



**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE MEMBERS OF LIBERAL JUDAISM (ULPS) – KNOWN AS COUNCIL
HELD ON TUESDAY 26th JANUARY 2016 AT THE MONTAGU CENTRE, 21 MAPLE STREET, LONDON W1T 4BE
SUBJECT TO SECTIONS 26 -32 OF THE MEMORANDUM AND ARTICLES OF LIBERAL JUDAISM (ULPS)**

PRESENT	
PRESIDENT / VICE PRESIDENTS	Henry Cohn, Rabbi Dr Andrew Goldstein, Sharon Goldstein, Jeromé Freedman, Louise Freedman, Corinne Oppenheimer and Joan Shopper
OFFICERS (DIRECTORS)	Simon Benscher, Graham Carpenter, Dr Howard Cohen, David Hockman, Jackie Richards, Ruth Seager, Tamara Schmidt
RABBIS	Danny Rich (Senior Rabbi & Chief Executive), Harry Jacobi, Lea Muehlstein, Charley Baginsky, Sandra Kviat, Janet Burden and Leah Jordan
COUNCIL	Geoffrey Ben-Nathan (Bedfordshire), Jennifer Lennard (BKY), Anthony Kerstein (Bet Tikvah), Frank Maxwell (Birmingham), Peter Bennet-Speck and Karen Katz (Brighton and Hove), Jill Stern (Ealing), Josie Kinchin and Alex Kinchin-Smith (Finchley), Bryan Diamond and Sue Head (LJS), Alan Solomon and Kevin Ziants (Mosaic Liberal), Peter Gordon (Nottingham), Janet Berkman (Peterborough), Ros Clayton (Reading & York), Adrienne Mannov, Arne Kviat, Carsten Skov, Arthur Buchman (Shir Hatzafon), Alice Alphantary (South London), Michelle Golding and Jane Greenfield (Southgate), and Tony Myers (West London)
IN ATTENDANCE	Charles Middleburgh (Leo Baeck College), Shelley Shocolinsky-Dwyer, Alexandra Simonon (minutes), Aaron Abraham, Rebecca Fetterman, Daisy Bogod, Tom Rich, Gabriel Webber (Liberal Judaism Deputy on BoD). Leslie Moss, guest speaker
	OPENING PRAYER Rabbi Sandra Kviat
	WELCOME AND APOLOGIES Members of Shir Hatzafon Adrienne Mannov, Arne Kviat, Carsten Skov and Arthur Buchman were welcomed, as were new Council members Jill Stern (Ealing), Jennifer Lennard (BKY) and Sue Head (LJS). Leslie Moss was welcomed as our guest speaker. APOLOGIES from Ed Herman and Robin Moss (BoNO), Clive Levontine (Crouch End), David White (Dublin), Suzanne King (Eastbourne), Jill Rosenheim (Gloucestershire), Miriam Levene (Leicester), Philip Austin, Aaron Goldstein and Mimi Konigsberg (Northwood), Alexandra Wright (Rabbinic Conference), Janet Darley (South London), Terry Wolfe, Gillian Wolfe and Leslie Isaacs (Stevenage), Rosita Rosenberg and Beverley Taylor (Vice Presidents), and Bob Kamall and Richard Stevens (Woodford) were noted.
	MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING NOVEMBER 2015 AND MATTERS ARISING The minutes were signed as an accurate record. There were no matters arising not covered by the Agenda.
	GUEST SPEAKER: Leslie Moss Rabbi Danny Rich (DR) spoke about the fact that Rabbinic Conference (RC) and lay members have been discussing rabbinic pay scales without reaching an agreement. DR discovered that the Movement for Reform Judaism (MRJ) was doing a survey on synagogue pay and that Leslie Moss (LM) was doing this <i>pro bono</i> for



**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE MEMBERS OF LIBERAL JUDAISM (ULPS) – KNOWN AS COUNCIL
HELD ON TUESDAY 26th JANUARY 2016 AT THE MONTAGU CENTRE, 21 MAPLE STREET, LONDON W1T 4BE
SUBJECT TO SECTIONS 26 -32 OF THE MEMORANDUM AND ARTICLES OF LIBERAL JUDAISM (ULPS)**

	<p>MRJ. DR thought that this is something that Liberal Judaism (LJ) might also use. The Board of National Officers (BoNO) and RC agreed this should be carried out. This is now being put to Council for approval.</p> <p>LM explained what the survey will cover and how confidentiality will be ensured.</p> <p>The deadline to submit the data will be the 7th of March 2016.</p> <p>Communities will receive an email with a link to the survey, and a paper copy of what is required and why.</p> <p>This questionnaire will be for community Chairs. It might be decided to do a separate questionnaire for rabbis.</p> <p>Jeromé Freedman spoke in favour of the survey.</p> <p>Alan Solomon (Mosaic Liberal) indicated that his community would prefer to fill a paper questionnaire rather than an electronic version.</p> <p>Lea Muehlstein asked if Council would get the feedback on the MRJ data. DR indicated that this would have to be discussed with MRJ. The feedback will be given in a way that is useful but protects confidentiality.</p> <p>Simon Benscher (SB) spoke in favour and expressed gratitude to LM for presenting his work to Council.</p> <p>RESOLUTION: To approve the rabbinic scale survey to be carried out.</p> <p>Resolution approved by 59 votes to 0.</p> <p>Peter Bennett-Speck asked if the data could be extended to include information on membership fees. DR answered that this should be put to the chairs. Next time we collect the annual data we will ask the communities for voluntary information on this.</p>
	<p>SHIR HATZAFON DR Welcomed the community’s delegates and gave them a brief introduction.</p> <p>Adrienne Mannov (Chair) thanked the Council, the Chairs and the Chief Executive for their continued support since the beginning of Shir Hatzafon. She added that the community feels at home within LJ. She introduced the other members of the delegation: Arne Kviat (Treasurer), Carsten Skov (Vice-Chair), and Arthur Buchman (exiting Vice-Chair). Adrienne also gave a brief history of the community and paid tribute to all who had helped making it what it is today. It now has 123 members, 30% of whom volunteer actively in some function in the synagogue. DR indicated that the European Union for Progressive Judaism (EUPJ) had given its blessing for the membership, and that it had been endorsed by BoNO.</p> <p>RESOLUTION: To approve the membership of Shir Hatzafon, the Progressive Jewish Community of Copenhagen</p> <p>Resolution approved by 59 votes to 0.</p>

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE MEMBERS OF LIBERAL JUDAISM (ULPS) – KNOWN AS COUNCIL
HELD ON TUESDAY 26th JANUARY 2016 AT THE MONTAGU CENTRE, 21 MAPLE STREET, LONDON W1T 4BE
SUBJECT TO SECTIONS 26 -32 OF THE MEMORANDUM AND ARTICLES OF LIBERAL JUDAISM (ULPS)**

	<p>ELECTION OF KEN TEACHER AS A VICE PRESIDENT OF LIBERAL JUDAISM</p> <p>DR gave a short biography of Ken Teacher and explained why he was being proposed as a Vice President. Ken became a Council member of North London Progressive Synagogue when he was a teenager and went on to serve as their Honorary Secretary and then Chairman. He also served as a lay leader when the synagogue was without a rabbi.</p> <p>At the closure of NLPS he joined the LJS and served on Council there.</p> <p>He also carries a lot of work for Funding for Progressive Judaism (FPJIE).</p> <p>Ken is very active as a volunteer not only in the Jewish sector but also in the wider community. For example he was a governor at a state comprehensive school for eight years.</p> <p>RESOLUTION: To approve the election of Ken Teacher as a Vice President of Liberal Judaism</p> <p>Resolution approved by 64 votes to 0.</p>
	<p>CHAIRMAN’S REPORT - Simon Benscher</p> <p>SB has worked a lot on the Alliance for which he has attended numerous meetings with the leaders of MRJ and LBC, subsequent interviews etc. and will be producing a report on this shortly. SB announced that Rabbi Charley Baginsky has been appointed as coordinator for the Alliance.</p> <p>Since the previous council meeting SB has visited a number of our communities and has accepted a number of invitations over the next few months to others.</p>
	<p>REPORTS</p> <p>LEO BAECK COLLEGE:</p> <p>Charles Middleburgh added to the written report that the validation of the Leo Baeck College degrees by Middlesex University happened on the 25th of January, and that the College now has two additional Education qualifications on the books.</p> <p>BIENNIAL:</p> <p>Charley Baginsky gave a quick update and encouraged the Chairs to sign up people in their communities with a special interest for a place at a subsidised rate. There are 15 of these places and seven are still available.</p>
	<p>CHIEF EXECUTIVE’S REPORT – Rabbi Danny Rich</p> <p>Rabbi Danny Rich (DR) listed the several places where he has preached in the last few months and told the Chairs that he is always delighted to visit the LJ communities.</p> <p>DR gave an update on his chaplaincy work.</p>

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE MEMBERS OF LIBERAL JUDAISM (ULPS) – KNOWN AS COUNCIL
HELD ON TUESDAY 26th JANUARY 2016 AT THE MONTAGU CENTRE, 21 MAPLE STREET, LONDON W1T 4BE
SUBJECT TO SECTIONS 26 -32 OF THE MEMORANDUM AND ARTICLES OF LIBERAL JUDAISM (ULPS)**

	<p>He also announced that Lancaster and Cumbria have been accepted as a Developing Community within LJ.</p> <p>DR praised the social justice work being undertaken by so many LJ communities. LJ is employing Charlotte Fisher and another worker to do work with Citizens for a total of three days a week.</p>
	<p>AOB</p> <p>SIDDUR UPDATE</p> <p>Lea Muehlstein said that we should be careful to time the survey about the Siddur in a way that it doesn't impact negatively on the rabbinic scales survey or <i>vice versa</i>. The Siddur surveys (of which there will be two different ones) will be sent out a little while after the pay survey.</p> <p>There will be a parallel survey sent to rabbis.</p> <p>The rabbis were very enthusiastic at Kallah about the new Siddur. No new decisions were made but the rabbis are on board.</p> <p>Consultation has started via the study sessions held in communities with Margaret Jacobi's Siddur study pack.</p> <p>Biennial will also be an opportunity for the communities to engage with the question of the new Siddur.</p> <p>Alice Alphandary indicated that South London has already started the discussion on the new Siddur and asked when the formal consultation work will take place.</p> <p>DR reminded Council that no decision on the Siddur has been made. Many communities are also asking why the new Siddur is not coming along more quickly. We need to consider everything carefully.</p> <p>LM reminded Council that they are always welcome to talk to her or to DR if they have any concerns, e.g. about costs etc.</p> <p>ACCOUNTS</p> <p>Bryan Diamond asked when the LJ Accounts will be available. DR explained that we are currently doing the end-of-year accounts, which then have to go to the auditors. They should be available around June. If there are particular concerns, DR will notify Council immediately.</p> <p>EUPJ BIENNIAL</p> <p>DR encouraged people to register for this event, held in London this year. There will be a strong Liberal presence.</p> <p>LJY-NETZER</p>



**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE MEMBERS OF LIBERAL JUDAISM (ULPS) – KNOWN AS COUNCIL
HELD ON TUESDAY 26th JANUARY 2016 AT THE MONTAGU CENTRE, 21 MAPLE STREET, LONDON W1T 4BE
SUBJECT TO SECTIONS 26 -32 OF THE MEMORANDUM AND ARTICLES OF LIBERAL JUDAISM (ULPS)**

	<p>Becca Fetterman gave Council an outline of all the forthcoming events organised by LJY and asked all present to encourage families to sign up their children to them.</p> <p>TWILIGHT EXHIBITION</p> <p>DR introduced the exhibition, which is curated by Surat-Shaan Knan. It is held at the Islington Museum from 5th February 2016 until 5th March 2016. There is a launch event on 11th February to which all Council is invited.</p>
	<p>DATE OF NEXT COUNCIL MEETING: Tuesday 26 April 2016</p>