

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE MEMBERS OF LIBERAL JUDAISM (ULPS) – KNOWN AS COUNCIL
HELD ON TUESDAY 21st NOVEMBER 2017 AT THE MONTAGU CENTRE
SUBJECT TO SECTIONS 26 -32 OF THE MEMORANDUM AND ARTICLES OF LIBERAL JUDAISM (ULPS)**

PRESENT	
PRESIDENT / VICE PRESIDENTS	Andrew Goldstein, Corinne Oppenheimer, Henry Cohn, Sharon Goldstein,
OFFICERS (DIRECTORS)	Simon Benscher (Chair), Ruth Seager, Rosie Ward (Treasurer)
RABBIS	Aaron Goldstein
COUNCIL	Alice Alphandary (South London), Peter Bennett-Speck (Brighton & Hove), Janet Berkman (Peterborough), Daniel Brown (Mosaic), Ros Clayton (Reading & York), Bryan Diamond (Hon. Archivist), William Glassman (Ealing), Jane Greenfield (Southgate), Deborah Kahn-Harris (LBC), Karen Katz (Brighton & Hove), Mimi Konigsberg (NPLS), Frank Maxwell (Council member), Amanda McFeeters (South Bucks), Tony Myers (WCLS), Robin Samson (Kehillah), Richard Stevens (ELELS)
IN ATTENDANCE	Alexandra Simonon (minutes), Rebecca Fetterman, Shelley Shocolinsky-Dwyer, Tom Rich, Hannah Stephenson, Tamara Joseph, Alison Turner, Karen Newman, Hannah Jacobs
	OPENING PRAYER Rabbi Aaron Goldstein
	<p>WELCOME AND APOLOGIES</p> <p>Rabbi Danny Rich could not attend because Laura was unwell. Council expressed best wishes to Laura for a speedy recovery.</p> <p>Apologies were received for Stuart McDonald (BoD), Joan Shopper (Vice President), Ruth Selo (Eastbourne), Geoffrey Ben-Nathan (Bedfordshire), Robin Moss (BoNO), Lucian Hudson (Vice President), Graham Carpenter (BoNO), Louise Freedman (Vice President), Jerome Freedman (Vice President), Simon Lovick (LJY), Ellie Lawson (LJY), Cathy Burnstone (Finchley), Ed Herman (BoNO), Judith Fox (WCLS), Jackie Richards (BoNO), Peter Gordon (Nottingham), Bob Kamall (ELELS), Josie Kinchin (FPS) and Charley Baginsky (South Bucks and LJ).</p> <p>Simon Benscher welcomed William Glassman, the new Chair of Ealing.</p>
	<p>MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING OF JULY 2017 AND MATTERS ARISING</p> <p>The minutes were signed as an accurate record.</p> <p>Regarding the statement of support on the Kotel and conversion issues, a delegation from LJ and the Alliance met with Mark Regev, ambassador of Israel, who was very positive about visiting progressive communities.</p>
	<p>CHAIRMAN'S REPORT</p> <p>SB reported on the work he has done on behalf of LJ in the last quarter, including attending five dinners, two Balfour celebrations, and various other meetings. The work with the Alliance continues and is reaping rewards especially with regards to chaplaincy and safeguarding. SB reported that Noeleen Cohen and David Kirk have stood down from the Board of LBC. LJ thanked them for their work over the years. LJ needs to recruit Liberal Board members urgently. SB has attended the rabbinic Kallah and was very impressed by the work done by Rabbinic Conference. SB reminded everyone present of LJ's fundraising</p>

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	<p>concert and encouraged everyone who had not yet done so to buy a ticket. He mentioned that LJ is currently investigating the possibility of making Council meetings accessible remotely for those who cannot attend due to distance or other circumstances.</p> <p>VOTE: Karen Newman was unanimously elected as a member of the Board of National Officers. Amanda McFeeters was unanimously elected as Hon. Sec. of Liberal Judaism</p>
	<p>REPORTS</p> <p>Chief Executive</p> <p>Danny was absent and unable to produce a report in time but SB reported to Council on all the work that Danny has done for the movement in the last quarter. Danny is about to go on a six-months sabbatical. MK asked what the plan was for DR's sabbatical. SB explained that CB will be released from part of her functions at South Bucks (with support from NPLS) so she can concentrate on her movement work in Danny's absence. Rabbinic matters will be deferred to Rabbinic Conference, and lay decisions will be covered by SB and SSD.</p> <p>The MC will circulate a note to congregations telling them whom to contact for what.</p> <p>Rabbinic Conference Report</p> <p>A written report was submitted by Rabbinic Conference, detailing their activities during the last three months, including the launch of same-sex and non-binary ketubot, work on portfolios, Kallah, support for other organisations. AaG explained that, while he is a congregational rabbi at NPLS, he is happy to receive invitations from other communities. Invitations have already been issued by Lincoln and York for 2018, and interested communities are invited to get in touch with Aaron.</p> <p>Leo Baeck College</p> <p>A written report was submitted. The academic year has started with a new class of 1st years, many of whom have a Liberal background. DKH and CM have been doing community work in addition to their work at the College. Students are doing work in Liberal communities. The Lehrhaus has produced an extensive and extensive programme of adult education. The quinquennial review is ongoing.</p> <p>LJY</p> <p>Hannah Stephenson and Becca Fetterman presented their activities for the forthcoming year and invited communities to get in touch. Last year 10 young people from Liberal communities who had never attended an LJY event came to the Israel Tour Taster Day, and all of them went on to sign up to Israel Tour. Most of them have since gone on to attend Hadracha training, eventually going back to their communities as leaders.</p> <p>Finance</p>

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	<p>Rosie reported that the budget is healthy and that it has been a stable and financially prudent year. The target for the reserve is £200,000. SB noted that this week’s concert marks the beginning of a change of culture in LJ regarding fundraising.</p> <p>Safeguarding</p> <p>Becca presented the work that LJ has been doing in coordination with RJ and the Alliance on safeguarding, and delegates had a conversation on whether LJ should produce model policies or if communities should write their own policies according to their own needs. Becca asked delegates to watch out for a questionnaire that she will send out to communities, and asked them to ensure that at least one person in their community replies to the questionnaire.</p>
	<p>AOB</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Chairs and Treasurers meeting: Janet Berkman (Peterborough) raised a question on the cancelled meeting. SB explained that it was cancelled due to lack of availability of chairs and treasurers at the proposed date, but that it has been postponed to Biennial, a date that has received more interest. Shelley will liaise with Janet Berkman to try and organise another meeting outside of Biennial (date TBA) and clarify the objectives of the meeting.
	<p>DATE OF NEXT COUNCIL MEETING: Tuesday 23 January 2018</p>