

### Resolutions from the 2021 Unitarian Annual General Meeting

#### **Resolution 1**

That the Report of the General Assembly Executive Committee and the Accounts of the General Assembly be received and adopted.

#### **Resolution 2**

That James Cowper Kreston LLP be appointed as Auditors.

#### **Resolution 3**

That the thanks of the Assembly be given to Peter Hanley for his service as Treasurer during the year 2020-2021, and to district association and local officers for their invaluable services.

#### **Resolution 4**

That this General Assembly of Unitarian and Free Christian Churches requests the Executive Committee (EC) to prepare and present a Code of Ethics for consideration by the 2022 Annual Meetings. This Code would be applicable to all who are recognised on the Roll of Ministers and Lay Pastors; to the GA Roll of Lay Leaders; and to those employed by the General Assembly. Once the code is adopted, the EC is further asked to consider recommending adoption of the Code by all Congregations, Affiliated Societies and Districts. To enable this outcome, the EC is asked to:

- a) appoint an ad hoc committee to prepare a Code of Ethics;
- b) call for submissions from member congregations, affiliated societies, districts, Ministers, Lay Leaders and others employed or engaged in the Unitarian movement to support this work; and
- c) ensure the Code contains appropriate mechanisms for addressing complaints, grievances and disciplinary matters.

Further, as the adoption and implementation of a Code of Ethics with a disciplinary mechanism will need to be consistent with established employment practices, the EC is asked to obtain a legal review to this end before presenting the Code of Ethics for adoption by the General Assembly.

#### **Resolution 5**

That this General Assembly of Unitarian and Free Christian Churches, mindful of the climate crisis, and of its object to “promote... the service of humanity and respect for all creation” requests that the Executive Committee:

- a) not invest General Assembly funds in companies whose total turnover is more than 10% derived from the extraction and/or supply of fossil fuels, including thermal coal, natural gas and oil;
- b) complete the divestment required to fulfil this decision by the time of the General Assembly Annual Meetings in 2025 at the latest;
- c) strongly encourage and support all Unitarian congregations and funds to do the same.

### Resolution 6

This General Assembly of Unitarian and Free Christian Churches

- a) Reaffirms its strong support for an inspiring and innovative Unitarian Youth Programme for young Unitarians in the United Kingdom.
- b) Recognises that a thorough review of the Programme will be necessary 'post-pandemic', in full consultation with churches, districts, previous participants and other interested parties.
- c) Commends the work the Youth Officer, Gavin Howell, is already carrying out to explore new ways of linking Young Unitarians together in the modern world.
- d) Urges the Executive Committee to ensure that a programme of Youth events at the Nightingale Centre is put in place as soon as permitted by Covid-19 regulations, with particular emphasis on provision for 7 to 11 year olds, which has been the much-valued bedrock of the Unitarian Youth programme for over 50 years.

### Resolution 7

That this General Assembly of Unitarian and Free Christian Churches:

welcomes the foundation of the interfaith Red Cross Memorial Peace Appeal in aid of the Global Coronavirus Emergency Appeal, the Yemen Crisis Appeal and other urgent humanitarian and medical appeals in the spirit of the Charter for Compassion and relevant GA resolutions;

and, as one immediate and direct way to be a force for good in the world, urges Unitarian congregations, Districts and individuals to support this interfaith initiative and so work with the Religious Society of Friends and other faith communities in taking timely action to aid victims of this global Covid-19 pandemic and of wars, conflicts and natural disasters and to act decisively to help save human lives worldwide.

### Resolution 8

That greetings be sent to kindred churches and societies abroad.

### Resolution 9

That the thanks of the Assembly be given to the members of the General Assembly staff and to all volunteers for their inestimable help in organising the Meetings.

### Resolution 10

That Anne Mills be appointed President of the General Assembly of Unitarian and Free Christian Churches for the year 2021-2022.

### Resolution 11

That Rev Sue Woolley be appointed Vice-President of the General Assembly of Unitarian and Free Christian Churches for the year 2021-2022.

### **Resolution 12**

That this General Assembly of Unitarian and Free Christian Churches expresses its gratitude for the services provided by Rev Celia Cartwright as President during the years 2019-2021.

### **Resolution 13**

That this General Assembly of Unitarian and Free Christian Churches expresses its gratitude for the services provided by Anne Mills and Rev Sue Woolley as part of the Presidential Team during the year 2020-2021.

### **Resolution 14**

That this General Assembly of Unitarian and Free Christian Churches expresses its empathy to all churches and members for the loss of loved ones during the pandemic.