

LIVERPOOL HOPE UNIVERSITY

MISSION AND VALUES GROUP

Wednesday 10th October 2018

PRESENT: Professor G. Pillay (in the Chair), Dr W. Bignold, Dr A. Cheatle, Canon C. Dowdle, Dr P. Haughan, Miss M. Lacey, Mr M. McGlynn, Professor P. McGrail, Professor A. Nagar, Professor K. Newport, Canon P. Winn

Apologies: Dr A. Ghalib

Secretariat: Mr M. Jones

1. Welcome

The Chair welcomed members to the meeting and welcomed Canon Dowdle to membership of the group.

2. Minutes of previous meeting

Members had received the minutes of the meeting held on 4th June 2018 and **APPROVED** them as a correct record.

3. Mission & Values Statement

The Chair thanked members for their contributions to the updating of the Mission & Values Statement and informed them that the updated statement has now been approved by University Council and is on the University website.

4. Hall Renaming

Professor McGrail informed members that, following discussion, the shortlist of proposed patrons of the renamed halls consists of Josephine Bakhita, Catherine Booth, Josephine Butler and Oscar Romero.

Professor McGrail proposed the addition of Kitty Wilkinson to the shortlist and distributed a paper giving details of her life. The Chair informed members that, in addition to the four halls on Hope Park campus which are to be renamed (St Agnes, St Elphin, St Etheldreda and St Margaret), it is proposed that St Michael's Hall at the Aigburth Campus also be renamed.

Dr Cheatle noted that having five halls to rename would make it possible to use all five names on the shortlist. The Chair proposed that Josephine Butler be

made patron of the hall currently known as St Michael's. The group concurred with this. The Chair went on to suggest that the renaming ceremonies be made part of the University's 175th anniversary celebrations in 2019. Dr Haughan welcomed this proposal, adding that the end of the Easter term might be a suitable time.

Professor McGrail undertook to contact David Torevell with a view to his brother painting portraits of each patron for display in the foyer of the relevant hall.

5. Faith Provision Working Group

(i) Report of meeting held on 4th October 2018

Members had received minutes of the meeting of Faith Provision Working Group which took place on 4th October 2018. Professor McGrail informed members that the group is satisfied that the University is carrying out due diligence with regard to its places of worship, and that no literature causing concern has been found in any of the worship spaces.

(ii) Update of Religious Spaces Policy

Professor McGrail informed members that the Faith Provision Working Group has agreed the proposed change of wording to the University's Use of Religious Facilities Policy. The antepenultimate paragraph of the policy now reads:

'Senior academics from the major world religions – Christian denominations and others – provide advice and guidance to the university community on religious facilities and whilst access to worship is not regulated, those senior academics from the university review materials held in the chapels and prayer rooms.'

The Chair informed members that a new contemplative space has been created on the second floor of the Cornerstone Building. The Chair asked Canon Dowdle to take responsibility for monitoring any literature deposited there and encouraged the University Chaplains to make use of the space.

In light of the creation of the new space, the Chair suggested that references to 'multi-faith prayer room' in the policy be amended to 'multi-faith prayer rooms'.

6. Chaplaincy Report

Members had received the Chaplaincy Report. Dr Cheatle drew members' attention to the work undertaken by University Chaplains during Freshers' Week, including the £1 Chaplaincy Lunch, attended by over one hundred students. Dr Cheatle added that the weekly Anglican eucharist has been relaunched, with a new time-slot of 5pm on Tuesdays.

Dr Cheatle informed members that the University Pastors have dealt with a number of situations relating to student wellbeing during the opening weeks of term.

Miss Lacey informed members that the Chaplaincy has had an invitation from the Islamic Society at University of Liverpool to take part in an Interfaith Week and that preparations for this are underway.

The Chair requested an update on the potential funding for a Chaplain at the Creative Campus. Dr Cheatle replied that the Church of England has allocated a grant of £11k for this. Canon Winn undertook to pursue this with matter with the bishop.

ACTION: Canon Winn to contact the bishop with regards to funding for chaplain.

7. Religion and Belief in Higher Education

Members had received the Religion and Belief report from Advance HE. The Chair drew members' attention to religion and belief's status as a 'protected characteristic'.

The Chair asked members to consider ways in which colleagues in the University's Theology Department might encourage students to engage in conversations around belief and faith. The Chair suggested the establishment of a series of lectures around the theme 'Why I Still Believe'.

The Chair added that the University's 175th anniversary celebrations would feature a number of lectures relating to this issue, including four Distinguished Lectures (on the themes of 'Faith and Reason', 'Faith and Politics', 'Faith and Business' and 'Faith and Peace').

8. AOB

Dr Haughan asked whether it would be possible to provide guidance for catering staff in relation to religious issues around food. The Chair replied that he would be in favour of this.

Dr Haughan updated members on plans for the University's 175th Anniversary Celebrations, informing them that the celebrations will begin with Foundation Day in January and continue throughout 2019. The theme for the year will be 'Truth, Beauty and Goodness'.