

**2023 Annual General Meeting of City Faith Ministries Trust  
Aka Christian Life Fellowship**

**Date:** Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> April 2023

**Venue:** Online (via Zoom)

**Time:** 7.30pm-9.35pm

**Attendance:** (47 Online)

**Trustees & Elders:** Meka Umeadi - Vice Chair & Treasurer (MU)

Michael Amoah - Chair (MA)

Marilyn Mensah (MM)

Enoch Amoah (EA)

Philip Ankrah (PA)

**Ex Officio:** John Dompseh (Executive)

**Members Online:** Stephanie, Angela C, Christina (P), Delia, Diana, Ettie, Jacqui, Martyn, Sabrina (D), Samiatt, Shelisha, Tina, Sis Pauline, Abigail (AA), Bola, Frankie, Karen, Natalie (NAD), Nunya (NL), Petrina, Rafiat, Ruth, Samantha A, Afriyie, Alfred, Deborah, Emma (EK), Enoch (EA), Genevieve, Petrina, Adeola, Ayshea, Charles G, David, Davinia, Edmund, Geoffrey, Tunde, Bianca, Esther, Judy, Susan, Kai, Nicholas, Amina.

**Apologies:** Sandra Ankrah

### **Agenda**

1. Opening Prayer
2. Reading of 2022 AGM minutes
3. Amendments to 2022 AGM minutes
4. Matters Arising
5. Report of CFMT for 2022:
  - a. Global Report
  - b. Finance Report
6. Any Other Business
7. Closing prayer

## **1. Opening Prayer:**

Meeting began at 7:36pm by MA.  
MM opened meeting in prayer.

## **2. Reading of 2022 AGM minutes:**

Minutes for 2022 read by AA.

## **3. Amendments to 2022 AGM minutes:**

No amendments were made to the minutes.

## **4. Matters Arising:**

There were no matters arising from minutes. Minutes approved by SLK & MM

## **5. Report of CFMT for 2022:**

### **a. Global Report:**

Global report read by MA.

### **Amendments to be made for the 2022 report:**

- Remove England from the report under UK CLF Churches page 5
- India Churches to be clarified? Page 5
- ICWN date needs amending from 2021 to 2022? Page 6
- SMM date needs amended from 2021 to 2022 Page 7
- Missions date needs amending from 2021 to 2022 Page 7
- SMM dates need amending from 2023 to 2022 Page 8
- Tipping Point give brief info Page 14

MU asked members if there were any other amendments. No further amendments were required.

### **b. Finance Report:**

Breakdown of financial report given by MU; the report reflected on income in the year 2022.

### **Amendments to be made for the 2022 Finance report:**

- Dashboard to be amended to state total expenditure not income.

MU asked members if there were any questions regarding the Finance report.

FO stated they appreciated MA and MU for reading the reports, and queried why the report was not captured in the minutes. MU queried whether this was in regard to the figures being included within the minutes.

FO stated that a lot of the AGM was spent with MA reading the reports. MU advised all separate agenda items needed to be read at every meeting but in future would consider focusing on certain parts to save time.

MA advised AGMs required all agenda read. However, the option to have all present indicate approval of the reports and minutes was available. However, this would mean all would need to have read documents prior to the meeting.

MU asked if this answered FO's question. FO stated slightly but he will raise any further questions offline.

CP asked if the expenditure of 58% for staff costs in 2022 was for UK only and/or overseas. MA advised it was only for UK staff and that pastors outside of the UK fell under the missions costs.

GG asked following on from FO's point would it be possible to have the previous minutes and information ahead of the meeting to read in advance as the majority of the meeting had been taken up by reading agenda items. MA agreed that this was a good point raised in terms of sending out information in advance. He also advised previously it was a formality that all items were read out. However, if a consensus were reached from members that the minutes were read, he would consider them being approved during AGM to save reading everything out.

SA asked if we supported the other branches financially if they are struggling, particularly those in Africa and Asia. MA responded that we provided support via Evangelism and Missions, with approximately £40K being spent in the past year on salaries, expenses, undergraduate students, and necessary costs. He stated the current years challenge re setting a budget, was balancing priorities with areas that stewardship could be developed.

SA asked if Child Sponsorship was taking place and were children being sponsored. MM advised that there are 50 children being sponsored and the sponsors were from various places, but mostly personal donations.

SA responded she had not realised child sponsorship was still on-going due to lack of advertising and awareness. She queried if it was possible for this to be promoted for the new members coming into the church. MM advised that CLM is currently reviewing this and will take the feedback on board, so sponsors would be updated of the work being done.

MM advised that if GG & FO had any points they felt were not addressed, they could contact the Trustees after the meeting.

SLK read out a query from Karen in the chat asking if there was a platform for members to send queries regarding the AGM. SLK asked if this was answered by advice MM had given to GG and FO. MA stated yes.

DO informed members online that the building committee had submitted a bid for the GDA the previous week and were awaiting the outcome with Greenwich Council. MA thanked DO for the update.

MA read out NAD's question in the chat querying where members could give feedback for the corporate events. SLK advised there was a corporate feedback form which was sent out via a link in the corporate event WhatsApp chat. She advised that HOD's should obtain feedback from their relevant team members and the form was sent out after every corporate event.

NL asked what income from other ministries and grants actually consisted of. MA advised this was the CLF associated churches who are other Trusts and that CLTI and CLF Publishing would also fall into this.

MR advised following on NAD's question and SLK's response that all feedback was fed to the Presbytery and discussed at Congregational Leaders meetings (to clarify how feedback was passed on from the church office).

EK asked if it was possible to have an events team to take the load from the church office to ensure information was dispersed in good time. She explained a specific team was needed to help support the office. MU advised he understood a team was already in place for corporate events and asked JD to further elaborate.

JD stated that there was a team that worked alongside the office to help support corporate events, including members from all the branches.

DD stated there was a corporate events team that met to plan up-coming events, but everyone involved did not attend which placed a burden on the office team. MR advised that unfortunately it was "the nature of the beast" in the voluntary sector where only a few individuals carried out the work.

AA elaborated that EK was referring to the back-to-back events with the same people serving – hence her suggestion for specific teams be formed to handle specific events.

MU stated that situations could arise where a dedicated team was not possible so there may be need to review the number of events we held if there were not enough volunteers.

It was stated that the building committee consisted of 3 people who had been instrumental in helping CLF to place a bid for £300,000, for a property worth more £4 million.

MR advised the last bid was by Hillsong for £3 million.

SLK queried if there was a commercial market value for the GDA and FO queried how MA came to the £4 million value. MA explained that based on the square meterage in Greenwich, with planning permission that is extended, that would be the approximate value - based on surrounding properties. The figure also took into account the optimal business use from the property/land and any expenses such as asbestos removal etc.

SLK asked if we had placed a bid for the leasehold or the freehold. MA advised it was for a freehold and thanked DO for bringing up the GDA bid as it had been helpful.

SLK queried if we knew the running costs for the GDA building. MA advised that the running costs were huge. He also advised that the GDA was a listed building, had works that required asbestos removal, had no proper utility provision and various other works outstanding. Due to this there would need to be a 5–10-year building plan, to show how the building would be restored over time.

MA asked if this answered SLK's question. SLK stated slightly but that she would ask further questions offline due to time.

MR stated that this was a short-term programme, where we would be able to access the building by use of a hall whilst other works required were undertaken.

### **Any Other Business:**

MA asked if there was any other business. No comments were raised. He also asked if there were any closing comments from JD.

JD thanked the Trustees and MA for chairing the meeting, and all the administrators, leaders, and pastors in the church. He stated that serving was an honour and that he was always encouraged by *Corinthians 15:58*:

*Therefore, my dear brothers and sisters, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord because you know that your labour in the Lord is not in vain.*

He continued to state that whatever done to contribute to the Kingdom, members should know their labour in serving the Lord was never in vain. He encouraged all to continue to work hard and give their best to the Lord in the trying times and thanked and blessed attendees.

### **6. Closing prayer:**

MU closed meeting in prayer

MA thanked everyone for taking part and invited any queries to be forwarded to the Trustees without hesitation.

Meeting closed at 21:35pm