook giving CMJ a higher profile. It has also led to more inroads into other Christian ministries such as South Korean TV, who came and filmed at Hexgreave. Prayer is needed to encourage more young people to join CMJ and to come to Conference. There are 83 folk "new to CMJ" attending the Conference this weekend.
Anti-Semitism is growing fast in the UK and in the churches. The Education arm of CMJ needs to be used to teach about the Hebrew roots of our faith.
Deputations are the backbone of CMJ and there is a need to recruit more reps around the country to be advocates for Israel. Others could be recruited to help with the Bible Comes To Life exhibition which tours the country. The Evangelism part of our 3 E's could be used in House Groups and Passovers and finding Jewish residents in our areas. Joy Simms is working on the Encouragement "E" as to how to support Messianic Communities since many are isolated and spread widely over the UK.
A request was made for people to contact the office at Hexgreave with any ideas for outreach plus any contacts people may have who might be unknown to the Office.
The two Community Based Evangelists (CBE's) have different ministries both of which are bearing fruit, Jonathon with Orthodox Communities and Tania in London. More finance is required to expand this work, to possibly employ another evangelist and to explore Jewish Communities nationwide. Every voice can be an advocate and a witness for CMJ with attention being given to those on our own doorsteps as well as to ministries in other parts of the world. Everyone within CMJ is able to minister to the Jewish Community within the UK, by speaking the truth when the headlines are misleading due to biased reporting, by attending Jewish events, or joining a Friends of Israel Prayer Group or even

starting one locally. Action is needed as there are 284,000 Jews in the UK and we are commissioned to Go and Make disciples.

- 6 Annual Report and Financial Statement of 2018 (John Brooks):** Each member received this report in their Welcome packs and it is also on the website.
- The total income amounted to £587k with total expenditure being £662k, a difference of £-75k. The income was lower in 2018 by 7% (£17k), and Church donations were £108k, up on the year before. There were £152k in Legacies. Restricted giving was up by 50% with £18k passed through our books, £13k going to Israel which is up by 8%.
 - Expenditure on Evangelism and Youth was maintained, being an investment into the future. In 2017 to 2018 there was a one-off pension reduction of £98k. £75k of the £1 and a half million Reserves was used. 50% (£750k) may be spent but the budget was made with the Deficit in mind.
 - Spring and Summer Appeals were good.
 - There are 650 more Facebook users and new volunteers and reps this year.
 - Alan and Marie were thanked for their work on accounts behind the scenes.
- 7 Independent Examiners/Auditors:** Bostock White was unanimously accepted as Independent Examiners, proposed by Ralph Goldenberg and seconded by Jos Drummond.
- 8 Increase in Annual Subscription to £30:** The members of the Vincent Society were required to resolve that the annual membership fee of £25 be increased to £30 with monthly payment options. This amount start from the month the individual first subscribed. The figure of £25 has remained the same from the year 2014. Reminder letters are now sent out for renewal of membership. A vote was taken, with the motion being carried with 1 abstention. On questioning the point was clarified that members only receive the regular mailouts. It was suggested that letters are sent to anyone sending gifts suggesting they might like to become a member. Further discussion will be held on how to acknowledge membership. Ralph Goldenberg thanked John for all his hard work.
- 9 Election of Trustees to the Board:** There were 3 nominations of Robin Aldridge, Ralph Goldenberg and Wendy Scott to stand again which they were willing to do. Rufus Barnes was also nominated. There were 4 vacancies so the appointments were made without the need of a vote. There is still a need for trustees with experience in human resources and law. Younger members should also be encouraged to stand as energy and passion is needed as well as wisdom.
- 10 Conversion of the Vincent Society to become a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO):** Copies of the resolutions and the proposed CIO constitution, which will replace the Articles of the company, were available on the CMJ website or from the Office as a printed copy. This conversion is in 2 parts. In 2014 the unincorporated charity of CMJ became the Vincent Society as a working title, which enable streamline accounting. In 2015 new rules were adopted which were the same as the Vincent Society Charitable Company and were registered with the Charity Commission and Companies House. This results in the Charity having to comply with company rules, mostly designed for commercial organisations. All new charities are becoming CIO's now which only need registering with the Charity Commission and not Companies House, which

brings CMJ into line with the latest innovation with no downsides. The Trustees put forward the 2 resolutions, being:

- A That (subject to approval by the Charity Commission) the company shall be converted to become a charitable incorporated organisation (CIO) and**
- B Subject to the notes below (on the agenda), from the date of such conversion, the CIO Constitution attached to this resolution shall take effect as its constitution (in place of the Articles of the company).**

A 75% majority is required to pass these motions. Kubernews say are happy with the drafts they have seen. The resolutions were both carried unanimously with no abstentions.

- 11 Any Other Business:** A suggestion was made to undertake more correspond electronically rather than in printed format. John explained that MailChimp had been a disaster. The experiment to put News and Views online which was not well received. A new database package is being evaluated.

The meeting closed at 15:40.