

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE MEMBERS OF LIBERAL JUDAISM (ULPS) – KNOWN AS COUNCIL
HELD ON TUESDAY 22nd JANUARY 2019 AT THE MONTAGU CENTRE
SUBJECT TO SECTIONS 26 -32 OF THE MEMORANDUM AND ARTICLES OF LIBERAL JUDAISM (ULPS)

PRESENT	
PRESIDENT / VICE PRESIDENTS	Rabbi Dr Andrew Goldstein (President), Jeromé Freedman, Louise Freedman, Joan Shopper,
OFFICERS (DIRECTORS)	Simon Benscher (Chair), Ros Clayton, Danny Rich, Jackie Richards, Karen Newman, Robin Moss, Graham Carpenter
RABBIS	Aaron Goldstein
COUNCIL	Geoffrey Ben-Nathan (Bedfordshire), Janet Berkman (Peterborough), Bryan Diamond (Hon. Archivist), William Glassman (Ealing), Peter Gordon (Nottingham), Jane Greenfield (Southgate), Steve Herman (LBC), Bob Kamall (ELELS), Leslie Moss (Northwood and Pinner), Frank Maxwell, Michael Rudolph (Ealing), Melvyn Newman (Finchley), Alan Solomon (ELELS), Richard Stevens (ELELS)
IN ATTENDANCE	Alexandra Simonon, Rafe Thurstance (minutes), Ben Combe, Helen Goldhill, Becca Fetterman, Tom Rich
	OPENING PRAYER Rabbi Andrew Goldstein led the opening prayer, the prayer for wind and rain, in thanks of the natural phenomena even when it seems they're against us.
	WELCOME AND APOLOGIES The Chair welcomed all attendees to the meeting, particularly Helen Goldhill (LJY-Netzer), and Michael Rudolph (ELS), who were attending council for the first time. Apologies were received for Nick Silk (Edinburgh), Ruth Seager (BoNO), Mimi Konigsberg (NPLS), Cathy Burnstone (FPS), Larry Navone (Eastbourne), Ruth Selo (Eastbourne), Ariel Chalklin (WCLS), Robin Samson (KNL), Kenneth Teacher (VP), Ed Herman (BoNO), Thomas Salamon (Westminster).
	MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF NOVEMBER 2018 AND MATTERS ARISING There were no matters arising, and the minutes were signed as an accurate record.
	CHAIRMAN'S REPORT <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Chair reported that demands on the staff at the Montagu Centre seem never ending, but that the work is vital for ensuring that Liberal Judaism and its officers are making real connections with communities.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The Chair noted that Rabbi Nathan Godleman’s induction as the minister at South London Liberal Synagogue was a highlight of 2018, along with visiting 10 Downing Street for a Hanukkah celebration, and the Fundraising Dinner in November 2018 for Education and LJY-Netzer. ● Council heard of the continuing dialogue between the Chair of Reform Judaism and the Chair of Liberal Judaism, and of the Chair’s attendance at the funeral for victims of the Holocaust whose remains were discovered at the Imperial War Museum. ● The Chair reported that he continues to serve the movement with pride.
	<p>REPORTS</p> <p>Chief Executive and Senior Rabbi</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● No questions arose from the report that was circulated prior to the meeting ● PLJC wished to thank AaG for visiting during LJ Shabbat, a ‘pulpit swapping’ event that DR hopes will be repeated this coming year. ● Council heard that LJ intends to increase its Limmud presence; DR reported that LJ needs to be more involved and exposed than ever. ● DR asked Council to inform LJ if their communities were leading anything at Limmud, and he would endeavour to get LJ support. ● AaG reminded communities that they are free to send any information they want publicised about their communities’ events or news to Simon Rothstein. ● It was decided that LJ Today would be a future agenda item, where Council could discuss how it’s distributed, how communities are using it, and the content. <p>Leo Baeck College</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Steve Herman informed Council of his intention to stand for election as chair of the College. ● DR reminded Council that 35% of the Community Assessment Fees goes to LBC. ● AaG offered thanks to SH for ‘stepping into the breach’. <p>Finance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● DR informed Council that the 2017 accounts were being closed.

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New Siddur Update

- Council was reminded that the beginning of 2018 saw the launch of a draft service.
- AaG reported to Council that much feedback had been received; some of it thoughtful, some useful, and some rude.
- Council was informed that the editorial committee are trying to reflect the multiplicity of voices, theologies, and opinions with LJ communities.
- Council learnt that the editorial committee were looking to create a lay-led advisory board, and webinars.
- Council was informed that it may be a decade before the final book is released.
- AaG informed Council that he hopes the next draft sent out will be a modified Shabbat morning service, and an Erev Shabbat service - but that there is no timeline for this as of yet.
- AaG informed Council that demographically this siddur was interesting; it's the first piece of liturgy that has to 'appeal' to four generations simultaneously.

LJY-NETZER

Council was informed of the success of the recent camps, and literature was circulated regarding upcoming events.

AOB

- Council was informed that on February 9th 2019 there would be a stained glass window dedication in memoriam of John Rayner at the LJS
- Karen Newman asked Council to remind their communities of the importance of having a Deputy at the Board of Deputies in order to make sure that the progressive voice was heard and represented.
- Council was asked to start publicising the LJ Day of Celebration, which will take place on June 23rd 2019.

The meeting was closed at 20:08.

DATE OF NEXT COUNCIL MEETING: Tuesday 7th May 2019