



Minutes of the AGM Meeting

25th April 2022, 7pm

Zoom

Present: Thomas Packer-Stucki (TPS, Chair), Josh Mock (JM), Patrick Ramsey (PR), Russell Frost (RFR), Christine Carter (CC), Ciaran Nevers (CN), Emilia De Luca (ED), Emily Harris (EH), George Clark (GC), Jack Woodruff (JW), Maddey Watson (MW), Sam Daly (SDa), Siobhan Doyle (SDo), Abigail Hollingsworth (AH), Bethany Leake (BL), Joanna Ramsey (JR), Katy Llwellyn (KL), Luke Williams (LW), Roux Davies (RD), Becca Mann (BM), Liddy Buswell (LB), Annie Sharples (AS), Josh House (JH), Louise Dover (LD), Rae Farren (RFa), Emily Bastable (EB).

In Attendance: Naomi Nixon (Staff, NN), Lisa Murphy (Staff, LM), Ruth Harvey (Staff, RH), Sophie Mitchell (Staff, SM), Lizzy Norman-Sargent (LNS), Alana Romagnoli (AR), John Wallace-Howell (Staff, Minutes, JWH)

1. Welcome

The meeting started at 19:00 with TPS welcoming those present.

2. Apologies, minutes of previous meeting, matters arising and AOB

- Apologies

Sian Tredwell & Victoria Turner sent their apologies.

- Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of the AGM 2021 were agreed as a true record.

- Matters arising

There were no matters arising.

- AOB

There was no other business to add to the agenda.

3. Reports and Updates

- GC Report

TPS opened the meeting proper by leading a Kahoot! quiz prepared by General Council to highlight aspects of their work over the last year. The quiz covered topics such as the appointment of new staff; the work on the Christians Support the Ban on Conversion Therapy campaign; the SCM Language group; and National Gathering 2021.

- Staff Report

RH introduced the updates from the staff team from the past year, through the medium of memes.

LNS gave feedback on the SCM cookbook project that will collect ethical recipes and aims to be published in the summer. As part of this project the Durham JAM SCM Group have done a great cook-a-long which is on SCM's YouTube Channel.

LM gave feedback on the No Faith In War Day in September and SCM's role in that. SCM's Peace Bunting was a powerful focal point for the vigil against the DSEI arms fair.

RH gave feedback on the National Gathering 2021. It was great to meeting in person and there were loads of great speakers. Looking forward to the National Gathering 2022, the theme of which is re-inventing radical.

AR gave feedback on Theology Thursdays and SCM Online, and shared more information on the variety of topics that have been covered. All TTs will be uploaded to YouTube.

SM gave feedback on the staff changes. Due to a mixture of redundancies and staff departing, the staff team has been restructured and is smaller than it was.

JWH gave feedback on the Christians Support the Ban letter. SCM has been collecting signatures from Christians who support banning Conversion Therapy in all forms. This was in support of the Government's initial plan, and as a direct response to a letter opposing a ban on conversion therapy signed by conservative Christian leaders. JWH added that SCM is beyond disappointed by the exclusion of trans people from the government's plan and will continue working on the issue.

NN gave feedback on the work being done on the SCM strategy. There has been work on re-focusing SCM's vision around our priorities and what words we use to describe our work.

-Campaigns Update

LNS gave an update on the Campaigns. She talked about her work on the food campaign (cookbook & cook-a-longs) and the exciting new Campaigns and Social Action Group Directory that has launched today. The Directory has lists of organisations that members can volunteer with across lots of different causes. They are listed by social justice issue and by region. If you know of any organisations you would like to add, please contact the office.

LM shared a link to the Directory (www.movement.org.uk/resources) and encouraged people to access it. She also explained that as our annual surveys are still open we won't be deciding on a new campaigns focus yet. The staff team will engage with the membership about that in once the surveys have closed and invite our members to shape our campaigns focuses. As there won't be a Campaigns Portfolio holder on GC from September with JW's term coming to an end, LM asked for people to contact her if they are interested in taking a lead on SCM's campaigns work.

-Presentation of Accounts and Finance Report

LM presented the Accounts and a Finance Report, explaining that in the budget process SCM splits money into different classes or areas of work to help monitor our income and expenditure. LM broke down the income and expenditure from the 2020-2021 year and explained what each area relates to.

Due to having to make some staff redundant and the restructure of the staff team there have been some savings, though SCM is still running at a deficit. Inflation, the terrible war in Ukraine, and Covid recovery mean that our Investment Portfolio has reduced in value, but it is still performing well considering the current economic climate and our advisor is not worried.

LM advised that she can be contacted at lisa@movement.org.uk if anyone has any finance related questions.

-Fundraising Update

SM talked about how SCM generates income. Our main sources of income are SCM Friends, Churches, and Trusts/Grants.

SM encouraged people to approach their Churches to ask them to donate to SCM as part of 200x200 campaign. SM also encouraged people to sign up to Give As You Live which is an easy way to raise money as you go about your everyday spending. SM is confident that the deficit will be reduced.

There is more information in the finances report or you can ask a question directly by contacting SM sophie@movement.org.uk.

4. Questions from the movement

Anon: What have been the highlights of the past year for the staff team?

NN & AR: DSEI arms fair protest was great to be a part of.

RH: National Gathering 2021.

LNS: Workshop in Durham JAM about Faith in Action and their subsequent decision to add a Campaign role to their committee.

SM: Encouraging conversations with SCM Friends about the history of SCM and how long our movement has been going.

JWH: Getting a job after an extended illness and working for an organisation that values its staff.

LM: Staffing changes have been hard with so many people leaving and SCM going through the redundancy process for the first time in her tenure. The new team members joining the team has been great.

George Clarke: What percentage increase in income or decrease in expenditure are we aiming for? Can I have some more context?

LM: Members of our Council of Reference and GC are members of our Staffing and Finance Advisory Committee. One member of that committee has done 10-year projections of our finances. The main aim is to reduce our deficit from over £100,000 to a more sustainable

£40,000 over the next couple of years. The hope is that in the meantime our fundraising will increase to cover that £40,000 deficit. Our focus is to increase income, rather than just reduce expenditure, so it is less about a percentage change in income or expenditure, but reducing the gap between the two.

NN: The 200x200 Churches campaign should raise £40,000, which would close the deficit. If we can achieve that then we make a big difference in a short amount of time. There are no other national young people focused progressive organisations but there are lots of progressive Churches out there that could donate £200. There is lots of other work going on, but this is one of our focuses.

RF: If you, someone you know, or your Church would like to support SCM then please encourage them to do so! To add some context to our financial picture: about a decade ago our then Trustees decided to ramp up spending and grow the movement. This would run down our reserves but also make us more appealing to grants who only give money to charities without large reserves. The hope was that as we grew income would grow too. This plan has allowed us to expand our work and our current position is in line with that plan, so there is method to the madness (of running down reserves).

5. Election of General Council

- Trustee Elections

In the trustee elections, 25 attendees were eligible to vote and 24 votes were returned. Candidates required 4 votes to be elected.

In the first round of counting:

Emilia De Luca received 12 votes and was elected.

Russell Frost received 7 votes and was elected.

Joanna Ramsey received 3 votes.

Siobhan Doyle received 2 votes.

Re-open Nominations received 0 votes and was eliminated.

Ballots were then transferred and second preference votes counted. After the second round of counting:

Joanna Ramsey had received a total of 11 votes and was elected.

Siobhan Doyle had received a total of 6 votes and was elected.

- Portfolio Elections

In the portfolio elections, 25 attendees were eligible to vote and 25 votes were returned. Candidates required 4 votes to be elected.

Siobhan Doyle Access and Inclusion Portfolio Holder

Siobhan Doyle received 25 votes and was elected.

Re-open Nominations received 0 votes.

Ciaran Nevers BAME Students' Rep Portfolio Holder

Ciaran Nevers received 25 votes and was elected.

Re-open Nominations received 0 votes.

Emilia De Luca Graduate Rep Portfolio Holder

Emilia De Luca received 25 votes and was elected.

Re-open Nominations received 0 votes.

Russell Frost Finance Portfolio Holder

Russell Frost received 25 votes and was elected.

Re-open Nominations received 0 votes.

6. AOB and Closing Prayers

There was no other business.

TSP closed the meeting by thanking the staff team for their hard work, particularly when they were covering multiple jobs while waiting for the new staff to be appointed and start work.

NN led prayers to commit the work of the movement for the next year into the hands of God.

7. Date of next meeting

TBC, 2023