



MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF BRIGADE COUNCIL

held at Assembly Buildings, Belfast
on 3rd September 2016

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There were present: The Rev The Lord Griffiths of Burry Port, Brigade President
and 115 officers and guests of the Brigade.

1. **MESSAGE FROM HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN, PATRON OF THE BOYS' BRIGADE**

The Chairman read the message of Loyal Greeting sent to Her Majesty the Queen:

“Members of The Boys’ Brigade wish to convey to Your Majesty, our Patron, loyal and affectionate greetings on the occasion of our Annual Meeting of the Brigade Council in Belfast on the 3rd September 2016.

The Reverend The Lord Griffiths of Burry Port President”

Her Majesty graciously replied as follows:

Please convey my warm thanks to the members of The Boys’ Brigade for their loyal greetings sent on the occasion of the Annual Meeting of the Brigade Council which is being held today in Belfast.

As your Patron, I much value your continued support and, in return, send my best wishes to you all for a successful and enjoyable programme.

ELIZABETH R

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and as is customary asked those who were attending for the first time to stand.

2. **ADOPTION OF BRIGADE COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULES**

The Chairman pointed out that the procedures were in accordance with Brigade Regulations and Company Law. The Chairman proposed the adoption of the Rules and they were adopted by acclamation.

The Chairman explained the voting procedure should a ballot be needed.

Council authorised the Brigade staff to act as tellers for any ballots.

The Chairman reminded Council that he should already have received notice of any items of Any Other Business.

3. **COMMEMORATION**

The Brigade Chaplain led the commemoration to remember BB members who had passed to higher service during the year.

4. MINUTES OF MEETING OF BRIGADE COUNCIL – Wolverhampton 2015

The minutes of the Brigade Council meeting held in Wolverhampton on the 5th September 2015 were approved and signed as a correct record of proceedings.

5. REVIEW OF THE YEAR

Council members viewed a video presentation which highlighted key events and achievements from the 2015/2016 Session.

6. PRESENTATION OF ANNUAL ACCOUNTS 2015-2016

The audited Financial Statements for the year ended 31st March 2016 were presented by the Brigade Treasurer, Mr Clifford Bygrave, who proposed that they be received.

Our Auditors Whiting and Partners had given an unqualified Report on the Accounts and the supporting disclosures and documentation.

The Treasurer reported that the layout of the accounts was slightly different as they had been prepared using a new Accounting Standard. Any increases in administration costs had been kept to a minimum and the Executive was committed to keeping a tight control on costs. The final result for the year showed a surplus of £29,000 compared to a deficit of £75,000 in the previous year.

The Brigade had continued to be successful in securing additional funds through the Youth United Foundation. This income had enabled the Brigade to fund the employment of development workers in certain areas to assist Companies to grow and to establish new ones.

The Balance Sheet indicated that the Brigade had total assets of £4,854,271 at 31st March 2016. The deferred income item of around £300,000 relates to capitation fees received prior to March but for the year to 31st August 2016.

The Treasurer recorded his appreciation to Gina Alderson and her finance team for the dedicated service and expertise which they continue to give to the Brigade on a day-to-day basis.

The presentation of the Accounts was seconded by Miss Lisa Hawes who also paid tribute to the Treasurer for all his leadership and work during the past year.

The Accounts were received by Council.

7. ANNUAL CAPITATION FEES FOR THE 2017/2018 SESSION

In proposing the Annual Capitation Fees Mr Leslie Buttimer, Brigade Executive, explained that the capitation fees for the current session agreed in Glasgow at last year's Council were being confirmed and that the Executive were now proposing the fees for 2017/2018 session.

The proposals included an increase of 75p for a young person and a reduction of £10 to the Company Fee element. Mr Buttimer also explained that the Executive was currently reviewing the merits of the Company fee and was well aware of the financial situation of many Companies.

Mr Buttimer proposed the following fees for 2017/18 and this was seconded by Mr David Love.

Category		Fee
Annual Company registration fee		£125
Fee per young person		£14.00
Officer fee	Company Officers	£27.00
	(second officer at the same address)	£22.00
	Battalion & District Officers not on Company roll	£27.00
	Officers in receipt of state retirement pension	£21.00
	Officers in full time education or training	£21.00
Helper Fee		£14.00

The fee in respect of an Associate Member is £27.00

The maximum fee that a Company may pay in respect of young people is £1,650.00.

The motion was carried by a large majority.

8. BRIGADE AUDITORS

Mr Bygrave proposed on behalf of the Executive that Whiting and Partners be reappointed as auditors of The Boys' Brigade and that the Brigade Executive be authorised to fix their remuneration.

Mr Stuart Rankin, Brigade Executive, seconded the proposal.

The motion was carried.

9. TO APPOINT BRIGADE OFFICE BEARERS FOR 2016/17 SESSION

Mr David Sneddon proposed on behalf of the Executive that the following office bearers be re-appointed for the 2016/2017 session:

President: The Rev'd The Lord Griffiths of Burry Port
 Vice President: Mr A S Burrow
 Treasurer: Mr C Bygrave FCA

Miss Sharon Mackey seconded the motion.

The following additional office-bearers were also proposed and seconded:

Chaplain: **Very Rev Michael Barry**
 Proposed by: Trevor McCormick, Brigade Executive
 Seconded by: Adam Currie, Brigade Executive

Vice President: Mr David Aubrey QC
Proposed by: Michael Elliot, Brigade Executive
Seconded by: Lee Hiorns, Brigade Executive

Vice President: Mr David Blevins
Proposed by: Perry Donaldson, Brigade Executive
Seconded by: Rachael Knowles, Brigade Executive

All the above office-bearers were elected.

10. MOTION IN THE NAME OF LONDON DISTRICT

On behalf of London District the Rev Dean Ayres proposed the following amendment to Brigade Regulations.

“In Brigade Regulations, Section 3 (The Organisation – Regulations & Procedures), Schedule B (Terms of service for members of National Bodies), After Clause B15, insert,

Trustee time limit

B 16 Where a person who is a Trustee has undertaken any combination of Representative Member, Young People, Co-opted Trustee and/or Brigade Office Bearer roles in succession, his or her maximum aggregate term of office as a trustee shall be nine years from the date of his or her first appointment as a Trustee as registered at Companies House. Where the nine-year period is exceeded part way through a Brigade Session, he or she shall retire on 31 August thereafter.

B 16.1 Any person who serves the maximum period as a Trustee permitted under these Regulations shall be eligible for re-election as a Trustee (in any role for which he or she is otherwise eligible) following a break in service for a period of at least 12 months. The maximum period of service set down by these Regulations shall also apply to any period of further service following such re-election.

B 17 For the avoidance of doubt, clause B16:

B 17.1 shall apply to all periods of service since 1 September 2009. No Trustee who was appointed on or before 1 September 2009 and who has served continuously since then shall be: (a) required to retire before 31 August 2018, or (b). permitted to continue in office beyond 31 August 2018.

B 17.2 shall not override clause B13.2”

When proposing the motion Mr Ayres stated that this would help to clarify Brigade Regulations and also keep the Brigade in step with guidance recently circulated by the Charity Commission in England.

The motion was seconded by Mr Fraser Boyd, Stirling Battalion. There were no questions raised on the motion and following a show of cards the motion was carried.

11. TO TRANSACT ANY OTHER LAWFUL BUSINESS

There was no other business.

On behalf of the Brigade Executive and the Brigade at large, Alistair Burrow thanked Mr Perry Donaldson, who was stepping down as Vice President having completed the maximum term of office as such, and presented a token of thanks from the Brigade.

In his closing remarks the President thanked the Very Rev Andrew McLellan who was stepping down as Brigade Chaplain having also completed his maximum term of office and he also received a gift from the Brigade. Thanks were also extended to Mr Matt Smith who had also resigned as a Brigade Vice-President earlier in the year.

The President also thanked Alistair Burrow, Bill Stevenson and Jonathan Eales for all their work during the year. Thanks were also passed on to the Northern Ireland Regional Committee for making all the arrangements for conference.

12. INVITATION TO CONFERENCE 2017

All present were invited to attend Brigade Conference in Cardiff from the 1-3 September 2017.



#bbconf2017

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