

CONSTITUTION OF CHURCHES TOGETHER IN YORK

Ratified at the Annual General Meeting 12 December 2016

1. NAME

The name of the Association is Churches Together in York (CTiY).

2. STATUS

CTiY is an Association of Members as defined in paragraph 4 of this document. CTiY is not a Charity.

3. PURPOSE

To encourage and provide the means for Churches to worship together and pray and reflect together on the nature and purpose of the church, each church sharing with others its traditions and values with the diversity of tradition and practice being respected by all members, thus enabling churches to live and share the Gospel and to put the teachings of Christ into action together by responding to the needs of society.

4. MEMBERSHIP

Membership is open to all churches within the City of York Council Boundaries. A church is defined as any body, corporate or unincorporated which is committed to the furtherance of the purpose of CTiY, has paid an annual subscription as defined by the Committee (see paragraph 5.2 below) and

(1) confesses The Lord Jesus Christ as God and Saviour according to the Scriptures and to the Glory of God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit OR

(2) if a non-credal church, is a member or associate member of Churches Together in England.

A record will be kept of all member organisations. Notwithstanding the above, the final decision on membership is the responsibility of the committee.

5. GOVERNANCE

5.1 Annual General Meeting (AGM)

The association will hold an AGM in September of each year. The Secretary will give twenty-one days' notice of the date. This will be done electronically or by post. The purpose of the AGM is

- to receive and to accept or reject reports from the Chairperson, Treasurer and Secretary on the activities of CTiY in the preceding year
- to vote on the appointment of Officers and non-office holding members of the Committee (see paragraph 5.2 below). All candidates for election must be members of a subscribing organisation and over the age of 18.

Whilst any number of representatives from member organisations may attend the AGM only two representatives of the organisation may vote at the meeting. The names of those entitled to vote must be given to the Secretary prior to the meeting. Before votes are made the Secretary will read out the list of those entitled to vote. Names of candidates for office and any other matter that will require a decision must be given to the Secretary prior to the meeting with a proposer and seconder for each candidate or matter requiring decision. A request for nominations will be put out with the calling papers for the meeting. Nominations must be available prior to the meeting.

All matters other than amendments to the constitution will be decided by a simple majority of those entitled to vote with the Chairperson having a casting vote. Amendments to the constitution will be decided by a two third majority. Any requests for an amendment to the constitution must be notified to the secretary in time to be sent out with the calling papers.

The quorum will be one tenth of those eligible to vote.

5.2 Committee

The day to day operations of CTiY will be the responsibility of the Committee. The Committee will comprise, Chairperson, Vice-Chair, Secretary, Treasurer and eight elected members. All elected will serve for a period of one year. No individual can serve for more than 5 consecutive years.

The Committee will meet a minimum of four times per annum with the secretary giving twenty-one days' notice of each meeting and will

be quorate if 6 or more members (including officers) are present. If a minimum of 6 Committee members request an additional Committee meeting then such a meeting must be held within twenty three days of the request being lodged with the Secretary.

All matters will be determined by a majority of votes of those present with the chairperson of the meeting having a casting vote.

The Committee will normally be chaired by the Chairperson of CTiY elected at the AGM, or in his or her absence the Vice Chair elected by the AGM. If neither person is present then those attending will vote on who chairs the meeting. Minutes will be kept by the Secretary and when approved as a true record, will be distributed to all member organisations.

Committee members who fail to attend on fifty percent or more of properly arranged meetings, will be deemed to have resigned their membership of the Committee unless otherwise decided by the committee.

The Committee cannot make any changes to this Constitution.

5.3 Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM)

Any member organisation may call for an EGM to take place giving detailed reasons for the request being made which must be supported by at least ten members. The request must be made to the Secretary. The Secretary will give twenty one days' notice of such a meeting to all member organisations, giving the purpose of the meeting. The meeting will function in the same way as the AGM (see paragraph 5.1 above). The extraordinary general meeting can only discuss the matters for which it is called.

6. FINANCE

The funds of Churches Together in York, including subscriptions, donations, bequests and any other funds given to the Churches Together in York for the furtherance of its purpose, will be maintained in bank account decided upon and operated by the Committee. All cheques drawn on the account must be signed by two members of the Committee whose names have been given to the relevant bank as designated signatories. The Committee will have discretion as to whether a donation made can be regarded as a subscription.

A finance report written by the Treasurer will be given to each Committee meeting of funds received and expenditure made during the preceding period and of the overall financial position of the Churches Together in York. The Treasurer will also give a formal written report to the AGM. Any decision on expenditure of more than £250 will be taken by a formal meeting of the Committee.

The accounts will be examined by an independent examiner each year.

7. ALTERATIONS TO CONSTITUTION.

Alterations to this Constitution can only be made at formal AGM or EGM called in accordance with the rules as outlined in this constitution.

8. DISSOLUTION OF CTiY.

Dissolution of CTiY in the form governed by this constitution can only take place as a result of a decision taken at an AGM or EGM called in accordance with the rules as outlined in this constitution.