

Minutes of the AGM for the year
1st September 2019 - 31st August 2020
Via Zoom at 8pm 23rd November 2020

Present:

Allison Holton, Kay Dunlop, Andy and Lesley Clarke, Tony and Polly Joyce, Mike Fawcett, Jim Stewart, Anne Hinds, Berti Frroku, Carol Edwards, Muriel Roundtree, Susanne and Stuart Lyell, Susan Schibli.

1.	Tony welcomed everyone and Polly led us in prayer.
2.	Apologies: Debbie Rees
3.	The minutes from the previous AGM were accepted and signed by Tony.
4.	The Chairman's report: Tony checked that everyone had received all the documents for the AGM. He shared how we are now entering a new season when we move to our new premises in Grosvenor Road. He emphasised how grateful we are to People International for the 11 years we have spent in their building.
5.	The Centre Director's report: Polly shared how our ministry has changed. In the past we have worked in collaboration with other youth ministries and youth workers. Now that fewer churches have a youth worker we need new ways of connecting with churches. We continue to want to equip young people to serve their local church while reaching out to new young people. Jim will mention at Deanery Chapter meeting tomorrow.
6.	Financial Report: Mike shared how we have a lot to be thankful for. The impact of Covid-19 has meant that our accounts have not been checked yet but we are very grateful for the grant for furlough from the government. We have had successful fundraising campaigns and the number of individual donors has risen significantly although the only contribute 2/5 of our monthly expenditure. We are also very grateful for our generous and supportive churches.
7:	Tony thanked Allison Holton for her 7 years of service as a trustee and safeguarding officer. Tony also thanked the other trustees Kay, Polly, Mike and Anne for their various contribution to the running of the charity.

8.	Tony explained how we are changing our status to a Charitable Incorporated Organisation. We will be able to keep our bank account and charity number. The financial liability will be with the organisation not individual trustees. This may mean that it is easier to recruit new trustees in the future. Tony welcomed Susanne and Stuart Lyell as new trustees and Lesley Clarke as an advisor. They all responded with how privileged and delighted they were.
9.	Looking to the future: We need more regular givers and we realise that all our plans need to be prefaced by “God willing” We are going to be a lot more visible – the new building will serve our ministry. Our aim is that we will welcome young people every weekday from 3-5pm as a minimum. The space will be used for a drop in café, homework help, Youth Alpha, discipleship and leadership courses. Berti shared how he wanted to build relationships and share Jesus with the young people. Berti is a chaplain at West Kent College and we would like to see this role expanded into other schools which could signpost young people to the centre. We are not going to withdraw from other community engagements – we continue to want to work in Showfields and Sherwood. Polly reported that very sadly Lydia will not be returning after her maternity leave. We will really miss Lydia’s leadership and expertise. We will be recruiting for a new full-time Centre Director as Dave Tyler has also resigned. We hope to produce a digital advert before Christmas.
10.	We spent time in open prayer and then Tony thanked everyone for attending.
	Date of next AGM. 22nd November 2021