



**CHARITY COMMISSION  
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES**

## Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From 1<sup>st</sup> January 2020  
Period end date

Period start date To 31<sup>st</sup> December 2020

Charity name: Mothers' Union Diocese of Lincoln

Charity registration number: 249980

CHARITY COMMISSION  
FIRST CONTACT

24 AUG 2021

ACCOUNTS  
RECEIVED

## Objectives and Activities

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	Affiliated to MU Incorporated by Royal charter (c/n 240531) To demonstrate the Christian faith in action by the transformation of communities worldwide thro the nurture of family in its many forms.
Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.	Para 1.17 and 1.19	Support for elderly thro IMPC membership. AFIA holidays for needy families, support for Baby Basket a project for mothers and babies in Lincoln Diocese, Provision of newborn items for Maternity hospitals across the Diocese, support for dementia patients, involved in Kairos/prayers/cookies, cards for prisoners, group involvement in Clewer/ Modern Day Slavery awareness and support
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	Para 1.18	Trustees have responsibility for and management of the charity with particular responsibility for the area in which they live feeding information to branches and individuals from the Trustee meetings and from the main body of MU worldwide organisation.

## Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

	SORP reference	
Policy on grant making	Para 1.38	N/a
Policy on social investment including program related investment	Para 1.38	N/A
Contribution made by volunteers	Para 1.38	Volunteers work as individuals and in branches to provide services to their local churches and communities, fundraising to help local and wider causes approved by MU. Contact with the Local University was maintained during lockdown, providing an online cookbook for students who were in hall and cakes delivered when allowed for students in hall
Other		



## Achievements and Performance

	SORP reference	
Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.	Para 1.20	<p>In a particularly challenging year due to covid pandemic, members have continued to help in their communities by contacting elderly by phone or post, holding meetings and services on Zoom for those online, Making PPE equipment for hospitals, homes, and clinics, NHS where needed. And continuing to support Women's Refuges wherever possible.</p> <p>Much of the usual knitting, crafting and supplies have been curtailed with homes, hospitals, refuges etc being unable to receive the usual gifts.</p>

### Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Achievements against objectives set	Para 1.41	
Performance of fundraising activities against objectives set	Para 1.41	Many fundraising activities last year were cancelled with the emphasis shifting to keeping in touch and supporting where possible
Investment performance against objectives	Para 1.41	Due to lockdown and savings we were able to retain our investments without withdrawing any funds
Other		



## Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	Having started the year with a deficit of £4000 the Trustees put measures in place in Jan2021, including redundancy for the Administrator, closing office, producing newsletters in place of the usual magazine. The result was a profit of £5.500 which will enable members to be actively involved in their work in the communities in the future.
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	Reserves are held by CBF to cover any unexpected expenses,( previously used for the church building we were responsible for), now as a buffer against any expenses; used in 2019 to cover a deficit..
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	£13.282
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	N/A
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	N/A
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	N/a

### Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

The charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising)	Para 1.47	Subscription from members Donations from members In a normal year fundraising.at branch and Cluster events.
Investment policy and objectives including any social investment policy adopted	Para 1.46	
A description of the principal risks facing the charity	Para 1.46	Continuing Covid pandemic Age of membership
Other		



## Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:		
Type of governing document (trust deed, royal charter)	Para 1.25	Royal Charter
How is the charity constituted? (e.g unincorporated association, CIO)	Para 1.25	Unincorporated association
Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees	Para 1.25	From within the membership by election if needed From outside for specific skills eg current treasurer.

### Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees	Para 1.51	New Trustees and Diocesan president inducted by Bishop at a commissioning service for three year period which may extend to six.  Training for new Trustees for 2022-24 will be online arranged by MSH HQ
The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works	Para 1.51	
Relationship with any related parties	Para 1.51	
Other		

## Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	Mothers Union Diocese of Lincoln
Other name the charity uses	
Registered charity number	249980
Charity's principal address	Temporarily 3, Sycamore Close Bourne. Lincs PE10 9RS  Office closed 2020-1 Mothers Union Centre, St peter at Gowts Church Hall, Sibthorp Street, Lincoln LN5 7SH



### **Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity**

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Elizabeth Page	Diocesan President	2019-2021	
2	Phil O'Connell	Treasurer		
3	Christine Bruce	MUenterprise	2019-2021	
4	Jenni Honisett	Diocesan members	2019-	
5	Chris Jackson	Horncastle Cluster	2019-	
6	Gill Kennedy	Grimsby Cluster	2019-2021	
7	Sue Kerridge	Diocesan Fellowship	2019-	
8	Patsy Moore	Faith coordinator	2019-2021	
9	Paddy Phillips	General	2019-2021	
10	Margaret Saunders	Witham Cluster	2019-2021	
11	Katy Hewis	Coopted Clewer/MDS	2019-2020	
12				
13				
14				
15				
16				
17				
18				
19				
20				

Corporate trustees – names of the directors at the date the report was approved

Corporate trustees' names at the date the report was approved		
Director name		
Elizabeth J Page	Sue Kerridge	
Chris Jackson	Margaret Saunders	
Christine Bruce		
Jenni Honisett		
Gill Kennedy		

Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity N/A

[illegible]



## Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

Description of the assets held in this capacity	None
Name and objects of the charity on whose behalf the assets are held and how this falls within the custodian charity's objects	
Details of arrangements for safe custody and segregation of such assets from the charity's own assets	Any assets held securely in the office at Lincoln. Key held by DP and Witham Trustee

### Additional information (optional)

#### Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address
Examiner	Fred Frisby	As DP

#### Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

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## Exemptions from disclosure

Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details

Fred Frisby retired Accounted volunteered as examiner of accounts 2019 -2020.

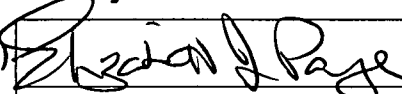
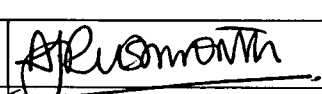
## Other optional information

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## Declarations

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

#### Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	Elizabeth Page	Andrea Rushworth
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Diocesan President	SECRETARY
Date	9 <sup>th</sup> August 2021	



**THE MOTHERS UNION (Diocese of Lincoln Branch)**

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020**

I report to the Trustees on my examination of the Accounts of the Charity for the year ended 31 December 2020.

**Responsibilities and basis of report**

As the Charity Trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the Accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Charity's Accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

**Independent Examiner's statement**

I have completed my examination and can confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. Accounting records were not kept in respect of the Charity as required by section 130 of the 2011 Act or
2. The Accounts do not accord with those records or
3. The Accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the Accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the Accounts to be reached.



F W Frisby CA, MBA  
36 St Aubins Crescent  
Heighington  
Lincolnshire  
LN4 1GH

03 August 2021



7.52 PM

## Lincoln Diocesan Mothers' Union

16/05/21

### Profit & Loss

Accrual Basis

January through December 2020

Jan- Dec 20

#### Ordinary Income/Expenses

##### Income

Action +Outreach	274.56
AFIA Holidays	400.00
Branch Closure	347.10
Diocesan Membership	1,288.00
Diocesan news incl post	330.01
Donations & Gift Income	3,221.74
Faith+Policy	10.00
Gift Aid Refund	786.92
IMPC	260.00
Investment income	1, 148.21
LDMU Insurance	261.00
Literature Sales -MUe	1,404.73
MSH Appeals-Donations	282.72
Newsletter	1,272.00
Subscriptions	<u>15,897.50</u>
TOTAL income	<u>27,184.49</u>

Gross Profit 27,184.49

##### Expense

Action + Outreach	274.56
Conferences	153.00
Diocesan Fares Fund	19.50
Diocesan News/incl post	58.98
Donations & gift expenses	25.70
Dues & Subscription	9,975.50
Faith + Policy	40.00
IMPC Ex	10.00
Insurance Expenses	495.31
LDMU Salaries	6,415.17
LDMU Utilities	
Telephone	203.92
Other	<u>3.77</u>
Total utilities	207.69
Literature	1,797.45
Miscellaneous	218.00
Newsletter Expenses	498.00
Office Expenses	302.94
Postage & Delivery	114.03
Rent and rates	<u>1,080.00</u>
TOTAL Expenses	<u>21,685.83</u>
Net Ordinary Income	<u>5,498.66</u>
Profit for the year	<u><u>5,498.66</u></u>



# Lincoln Diocesan Mothers' Union

## 1st Quarter Statement (ongoing) and Budget for 2020

Receipts							Payments						
	2019 b/f	Jan	Feb	Mar	Year	Budget		2019 b/f	Jan	Feb	Mar	Year	Budget
<b>1. LDMU/Administration</b>													
Insurance			27.00	226.50	253.50		Insurance			495.31		495.31	
General Income					-		Rent		120.00	120.00	120.00	360.00	
Donations		58.16	185.00	594.44	837.60		Salaries		602.00	602.00	602.00	1,806.00	
Services					-		Office Exp					-	
Subs/Diocese			517.50	5,267.00	5,784.50		Utilities		44.72		48.20	92.92	
Dioc Mem 2020	287.50	460.00	299.00	80.50	1,127.00		Pres Exp					-	
Dioc Mem 2021					-		DM Exp					-	
Gift Aid					-		Diocesan Fares					-	
Newsletter	50.00	80.00	150.00	996.00	1,276.00		Newsletter					-	
News Post	50.00	80.00	75.01	158.00	363.01		News Post					-	
					-		Services					-	
Council					-		Council					-	
Refund					-		Conferences			153.00		153.00	
Duplicate subs				218.00	218.00		Returned cheque		94.56			94.56	
					-		Refund			40.00	178.00	218.00	
					-							-	
<b>Total</b>	<b>387.50</b>	<b>678.16</b>	<b>1,253.51</b>	<b>7,540.44</b>	<b>9,859.61</b>		<b>Total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>861.28</b>	<b>1,410.31</b>	<b>948.20</b>	<b>3,219.79</b>	
<b>2. Units</b>													
A and O		74.56	74.56		149.12		A and O			74.56		74.56	
AFIA Hols		80.00	10.00	170.00	260.00		AFIA Hols					-	
Literature		30.00	10.71	27.00	67.71		Mue			449.45		449.45	
Training					-		Training					-	
IMPC		40.00	56.00	161.00	257.00		IMPC			10.00		10.00	
F and P					-		F and P			40.00		40.00	
					-							-	
					-							-	
<b>Total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>224.56</b>	<b>151.27</b>	<b>358.00</b>	<b>733.83</b>		<b>Total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>574.01</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>574.01</b>	
<b>3. MSH</b>													
Subscriptions	362.50	580.00	1,087.50	6,945.50	8,975.50		Subscriptions				8,946.50	8,946.50	
Subscriptions 2021					-							-	
Appeals					-		Appeals					-	
					-							-	
<b>Total</b>	<b>362.50</b>	<b>580.00</b>	<b>1,087.50</b>	<b>6,945.50</b>	<b>8,975.50</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>8,946.50</b>	<b>8,946.50</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>4. Projects</b>													
Parenting Cse					-		Parenting Cse					-	
Launde					-		Launde					-	
Literacy					-		Literacy					-	
					-							-	
					-							-	
<b>Total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Overall total</b>		<b>1,482.72</b>	<b>2,492.28</b>	<b>14,843.94</b>	<b>18,818.94</b>		<b>Overall total</b>		<b>861.28</b>	<b>1,984.32</b>	<b>9,894.70</b>	<b>12,740.30</b>	
<b>balance b.d.</b>		<b>1,248.38</b>	<b>1,869.82</b>	<b>2,205.78</b>			<b>balance c.d.</b>		<b>1,869.82</b>	<b>2,205.78</b>	<b>7,155.02</b>		
CBF							CBF						
	<b>-</b>	<b>2,731.10</b>	<b>4,362.10</b>	<b>17,049.72</b>	<b>18,818.94</b>			<b>-</b>	<b>2,731.10</b>	<b>4,190.10</b>	<b>17,049.72</b>	<b>12,740.30</b>	



**Lincoln Diocesan Mothers' Union**  
3rd Quarter Statement (ongoing) and Budget for 2020

Receipts							Payments						
1/2 Year	Jul	Aug	Sep	Year	Budget		3rd Qtr	Jul	Aug	Sep	Year	Budget	
<b>1. LDMU/Administration</b>													
Insurance	253.50				253.50		Insurance	495.31				495.31	
	-				-		Rent	480.00		120.00	120.00	720.00	
Donations	2,809.60	502.40	10.00	10.00	3,332.00		redundancy./salary	1,806.00	2,803.17			4,609.17	
Services	-				-		Office Exp	-				-	
Subs/Diocese	5,968.50				5,968.50		Utilities	137.32	44.40		22.20	203.92	
Dioc Mem 2020	1,184.50	30.00			1,214.50		Pres Exp	-				-	
Dioc Mem 2021	-				-		A.P's/DM Exp	-				-	
Gift Aid	786.92				786.92		Diocesan Fares	-				-	
Newsletter	1,322.00				1,322.00		Newsletter	498.00				498.00	
News Post	380.01				380.01		News Post	58.98	87.10	23.40		169.48	
closed branch account	-	252.40		69.88	322.28		Services	-				-	
Council	-				-		Council	-				-	
Refund	-	21.00			21.00		Conferences	153.00				153.00	
Duplicate subs	218.00				218.00		returned chq	94.56				94.56	
	172.00				172.00		Refund	218.00				218.00	
cancelled Cheques	-	54.00			54.00							-	
<b>Total</b>	<b>13,095.03</b>	<b>859.80</b>	<b>10.00</b>	<b>79.88</b>	<b>14,044.71</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>3,941.17</b>	<b>2,934.67</b>	<b>143.40</b>	<b>142.20</b>	<b>7,161.44</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>2. Units</b>													
A and O	149.12				149.12		A and O	274.56				274.56	
AFIA Hols	410.00				410.00		AFIA Hols	-				-	
Mue	185.85	64.40	40.20	35.15	325.60		Mue	796.65	347.20		215.00	1,358.85	
Training	-				-		Training	-				-	
IMPC	280.00				280.00		IMPC	10.00				10.00	
F and P	-				-		F and P	40.00				40.00	
	-				-			-				-	
	-				-			-				-	
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,024.97</b>	<b>64.40</b>	<b>40.20</b>	<b>35.15</b>	<b>1,164.72</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>1,121.21</b>	<b>347.20</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>215.00</b>	<b>1,683.41</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>3. MSH</b>													
Subscriptions	9,309.00				9,309.00		Subscriptions	8,946.50	14.50			8,961.00	
Appeals	65.12				65.12		Appeals					-	
	-				-	#REF!						-	
												-	
												-	
												-	
<b>Total</b>	<b>9,374.12</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>9,374.12</b>	<b>#REF!</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>8,946.50</b>	<b>14.50</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>8,961.00</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>4. Projects</b>													
Parenting Cse	-				-		Parenting Cse	-				-	
Launde	-				-		Launde	-				-	
Literacy	-				-		Literacy	-				-	
	-				-			-				-	
	-				-			-				-	
<b>Total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Overall total</b>	<b>22,965.62</b>	<b>660.80</b>	<b>420.00</b>	<b>115.03</b>	<b>24,161.45</b>		<b>Overall total</b>	<b>16,844.88</b>	<b>3,274.17</b>	<b>165.00</b>	<b>335.00</b>	<b>20,619.05</b>	
<b>balance b.d.</b>		<b>7,197.12</b>	<b>4,583.75</b>	<b>4,838.75</b>			<b>balance c.d.</b>		<b>4,583.75</b>	<b>4,838.75</b>	<b>4,618.78</b>		
CBF							CBF						
	<b>22,965.62</b>	<b>7,857.92</b>	<b>5,003.75</b>	<b>4,953.78</b>	<b>24,161.45</b>			<b>16,844.88</b>	<b>7,857.92</b>	<b>5,003.75</b>	<b>4,953.78</b>	<b>20,619.05</b>	



**Lincoln Diocesan Mothers' Union**  
4th Quarter Statement (ongoing) and Budget for 2020

Receipts							Payments						
	3rd Qtr	Oct	Nov	Dec	Year	Budget		3rd Qtr	Oct	Nov	Dec	Year	Budget
<b>1. LDMU/Administration</b>													
Insurance	253.50				253.50		Insurance	495.31				495.31	
General Income	-				-		Rent	720.00	120.00	120.00	120.00	1,080.00	
Donations	3,079.60	41.44	65.00	10.00	3,196.04		Salaries	6,415.17				6,415.17	
Services	-				-		Office Exp	110.50	86.98		209.46	406.94	
Subs/Diocese	5,968.50				5,968.50		Utilities	203.92				203.92	
Dioc Mem 2020	1,184.50	31.00			1,215.50		Pres Exp	-				-	
Dioc Mem 2021	-	170.00	100.00	90.00	360.00		Officer Exp	-				-	
Gift Aid	786.92				786.92		Diocesan Fares	-				-	
Newsletter	1,322.00				1,322.00		Newsletter	498.00				498.00	
News Post	380.01				380.01		News Post	58.98				58.98	
Account Closure	322.28	24.82			347.10		Services	-				-	
Council	-				-		Council	-				-	
Refund	-				-		Conferences	153.00				153.00	
Duplicate subs	218.00				218.00		Rtn'd Cheque	94.56				94.56	
Missing deposits	172.00				172.00		Refund	218.00				218.00	
Petty Cash closure	-			25.70	25.70			-				-	
<b>Total</b>	<b>13,687.31</b>	<b>267.26</b>	<b>165.00</b>	<b>125.70</b>	<b>14,245.27</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>8,967.44</b>	<b>206.98</b>	<b>120.00</b>	<b>329.46</b>	<b>9,623.88</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>2. Units</b>													
A and O	349.12				349.12		A and O	274.56				274.56	
AFIA Hols	410.00				410.00		AFIA Hols	-				-	
MUE	325.60	158.60	121.83	798.70	1,404.73		MUE	1,011.65			785.80	1,797.45	
Training	-				-		Training	-				-	
IMPC	280.00				280.00		IMPC	10.00				10.00	
F and P	-				-		F and P	40.00				40.00	
	-				-			-				-	
	-				-			-				-	
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,364.72</b>	<b>158.60</b>	<b>121.83</b>	<b>798.70</b>	<b>2,443.85</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>1,336.21</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>785.80</b>	<b>2,122.01</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>3. MSH</b>													
Subscriptions	9,339.00	14.50			9,353.50		Subscriptions	8,961.00	14.50			8,975.50	
Appeals	65.12				65.12			-				-	
Subscriptions 2021		340.00	200.00	180.00	720.00			-				-	
Relief Fund Overseas				217.60	217.60			-				-	
					-			-				-	
					-			-				-	
<b>Total</b>	<b>9,404.12</b>	<b>354.50</b>	<b>200.00</b>	<b>397.60</b>	<b>10,356.22</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>8,961.00</b>	<b>14.50</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>8,975.50</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>4. Projects</b>													
Parenting Cse	-				-		Parenting Cse	-				-	
Launde	-				-		Launde	-				-	
Literacy	-				-		Literacy	-				-	
	-				-			-				-	
	-				-			-				-	
<b>Total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Overall total</b>	<b>23,713.65</b>	<b>780.36</b>	<b>486.83</b>	<b>1,322.00</b>	<b>26,302.84</b>		<b>Overall total</b>	<b>15,724.07</b>	<b>221.48</b>	<b>120.00</b>	<b>1,115.26</b>	<b>17,180.81</b>	
<b>balance b.d.</b>		<b>4,516.38</b>	<b>5,075.26</b>	<b>5,442.09</b>			<b>balance c.d.</b>		<b>5,075.26</b>	<b>5,442.09</b>	<b>5,648.83</b>		
<b>CBF</b>							<b>CBF</b>						
		<b>5,296.74</b>	<b>5,562.09</b>	<b>6,764.09</b>	<b>26,302.84</b>				<b>5,296.74</b>	<b>5,562.09</b>	<b>6,764.09</b>	<b>17,180.81</b>	



**Constitution for  
Mothers' Union: Diocese of Lincoln  
Registered Charity No 249980**

**Revised 2020**

**1. Name**

The name of the charity is Lincoln Diocese Mothers' Union. It is an unincorporated association registered as charity number 249980. It is affiliated to Mothers' Union, a charity incorporated by Royal Charter (charity no: 240531) through its shared aim and objects, and by virtue of its acceptance as an affiliate by the central charity and its adherence to the rules and regulations of the movement. The Mothers' Union in the Diocese of Lincoln will draw its membership from and operate within the geographical area shown on the attached schedule.

**2. Aim, Purpose & Objects**

The vision of Mothers' Union is of a world where God's love is shown through loving, respectful, and flourishing relationships. The aim and purpose of Mothers' Union is to demonstrate the Christian faith in action by the transformation of communities worldwide through the nurture of the family in its many forms.

In furtherance of this aim and purpose Mothers' Union will carry out all or any of the following Objects.

- 2.1 To uphold Christ's teaching on the nature of marriage and to promote its wider understanding;
- 2.2 To encourage parents to bring up their children in the faith and life of the Church;
- 2.3 To maintain a world-wide fellowship of Christians united in prayer, worship and service;
- 2.4 To promote conditions in society favourable to stable family life and the protection of children; and
- 2.5 To help those whose family life has met with adversity.

Mothers' Union is firmly rooted in a voluntary ethos. Its governance, leadership, and activities are driven by and undertaken through its members.

Members of Mothers' Union believe firstly, in the value of each individual and their unique qualities, in the value of relationships. Jesus said, "Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: Love your neighbour as yourself." And secondly, in the value of family in its many forms as a source of love and support for individuals and as the basis for a caring community.

**3. Powers**

As an unincorporated association the Trustees have the power to do anything lawful which is calculated to further the objects of the charity or is conducive or incidental to doing so. In particular, the Trustees have the power to:

- 3.1 buy, take on lease or in exchange, hire or otherwise acquire any property and to maintain and equip it for use.



- 3.2 sell, lease or otherwise dispose of all or any part of the property belonging to the Charity. In exercising this power, the Charity must comply as appropriate with sections 117 and 119-123 of the Charities Act 2011.
- 3.3 employ and remunerate such staff as are necessary for carrying out the work of the Charity. The Charity may not employ or remunerate a serving charity trustee.
- 3.4 deposit or invest funds, employ a professional fund-manager, and arrange for the investments or other property of the Charity to be held in the name of a nominee, in the same manner and subject to the same conditions as the trustees of a trust are permitted to do by the Trustee Act 2000.
- 3.5 borrow money and to charge the whole or any part of its property as security for the repayment of the money borrowed. The Charity must comply as appropriate with sections 124 and 125 of the Charities Act 2011, if it wishes to mortgage land.
- 3.6 To promote or carry out appropriate research.
- 3.7 To provide appropriate advice, practical support and financial support, in line with the objects of the Charity, in the geographical area set out in Clause 1.
- 3.8 To publish or distribute information that supports or furthers the charitable objects.
- 3.9 To provide financial and other support for the work of Mothers' Union worldwide.
- 3.10 To insure the property of the Charity against any foreseeable risk and take out other appropriate insurance policies.
- 3.11 To raise funds. In exercising this power, the trustees must not undertake any substantial permanent trading activity and must comply with any relevant statutory regulations.

#### **4. Accounts, Annual Report and Annual Return**

The trustees shall comply with the accounting requirements of the prevailing Charity law, relevant to the income/expenditure level of their charity, with regard to:

- 4.1 The keeping of accounting records for the charity.
- 4.2 The preparation of annual statements of account for the charity.
- 4.3 The independent examination of the statements of account of the charity.
- 4.4 The preparation of an Annual Report and the sending of it together with the statements of account to the Charity Commission.
- 4.5 The preparation of an Annual Return and its transmission to the Commission.
- 4.6 The Trustees must keep proper records of:
  - 4.6.1. All proceedings at general meetings;
  - 4.6.2. All proceedings at meetings of Trustees;
  - 4.6.3. All reports of committees; and
  - 4.6.4. All professional advice obtained.
- 4.7 Accounting records relating to the Charity must be made available for inspection by any Trustee at any time and may be made available for inspection by members if the Trustees so decide.



- 4.8 A copy of the Charity's latest available statement of account must be supplied on request to any Trustee or member. A copy must also be supplied, within two months, to any other person who makes a written request and pays the Charity's reasonable costs.

## **5. Bank accounts**

The trustees shall ensure that the assets of the charity are to be held in the name of the charity. Bank accounts will be in the name of the charity and not that of one or more individual trustees. There should be two signatories for each cheque and other bank instructions. There should be three signatories to the account to ensure smooth operation of the accounts.

5.1. The Trustees shall cause true accounts of all Mothers' Union income and expenditure to be kept, and presented detailed and duly inspected accounts to the Annual General Meeting.

5.2 Salaried officials shall be appointed where needed by the Diocesan Trustees. The agreement shall normally be terminated by three months' written notice on either side.

5.3 Travelling Expenses:- Trustees and officials attending meetings should be entitled to claim travelling expenses at a rate determined by the Trustee.

## **6. Membership**

6.1 Membership shall be open to all those who have been baptised in the name of the Holy Trinity and declare their support for the Aim, Purpose and Objects of the charity.

6.2 The Trustees may only refuse an application for membership if doing so would, in their reasonable and proper opinion, be in the best interests of the Charity.

6.3 The Trustees will set the amount of any subscriptions which will include the contribution agreed annually to be part of the national and worldwide movement of Mothers' Union.

6.4 The Trustees will keep a register of members.

6.5 A member whose subscription is six months in arrears ceases to be a member but may be reinstated on payment of the amount due.

6.6 A member may resign by written notice to the Charity.

6.7 The Trustees may by resolution terminate the membership of any member on the ground that in their reasonable opinion the member's continued membership would be harmful to the Charity. The Trustees may only pass such a resolution after notifying the member in writing and considering the matter in the light of any written representation which the member puts forward within 14 clear days after receiving notice.

6.8 Membership is possible on a Diocesan Basis for those who cannot or do not wish to join a branch, members may form a Diocesan Fellowship and all may take part in Mothers union meetings, projects, and activities in their cluster or in the diocese, as they are able to do.

6.8.1. Other forms of membership can be approved by the Trustee body



- 6.9 Office Holders-An office holder is a member of the society who is a member of Worldwide or Diocesan Council; Cluster Leader; Branch Leader; Diocesan, Cluster or Branch/ Fellowship Committee. All office holders shall be communicant members of the Anglican Church, or a church in communion therewith. The Diocesan President shall be a communicant member of the Anglican Church.

## **7.Triennial Elections**

- 7.1 All officers, except salaried officials, shall retire triennially and they shall be eligible for re-election to the same office ONCE only. All elections shall be by secret ballot.
- 7.2 It shall not be possible for one person to hold more than one Diocesan Office at any one time
- 7.3 Any changes in the case of an office holder during the Triennial period, the newly elected office holder completed the remainder of the three year period. The newly elected officer shall deem to have served a full Triennial period if she/he holds office for more than TWO years. If she/he holds office for less than TWO years she/he shall be eligible for re-election for two further Triennial periods.
- 7.4 All elections, except Branch leaders, take place during the last year of the Triennial period to take office from 1<sup>st</sup> January of the new Triennial. Branch Leaders are elected at the Branch AGM in the new Triennial by their branch members
- 7.5 The Diocesan President shall be elected by postal vote preceding the last AGM of the Triennial. Nominations by Council Members, duly seconded, must be submitted in writing 28 days before the AGM and be approved by the Bishop before the election is held.
- 7.6 Cluster Leaders are to be nominated and elected by Branch Leaders of their Cluster following the last AGM of the Triennial, and be approved by the Diocesan President.
- 7.7 The Diocesan Chaplain shall be appointed by the Diocesan President in consultation with the Bishop.
- 7.8 Other officers shall be appointed by the Trustees.

## **8 Charity Trustees**

- 8.1 The Trustees of the Charity have control of the Charity and its property and funds. It is the duty of each trustee to:

(a) to exercise his or her powers and to perform his or her functions in his or her capacity as a trustee of the Charity in the way he or she decides in good faith would be most likely to further the purposes of the Charity; and

(b) to exercise, in the performance of those functions, such care and skill as is reasonable in the circumstances having regard in particular to:

(i) any special knowledge or experience that he or she has or holds himself or herself out as having; and,



(ii) if he or she acts as a charity trustee of the Charity in the course of a business or profession, to any special knowledge or experience that it is reasonable to expect of a person acting in the course of that kind of business or profession.

8.2 Every Trustee must be an eligible natural person over the age of 18 years old

8.3 The Trustees when complete consists of at least three and not more than fourteen individuals, all of whom must be members. The majority of Trustees, including the Diocesan President, are elected by an electoral college of members comprising a proportion of the membership each of whom represent a constituency of members, as well as the current and immediate past Diocesan Presidents. The full electoral arrangements and process to be set out in local byelaws and regulations

8.4.1 The Trustees should consist of:-

The Diocesan President as Chair of Trustees.,

The Diocesan Honorary Treasurer

Cluster Leaders or representatives

Diocesan Faith Coordinator

Diocesan Membership Co-ordinator

with Diocesan Secretary(in attendance)

8.4.2. Up to three Members of the Mothers' Union in Lincoln

Diocese may be co-opted by the Trustees for a specific reason and appropriate length of time. Co-opted Trustees should normally serve a single three year term.

8.5 A retiring elected Trustee who remains qualified may be re-appointed for a second three year term.

8.6 Every Trustee after appointment or reappointment must sign a declaration of willingness and eligibility to act as a charity trustee of the Charity before he or she may vote at any meeting of the Trustees.

8.7 A Trustee's term of office automatically terminates if he or she:

8.7.1 Is disqualified under the Charities Act from acting as a charity trustee;

8.7.2 Is incapable, whether mentally or physically, of managing his or her own affairs;

8.7.3 Is absent without notice from three meetings without good reason within a twelve month period of the Trustees and is asked by a majority of the other Trustees to resign;

8.7.4 Ceases to be a member of the Charity, but such a person may be reinstated by resolution of all the other members of the Trustees on resuming membership of the charity before the next AGM;

8.7.5 Resigns by written notice to the Trustees (but only if at least two Trustees members will remain in office);

8.7.6 Is removed by a resolution passed by all the other Trustees after they have invited the views of the Trustee concerned and considered the matter in the light of any such views;



- 8.8. Trustees provided they are mentally and physically capable of holding office for a further term will be eligible at the end of the Triennium for election to a further term of office with the agreement of the current Board of Trustees.
- 8.9. A technical defect in the appointment of a Trustee of which the Trustees are unaware at the time does not invalidate decisions taken at a meeting.
- 8.10. If the number of trustees falls below the minimum number of three, the remaining trustee or trustees may act only to call an extraordinary meeting of the charity Members
- 8.11. No Trustee may receive any direct or indirect benefit in money or in kind from the charity; or have a direct or indirect financial interest in the supply of goods or services to the charity; or acquire or hold any direct or indirect interest in property of the charity (except in order to hold it as trustee of the charity) without the prior written approval of the Charity Commission.
- 8.12. The only exception to clause 7.11 above is that Trustees may benefit from trustee indemnity insurance cover purchased at the Charity's expense in accordance with, and subject to the conditions in, section 189 of the Charities Act 2011

## **9. Conflict of Interest and Loyalty**

### **9.1 A charity trustee must:**

- (A) declare in writing the nature and extent of any interest, direct or indirect, which he or she has in a proposed transaction or arrangement with the Charity or in any transaction or arrangement entered into by the Charity which has not previously been declared; and
- (B) absent himself or herself from any discussions of the charity trustees in which it is possible that a conflict of interest will arise between his or her duty to act solely in the interests of the Charity and any personal interest (including but not limited to any financial interest).

Any charity trustee absenting himself or herself from any discussions in accordance with this clause must not vote or be counted as part of the quorum in any decision of the charity trustees on the matter and this must be recorded in the minutes.

## **10. Trustees' proceedings**

- 10.1. The Trustees must hold at least four meetings each year. One third of members shall form a quorum. If a quorum is not present, then no decisions may be taken and an additional meeting must be convened on a date within the next 30 days. If the reconvened meeting is also inquorate, then the Trustees present will constitute a quorum, subject to a minimum of two Trustees.
- 10.2. Resolutions may be passed by a simple majority of votes at any quorate meeting.
- 10.3. Any charity trustee participating at a physical meeting by suitable electronic means, agreed by the charity trustees, in which a participant or participants may communicate with all the other participants shall qualify as being present at a physical meeting.
- 10.4. A meeting of the Trustees may be held either in person or by suitable electronic means agreed by the Trustees in which all participants may communicate with all other participants. Meetings held by electronic means must comply with rules for meetings, including chairing and the taking of minutes



- 10.5 The Diocesan President as Chair or (if the Chairman is unable or unwilling to do so) some other member of the Trustees chosen by the Trustees present presides at each meeting of the Trustees.
- 10.6 A resolution which is in writing and signed by all the Trustees is as valid as a resolution passed at a meeting and for this purpose the resolution may be contained in more than one document and will be treated as passed on the date of the last signature.
- 10.7 Except for the chairman of the meeting, who has a second or casting vote, every Trustee, whether appointed or elected, has one vote on each issue.
- 10.8. A procedural defect of which the Trustees are unaware at the time does not invalidate decisions taken at a meeting of the Trustees.
- 10.9 The charity trustees must keep minutes of all:
- (A) appointments of officers made by the charity trustees;
  - (B) proceedings at general meetings of the Charity;
  - (C) meetings of the charity trustees and committees of charity trustees including
    - the names of the trustees present at the meeting;
    - the decisions made at the meetings; and
    - where appropriate, the reasons for the decisions;
  - (D) decisions made by the charity trustees otherwise than in meetings

## **11. Trustees' powers**

The Trustees have the following powers in the administration of the Charity:

- 11.1. To appoint a Treasurer and other honorary officers from among their number.
- 11.2. To delegate some of their powers or functions to committees or individuals and, if they do, they shall determine the terms and conditions on which the delegation is made. The charity trustees may at any time alter those terms and conditions, or revoke the delegation. However, authority to make decisions that bind the board may only be delegated to committees that consist of three or more members appointed by the Trustee Board including at least two Trustees. The Trustees must maintain effective oversight over all delegated functions. All proceedings of committees must be reported promptly to the Trustees.
- 11.3 To make standing orders consistent with this Constitution to govern proceedings at general meetings.
- 11.4 To make rules consistent with this Constitution to govern their proceedings and the proceedings of committees.
- 11.5 To make Bye Laws and regulations consistent with this Constitution to govern the administration and operation of the Charity.
- 11.6 To resolve, or establish procedures to assist the resolution of, disputes within the Charity.
- 11.7 To exercise any powers of the Charity which are not reserved to a general meeting.

## **12. General Meetings(Diocesan Councils)**

- 12.1. Members are entitled to attend general meetings of the Charity in person. General meetings are called on at least 21 days' written notice to all the members specifying the business to be transacted.



12.2. There will be two meetings of the Council annually, one of which will also be the Annual General Meeting of the Society. The council shall comprise of:-

- The President (or delegated representative)
- Trustees
- Honorary Vice Presidents
- The Diocesan Chaplain
- Branch Leaders (or their representative from the branch/fellowship with delegated voting rights)
- Any Mothers' Union member from Lincoln Diocese, Central Members or Worldwide Council
- Any Mothers' Union members holding a Diocesan position.
- Diocesan Secretary in attendance.

12.3. The Chairman or (if the Chairman is unable or unwilling to do so) some other member elected by those present presides at a general meeting.

12.4. Except as otherwise determined in this constitution, every issue at a general meeting is determined by a simple majority of votes cast by the members present.

12.5. Except for the chairman of the meeting, who has a second or casting vote, every member present in is entitled to one vote on every issue.

12.6. An AGM must be held in every year. The first AGM may be held at any time within 18 months after the formation of the Charity.

12.7. At an AGM the members:

12.7.1. Receive the accounts of the Charity for the previous financial year;

12.7.2. Receive the report of the Trustees on the Charity's activities since the previous AGM;

12.7.3. Accept the retirement of those elected Trustees who wish to retire or are retiring at the end of their term of office;

12.7.4. Appoint an independent examiner for the Charity where required;

12.7.5. May confer on any individual (with his or her consent) the honorary title of Patron of the Charity;

12.7.6. Discuss and determine any issues of policy or deal with any other business put before them by the Trustees.

12.8. Any general meeting which is not an AGM is an EGM. (Extraordinary General Meeting)

12.9 An EGM may be called at any time by the Trustees and must be called within 14 clear days after a written request to the Trustees from at least ten per cent of the members.

### **13. Amendment**

As provided by the Charities Act 2011:

(1) This constitution can only be amended: by a resolution passed by a two thirds majority of those voting at a general meeting of the members of the Charity called in accordance with clause 11 (General meetings of members).

(2) Any alteration of: clause 2 (Objects); clause 13 (Voluntary winding up or dissolution); this clause; any provision where the alteration would provide authorisation for any benefit to be obtained by charity trustees or members of the Charity or persons connected with



them requires the prior written consent of the Charity Commission. As does any amendment which would allow the spending of a permanent endowment.

(3) No amendment that is inconsistent with the provisions of the Charities Act 2011, or materially inconsistent with relevant sections the Constitution, Bye-laws and regulations of Mothers' Union (reg charity 240531) shall be valid.

(4) A copy of every resolution amending the constitution, together with a copy of the Charity's constitution as amended must be sent to the Commission by the end of the period of 15 days beginning with the date of passing of the resolution. The amendment does not take effect until it has been recorded in the Register of Charities.

#### 14. Dissolution.

If the charity trustees decide after consultation with the Central trustees of Mothers' Union that it is necessary or advisable to dissolve the charity, they shall call a meeting of all members of the charity of which not less than 21 days' notice (stating the terms of the resolution to be proposed) shall be given. If the proposal is confirmed by a two-thirds majority of those present and voting, the charity trustees shall have power to realise any assets held by or on behalf of the charity. Any assets remaining after the satisfaction of any proper debts and liabilities shall be given or transferred to another charity within Mothers' Union affiliation, or if that is not possible to such other charitable institution or institutions having objects similar to the object of this charity as the members of the charity may determine, or, if that cannot be done, shall be applied for some other charitable purpose.

ADOPTED AT A MEETING HELD AT Zoom ON 9th August 2021.

SIGNED

Name ELIZABETH PAGE

Signature 


[Name and signature of chairman of meeting]

WITNESSED

Name David Staples

Address 1, SYCAMORE CLOSE  
BOURN  
LINES  
PE10 9RS.

Occupation RETIRED PRIEST WITH  
BISHOP OF LINCOLN'S PERMISSION  
TO OFFICIATE

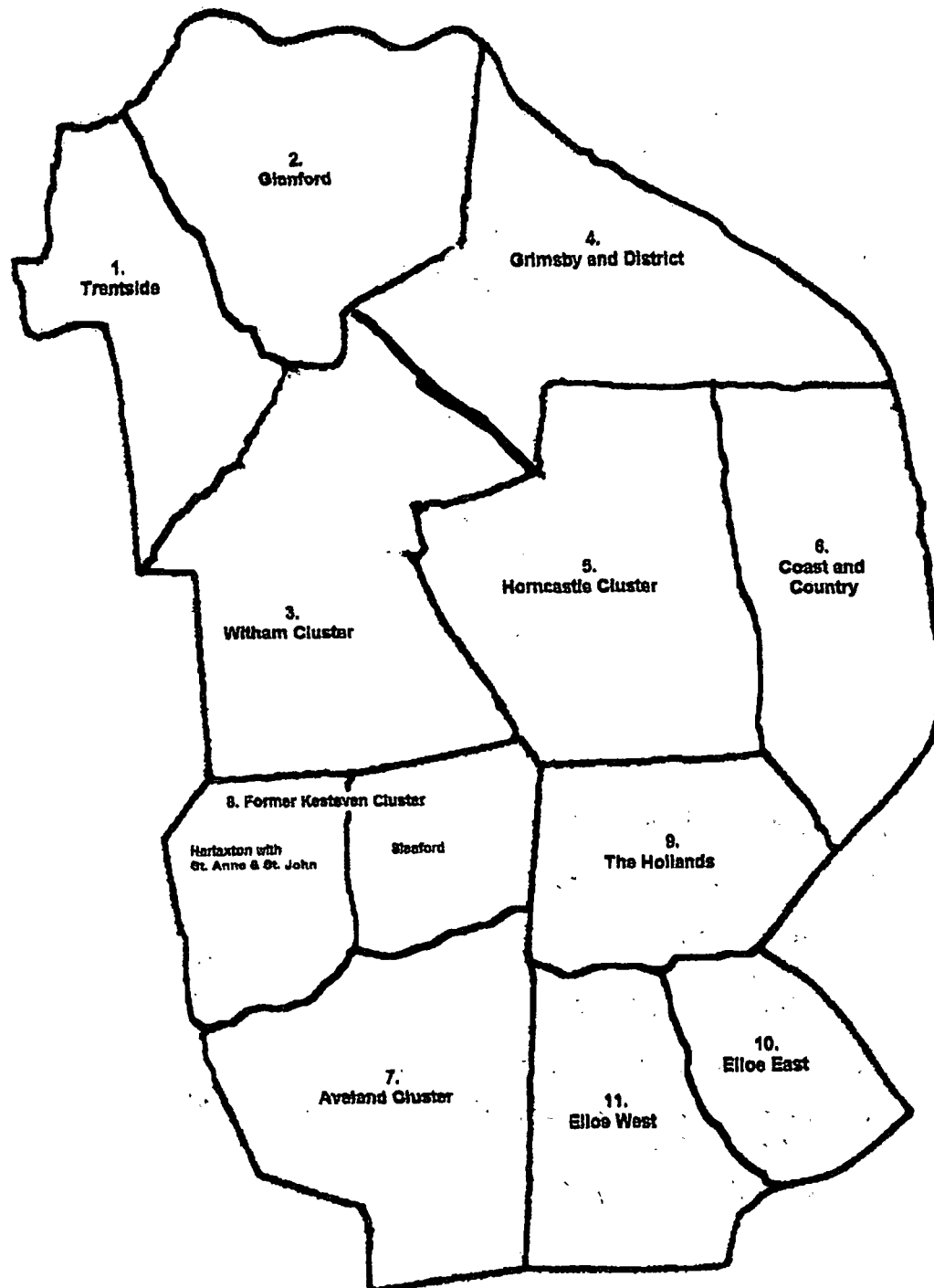
Signature 

[Name, address, occupation and signature of witness]

Charity Commission Approval Received on:



**Attached Schedule 1: Map of Diocese of Lincoln showing the location of the Cluster Groups established as in 2019**





**Lincoln Diocese Mothers' Union  
Annual General Meeting  
Monday 09 August 2021**

1. Present. There were 37 members present: Elizabeth Page (Diocesan President (DP)), Revd Sylvia Rice-Oxley (Chaplain and DP Elect), Kathryn Anderson (Provincial President (PP)) and Richard Rice-Oxley, Heather Hammond, Margaret Smith, Chris Jackson, Sue Fleshbourne, Janice Grooby, Christine Bruce, Christine Plant, Jenni Honisett, Joan Johnson, Kate Brown, Margaret Saunders, Fiona Norton, Mary Brown, Ray Allen, Joyce Pepper, Gill Kennedy, Elizabeth Johnson, Veta Jay, Carole Fisher, Maureen Baguley, Pam Braithwaite, Canon Ian Robinson, Sue Kerridge, Ray Allen, Sheila Rooke, Yvonne Edgoose, Elaine Dunford, Eddie Redford, Revd. Carolyn Bailey, Cathie Whenman, Andrea Rushworth (non-member) – Secretary.
2. Apologies. Apologies were received from Patsy Moore, Paddy Phillips, Sally Smithson, Margaret Hardy, Anne Parker, Jenny Wells, Dorothy Harris, Kay Roberts and Sally Long.
3. Welcome. The DP brought the meeting to order at 1000 hrs and welcomed everyone to the meeting.
4. Opening Prayers. Margaret Saunders led the opening prayers including all Mothers' Union members both present, and absent from the meeting. A special prayer of thanks was made for Mary Sumner, for her vision as founder of the Mothers' Union and the foundations laid for the work which continues today.
5. Minutes of the Last Meeting. The minutes of the AGM, 7 November 2020 were reviewed. It was noted that Sue Kerridge had been missed off the list of attendees. This being recorded as an amendment; the Minutes were agreed as an accurate record of the AGM. **Proposer: Sue Kerridge; Seconder: Gill Kennedy. Accepted unanimously.**
6. Acceptance of the new MSH approved Constitution 2020. An EGM was held to agreed changes to elements of the Constitution which was agreed by the Trustees. Amendments were also made to reflect the MSH template removing references to Cluster, Branch and Diocesan members management to separate Appendices. The intention is that these are reviewed by Cluster, Branch and Diocesan leads separately with the main body of the document having been reviewed and approved by the PP. The DP asked the members to agree and accept the Constitution presented, and agree that Rev David Staples be asked to witness the DP's signature in the absence of face-to-face meetings. **Proposer: Canon Ian Robinson; Seconder: Mary Brown. Accepted unanimously.**

The Constitution will now be sent to the Charities Commission. The PP confirmed that MSH did not need a copy.

**7. President's Report. Elizabeth Page DP**

Having held our first Trustee meeting on the 10<sup>th</sup> February in Lincoln and a diary full of events for 2020, I only managed four visits before the lock down. Our administrator Sue, having received redundancy six months' notice, was forced to work from home. We did meet and travel to the office on four more occasions, mainly to enable her to sort her pay for the month and enable me to find my way around the filing system and computer. Sue continued to work from home until the end of June. Unable to formally say goodbye as a group, once initial restrictions lifted, Sue Kerridge took her a bouquet of flowers, a card and cheque with our good wishes. At that point I took over the administration.

With our financial deficit in 2019, and no meetings and therefore little to report, and to save money we decided to cancel our magazine and send out regular newsletters. Our landline phone and internet provider were also cancelled. This can be reinstated if needed in the future. Looking



through my diary which, like most people, was a list of cancellations. I counted 20 MU zoom meetings including an EGM to change the constitution wording, meetings with MSH, Modern Day Slavery, prison work, Provincial MU meetings Eastern Cluster MU Diocesan meetings as well as the regular meetings with Trustees, Cluster Leaders and some open to branch and all members. At the end of the year, and with a third lock down we invited everyone to join us for a virtual carol service. Our thanks to Sylvia and Richard for organizing that. We hope that by the end of 2021 we will be meeting again and a big thank you to everyone for keeping people together in MU during a challenging year.

The DP added that she was looking forward to the Provincial Virtual Cascaded Coffee morning with the DP Cluster and the PP demonstrating the concept. The DP was looking forward to holding her Cascaded Virtual Coffee Morning with the DP Elect in due course.

#### **8. Trustee Report. Elizabeth Page**

Trustees met on 10<sup>th</sup> February in St Peter at Gowt's hall where plans for the year were agreed and clarified. The DP Conference at High Leigh was the first of many events to be cancelled due to the COVID pandemic, and was my introduction to a zoom meeting over 3 days. The next Trustee meeting scheduled for the 6<sup>th</sup> April was the first of our 10 Zoom meetings, extras being arranged to discuss and pass on information from MSH, including an EGM to look at and agree changes to our Constitution. This was primarily to enable us to have the accounts 'examined' rather than the previous expensive 'auditing'. On advice from MSH we agreed to use the MU boiler plate to create the new Constitution and to remove all details relating to the general management of membership within the Diocese. This is to be created in a separate document so that any changes in the future will not need a change in the Constitution. NOTE: As the Constitution was shelved at MSH during their own very busy time when two thirds of the staff were either made redundant or furloughed, I did not receive approval for this until June 2021. A copy of the items removed from the original Constitution will be presented to the Trustees and a new document created asap. There were no other face-to-face meetings in 2020.

#### **9. Financial Review. Elizabeth Page**

With the formal report anticipated from the treasurer, the DP submitted a review of the financial situation. She noted that the current bank statement recorded a credit of £12,000+ which means that we can start to plan for the future. In 2020 no investments were touched less bringing the AFIA funds onto the main current account, giving any future AFIA lead clear visibility of available funds to support holidays and days away for those in need.

The year-end accounts for 2020 showed a profit of £5,498.66. This is the result of cutting the administration costs, three months free rent and, of course, very little transport or conference expenses. The conference booked for 2020 has still not taken place and the money paid into the MSH account remains until such time as we are able to attend – currently planned for November 2021. All meetings since March have taken place on zoom.

We also had generous donations of £3,221.74 as a result of an appeal following the £4,000+ deficit in 2019. As can be seen from the accounts, salaries and redundancy pay amounted to £6,415.17 for the first six months of the year.

We are now in a position to plan for a better future and in the future, if required, employ paid staff to either work from home or in the office for a small number of hours per week.

#### **Income.**

Beyond the donations, we have been able to sell some cards through MUe. Thanks to Christine's for her efforts to continue this from home. Hopefully the present situation will gradually ease to enable us to hold events and have some fund-raising activities in the future to support a more structure outreach. Thank you to all for the support you have given, where allowed, during the lockdown.

#### **Expenses**



Our expenses have been low due to the COVID pandemic, but hopefully we are in a good place to get involved in Mothers Union Outreach for our church and community needs; supporting clergy, women's refuges, prisons, victims of Modern-Day Slavery, babies in maternity hospitals, the baby basket project, food banks and families in need, plus all the other projects supported by our members.

The DP noted that the accounts had been received back from the examiner, Fred Frisby, with no issues.

Richard Rice-Oxley offered a vote of thanks to the DP and Andrea Rushworth for their work on the financial situation. He said this was tremendous news and offered a good deal of hope, removing any financial anxieties from the 'what next' moving into the future.

**Proposal of acceptance of the finance report Cathie Whenman seconded Gill Kennedy!**  
**Accepted unanimously**

10. Faith Report. **Patsy Moore**

It was lovely to see so many of you at our Triennial Festival on 17<sup>th</sup> July 2021, and great to catch up with folks we haven't seen for such a long time. At last, we can start to plan ahead whilst still exercising a measure of caution.

Our retreat at Launde Abbey, cancelled twice during the pandemic, is booked for 4-6<sup>th</sup> Oct and promises to be a very special time. We can still accommodate a few more if anyone would like to join us, Ring me on 01778423505 if you would like more details. (NB we are away the middle 2 weeks of August). Please pray for our retreat leader Catherine as she recovers hip surgery, also Paddy's hip surgery) and Carole (throat cancer). In the meantime, have a safe and blessed summer and I look forward to seeing you all in the not-to-distant future.

The DP added that she would bring the photographs taken at the Triennial Festival with her on any visits. She also offered to bring the banner for any groups that would like a closer look before it is returned to the Cathedral.

11. IMPC. **Ann Northern**

We currently have 20 paid up members of the IMPC who receive all the mailings from MSH as well as our newsletters, Easter and Christmas cards and, if we have the date, Birthday cards. These are generally attached to Branches or Clusters.

We also have 12 elderly former members who now receive large print newsletter and Easter and Christmas cards as agreed last year. The reflection from MSH is also posted on.

The DP noted that sadly two members had died in the previous week and reiterated the importance of communicating deaths and changes in circumstances in order that support could be offered and records be kept up to date.

12. Overseas. **Marigold Lamin**

Marigold has been suffering from ill health for some time but has pursued in her efforts to reach our link members in Trinidad, Nigeria and Iraq. Sara Hall, wife of Bishop Hall of Mahajanga, will continue to keep us in touch with his life there. He is currently attending a three-day conference in the south of his Diocese, apparently the hottest part of Madagascar. Elaine Dunford has offered to take over the task of communicating with our other links.

13. Chaplain's Report. **Revd Sylvia Rice-Oxley**

Here we are again zooming! Thank God we had a wonderful time together at the Abbey Church for our Triennial. Bishop Nicholas was very encouraging in his address and was obviously impressed with all that the Mothers' Union does here and abroad.



There is always something to report: After our beloved 2019 AGM in November by Zoom, we had a lovely Carol service just before Christmas - also by zoom. Faithful Trustees, sometimes with Cluster and Branch leaders have met regularly by zoom with Elizabeth, and Patsy and I have begun and ended these meetings with prayer. I also attended the zoomed national Chaplain's meeting in February.

I am sorry we cannot meet face to face for Mary Sumner Day - many, many things planned. This last 18 months must have been very disappointing for Elizabeth too, because she loved visiting Branches and Clusters, and so did I. Next year, God willing, Elizabeth will hand on the President's baton (or perhaps badge) to me for the next Triennial. I feel hugely privileged and blessed by God for the opportunity to serve you in this way. I look forward to visiting you and hearing of your work and witness - and I am sure that Elizabeth will be first on our speakers list!

I know I can rely on your prayers and support in the years to come and I ask especially that you pray and seek out a secretary for our Diocese, as this is a key position. Also that vacant posts might be filled including AFIA and some Cluster leaders. God bless you and go boldly in the name of Christ!

#### 14. Diocesan Fellowship Report. Sue Kerridge

Just before lockdown I had the pleasure of visiting the Gainsborough Fellowship Group for the installation of 3 new members. It was so good to be able to share it with them and sit and chat afterwards. I recently contacted Carol Fisher to see how the Group had coped during lockdown. Carol had kept in contact with members, but has had her own concerns and with her husband's cataracts were both shielding. The Church and church coffee shop, which is where they meet, was at the time only just beginning to open. She was waiting to see how social distancing worked and another problem was transport. (As you all know Carol has recently had a serious operation and been in our prayers.) Mary Brown is currently the contact for Gainsborough.

I have spoken recently with Jenny Williams from the Alford Group. They have been in touch with one another but no plans to meet in 2020. Jenny's church had only recently started services. Wanda Atkey from Saxilby was keeping in touch and hoped to meet once it is permitted in the Church Rooms, as they are quite large areas. Again, not being able to share transport.

Stamford ladies have not met in 2020 as the church was closed. They have received newsletters and phone calls.

I am still trying to contact Fay from Kirton and Val from Wyberton & Frampton who hope to become a joint Fellowship Group in 2021.

St Nicholas Lincoln, Ermin St John, Connigsby and Tattershall, and Burgh le Marsh all closed in 2020. Some members joined our growing Diocesan Members.

#### 15. Diocesan Members Report. Jenni Honnisett

Very rarely can I start off a report by saying I am writing this inside to try to keep cool! So much needs to be done in the garden, but it's slowly, slowly out there at the moment.

On June 14<sup>th</sup> 2021 we had 142 Diocesan members, and quite a few from closed branches, so I am pleased they have kept up their membership. With the new Mothers' Union magazine

"CONNECTED", there is plenty of news and articles about Mothers Union worldwide.

As I have nothing more to report I am keeping this short. Maybe in the future there will be Cluster and Branch activities for you to attend, and I will be sending out my usual letters three times a year.

If anyone wants to get in touch with me I can be contacted via email [dandjhonisett@btinternet.com](mailto:dandjhonisett@btinternet.com) by phone : 01526 320968 ( answer machine ) or if preferred by snail mail at: 33 Middle Street, Metherringham, LINCOLN LN4 3EU

Yvonne offered a vote of thanks to Jenni for her work on the newsletters, stating how much they were appreciated and how much she looked forward to receiving them.



16. MU LIVE 2020 **Mary Brown**

As this was my first year of doing MU Live, I am pleased to say we helped 1860 people with donations collected and distributed. I know this does not sound much, but under the difficult circumstances it was a great achievement

I personally wish to say A BIG THANK YOU for all the hard work you do in the name of Mothers' Union. I am sure all the donations received were much appreciated by those who received them. I am looking forward to hearing from Branches, Clusters and Fellowship Groups and Diocesan members to update our activity for 2021.

17. MUe Report. **Christine Bruce**

Our thanks to Christine for trying to continue selling cards during this difficult time. Christine is retiring from this role at the end of the year. If anyone is interested in taking MUe on for the Diocese please contact our DP elect, Sylvia Rice Oxley. Christine has ordered Christmas stock. If I am coming to visit your Branch and you would like me to bring the stock please let me know.

Elizabeth

18. Database. **Cathie Whenman**

I am very grateful to Cathie for keeping our MSH database up to date. If there are any changes in members' status, do please let me and Cathie know so this can be kept up to date. Cathie thanked everyone who kept her informed in order to keep the DATA BASE up to date.

19. Newsletter. **Elizabeth Page**

During 2020, newsletters were sent out bi-monthly using information sent in by members with a key front-page message from invited contributors. I am very grateful for all the information gathered in 2020 which led to interesting reading. With the launch of the new CONNECTED magazine this is now every third month.

Thinking ahead as we come out of lockdown, we do need a more structured newsletter with a small team to discuss what it is we need to share on a regular basis, who can provide regular items and how we can use this to reach out to our members and beyond. Let me or Sylvia know if you would like to be part of that team. Magazines from other Diocese can be viewed online for ideas.

Meanwhile, do please send contributions, poems from lockdown, experiences to share, perhaps a "why I joined the MU" from long standing members.? Or "How I survived Lockdown". The next newsletter will be out in the Autumn, and the closing date for submissions is September 18<sup>th</sup>.

20. Reports from Clusters/Branches.

Gill Kennedy. Keelby and Immingham 2/11.20

Good news! Last Friday the Revd. Julie Donn opened Immingham Church for me to admit Marjorie Smith as a new member of our Branch. As we were restricted to 6, only 3 Immingham members could be present. I did promise Marjorie a special welcome (with cake) when we can meet again as a Branch. I will pass on her details to Cathie. WELCOME Marjorie.

Jackie Sheldrake. All Saint's Holbeach 25/10/20

Pam Sells celebrated her 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday on 24<sup>th</sup> December 2020. The Branch celebrated within the December church meeting. We do hope you had a memorable day. Coronavirus regulations have meant a change from our usual meeting format to that of a time of coming together for worship. We restarted meeting in September when our service incorporated the September refection by Jenny Barton, found on the MU website. The October act of worship included Harvest Prayers and reflections by John Birch, also found on the MU website. Our members are pleased to be able to meet each other once more and share time together in worship. Despite the added complication of following aspects of coronavirus safeguarding there is a real sense of joy amongst us. Although a very small group we were able to donate £230 to the Mary Sumner House Appeal. Thank you, Jackie. Those of you starting to meet again will find lots of material and ideas for meeting on the MU website. Also do use your CONNECTED magazine which has so much about MU.

Margaret Saunders. Washingborough and Heighington Branch



## **Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> August 2020 Mary Sumner Day**

A day to remember in Washingborough! Five months since we met as a branch and thanks to the Rector, the church wardens, technology and social distancing we enrolled two new members. Pat Hunt at the zoom service in the morning led by Lay-Reader Margaret Hardy, our Cluster Leader and Annie Manners in the afternoon in St John's Church led by the Rector, also a MU member. Mothers' Union members took part in both services using resources from Mary Sumner House. Most of our members were at one of the services, some at both.

We had a bring your own picnic in the park later in August- socially distancing of course. In September we had a very good attendance at our first MU Communion since lockdown.

Joyce Pepper offered a vote of thanks to Margaret Saunders for her work as Branch Chairman. She said that zoom had been brilliant during a lonely period and she was looking forward to knit and natter starting in September.

Heather Hammond. Reported that though not physically met, on the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of every month, a corporate communion had been held which included the MU prayer.

Cathie Whenman. Reported that recently 15 members and friends had been able to meet up for a meal together which had been fantastic! The Branch had also had 2 normal branch meetings.

Veta Jay. Reported that they had managed to have a meeting with the Revd Canon John Thorup and 17 members. They were looking forward to the DP visiting in September.

Sue Johnson .Cherry Willingham. The Branch had physically met twice; once in the garden and once in the hall.

Ray Allen. Reported that the first meeting was planned for 1 Sep 21.

The DP wished everyone well with their meetings and asked for more feedback to inform the reports and also to share good news for 2021.

## **AOB**

### **21. DP Elect. Sylvia Rice-Oxley.**

Most people will be aware that Sylvia has been elected to serve as the DP for the next Triennial. She offered a vote of thanks to the current DP, Elizabeth for her absolutely brilliant work and provision of a good foundation for the next period. The DP Elect shared the following volunteers to support her in the next Triennial:

Chaplain	Revd. Carolyn Bailey
Faith Coordinator	Kate Brown, also a reader from Market Deeping
Overseas	A grateful thanks to Elaine Dunsford for agreeing to take on this position
Finance	Elizabeth Page (with Andrea in support)
Minutes Secretary	Andrea Rushworth will continue with the minutes for Trustees and other DP-led meetings. This is a legal requirement for the Charities' Commission.

For all those continuing in roles – a big thank you!

There is still a need for a Diocesan Secretary, which could be home based with occasional office work to support the communications and outreach activities including printing, some minutes,



keeping documents up to date and organising meetings and venues and distribution of communications.

There is also a need for an AFIA Representative to coordinate the provision of holidays and days away for those in need, an MUE lead to provide the key link between MU Enterprises and the Branches, and a Newsletter coordinator to provide a focal point for developing this key contact and information source.

The DP Elect implored everyone to go away and pray about it, think about it and if God is calling you to take up the mantle – do it! She shared that through her own prayers she was clear that she had been given the DP job and she now needed to get on with it! **BE BOLD AND CARRY ON!**

**22. Direct Debits. Elizabeth Page**

The DP reiterated that Direct Debits were not mandatory. The reason that everyone is being given the opportunity this year is that, having agreed to go for it, MSH have offered to include details with the CONNECTED magazine. Anything less than a full distribution would have required the DP to take on this task which would be time consuming, expensive and risk missing people who are willing to sign up.

The DP confirmed that MSH would notify individuals prior to the money being taken from the account each year, and that this would happen every January. She also reiterated that all subscriptions, however paid, would now only be taken collected centrally from January to simplify annual accounting and compress the period where money is being processed through to MSH.

The PP noted that it is a good way forward and takes the pressure off Branch treasurers. It also helps MSH and Diocese by providing better visibility of cash flow on an annual basis.

The DP also confirmed that the Diocese still benefits from the Gift Aid on the whole subscription amount.

**23. Sunday Link. Maureen highlighted that the Sunday Link this week included an article about Mary Sumner.**

**24. Online Information.** The DP highlighted that there is a lot of valuable information online and encouraged those with access to the internet and the MU site to have a look.

**25. Database and Trustee Training.** The PP agreed to confirm details about future database and Trustee training. She identified that a new database manager had been appointed and she would discuss training when they met. The PP believed that the Trustee training was to be online in Dec/Jan and would be on zoom. She would confirm details after her meeting next week.

**The meeting concluded at 10.45am with the Grace.**

Accepted.....

Signed.....

Date .....